

IN THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN.

VICTORIA'S DRESSMAKERS.

Britain's Queen said to be a secret sympathizer of Dress Reform.

It is not very generally known, perhaps, that some years ago Queen Victoria caught the dress reform fever and joined an association. She furthermore investigated a number of her dowager friends into becoming members.

Although the queen never astonished her court by appearing in a dress cut a la reform, she thought the idea of some not too radical reforms in dress a capital one—at least for the other women.

Through the queen's influence the princesses of Wales and her daughters became interested and for a brief season Princess Victoria and the duchess of Fife appeared upon occasions in gowns that were at least semi-reformed.

It cannot be said, however, that they ever became violently enthusiastic upon the subject.

During the last fifteen years the princesses of Wales has scarcely varied the fashion of her costumes at all. Through the age of big, puffed sleeves she clung to small ones. For the make of her gowns the style known as the "princess" has always been adhered

rows of pearls, with great diamond slides—this means almost too heavy for her tiny throat.

Another grand dame whom we can claim as one of our countrywomen, the Countess Castiglione, has a large and magnificent wardrobe; she seldom wears a gown more than three times at most.

PROFESSIONAL ANXIETY BEARER.

Shows a Hostess How to Be Happy While Entertaining.

How to be happy, though the hostess of a large dinner party with a long menu, is what an exceedingly thoughtful young lady, at the rate of from \$3 to \$5 an evening, is showing a number of wealthy women. This young lady, who enjoys a great gift for all artistic devices and practical measures in connection with entertaining, lost her own fortune not long ago and in looking around for a means of bread winning decided to become a professional bearer of dinner party anxieties.

Her idea was too good not to fall into prompt and profitable working order and last winter she had rather more engagements at \$5 an evening than she could fill. What she does literally is to manage dinners, or wedding breakfasts, or large luncheons, and though she does not cook, nor wait on table she fulfills a most important mission.

She stands before the hostess in all worry. A half hour before the meal is served she appears in the dining room and sees to it that the butler has got the table set and his own toilet arranged and the pink of perfection, that the wines are rising or falling to precisely the right temperature, then she dons her big apron, and as guests file into the dining room she takes her stand by the pantry's dumb waiter, to not only observe that every dish comes up exactly on time, but piping hot when it ought to be hot, chilled to the marrow when the chill is necessary, but, furthermore, she takes it to see that this flavor is exactly what it ought to be.

Having a quick wit, resourceful mind and profound knowledge of French cookery, she takes care that no dish passes onto the table that is not above reproach. Where she stands in the pantry there is heard the clatter of the crash and grind of dinner party machinery; no long waits between courses elapse, and the first drop of every wine poured must first be tested on her sensitive pink tongue.

Now this may seem a sinecure, but grateful hostesses look upon her work as an excellent method of philosophy, for even the butler is a perfectly new man, the cook a possible traitor to her trust, and the caterer apt to play tricks with his ices and sorbets, so long as the dinner manageress is at the pantry helm nothing can go wrong, no cold snaps, no hot champagne, dried up birds, or such other vegetables will ever mar their appearance at the table. With all the case of an unfettered soul the hostess can give her whole mind to her guests. If she is a hostess new at the business she can send for the manageress beforehand and have her dinner all planned for her, every detail considered, even to the color of the flowers and the cutters on the tablecloth, and the very latest surprise in an epicurean delicacy worked up for the envious delectation of her guests. But this is an extra.

FOR IT PAYS TO BE A GIRL.

Enormous Cost of the Social Launch of a Young Lady.

A girl is a very expensive luxury nowadays, whether she lives in England or America. Still it costs more to make one's debut in England than it does in America, for over there a girl is not properly introduced until she has been presented at court and the cost of launching a daughter in society is something to drive impecunious fathers into a lunatic asylum. One girl who came up from her Berkshire home to be presented this spring has given an account of what she endured and what her father's pocketbook suffered. First, a large aristocratic and handsomely furnished house was rented in London for the season—nearly every one rents his town house now—and a big rent charged. Then began the work of laying in a wardrobe.

This girl first paid a visit to a place where corsets are made to order. She had a pretty figure, but madam insisted that she must have an eighteen-inch waist to be beautiful. She was measured and fitted for riding, opera and ordinary corsets and the bill came \$100. Twenty-five pairs of the smartest boots and slippers added to the bills. A score of pretty hats, to go with various dresses, made a big hole in \$500, and three times the amount went to the dressmaker. A riding habit cost \$50, a bicycle suit the same and several dozen pairs of gloves to make were no small item.

WOMEN BRAVER THAN MEN.

Views of a Doctor on the Courage of the Female Sex.

"Of course, I concur in it," said the eminent and famous Chicago surgeon who was interrogated in regard to feminine and masculine courage. "No, I shouldn't be prepared to say that it's all for the sake of adding to a woman's persona when she is brave, either. I think that her courage is of a very fine kind and a kind quite beyond the reach of the ordinary man. Now, most men take the preliminaries of an operation bravely, although I have known plenty who flunked at the last moment. A man usually lays down on the operating table with a joke or would-be funny speech intended to prove to us all how little scared he is and which really gives him away hopelessly. The woman, white and trembling with nervousness and fear very often, simply gives herself over into our hands without a word or sign. It made me smile when some people declared at the commencement of the war excitement about a year ago that women nurses would be no good, because they would be cowardly, nervous if you like the word better, and so utterly unable to face the horrors of battle. Why, a brave woman will go anywhere, bear anything, do anything without flinching, and, mind you, when I say a brave woman I don't mean a woman who is naturally courageous and reckless, by any means. Such courage comes in the kind of problems which we are considering. I mean the woman who is deathly afraid, who knows she is afraid, who knows that every one else knows it, but who is determined to ignore the fact entirely and to behave as if it were not a fact at all. There are hundreds of such women in Chicago and elsewhere, and it is this kind of courage which carries a person, whether man or woman, through the trials and vicissitudes of life safely and without going to pieces. It used to be customary and even conventional to poke fun at a woman who was afraid of bugs, snakes, insects and creeping things in general. But

five me the woman who grows pale with fear at sight of such things, but remains bravely silent through it all if there is need of real courage. It's a sort of instinct with women to be brave, in my opinion, and that's all there is to it—that and the fact that the woman of today is ashamed to be afraid and is determined that the next generation shall not even know what fear is, if she can help it."

"Bride's a safe cloak, I'll wear it, but no rag," quoth the woman physician, famous as well for her society achievements and her widespread popularity, who was also asked to say something concerning the question of women and her courage as compared to man's.

"It is pride which makes nine out of every ten of us brave, or appear so," she declared, oracularly. "Pride and the desire to be beautiful, to be powerful, which you have mentioned and which lies at the bot-

tom of every true woman's heart. When it was fashionable for women to be timid and nervous, you will remember, almost every woman was so, or endeavored to put on this appearance. Brave women were at a discount in those days, just as timid ones are now. Now that it is fashionable to be brave we all try to be so. If we haven't the virtue of courage we assume it, you know, and most of us try to be brave, although at the bottom of her heart almost every daughter of Eve is afraid of all manner of things. It is her natural heritage from the days when all things seemed very much against her. And then, too, speaking of the assumed bravery, women have suffered so much in all ages and it has been so thoroughly ingrained into the feminine nature that it is neither wise nor womanly to be perpetually complaining that a sort of forced courage has become practically instinctive. Men are really braver, perhaps, but they have never learned to disguise their feelings so well as women. This is the reason they don't face physical pain so bravely nowadays."

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Parasols of the material like the gown are the correct thing to have.

Gaingerettes of silver or gold handsomely enameled and set with precious stones are in favor.

French designers continue to make all sorts of pretty effects in the use of black velvet ribbon.

A pretty friendship heart, handsomely enameled in green or pink, is set with diamonds and rubies.

Hard cases of open silver work, embossed and relieved by bright cuttings, are among the seasonable novelties.

Feather boas in black, white and gray are one of the very active fads of fashion in London, and at least three boas are considered a necessary addition to the summer outfit.

Hats of black Brussels net run with infinitesimally narrow tucks, very close together, are one variation of millinery, and again you see hat brims lined with tullek chiffon.

Dainty boleros of Renaissance lace and embroidered chiffon fastened at one side with a bow of velvet or silk are among many of the bodices of the fabled gowns.

Long, slender white wings are one of the special features of millinery, and are especially pretty on the white straw hats trimmed with tulle or chiffon and a black velvet bow with a stunning buckle.

An exquisitely wrought brooch in the shape of a lizard has set in a row of diamonds which are surrounded by emeralds. Rubies serve as the eyes, and in the open jaws is set a large pearl.

The new silk and lace stocks are an extremely dainty and comfortable fashion, for in hot summer days even the most rigid devotee of tailor styles is glad enough to substitute them for the stiff linen collar.

The white pique shirt is fashionable to the summer shirt outfit, and with this the correct thing is the lawn shirt waist, snowy white, a kid belt and a white or violet necktie.

Or spats, if you please. But of such I buy six times as much. And so, you know, the cost is just as great. Oh, how I hate a wet foot!

Do you suppose I like to feel it rubbing 'gainst my nose? Forever catching on my eyelash tips, Persists adhering to my lips, And while the ill-fated blackness of its lace Makes grimy smudges on my face, Or if the veil be white, Itself it smudges 'till it is a sight! Why do I wear it?

It is a crime thus daily to enwrap One's self in such a microbe-trap! Death and disease lurk hidden in its curves. A pest! A ban! A blot upon our sex. Just made to vex. A burdensome woman's overburdened nerves, Oh, Fashion, hear my wail! Or is my plea to let me go without a veil Without avail?

How They Acquit. Detroit Journal: The murderer was confident and cheerful, almost gay. "I shall be acquitted, most assuredly," he said. "I have retained the shrewdest criminal dresser-maker in the state."

Oh, bless you, no; she had not as yet decided whether she would lecture or write a book; possibly neither; certainly she should do nothing simply because it was the usual thing done.

WOMAN IN THE PILOT HOUSE.

Will Steer a Fleet of Houseboats on the Mississippi.

The first license ever issued to a woman pilot on the Mississippi river—as the inspectors declare—was issued at Dubuque June 9 by "George B. Knapp, inspector of boats," and "Samuel H. Nimick, inspector of boilers," to the wife of Prof. William Windsor, the phrenologist, now lecturing in St. Paul. Mrs. Windsor is a young, handsome brunette, she is tall, however, in experiences of navigation, having piloted pleasure boats upon several lakes and rivers, and having spent many weeks upon the ocean wave. After passing her examination, which included a test for color blindness, she navigated the Bonnie Marie for a long distance south of La Crosse. She never lost the old channel or found a new rock. She never ran aground and she steadfastly refused to cleave in twain any St. Louis packet that thought it owned the river.

Mrs. Windsor will soon start for St. Louis as commodore of an imposing squadron. The Bonnie Marie will escort a handsome houseboat luxuriously fitted and boasting even porcelain bathtubs. Prof. Windsor himself has chartered the City of Hudson. That steamer will conduct two other houseboats and an "autonomous barge." The barge will seat 1,000 people. Several small launches will complete the squadron. Setting sail June 25 from Stillwater, the professor, his rosy pilot and his 1,000 seats will progress gradually toward the Gulf of Mexico. Steps will be made at river towns, where excursions will be arranged. During the excursion the stokers in the 1,000 seats will hear lectures upon phrenology and vitaphony and will see stereopticon views. Persons of navigating tendency will be induced to hire other houseboats and accompany the expedition. During the summer months the Bonnie Marie will not whistle south of Davenport, Ia., but that flagship will go out of commission only when, late next fall or some warm day next winter, Pilot Marie touches her gold-laced cap in honor of the harbormaster on the levee at New Orleans.

A TRAVELING COAT.

Carolin Wells in Harper's Bazar. Why do I wear a veil? 'Tis of no use. 'Tis always a fetching loose. A plaything of the winds, that takes delight in ever being wrong and never right. Why do I wear it? 'Tis a nuisance great. Beyond all words to state. And an expense immense! 'Tis so frail. 'Tis so new, one, and, behold, Tomorrow it is old! Forth to the shops then angrily I hie Another veil to buy. On every side I see rare bargain sales. But not one to buy. And so I pay an awful price. For I must have it nice; I buy six times as much. And so, you know, the cost is just as great. Oh, how I hate a wet foot!

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A SMART JACKET.

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