

FAREWELL TO THE WHITE CITY.

IDA A. SMULL. Fare-well my best, my sweetest heart, Too soon, too soon, for aye we part, Still in thy glory looming up, All unconscious of the bitter cup...

THE LAST OF THE PELOWS.

BY G. B. BURGIG. Miss Maria Peplow stood on the stone doorstep in order mournfully to watch the carpenter's assistant...

When the new doorplate was screwed on—every twist of the screws hurt Miss Maria—she entered the passage, went up to Jane's bedroom, and sternly opened the door. Jane, a fair-haired, handsome woman of forty-eight—Miss Maria was dark, three years younger, and more aristocratic in appearance...

Miss Maria declined to discuss the question. "Has the hymeneal chariot arrived?" she asked. Miss Jane hastened to the window and peered out. The old flyman from the Red Lion over the way had just affixed a white ribbon to his whip, and was rheumatically climbing up on the box...

Miss Maria hesitated nervously. "Some day you may be glad of a husband's sheltering love," she said gently. "The struggle has been a hard one, Maria. John—" "I am not socially conscious of the existence of any individual of that name," said Miss Maria, primly trying her bonnet strings. "Officially I am compelled to recognize Mr. Barton's existence as your husband, but as 'John' never!"

Miss Maria statelyly refused all assistance from "trade," and sat waiting among the ruins of her home. A few small worldly possessions still remained to her, but they were of little value. On the last afternoon which remained to the last of the Pelows in her old home she wandered about the desolate house, and took a final farewell of all the precious possessions which were henceforth to be scattered among the inhabitants of High Dryton. Then she came back to her own sitting room, and was rather startled when some one knocked at the door and the vicar entered.

Miss Maria, with a stately courtesy, motioned to him to be seated. The vicar seated himself on a cane-bottomed chair as if it had been a throne, and proceeded to acquaint him-

self of a somewhat delicate mission. "You will pardon me for intruding upon you at such a time, Miss Peplow," he said, deprecatingly, "but the fact is I have come to ask of you a favor."

"I understand," faltered Jane. "Of course, Maria, with your stern sense of family duty, it could not be otherwise."

"No," said Miss Maria, with Spartan fortitude, "it could not be otherwise; Jane?" But she crossed over to Jane and kissed her.

Trade had pointed out to the vicar that the post was vacant, whereupon that worthy gentleman had at once suggested Miss Maria, if she could be persuaded to stoop to such an appointment. Then trade had used plain language. "It's all her wicked pride," Mr. Barton said. "She's breaking Jane's heart, vicar. I think a little misfortune would do her good; but she's lived a blameless, honorable, hard working life, and I don't see how she's to strike root elsewhere. If you'll coax her into it, Jane will come and thank you, but we aren't to be seen with you, or she'd suspect something."

When the carriage stopped Miss Maria got out. "This way, if you please, Ma'am," said a well-known voice.

"Dorcas!" cried Miss Maria, in surprised tones. "You here?" "Yes, if you please, Ma'am," said Dorcas. "You didn't think I was going to leave myself, now Miss Jane has gone."

"But, Dorcas," said Miss Maria gently, as she sank into a chair before the fire, and Dorcas brought out her fur slippers as usual, "you must be aware that I have met with pecuniary reverses, and an unable to keep a servant."

Miss Maria looked round with somewhat blurred eyes. "Let us thank God for all His mercies," she said. "And Dorcas—" "Yes, Ma'am quietly returned Dorcas."

"How does she take it?" sobbed Jane. "Like a lamb, Ma'am," replied Dorcas. "Would you care to have just a peep at her?"

"The truth is," said the vicar. "We are in a difficulty, Miss Maria. The matron in charge of Hollibone's Trust has somewhat suddenly gone away, and there is no one to fill her place. It has been pointed out to me that you are accustomed to command, and I have lost not a moment, as I was unaware of your plans, in hastening to place the post at your disposal."

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For and About Women.

Mrs. Mary G. Bryan, who has probably the largest salary of any literary woman in America, through Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett is said to have made a larger fortune, receives \$10,000 a year from the publisher of a New York periodical in return for writing two serials a year and a short story each month, as well as an answer to correspondents.

Buttons have assumed great importance, leading an air of supreme elegance to coats and bodices. They usually come in three sizes, the very large ones being used on outside coats, the next size for the bodices, and a smaller size for the sleeves. Many of them are very elegant and costly, being a disk of dead gold or silver, surrounded by a rim of brilliant-cut steel; others are intricate Genoese filigree or of faceted steel; still others are of changeable mother-of-pearl hand-painted. Models of colored silk are covered with silk croquet in black.

Full waving tresses drawn back in a very simple knot that projects slightly at the crown make up the coiffure most affected at present. The hair is parted down the middle when becoming—that is, when it is very thickly set above a low and broad Greek forehead. Otherwise it is carried back and upward in a soft waving roll, and the high forehead is softened by a fringe and heavy enough to be called a bang, or by a single curl down the middle, with slight curving tresses on the sides. A jeweled hair pin, or one of filigree gold or silver in small comb shape or forming a tiny wreath, a wing, a pair of wings, or a fan is thrust in the coil at the back. The coronet front of the entire crown of Jewels is worn by matrons. A cockade of light satin ribbon attached to a hair-pin is very popular either in ring shape, or as a tiny chow with two pointed ends springing from it.

A pretty winter gown is chestnut brown face cloth, with a green velvet facing on the skirt. The velvet is cut on the upper edge in a waved outline, and several velvet pipings are above it, all following the same outline. The bodice has several waved pipings around the bust, a velvet stock collar and a little basque of cloth lined with velvet, all in godets, so full round the back that one would call it a fraise. The sleeves have no particle of trimming, but they are deliciously full above the elbows; and over the close wrist is drawn up a tan suede mousquetaire glove not very long, only four-button length, completing a toilette, with which no one can find fault.

Steaming and face massage are advised to all who are desirous of improving the complexion, but oftentimes with little teaching as to the proper time and intervals. Some complexion require more care than others, and on the other hand some skins would be absolutely injured by the friction and steam given to another with impunity. A coarse, large-pored skin, with a tendency to pimples and blackheads, should be steamed every day, and if two short steamings do not make it uncomfortably tender they would not be too many. A more delicate skin, which grows red and tender with steaming, should receive this attention not oftener than every three days, and then only for a short time.

A thorough application of cold cream will be found very soothing after a steam bath, and when convenient the latter should be taken just before retiring, as the cream may then stay on the skin for eight or nine hours without being washed off with soap. A fine, mild soap should always be used in connection with steaming, as a coarse soap will make the skin rough and sore at times. A little almond meal is a good thing to place in the bath or toilet basin, and aids in softening the skin and making it smooth. No powder and no rouges. This rule is applicable, and to its disregard may be attributed the non-success of many who are otherwise faithful in treatment.

Straight linen collars, which we seriously advise artistic women to eschew, unfortunately threaten to crowd out ruffles. Only white is permissible; colors vanished with the summer.

An excellent way to put on the dress binding is to place candle wick in the bias velvet facing, this forms a thick, soft cord, causes the dress to stand out from the feet and prevent it from wearing.

Remember that your belts must be no longer broad and full, but tiny ruffles, that bring out the slenderness of the waist. For the short bodiced effects are grown distasteful, and we want no more of them. The narrow band has long streamers in front, falling to the feet. These sets are wonderful brighteners, and, if a jeweled clasp catch the band together, all the better. Sometimes the belt is broadened into an Oriental scarf, knotted loosely and falling in fringed ends.

Rose-red cannot be put in contact with the rosiest complexions without causing them to lose some of their freshness. Dark red is less objectionable for certain complexions than rose-red, because being higher than the warmer tone it tends to impart whiteness to the skin, in consequence of contrast of color. A delicate green, is, on the contrary, favorable to all fair complexions, which are deficient in rose, and which may have more imparted to them without inconvenience. But it is not so favorable to the complexions that are more red than rosy, nor to those that have a tint of orange mixed with brown. In the latter case a dark green will be less objectionable than a delicate green.

In lieu of the haircloth facing many dressmakers run several rows of feather-bone, an exceedingly pliable material, in the facings of skirts; it is lighter, less expensive and more manageable than hair cloth, will not break or wear and is not injured by dampness.

Overskirts with very deep points leaves or saw teeth are placed on dressy carriage or afternoon costumes.

Harpin In His Nose.

A Young Man's Collision With His Girl's Back Hair Results Disastrously.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 9.—Wm. Kochman, while waiting at a ball Saturday night, slipped and bumped his face against his girl's back hair. The next day he had violent pains and since then has been growing worse until the doctors gave up hope of saving his life.

While searching for his mysterious ailment to day, they found a hairpin driven far up his nose. It was extracted, but Kochman's condition continues serious, and it is thought his brain received injury.