### CET OFF THE WALK, PLEASE

Cataclysmic Changes in Feminine Apparel Threaten the World.

THE CRINOLINE ALREADY IN BLOOM

The Rustle of Tomultuous Skirts Heard in the Land-Pretty Frocks for Children -Talk on Things Feminine-Personalities.

This is a period of suspense in dress Cataclysmic changes are threatened and everyone is waiting anxiously the edicts from the parliament of fashion. Just now the law makers are involved in internecine strife. With the French authorities pulling one way and the English authorities pulling the other, a compromise seems probable on the modes of the 1850 period. Never before, within a year, did the female form divine so appreciably alter its outlines as during the last twelvementh. The idelized waist, that has been the pedal point upon which all dress harmonies have been founded, has been deposed and dishonored. We have sacrificed food, comfort, health, almost life itself, to this waist ideal, says the New York Sun, and now, when its dearly-bought slenderness is not entirely lost beneath the straight draperies of an Empire gown, it is sacrificed to the short, broad outlines of the fashionable bodice, with its folded belt and wrinkled corselet. The mediste, who has for years ruthlessly fitted down our bodices to the prescribed modish shape, no matter what shape we might be ourselves, has suddenly loosened the torturing steels and benes, and gives us a waist line two inches above and more than two inches broader than anything we have been also broader than anything we have been allowed to possess in a quarter of a century. Ore might fancy that the fashion goddess had repented of her fol-lies and was in league with the dress re-formers, were it not that the skirt takes on new extravagances daily in increase ratio to the reasonableness of the bedice, and that the sleeve develops eccentrici-ties galore, the latest being a great fullties galore, the latest being a great fullness about the elbow instead of the shoulder. It is not quite a year now since the study of evolution in dress prompted the prophecy that the crinoline was imminent. For a time the skirts grew even more scant, and the thoughtless laughed in derision. It was but hastening the day when the petiticoat turbulent should surge and flow arbitraaily about us, for with the lowest ebb of skimpiness the reaction was at hand. Now the newest Parisian skirts are fourteen and a half yards around the edge.

Now the newest Parisian skirts are four-teen and a half yards around the edge, are lined throughout with crinoline muslin, and stand out stiflly all around, with the bulk of fullness at the back.

It cannot be denied that the new mode has, despite its grotesqueness, certain elegant and delicate features gratifying to the sense of the dress epicure. The woman clad in the close, short skirt lacks the essentially feminine and precious frou-frou and rustle. She walks all-silently, like a man. The woman in the wide petticoat is heard whispering down the staircase, rustling along the down the staircase, rustling along the passages, murmuring through the mazes of the dance, like a summer forest whose mystic voices are never still. One might write a poem about this melody of the tumultuous petiticoat, which, if it is not natural or classic, is engagingly artificial and symbolic of exceeding daintiness and leisure and idle grace. The average woman is appalled at the demands of the new skirt. It requires in arrangement a multiplicity of frills and no end of petticoats to give it de-sired amplitude. It is hopelessly un-manageable outside a carriage. It will need endless brushing and refurbishing and care. But the woman who drives and keeps a maid will rejoice in all this nicety of attention, which distinguishes the lilies of life from the faithful, hardworking, often talented, but hopelessly prosaic average woman.

All the new wash materials are par-ticularly pretty for children's frocks and short lengths of handsome fabrics sold at a reduction may be made up most effectively for young girls. One advantage in little children's attire is that the mode varies but slightly from one season to the next, so that it is quite safe to begin on the simple gowns for the summer now when the dressmakers and seamstresses are not busy. The prettiest little organdie gowns are made with a low-necked, short-waisted bodice about which is gathered a full ruffle, edged with lace and falling low enough to entirely conceal the waist. The little skirt is gathered and finished with a plain hem or with a little frill. A pretty model for a cashmere dress has a pointed capelike ruffle gathered

from the neck and falling quite to the belt in the front and at the back. The ruffle is finished on the edge with a scallop embroidered by hand and having rows of dots worked in following the outline of the scallop. Another pretty idea is a gathered waist of wool belted with many straps of velvet and worn over a white embroidered guimpe. The gown, of soft fawn challie, with green leaves and tiny flowerets, has its trimming of thin velvet, or a plain blue wool, light, is made stylish with a decoration of is made stylish with a decoration of brown velvet. Another pretty idea for a challie is copied from a dressy little frock of vellew bengaline. The skirt is plain. The waist is shirred at the front and back, leaving a standing ruffle of the goods. About the waist is a broad belt made of pipings of bengaline about half an inch wide, with rows of gold braid between. This belt does not meet in front or at the back, but is finished on either or at the back, but is finished on either side the shirred space with two rosettes of the braid. A full ruffle gathers over the shoulder, stopping at the shirring, and is finished on the edge with that the shoulder is the shoulder. braid. Baby ribben in velvet or satin might replace the gold on a figured dress and, matching some color in the material, make a pretty addition to the

Young folks will always enjoy a dancing party more than any other form of entertainment. Yet to give a large dance is very expensive, and to go to one likewise means extra expenditure as well as late hours and rich viands that are not the best things in the world for the lads and lassies who are just budding into men and women.

Of course the society man and the debutante who enter upon a round of winter gayeties as the sum total of their existence can recuperate by sleeping late the next day and thus make up for the dissipation of the previous night, but there are many happy-hearted young folks who are not butterflies of this sort, yet who enjoy the fun as well as their more favored brothers and sisters and would be only too glad of a chance for an evening's enjoyment now and then if it didn't cost too much.

By costing too much, it does not mean the actual expense of the refreshments or the music, but the damage the small dance does to the furniture and "carpets of the room wherein it is usually given. To counteract this all the belongings, save a few chairs, should be removed and a crash laid over the carpet. If it were possible to obtain a vacant uncarpeted room it could soon be trans-

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formed into a ball room, where there would be no danger of upsetting any of the knick-knacks that are to be found in the living rooms of all houses. Such an arrangement as this would require no moving of furniture and would be particularly appreciated by the awkward young man who always falls over some-

Refreshments can be either cake and ice cream, the staple and always grateful frozen delicacy; fruit and wafers, cake and lemonade, crackers and chocolate served with whipped cream, or sandwiches and coffee or bouillon, if the weather is very cold. Two things are quite sufficient and a piano the entire orchestra that is required. Adhering to these simple rules many a gay little affair, beginning and ending early and affording much pleasure for very little expense, may be given during the

Young girls, who marry against the will of reasonable and loving parents, can make up their minds that disappointment, if not something worse, will be their lot, writes Vera Bernardiere in an article on "American Girls and Titles," in the February Laties' Home Journal. As far as the foreigner is concerned, he may be dazzled, earlivated cerned, he may be dazzled, captivated by the beauty, grace, intellect and inde-pendent ideas and manners in the American woman, but this very inde-pendence which he seemingly admires in her while she is his friend or his be trothed he will not tolerate in his wife.

And the young girl, who sees but the varnished exterior of elegant manners, the persuasive and subtle compliment. will soon learn, to her own disappoint-ment, that there lies a substance of a very realistic and unpleasant nature beneath this highly colored rainbow tissue of her romantic imagination. There are but two courses to pursue—to learn from the experience of others, or from your

The American girl need look no further than her own country to find the noblest, the grandest type of manhood on earth. Here man respects and honors her womanhood, is willing to labor and make sacrifices for her happiness, bids her cheerfully to be a coworker, an honored guest of public life, when occasion demands, and loves her, not for what she has, but for what she is.

When nature has neglected to crown a head with silken tresses, one can, in some measure, remedy the slight by persistently brushing the hair. A good quality of brush should be used. A hair brush should have long, soft bristles that will go through the hair and touch the scalp; then every particle of dust and dirt can be removed. A comb is seldom necessary if the hair is carefully brushed; if used at all the comb should be a corresponding to the comb should.

A fine comb irritates the scalp to a hurtful degree, and it is quite apt to break and split the hair. Brush the hair for five minutes before retiring at night, braid it loosely and permit it to hang. Never sleep with hairpins in the hair.

The hairpins to use are made of bone,

research carried on by one woman," says the Pall Mall Gazette, "it has been proved, for the gratification of all women, that the bifurcated nether garment supposed to be specially distinctive of the masculine toilet rightly belongs to the feminine dress. The women of Judah, it seems, were the first wearers of the garment in bifurcated form, and man, perceiving the convenience and comfort of this article of dress, evolved by the superior intelligence of woman, appropriated the same for his own use, and doomed his womankind to encumber their limbs with flowing robes which render it impossible for them to cope with man in the useful occupations."

Every bride knows her power; every wife comes to know her weakness, writes Octave Thanet in a delightful article on "That Man: Your Husband" in the February Ladies' Home Journal. A good proportion of the heartbreak of early married life is due to the ferment of this knowledge. The poor child whose lover gave up his cigars and his club with such angelic meekness, finds that her husband can smoke like a chimney and leave her alone nights in order to spend the evening with his men friends. She imagines that he cares less for her than he did, which is a mistake, in most cases; seven out of ten men love their wives better than their sweethearts. is simply that her presence is not the absorbing excitement that it was when love was new. The chances are that the wife is become a dozen times more neces-sary to the man than ever the sweet-heart could have been. He would feel her death far more keenly, but he does not need to adjure his heart to "sit still" whenever his fancy summons her image. In short, she is become the bread of existence in place of the elixir, but there is no question that more fuss is made

The scrupulous regard for truth of the Chicago newspapers has long been well known, but none of them has hitherto gone so far as the Evening Mail when the smallest and prettiest feet in all America. The Mail prints alleged diagrams of the feet of Mrs. P. D. Armour, Mrs. Daniel Goodwin, Mrs. Reginald de Koven and several other women to prove its statements. It says that Boston women get pigeon-toed turning so many corners and that New York women spoil their feet by climbing elevated railroad stairs and that Philadelphia women go to sleep standing and flatten out their feet, but only on the shores of Lake Michigan do women have beautiful and symmetrical under pinning.

Mrs. Carlisle, wife of the man who, it is now conceded, is to be Mr. Cleveland's secretary of the treasury, has for years been her husband's chief counselor and helper. "Few men," says a Washington correspondent, "ever lived who owed more to a woman than he to Mrs. Carlisle, and she has always been intensely The hairpins to use are made of bone, amber or tortoise shell. Coarse, sharp pins cut and tear the hair and should never be used. It is an old-time saying and well worth trying that "100 strokes of the hairbrush every night will make one's hair like silk."

The right of women to "wear the breeches" actually as well as metaphori-

agreeable and always knows what is best for John Griffin Carlisle." Notes of the Fashions. The poke bonnet's return is a cerfashion.

Veils of rich purple hue are very fashionable and are worn with black toilettes.

Goldenrod and primrose shades are considered modish as the color schemes After the crinoline comes the man who is in a hurry to get down town and will

probably have to walk in the streets. Tufts of bright scarlet feathers with a black satin butterfly in the center are worn in the hair at fashionable enter-What use is it for a woman to try to

enjoy a play when she is wearing a pair of kid boots that she has just bought that afternoon? Shaded velvet sleeves with contrasting ostumes, and plaid velvet sleeves with blue or green cloth gowns, seem to be

particularly popular. The girl who wears a high hat in the front seats at the theater will never get anywhere near the front seats in heaven. At least that's what the man behind her

Hat pins have become so elaborate that thieves court them. Numerous instances have occurred of women's hats being rifled while they were on their

One very marked feature of the season's fashions is the fancy for wearing dark gowns, with coats or capes of velvet in rich, bright shades, and very ornate and brilliant in decoration. Double-faced shot ribbons in velvet

and satin are new, and one of the hand-somest of Virot's recent hats has the shape stretched tightly with satin in a pale tint and adorned with black lace, fur and ribbon of this sort. The old bell skirt may be ruffled or

cut off and enlarged with a Spanish flounce, and the sleeves can be easily changed. In the matter of bodices we can be in the height of fashion by wearing a contrasting velvet waist with the Collarettes of bright ribbon plaited or two ruffles of silk scolloped on the edges and buttonholed with colored silk

are worn to brighten dark house dresses, and long bows of chiffor, shirred and tucked into shape, come in all bright tints for indoor wear. A very elegant and styllish new shoe

is a walking boot of patent leather without the least adornment in the way of tips or brogues, but cut in long elegant shape, with a thick English sole and heel. It has a cloth top, with a strap or buckle under the instep to iimtate the neatest fitting gaiter. New costumes in any shade have vel-

vet bodiess of the same color. either the same shade or a tone darker. This is a particularly happy combination in biscuit color or beige. The skirt is of cloth, which, by the way, promises to continue its popularity all the spring, and may have folds of the bodice in velvet or the same sized. or the seams piped up and down with velvet cords. The corsage is a velvet, a shade or two darker, and no matter how simply draped and arranged it

modistes are made with a round bias. seamless back, with very wide fichulike revers going over the shoulders, the revers deeply notched in front like a man's coat-collar. The skirts are shorter, with either a cornet back or the more familiar shape with a bias seam, this seam, however, being hidden by large plaits, and not revealed as it

was on the original bell model. There are made some exceedingly dainty bodices for evening wear which are most becoming and useful when the high bodice of the silk dress is removed for the purpose of making a smartening change. The bodices of cream and ivory white lace are a fascinating feature of present fashions. They are made high as well as low, square and half high, but always with hugh airy puffs for sleeves, these reaching from the shoulder to

above the elbow.

The new "shadow" velvets are the admiration of all, since their folds in their alternations of light and shade are a vision of splendor with their superb rainbow hues. They find a foil in the subdued shadings of autumn leaves—rich amber brown, garnet, iris purple, greens in all shades of foliage, cyclamen, petu-nia, the yellow of the goldenrod, damask rose, etc.—many of the beautiful colors when in velvet being accentuated by a still brighter background, glimpses of which are obtained through the rich black or dark brown pile.

### TWO HOUSE DRESSES.

The figure at the left in the accompanying engraving wears a princess cos-tume of olive brown cloth with velvet sleeves. The puffed sleeves and the narrow vest are of dark green velvet and the plastron is of cream colored surah. The trimming used, both the passe-menteric and the marabout, is black. plastron is slightly plaited is bordered by a narrow of velvet, which clasps at



the waist and lends the appearance of a vest. The standing collar is of cream colored surah and is partly covered by the feather trimming. There are tight litting undersleeves.

The costume at the right is of navy

blue cheviot, set off with black silk passementerie, and having a vest of salmon colored silk. The bottom of the skirt has a balayeuse, and is trimmed makes a very pretty costume.

The majority of the bodices and gowns now being fashioned by leading the left as in the picture, and hangs in What Brand is on your Collar?

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two long ends to a foot from the edge of the skirt. The leg-o'-mutton sleeves button at the wrists and are trimmed there with trimming similar to the

For home wear, summer dresses may be made warm-looking by adding velvet sleeves and trimmings to them. Blouses also, instead of being made of light silk now, are made of velvet or velveteen. They are made over a tight lining to prevent bagging. If the lining be boned no corset is needed beneath them. They look prettiest fastened at the side, and may be trimmed round with a narrow band of fur if intended to be worn out

Feminine Personalities. Mrs. P. T. Barnum is at Hot Springs. N. D., where she is nursing a sprained

Mrs. John Mackay is most unassuming in her attire and seldom wears jowels of any kind. Her favorite color is pearl. Mme. Carnot, wife of the French presi-

ercise, and takes a long "constitutional" before breakfast every morning.

The empress of Austria has begun the study of the modern Greek language and literature. She has already made considerable progress, as she is clever and

learns casily. A young lady in Newark, whose ankle was injured during a waltz by her part-ner accidentally kicking her, wants \$5,000 damages from him. The way of

the whirled. Mrs. Sarah Kipple of Scranton, Pa.,

Mrs. Sarah Kipple of Scranton, Pa., still persists in smoking, after seventy-nine years' experience of the noxious and deadly weed. As she is only 99 years old, there is, however, time for her to reform.

Miss Neille Ahern will be the next state librarian at Indianapolis. This was decided at a caucus of the two houses, in which sixty-four votes were cast for Miss Ahern and only eight for

east for Miss Ahern and only eight for the horrid male candidate.

Mme. Carnot, wife of the French president, smokes eigarettes after her meals, but only a mild and sweet-scented variety.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Barnett believes in the benefits of walking as an ex-