FREE

FEMININE FADS AND FANCIES

California Ladies Throw Conventionality to the Four Winds

AND RIDE HORSEBACK A LA CLOTHESPIN

A Plea for Pin Money for Daughters-The Spring Household Upheaval-Jewels and Buttons-Latest Fashions -Feminine Personalities.

Alameda, a lovely suburb of San Francisco on the east side of the bay, has a club of forty ladies devoted to herseback riding. Thirty-six of the number respect the side-saddle and are shocked because the remaining four have declared openly and boldly for the clothespin style. And what is more, the four revolutionists have donned divided skirts and take a daily canter over the neighboring roads.

The woman who was first brave enough to defy public opinion was Mrs. Dr. Bull. Mrs. Bull is an English woman of advanced ideas. She likes to ride and she believes in comfort. One day she appeared in her divided habit, riding in an ordinary man's saddle. Of course she created a sensation, and the quiet Encinal hamlet was excited. They had a new topic for teas and dinners. But Mrs. Bull was not frightened. Soon Mrs. Dames joined Mrs. Bull and there were two comfortable ones. Not very long ago Miss Georgie Elliot and Miss Gisella Kruger made their appearance in divided skirts, so that now there are

The Alamedans shrug their shoulders when questioned on the subject and say: "We used to think it was funny, but we soon became used to it."

The four ladies frequently ride with their horses abreast. They make a very good appearance, as all are excellent riders and sit on their horses much more firmly than is possible in the old-fashioned way. The ladies say that days in the saddle do not tire them as much as hours used to when they rode the diffi-cult and unsafe side-saddle. They are accustomed to making country excursions over bad roads which consume the whole day, but they return fresh from the jaunt. They say that no one who has not tried it can imagine the ease with which one learns to ride astride. The poise in the saddle is much more graceful, not half so fatiguing and in-

The costume adopted by these ladies is as inconspicuous as anything in the divided line can be, and it is certainly becoming. The habit is in two pieces. The upper part is the ordinary tailormade basque with long coat tails. The skirt is divided and is just long enough to conceal the feet and stirrups. Both skirts are full enough to hang well, but not as full as the ordinary habit, and they are weighted so as not to fill with the breeze. A mere side view looks conventional, and the casual observer would only notice a rather scant habit, but from the front or back it does look odd. Looking down the street the horse seems to be draped on each side with a riding skirt. Over their habits these ladies wear military capes of medium | United States. length. These are pretty and becoming, and float gracefully when the horses go

My heart aches for a daughter whose overanxious parents talk to her as if all her wants, pleasures and pursuits were frivolities, and so to be condemned. says a writer in Harper's Bazar. These things are so much to young people, and most girls have so much in their natures besides the trivial surface effervescence which sometimes offends maturer persons, because it is so little

No one who has lived in a large city can have failed to see repeated cases where the daughters of a rich man, when plunged into sudden adversity, throw extravagance and worldliness from them like a cast-off garment, and, as true women always do, use such talents as God has given to earn the family living. No early record of lavish expenditure hampers them then. No reminiscences of past splendor handicaps them, and the fact that they were liberally provided for once does not make them less capable of intelligent economy when the need of it arises.

This on the other side. One of the most wildly extravagant women in New York was the daughter of a missionary, who never before her marriage had owned \$5. Oppose to that the story of the wife of a curate who makes a happy home for husband and children on his salary of \$1,500 a year, the exact sum her wealthy father gave as her yearly allowance before she disappointed him by marrying against his wishes.

In asking five well reared girls in easy circumstances to tell me the lowest sum that will make a befitting allowance, my answers have been \$1,000 a year from two of my correspondents, \$500 from two others and \$350 from another. In the note mentioning the last sum the writer, knowing my motive for asking, says: "Dan't cut off the \$50 and make it \$300, for that will mean drudgery and noth-

But as the question is to be met and fairly answered. I must say that I think \$300 will cover the ground if self-denial and good management are to be counted But in giving my verdict I will add a recommendation to mercy, and I hope every man in good circumstances will give his daughter a larger amount than have indicated. Many a parent who has never apportioned a systematic al-lowance, and to whom this lump sum may seem large, may find to his amazement on calculation that his actual outlay has surpassed it.

includes in its constitution a bylaw which provides "That the members, wives, daughters and lady friends shall have the right to enjoy the privileges of the club," and by this provision is the organization distinctive among its kind. So generous is the sentiment that one readily forgives the "lady friends" of its The plan to admit women to the club was at first ridiculed, then bitterly opposed, and finally accepted with the provise that if found detrimental to the interests of the club the women would meet the fate of the Chinese. But the results have shown that what was considered to be a doubtful experiment has been the means of building up an institution the like of which is not to be found in the country, so the members claim. It is the boast of the officers that no woman dwells in the city so pious that she would not wish to be known as a friend of the club, nor one of the boys that does not consider it an honor to be connected with the club. They have a membership of 750, a club house valued at \$300,000, a fine library, and accommo dations for 1,000 guests, and the name is the Mercantile club. There is a fine flavor of Utopia in this chivalrous arrangement, a murmur of the coming milliennium, when man and woman shall sit side by side, "full secured in all their powers," for ninety-nine women out of a hundred would rather be a member in expression as in words and looks. A good and regular standing of a man's | woman can take the arm of a fellow she |

lub than to be governor of her state or have a seat in the cabinet. San Francisco artists disagree on the

subject of the California Venus. They all declare that the state is full of living models that would outrival even the la-dies that lived at Melos, but doubt seems to lurk in some of the studios as to the wisdom and propriety of exhibiting this California beauty at Chicago. There are those who think it would be bad form, however good the figure might be. Some fear that Chicago would regard the exhibition as a departure from the strict line of modesty, even if the statue were draped in a brown granite robe of the night. In New York it would be different, the artists say, for New York has an art museum that is open even on Sun-day. And besides, the New York ideas in such matters are modified by the proximity to Europe and the Jersey

Others assert that while the statue might be entirely within the bounds of opriety and have spare drapery enough o make a bathing suit, it would not be becoming for the state to make boastful pretentions about so divine a thing as woman's loveliness.

There are one or two golden rules in regard to giving dinners which no one can ever do wrong in following. The dinner should be unambitious and well served. Everything should be hot. There should not be too much to cat, and no dinner should last over an hour or an hour and ten minutes at the outside. Very few people dine out for the sake of getting good food only. There are some houses where one expects, and where one gets, a dinner to dream of, but such houses are few and the ordinary hostess should content herself by feeling sure that when her guests leave they will carry away the conviction that they have passed an evening which has been more than usually pleasant. In France society meets pleasantly without being fed. The salon, which gave so much distinction to French society, was a purely intellectual meeting where conversation was the object and the slightest refreshment supplied all the material wants of the coterie. Although French society has altered, still such portion of it as has title to distinction still adheres to the old custom.

Mrs. Lovey Aldrich, who draws her pension from the Detroit division of the pension department, is a widow of the evolutionary war and the war of 1812, There are eight other revolu-tionary widows in the United States, but none of them is the widow of two national wars. Mrs. Aldrich lives at Seattle, Wash., having removed from Michigan some time ago. Her age is but little over ninety years. Her husband, Caleb-Aldrich, was a private in the revolution in the New Hampshire and Rhode Island lines. Regiments were known as lines back in that age. It is believed he must have joined the revolutionary army toward the close. of the war in 1783, when he was very Something like forty years later, when his hair was gray with age. he met a pretty little maid of very few The old and young were wedded. He died and she became a widow of a revolutionary hero. As her hair was growing gray she married Taylor Clark. Her second husband had fought in the war of 1812. He died and the widow of two war heroes now draws a pension of \$30 a month from the government. Her case stands alone in the

Now that the spring is really here, according to the calendar, though not according to the atmosphere, the careful housewife who runs her family affairs on systematic principles will soon be dragging out the furniture from the nooks where it has stood all winter, taking up the carpets and relaying them, or else replacing them with matting, substituting lighter draperies for the heavy ones, and, in fact, putting dust and dirt to rout in her thorough and energetic manner. The time of the annual spring cleaning has arrived, and the men of the family wax wroth many times a day as they stumble over stray articles that have wandered from their accustomed

It is most commendable to be a good housekeeper, but don't be a fussy one. It isn't necessary to make every one uncomfortable around you in your crusade against untidiness, and remember always that but one room at a time can be set in order; therefore, do not get the whole house upset in your zealous ardor.

It is runored that glossy hair is to be come the fashion, and that the sheeny locks as seen upon the heads of our grandmothers are coming in again with the adoption of silk nightcaps. These caps, it is claimed, absorb the perspira-tion that weakens the roots of the hair, and protect the heads from draughts and chills that make the hair come out. The cap is, however, by no means the only agent in making the hair soft and shiny. Constant brushing has quite as much to do with it, as well as keeping the scalp clean by an occasional washing with pure soan and soft water or the white of One of the best hair tonies is made from rum and quinine. The object of brushing the hair is not only to stimulate the scalp and keep it free from dandruff, but to keep it free from every particle of dust its entire length. For the latter purpose a brush with closely set bristles is necessary.

Rubies are the most fashionable stones just now, set with diamonds. The pure whiteness of brilliants, unrelieved by color gems, is less in vogue than of yore, and the most beautiful parures that are being made are of diamonds, combined with emeralds, sapphires or rubles, the last mentioned being most in demand.

"A brooch in the new design of a bow.

having a pearl center and a second pearl hanging from it as a drop, is very pretty, as also is a double crescent or bandeau that, though intended as an ornament for the hair, forms a very pretty shoulder knot, while a fan, which when closed re-One of the principal clubs of St. Louis sembles a rounded tortoise shell stick that is simply incrusted with diamonds, is so beautiful that anyone would feel disinclined to unfurl it, but would rather suffer agonies of heat than open the glit-

tering toy. The fancy for buttons with odd devices is revived for handsome gowns, especially those with Directoire coats and waistcoats. These vary from patterns of cut metal, matching gold, silver and copper bronze passementeries, to styles as costly as real gems. Some are exceedingly elegant and artistic in sets, both large and small, made of gold, silver and other genuine metals, and tinted in rich colorings of vines in relief, or set with bits of glittering, halfprecious jewels. There are many attractive buttons in faceted silver. mother-o'-pearl, hammered gold, chased copper and Mexican onyx, with gold settings, showing heads of Leander, Atalanta, Paris, Hero, Priam, Penelope, etc., in moonstone, agate, cameo and vari-colored enamels

You can tell pretty well how a girl feels toward you by the way she takes your arm. If she doesn't care a cent, you know it by the indifference of her muscles. If she has great confidence in you, the pressure tells it; and friendship is as distinct from love in that mode of

likes very much with perfect comfort, even if she is six feet high and he four. But even if the two are just matched, she can make him feel disdain, con-tempt, discomfort, dislike, anything she likes, by the way she does not hold on to

The English Woman's Year Book, in its review of woman's work, states that the demand for woman lecturers on almost all questions of practical value is steadily increasing. With so many additional openings with remunerative employments, the editor congratulates the community on the disposition increasingly apparent among young women to be content with a single life, and admits her surprise at the incon-sistency with which this tendency has been reprobated by the very persons who at other times are given to deplore the overpopulation of the country.

Murmurs of the Modes.

Tartan plaids and color-mixtures appear among new fancy grenadines. Slippers laced with ribbon to imitate a sandal effect are worn with empire

Husband-Did'nt you promise to obey ne at the altar? Wife-Yes; but we're not there now.

A sword hilt is used as a brooch. The guard is of small gold wire, with a stone or pearl in the center of each.

Capes of all sizes and shapes are very fashionable. The handsomest of these reach considerably below the hips. Wide-brimmed hats with an abund-

ance of ostrich-plume trimming will be popular for spring and early summer The statement that corsets are found Egyptian mummies is conclusive as

to their danger. Not a single mummy of them all is alive. Sleeves continue to be as dressy as ever, and in the latest gowns from Paris the puff droops slightly, though they

grow in width accordingly. One of the new ideas is a black satin bodice and a skirt of some dark, rich cloth. Indeed, black satin as a waist material is quite to the fore.

Wool bengaline is a material of rich ness and refinement that has become very popular this season. It is soft and lustrous in appearance and drapes grace-

The latest fad in hair dressing is a cleverly contrived wire frame, upon which a crimped switch can be easily arranged into a light and graceful chignon. There is a rumor in the fashionable

world to the effect that petticoats are to be banished for trousers of monstrous size, made of silk or satin and trimmed The old fashioned rolled hem, held in

place by blind stitches, is used for the lower edge of the fashionable flounce, while the upper edge is a standing ruffle of the material doubled. A striking innovation in some of the

new importations is overskirts. These at present are generally split up in front or at the sides to show the bell skirt beneath. They hang perfectly straight. The young woman of the day scarcely

considers herself up to the times if she does not possess a number of waists entirely unlike any of the materials in the skirt with which she wears them. White will be very generally worn during the coming summer. Pretty simple dresses of white linen-lawn, with

hem-stitched tucks and hems, will be quite the thing for dainty young ladies. Among elegant novelties in spring importations are skirt fronts and very wide shoulder sections of the most elaborate embroidery. Indeed, some of these

trimmings are not very far from the bar-

New card cases for my lady are in very delicate colors, heliotrope the favorite, and the dearest little strap on one side for holding a bunch of violets or a rose. A dainty touch to the visiting toilet.

Eton and Russian jackets appear to be in as great vogue as ever. Some of the new short jackets, girdles and yokes are outlined with soutache braid, and the skirts en suite show a bordering of numerous circling rows.

There is a tendency toward the rerival of skirt draperies, but it remains to be seen whether they will be generally adopted. Plaitings are noticed but little among the new spring costumes

except upon the edge of the skirt. The chignon, which in the past has companioned the hoop skirt, has made its appearance as the Rossetti knot. There is, however, in this case nothing in a name, as the inartistic excrescence nothing more nor less than the old

chignon revived. One of the handsome spring fabrics is the Rochemont weave, a very fine woolen rep, with a dot of silk of another color, which, though of pure wool, is remarkable for its lightness. It is used extensively for both entire costumes and in combination.

A lovely morning gown for a bride is of heliotrope cashmere with short zouave jacket of white guipure lace. It is confined at the waist with white velvet ribbons. For a simpler gown a striped pink and gray French flannel with pink and gray ribbon is pretty.

Style in blouse waists is largely a mere uestion of sleeves. By renewing the leeves of a last year's dress you may be in the fashion at very little expense. Leg-of-mutton sleeves are in favor. They cannot be too large, nor can the shoulders appear too wide.

A favorite trimming for Lenten toilets of back armure, faille and Victoria silk is finely watered moire Français. These trimmings consist of a single extra wide band or several narrow bands around the bottom of the skirt, with the addition of full sleeves, cuffs, plastron and Empire girdle.

Fashion this season smiles approvingly on all eccentricities in broadening the feminine shoulders with lace, velvet, ouffs, revers, bretelles, cape-collars and all sorts of wide-spreading elegances, until the slimly gored portion of the fig ure looks inadequate to bear the weight of all its under magnificence.

Serges, reps and diagonals are among importations. The coarser the weave of stuff the more fashionable, except in the case of the always handsome lady's or faced cloth which comes in exceptionally rich colors and in the highest priced qualities there is, a line of tones absolutely unattainable in other goods. Sleeves are running to extremes. The wider they are, and the farther they can project out from the shoulders, the better the wearer seems to like it. When they are not prominent enough, the effect is enhanced by cape-collars made of stiff material that set out over the shoulders like the eaves of a house.

Diamonds and pearls are giving way for ordinary wear to less expensive stones. The aquamarine, chrysophrase and topaz are specially popular. The settings are plain but substantial. This is a much-to-be-commended fashion. Precious stones have their place in full dress. These others are much more appropriate for more ordinary wear.

In thin silks the newest are satin finished and are printed in striking effects of colors. Persian and chintz atternsp are much less seen, and small designs

silk with very broad wale, will be much en evidence in the coming seasons.

Oriental red is the hame given to a new street shade of tises color which appears in cloth vigoging burette wools and slik and well mixtures. It is a handsome dye between that of a deep crimson rose and a sich dahlia color. It is remarkably becoming to both fair and dark women, and one of the best shades that the neutral-toned type could possibly select. The color is so subdued that it is not at all conspicuous.

Talk About Women.

Miss Lucy Cabinissiis a caterer and florist at Jackson, Miss., and serves as a woman's exchange to Mississippi house-

A sewing machine was included among the presents the ex-empress of Germany gave her daughter, Princess Margarethe, on her marriage

Henrietta Herschfeld, the first woman graduate of the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery, is assistant court dentist in Germany. Mrs. Anna E. Field has been drawn to

serve on a petit jury in the federal court in Minneapolis, the first instance of the kind in the history of the state. Mrs. Hoke Smith is said to be a skillful and brilliant entertainer, and it is

expected that she will shine socially in Washington under the new regime. At a tea drinking at the Boston Wo man's club the other day Grace Green-wood was asked to tell one more story, but excused herself by saying, "No, I cannot get more than one story high on

a cup of tea." Mme. Camille Collett, the well known advocate of the emancipation of women in Norway, recently celebrated the 80th anniversary of her birth. A festival was given in Christiania in honor of the

Ex-Senator T. W. Palmer of Michigan president of the National World's Fair commission, is considering plans for the investment of \$500,000 of his own fortune to be devoted to the advancement of women who have to earn their own

Miss Ellen Faithfull of London is enleavoring to organize in one of the suburbs a home for women who are working for their own living, the idea being to provide each occupant with a private oom at a low rent, and the use of common dining and reception rooms.

Mrs. Sarah Ulrich Kelley of Hones dale, Pa., who is a candidate for the position of national poet, with a Washngton house and \$15,000 a year thrown in, was prevented by illness from attend-ing Mr. Cleveland's inauguration. But she may be looked for later in the season.

The ladies of Dresden have been holding a riding tournament, the honors of the joust being won by a young English girl, Miss Theresa Brooks, whose spir-ited riding won showers of flowers and laurel leaves. Her final exploit was the driving of a pair of horses tandem while riding her own horse at full speed. A quadrille was danced very gracefully and the time marked by the ringing of bells to the music.

Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, the sister of Grover Cleveland, is now in Europe. Last summer she was met walking on a road in Switzerland by Colonel Dan Lamont, who was making the tour. Miss Rose was in great demand in literary circles while brother was president; but owing to her strong will and advanced ideas she was not financially successful. She has a strong penchant for missionary work, and, like her distinguished brother, is yearning constantly to reform things. She has kept to herself since her brother's marriage, but she promises to return to the United States and visit the white house some time this year.

Hints for Housewives. One pound of green copperas dissolved

in a quart of water will destroy all offensive odors. Castor oil has not failed in any case to

remove warts to which it was applied ce a day for two weeks. Pickles or vinegar will not keep in a stone jar which has ever been used for

lard or any other kind of grease. Warmed-over biscuits can hardly be told from new ones if they are set dry in a close pan and covered while reheat-

Salt extracts the juices from the meat cooking. Steaks ought not, therefore, to be salted until they have been boiled Wash white chamois gloves in a warm suds, made with white Castile soap. After they are nearly dry finish drying on the hands.

Salt as a toothpowder is as good as anything that can be bought. It keeps the teeth brilliantly white and the gums hard and rosy. To keep highly polished brass free

from tarnishing, cover it while warm with a thin coat of varnish made of sheliac dissolved in alcohol. So long as the varnish remains the brass will continue to remain bright. Sliced beets make a lovely pink color-

ing matter for any article of food, or a bit of saffron will produce a pretty yellow and is as harmless as the beets. Spinach leaves make a very good green. and the yolk of eggs will give a gold tint. Sure remedy for ink stains is unboiled

sweet milk. Dip the soiled article in the milk, allowing it to soak for three or fours hours. The ink will spread to as wide a space as it is moist, but it will come out in the wash and leave no trace

If your sewing machine has become gummed and consequently runs hard oil every place with the best kerosene oil and run rapidly a few moments. Wipe the bearings carefully, oil with the best machine oil, and you will be surprised at the result.

Persons who use kerosene lamps will be glad to know that off the wicks are soaked in strong vinegar twenty-four hours and thoroughly dried before being inserted all smoke will be avoided. the wicks will last twice as long and in-creased brilliant light will be obtained.

Vaseline is growing in favor as an molient for shoes. Take a pair of emolient for shoes. 3 shoes, especially the shoes worn by ladies, and when they become hard and rusty apply a coating, of vaseline, rub-bing well with a cloth, and the leather will become soft and plfable and almost impervious to water.

Take two parts of common soda, one part of pumice stone and one part of finely powdered chall; sift through a fine sieve and mix it with water, then rub it well all over the marble and the stains will be removed; wash the marble over with soan and water and it will be as clean as it was at first.

Do not forget the danger of burning kerosene lamps turned low. A lamp burned in this way all night in a sleeping room is sufficient cause to make a well person ill, and is decidedly dangerous to weak or sick people. Either burn a small lamp with wick turned at the full height or set a larger one behind a screen that will shade the light properly. Kerosene is too cheap to risk breathing the foul gases from insuf-ficient combustion of the oil, which physicians consider especially hurtful for little children to inhale.

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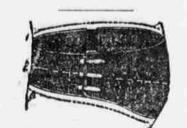
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