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PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1866.

TRIPLE SHEET-THREE CENTS.

#### THE FASHIONS.

A"River of Pearls" Guarded by an Italian Statesman-Dressing for the Fetes at Complegue-The Tollet of Princess Metternich-A Needle Regiment in the Austrian Service-Description of the Six

Paris, November 30 .- On opening the Perse veranza, a Venetian paper, I find in the number of the 13th, that when the King of Italy visited the ball given in his honor, at the Giovanelli Palace, "Madame Ratazzi had a river of pearls on her opulent shoulders (some twenty rows), all of equal size and beauty, and two as large as pears in her ears. Signor Ratazzi, who accompanied his wife all the evening, might have passed for a sentinel watching over the pearly treasure, and guaranteeing, by his statesmanlike gravity, their indisputable authenticity."

The Perseveranza dropped from my hands when I had glanced over the above quotation, and I fell into a deep reverse all about Mr. Ratazzi, whom we have here represented as a kind of detective, jealously watching his wife's shoulders with what I should call unstatesmanlike bearing, if we are to suppose that, had he not followed his wife, people would have presumed that her pearls were all paste. I con cluded that if this new sentinel function is to be added to all the other official duties of a states man, I am glad that I am excluded from diplo matic councils. Thereupon my thoughts wan dered from the Giovanelli palace to Compiegne, where no less than one hundred and fifty case of flowers, made up into bouquets, were lately sent by express for the Empress' birthday ban-quet table. There were so many that all the

reception rooms were converted into hot-houses. The least of these floral offerings cost twenty louis. Very great preparations are being made for another series of visitors at the imperial residence. There is to be a stan hunt in the forest, which will prove a spiended pageant; theatrical representations, cabinet councils, meetings of the military commission, balls and concerts, are to be mixed up in one agreeable mosaic, com-bining serious public duties with lavish hospi-

A little pink scented note was dropped on my breakfast plate this morning. On opening it I found that it had been penned by fashion's fingers—and, by the way, her writing is somewhat excursive, very flourishing, and her style is erratic. The import of the note was that she begged I would attend a particular mansion in which the Princess de Metternich's totlets for Complegne were being packed. She was anxious to know whether her supreme orders had been carried out, and if the robes of which she had decreed the cut, designs, etc., had the regal appearance she had endeavored to combine

with elegante fantaisie. I must say that the little pink note had a bitter-sweet peremptory tone. Truly she begged, but those who have had much to do with the great know that when they thus condescend something dire awaits the hearer who does not

instantaneously comply, even without any breakfast whatever.

My pretty grey was therefore immediately put to my little conveyance, and did not stop its nimble pace till it was drawn up before a very aristocratic dwelling. I was led into a hall, and thence admitted into a spacious apartment in which thirty-five seamstresses, with a sprinking of tailors, half buried in velvets and satins, were all busily occupied. The Princess' robes were all finished, and the middle of the room was taken up by white deal packing boxes, with lids open, waiting to be nailed down till Fashion's staff mistress had glanced over

the whole.

5 On my return home I gave Fashion an account of what I had seen, and hereby enclose the copy of my letter to her. I have since been intermed that she read it out loud to her attenlast, Folickonne, and expressed her approval of the contents by frequent nods of her imaginative head. It was directed to the "Rue des Bon Enfants," and began with a plain

Madame:-Not being acquainted with M'me la Princesse de Metternich's banker, I fit dit utterly impossible to satisfy you as to the amount of money she has spent on her Compiegne outfit. I believe her to be ignorant of the fact herself, as might also be the Prince and the said banker, too, for there are unfathom-able mysteries in this world as well as in the next, and my opinion is that dress is one o those chaotic incommensurables (Fashion is very fond of letters full of long hard words no one can understand) which perplex human in tellect. There are, as voor decree decided, ten court robes, and they really surpass anything ver seen. They are nearly all evening dresses, tough two or three would have both high and bodies; but I will only describe those which or to be worn very low.

but orders as to circumference have been cheyd, the bottom of all the robes measuring rount five metres, eighty centimetres. The

length; each train is two metres.
They are all gored from the waist; all the front wiehs are flat; the folds are platts behind. They are also all lined through with stiff mus-lin, and at ther distinctive feature peculiar to all is that hey finish round the bottom with a phase florace bordered with white poult de soie er sata, somewhat deep and lined with stiff

I will be n with No. 1. It is composed of white tulle, the front width is spangled with silver, the passe round the bottom is of white crepe de chae, which is not lined with tulle, headed with a ruche. Over the whole, except in front, the tanteau de cour, which is made of velours impetal or silk reps, tea-rose color, bordered with plisse of crepe de chine like the skirt. The florers to suit this tea-rose tunic are excites, for no turopean flower has the peculiar shade required They are luxuriant branches of clinging biosoms in variegated leaves.

No. 2 is a whit satin robe, the pliese round the bottom surfounted by three rows of gold galoon over a deep gold fringe. It is most regal. The bod, all white satin and gold-thread blonde, I very low: but it would perhaps be as well not to talk about the bodies, for they are simply smething between corsets and straps to prevent kirts from dropping.

No 3 is the one I admired the most. It is made of white post de sole. Half way down begins a little floure, which is gathered at the top and round the bottom, just at the head of the last plisse, where one of the most wonderful wreaths of open wife roses encircle the whole than and skirt. Each rose is a centifolio and flat, in the centre of four buds; thus forming a rosette between each two leaves, and so on.

rosette between each two leaves, and so on.
Over the whole, but not long enough to touch
the garland, falls a silk reps manteau de cour,
ponceau color, boriered with rows of silver
braid. The body is tulle and lace something,
with a slash of the panceau, and a rose or two,
No. 4 is supposed to be the Empress' favorite.
It is again a white corded silk, covered with
tulle, having a wide manye velvet train immediately above the fina tulle plisse. The front
width is literally shovered over with violets,
which are caught, one by one, with a bud, in
the tulle, up to the watt, and the same trimming behind, one metre dep. All these arrinficial violets are perfumed and scent the air.
Manye velvet violets and tulle form the bodies.
No. 5 is the Anrora Eorealis—a white tulle train No. 5 is the Anrora Eorealis a white tulle train

robe covered with lavender wreaks, two shades which represent grey morting, and again, streaks of white satin which stoot out beyond like rockets. The whole is seen behind a cloud

No. 6 is a black velvet empire embroidered with gold and silver braid and galoon most wonderfully slashed,

these, another, are the lastions which have been executed according to your suggestions, and, I must say, very ably. I was told that the Princess danced for joy in each of them when they were tried on. She is tall, thin, and has a perfect figure. It is not likely you will combine anything more sumptious than the above robes for the approaching winter, and may I hope I shall soon have a mission to describe plain every. shall soon have a mission to describe plain every-day clothes. Complegne and Austrian Ambassadresses are very welcome, but I have a vast arrear of useful, practical, and home gear to impart. There is a great deal of altering and shifting to propose to mothers of grown-up daughters, who, though they are not Ambassadresses, have inordinate desires and no idea of good management. Trusting I may soon be allowed to impart how industry can, with our present styles, make up for every deficiency,

Schamyl Bowing Before the Czar.-Schamyl, the famous Circassian chief, who recently made his submission to the Emperor of Russia, was among the earliest to congratulate the imperial family on the marriage of the Czarewitch. In his speech to Alexander he said:—

In his speech to Alexander he said:—

"If there he a man upon earth worthy to represent God Almghty, that man, size, is yourself. If there he a throne grounded upon the hearts of men, that throne is yours. Size, I wish it to be known everywhere that if old Schamyl, of Daghestan, who rought against your arms for thirty years, experiences a regret at the decline of his days, it is only because he cannot be bern again to devote his whole life to the service of your empire."

The Emperor thanked Schamyl for the sentiments expressed by him, remarking:—"I know you are loval. I know you are an unright man.

you are loyal. I know you are an upright man, I accept your wishes, being certain that they come from the depth of your heart." Schamyl then, turning to the Empress, delivered a

speech.
Again addressing the Czar, Schamyl said:—
"My son is my representative in my id age. In
the person of this young man schamyl himself erves
your Majesty. May he have long years to devote to
your Majesty's service, instead of his old father!"
A correspondent writes:—"At the moment of
dismissing the venerable visitor, his Majesty
shoot hands with him. Schamyl overcommend shook hands with him. Schamyl, overpowered with his feelings, caught hold of the Emperor's arm, and prostrated himself before him. The Emperor raised him and left the apartment. On the same day, Schamyl was also presented to the Crown Prince of Prussia and Grand Duke Michael. At all these audiences he spoke Arabic, the language used on solemn occasions in his native hills. His own tongue is Tartar."

Should Women Ride Astride !- The Spectator thinks that the modified Bloomer dress worn by Dr. Mary Walker, now in England, is ugly, and not defensible on the ground of being more healthful than the dress commonly worn by women; but it asserts the right of any woman to wear the dress. It adds that on this and some other similar matters it is useless to argue with prejudice-bound Britons:-"The true argument is the right of choice, and in denying it society is injuring itself, just as it is in denying women the right of riding as they choose. So fixed is this particular form of oppression, that English society will not even discuss it, refuses to entertain the question, would condemn a dozen leaders of inshion if they made the attempt to introduce a reform. They might walk into a ball-room dressed a la Josephine—that is, undirected to the condensate of the conde dressed to the wast and the only result would be a general disappearance of the fart but they dare not for their lives ride astride. Yet there is absolutely no reason, either of convenience. or security, or modesty, in favor of the sidesaddle, not one single argument which ought even to have a hearing when opposed to the distinct right, subject to the laws of morality, to ride as they please. We do not say there are reasons for abolishing the side-saddle, for, though we think there are, that is not the point. A woman has a right to ride English fashion, or Turkish fashion, or Chinese fashion, if she chooses, and society loses in refasing to concede

Lanman's Dictionary of Congress .- The third edition of the "Dictionary of the United States Congress," by Charles Lanman, has just appeared from the Government printing office in Washington. It has been revised and brought down to the 28th of July, 1866. From a careful examination we perceive that the present edition is more complete as well as more cor-rect than either of its predecessors. It is to be regretted that many of the biographical sketches of members of Congress are very meagre, but it is not remarkable; the completeness of the work is rather a matter of wonder. The volume would be more useful, as well as attractive, it the sketches could be made more elaborate and incidents given; but this would require a large increase of space, and wou'd materially change the purpose of the compiler. Such men as John Savage, William Nelson, A. M. Schermerhorn, Marius Schoonmaker, and Bishop Per-kins ought to have been more fully noticed. But the reader, while wishing that the book had been made more thorough as a historical production, will be gratified the oftener he has occasion to consult it, and find it as good as it is. The compiler is sparing no pains to make it still more full and valuable in future editions.

An Eastern Expedition .- The Bangkok Recorder mentions that a Mr. Appleing has just made the journey across the Malay Peninsula to Bangkok. He sailed in a small boat from Penang to Kopa; stopping on the way at Queda, Tonga, and Ponga. From Kopa he went on elephants across the Peninsula, through Bandan and Chiva to Champon, whence he continued his journey by sailing-boat to Thacien and Bangkok. In doing this he was three months and seventeen days, including stoppages. The mountain passes are described as "highly ro-mantic and exciting," the population is very sparse, and much of the soil, though excellent, is totally uncultivated. The authorities with whom Mr. Appleing came in contact were very obliging, except in the tardiness with which they provided means of carriage. they provided means of carriage.

"A Lecturer" among Highwaymen. — "Mark Twain," the California humorist, has been made the victim of a very practical joke, while crossing the mountains from California to Virginia City, Nevada, on a lecturing tour. A private letter tells the story as follows:—"The boys at Virginia have perpetrated a cruei 'goak' on Twain. Several of them disguised themselves as highwaymen, and, capturing him on the Divide, relieved him of several hundred dollars (proceeds of his lectures), gold watch, etc. He thought it a stern reality until just as he was about to start back to California, when, after being seated in the stage, the missing valuables, together with the masks worn by the robbers, were handed to him in the presence of a laughing crowd. Mark failed to see the point of the joke."

A New Freuch Breech-Loader - Lieutenant Bonnin, of the French navy, has presented to the Emperor his new breech-loader, and it has been much admired by his Majesty. Experiments are to be made with it at Vincennes. A correspondent says:—"Chassepot's musket, not-withstanding the noise made about it, has not been adopted. Neither, however, has it been rejected—it is 'under consideration.' The great difficulty the French military authorities find with the breech-loader submitted to them is the want of a cartridge which shall be without danger, not liable to deterioration from damp, not too heavy, not too dear, and be easily made.

Forefathers' Day in Wisconsin -The New Engiand Society of Madison, Wisconsin, have determined to celebrate "Forefathers' Day," on the 22d inst., by a supper, and other appropriate ceremonies,

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THE LEPARTH TRUTCH SHARES - PIETE, ASSERBILACE WILLOUGHAY, DECKNOSIS, 10, 1808,

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Red and Grey, Plain and Twitted Flannels. Just opened, 5000 yards Prints, fast colors, 183

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& WARNER.

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ABOVE RACE,

Just received from auction, Shaker Flannel, cotton and wool, 25 cents, a bargain. Best Canton Flannels, 22, 25, 31, and 374 cents. Bleached and Unbleached Muslins at reduced

All-wool and Domet Flannels, 31, 32, 37c., etc. etc. Best American Prints, 183 cents. Delaines, etc. etc. Ladies' Merino Vests, \$1.25, \$1.37, \$1.50, etc.

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Fine assortment of Ladies' and Gents' Cloth

Ladies' Hemstitched and Embroidered Hdkfs. Gents' Colored Bordered Handkerchiefs, 37, 50, 62,

Portemonnaies, large assortment, 87 cents up . Ladies' Companions, Imported Insstands, etc. Wax Dolls, Card Presses. Ash Stands, etc. Imported Brushes, Combs, etc.

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ENCLISH BLANKETS.

These goods were ordered in the Spring, and made e press, y for JAMES McMULLAN by the same ma facturer that J. V. COWELL & SON were supplied for many years, and will be found very superior teamly use. A LARGE SUPPLY OF

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LUPIN'S FABRICS Lupin's Merinees reduced from \$1.25 to \$1. Lupin's Merinees reduced from \$1.275 to \$1.125. Lupin's Merinees reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.25. Lupin's plain Rep Foplins reduced from \$1.25 to \$1. Lupin's best quality reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.25. IN ALL THE CHOICE SHADES.

40 pieces of Empress Corded Poplin, a yard and an eighth wide, a full line of colors only al 25 Rich Plaid Poplins, at al. 81:125, \$1:25 \$1 37%. Our \$2 rich Silk Plaid Poplins reduced to \$1.56. FROM AUCTION. Several lots of Striped Poplins, a bargain.

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FRINGE D FRENCH TABLE CLOTHS. FRINGED FRENCH NAPKINS AND DOYLIES. SUPERIOR FRENCH DAMASK TOWELS, with and without Fringes. FANCY AND HUCKABACK TOWELS, French

MARSEILLES QUILTS, extra fine. EMBROIDERED PIANO AND TABLE COVERS. Also, in our fancy stock, which can be seld at the

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Embracing Novelties Adapted for HOLIDAY PRESENTS, AT REDUCED PRICES.

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LATEST STYLE, JUST OUT. 628
THE CHAMPION TRAIL, for the Promenade, 25 yards round.
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Skirts made to order, sitered, and repaired.
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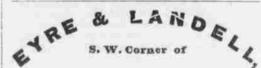
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Crown, Basket, Layer, Bunch, Seedless, and Sultana Baisins, Currants, Citron, Prunes, Figs, Havana S. W. Corner BROAD and WALNUT.

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For the Holiday Season, Together with a large variety of

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Confections and Bon-Bons Only known to this house,

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