

OUR FASHION LETTER

SKIRTS THAT CLING WILL WORRY OUR WOMEN.

Made So Tight Their Wearers Cannot Bend With Comfort—How Heavy Skirts May Be Handled—Soft Cashmeres Make Effective Spring Costumes.

Here is a big picture hat, with groups of ostrich tips and lacey brim. The hat has deep purple velvet streamers, which start from a rosette and tie under the chin in a graceful bow. The crown is made of plaited yellow net and stands up like a ruff. The transparent brim is of open work yellow straw lace, outlined with a fine black velvet cord. Around the crown is a band of deep purple velvet, and the full curly tips are jet black.

Most attractive are the spring costumes that are now being turned out by the gross—so attractive, in fact, that few women will be able to resist the temptation to buy more than one. To begin with, there are so many different styles, each and all appropriate to so many different occasions that it



will be extremely hard to refrain from buying a gown for each and every occasion. Of course, first on the list must come the coat and skirt style, the accepted uniform for shopping, traveling and all such occasions. These gowns are made in several different ways, the principal novelty in them being the skirts. There are several models of skirts, most of which are attractive; some, however, too exaggerated. There is one style made, as it were, in a half circular—that is, with circular sides and a seam down the centre of the back, but with absolutely no fullness until very nearly at the foot of the skirt. However, the seam down the centre of the back seems to relieve somewhat the very plain look that is given by the circular skirt that has no fullness and no break in the material. These skirts fasten at the left side, sometimes with an invisible fastening under a flap or fold of cloth. Others fasten under a piece of braid or straps of the cloth. Then, again, there are skirts made on this same plan that have the perfectly plain effect, but are relieved by little cords of trimming.

The New Shade of Blue.

An attractive gown in light blue (the new shade of blue) is trimmed to represent an overskirt. This consists of lines of black satin bias folds not over a quarter of an inch wide outlined with a narrow white silk braid. They are put down the front breadth, turn around in a graceful line, come up at the side in points and then go down again to the bottom of the gown at the back. The skirt is cut with so much of a flare that this trimming gives the effect of an overskirt finished in points and is infinitely more graceful, because there is no flapping of extra material, as would be the case if two skirts were used. Another style—this perhaps smarter—has the skirt cut with the same flare and is trimmed with bands of the dress material. The bands only show in certain lights and yet give a style that is most charming and exceedingly smart.

All the skirts are awkwardly long, the flaring founce touching the ground everywhere. It is hard to hold these skirts up; women, however, are gradually acquiring the art, which consists of grabbing the centre of the back breadth, holding it up quite high and then with the disengaged hand holding the fullness that otherwise would fall on the ground at the left side. This can be made a most picturesque pose, but also an extremely awkward one. It calls for the daintiest of silk petticoats, for it must be confessed there is always more or less expose of lingerie. It is said the bootmakers are rejoicing in this new style of skirt, for they say that it shows the feet far more, and consequently women are taking much more interest in their boots and shoes. It certainly does show the feet a great deal. Just here it may be well to say that colored stockings are coming in fashion again and can be shown to advantage with this style of skirt.

For house wear the long trained skirts are attractive and becoming. They add greatly to a woman's height, too, and have a look of elegance about them that a short skirt can never possess, but on the other hand, nothing looks worse in the street than a skirt that is allowed to trail along on the ground, cleaning up our dirty streets.

Smart Gowns in Black.

Some of the smartest gowns are in black. One of light, smooth cloth for half mourning is made with the skirt so tight around the hips that it does not seem possible for the wearer thereof to sit down; however, it can be accomplished if she will remember to pull the skirt up a little in front as she sits down. Below the sheath like effect around the hips the skirt flares

out so that it gives more freedom in walking than might be supposed. It is built on the plan described, with a seam up the centre of the back, and opens in front at the left side by means of hooks put on under the seam so cleverly that they do not show at all. The coat is quite short, fits tight, and is cut in round points at the back and trimmed with several bands of stitched cloth. These bands are stitched before they are put on. The double-breasted front is trimmed with small silk buttons fastened with loops of silk twist—not buttonholes. The coat can be worn open or double-breasted, as has been described, the revers being faced with a light gray silk stitched and corded. With this jacket and skirt is always worn a light gray silk blouse just a shade lighter than the trimming on the revers, the waist showing between the revers when the coat is worn open. The sleeves fit absolutely tight and, of course, the whole gown is intensely severe, but it is very becoming even to a woman without a figure, because the tailors can arrange to help out nature and give the desired lines.

Effective Spring Costumes.

The soft cashmeres make most effective spring costumes; they are made not only in the princess shape, but also in waists and skirts. One of the smartest that has been turned out is a light brown, and has a close-fitting skirt, quite long, trimmed down the left side, where it is fastened with rows of narrow braid and ten crystal buttons. The coat is tight-fitting, double-breasted, cut short in the back like an Eton coat and in front with square tabs that fasten over each other with small crystal buttons. There are wide revers, round in shape, and a high round collar that can be turned over or worn standing, the latter faced with purple velvet, stitched in many rows, with an applique of brown cloth over the purple velvet. It is worn over the waist of the gown, which is strapped with bands of white lace over blue satin ribbon, put on to give the effect of a fichu crossed in front, and then going around at the back and fastening down under a most minute cloth belt. There is a V-shaped piece let in like a yoke in front of the waist and cuffs pointed in shape made of brown chenille. Trimming cashmere gowns with plain cloths, dotted with chenille, is one of the fads of the season, and it is sure to be one of the leading models.

Beige Cloth Dress.

One of the most fashionable colors at the present moment is very bright beige, resembling certain shades of peau de Suede or peau de Saxe gloves. It is of the princess shape, but the skirt appears detached from the body, which forms a bolero crossing from right to left. The skirt, in the prevailing style, is comparatively tight around the body. In the back the corsage and the skirt are marked down sides by seams starting from the inset of the sleeves and extending in the form of a tunic to the bottom of the skirt. This tunic falls over an underskirt of violine taffetas, which is seen for a width of ten centimetres below the tunic, and is trimmed with a



shaped founce slightly gathered, and gives the dress the effect of being very much widened at the hem. This tunic is fastened down the front slightly on one side, and the sides are ornamented with rounded festoons of white cloth, piped with white along the edges.

The violine silk appears between the festoons all the way down. The upper part of the bolero is cut low, over a small yoke of violine silk. The neck trimming with narrow black velvet. The sleeves are quite tight, and are trimmed along the outer seam with a narrow band of white cloth.

The hat that completes the costume is of felt, matching the cloth. The brim, is crinkled across the front, and bound with black velvet. On the top of the hat is an ornament composed of black feathers and violine roses.

Three Electric Fishes.

Of about fifty species of electric fishes, only three are of special importance—the torpedo, a kind of skate of the Mediterranean; the gymnotus or electric eel, of the Orinoco; and the malapterurus or thunder fish, of the Nile. Interesting facts about the electric organ have been lately brought to light. This most remarkable of all batteries, whose results are said to be more economically obtained than any reached by man, acts only at the will of the animal, which also controls its intensity, and the discharge seems to depend upon some chemical process in the plate where the nerve filaments end. In the full grown gymnotus, whose shocks may stun a man, the voltage is probably between 300 and 800. A curious feature of the batteries is that they are without insulation. The discharge, which does not affect the fish itself, is used for protection and securing food.

A drop of oil in time may save many a gallon of perspiration.

FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

An Account of Cuba as It Was at That Time.

In the very first number of Putnam's Monthly Magazine, the date of which is January, 1853, after the introduction, there is an article on Cuba. The subject chosen some 45 years ago as the leading feature in Putnam's shows how important it was then considered. The article is unsigned, but it was written by Richard Burleigh Kimball, the author of "Undercurrents of Wall Street Life" and "Letters from Cuba." Were the author of this article alive to-day (he died in 1892) he would see how prophetic he was.

Eighteen hundred and fifty-two had been a year of turmoil. The Napoleonic coup d'etat of 1851 had unsettled Europe. There were the beginnings of those troubles with Russia which brought about in 1854 the Crimean war. In his introduction of the article "Cuba" Kimball wrote, "We cannot, if we would, remain indifferent to what is passing in any of the civilized states. One great effect of freedom is to fill the heart with an earnest desire that every living being should participate in its privileges."

"We have seen that the position of the Creoles in Alba is that of an oppressed and degraded race, fully sensible of their wrongs; that they now regard the power which oppresses them with indignation; that, notwithstanding their earnest desire to be free, they are kept under by the terrors of servile insurrection and the fear of a relentless persecution. But do the Cubans despair altogether of liberty? Have they no hope from any quarter, or, if from any, from what quarter? There is no doubt that they look to the United States, and to the United States only, as their ultimate hope and salvation from the cruelties of Spain."

Then comes this remarkable passage: "What is in the future? Cuba will become a part of the United States. The how or the when it is useless to predict. Political events have transpired so rapidly within the last few years that

"That of an hour's age doth kiss the speaker."

"We are borne onward by the force which seems hastening some great consummation. If all do not agree as to the result which these changes are to bring, no one can shut his eyes to the changes themselves. They have multiplied within the year; they are multiplying; they will continue to multiply. * * * What is to be done? Shall we attempt to stay this sweeping current, and be carried away by it? or shall we rather do what we may to control and direct it?"

Exactly the same broad argument of humanity which one reads every day as the main reason for our quarrel with Spain Mr. Kimball wrote about in 1853.

In 1851 the Lopez expedition had made a landing at Mariillo. Lopez was captured and garroted. During the same year Col. Crittenden was shot. In 1852 first appeared a decided action on the part of the President of the United States, Mr. Fillmore, refusing to join Great Britain and France in a treaty which guaranteed to Spain the possession of Cuba. In 1852 there was a conspiracy in Cuba, and its leaders were garroted, shot, or sent to prison for life. The article then in Putnam's Magazine was a timely one, for Cuba then occupied public attention. This is an extract from the second page of the article:

"There is almost within sight of our own shores a province of one of the monarchies of the old world whose inhabitants are suffering under greater and more oppressive burdens and are governed by a sway more absolute and tyrannical than has ever been exercised against Slaves, Maygar, Pole or Indian. It is the Island of Cuba."

Mr. Kimball describes the various captains general, and shows that on the accession of Miguel Tacon there began "a series of injuries, cruelties, and oppressions against this unfortunate island unparalleled in the history of civilized communities. * * * Tacon possessed a jealous nature, was shortsighted and narrow-minded, and had an uncommon stubbornness of character" and these are the Spanish traits of to-day—that is, of the Iberian functionary. The Tacon policy was about this: that the Island of Cuba can only be Spanish or African. Describing exact conditions when the article was written, Kimball writes:

"The people of the United States assert political, religious and commercial freedom; they believe in the philanthropic mission of their country to extend the same throughout this hemisphere. * * * As a people, too, we contend that the physical and moral wants of making cannot be disregarded. If subjects are oppressed by tyrants, supported by brute force, the citizen of the free state will be very likely to use his individual might to take off the irons from the victims."

The article in Putnam's Monthly is an uncommonly able one, historically correct, and in exact accordance with the feelings of to-day.—New York Times.

"TOO ERR IS HUMAN."—People like to talk about attractive things in advertising. In a company recently the proverb above quoted, and which appeared at the head of one of a well constructed series of advertisements of Hood's Sarsaparilla, was so much discussed that we doubt if anyone there will ever forget the source whence it came. Messrs. Hood & Co. are using these proverb advertisements on a very broad scale, and they are attracting discussion and favorable comment everywhere.

To Cure Constipation Forever. Take Cascarella's Candy Cathartic, 10c or 25c. If C. C. fail to cure, druggists refund money.

Governor Stone Designates Monday May 1, as a Legal Holiday.

Governor Stone last week issued the following proclamation: "By authority of the current resolution of the Legislature of Pennsylvania approved March 21, 1899, which recognized Monday, May 1, 1898, as the first anniversary of the victory of the American squadron commanded by Admiral George Dewey, in which the Spanish fleet was sunk in Manila harbor, one of the greatest achievements in naval warfare the world has ever known, and to enable the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to take part with the citizens of other States in the proper observance of said day.

"I, William A. Stone, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do hereby name Monday, May 1, 1899 as Dewey Day, and designate the same as a legal holiday, and recommend to the people of the State its proper observance."

"Oh, Lord, Hit Him Again."

An exchange says that a small church was sadly in need of general repairs and a meeting was being held in it with a view to raising funds for that purpose. The minister having said \$500 would be required, a very wealthy (and equally stingy) member of the congregation arose and said he would give one dollar. Just as he sat down, however, a lump of plaster fell from the ceiling and hit him on the head, whereupon he arose and hastily said he had made a mistake, he would give \$50. This was too much for the enthusiastic preacher, who forgetful of everything called out fervently, "Oh, Lord, hit him again!"

April Showers

Wash away the filth and waste that have accumulated during winter.

In like manner Hood's Sarsaparilla expels from the blood impurities that have been deposited during the season when there has been but little perspiration and perhaps constant confinement in impure and vitiated air. It is a boon to tired mothers, housekeepers, teachers and others who spend their time indoors.

It gives the blood richness and vitality, fitting it to strengthen and nourish the nerves, muscles and all the great organs of the body. It cures all spring humors and banishes that tired feeling.

It is the best medicine money can buy for all diseases caused by impure and impoverished blood. You should begin taking it to day.

Points for Bondsmen.

At the recent license court in Lycoming county, which was presided over by Judge Mayer, Attorney Ames made a few points that especially concern those who become bondsmen for liquor dealers. Mr. Ames called attention to the act of 1893, in which it is provided that any one who goes on the bonds of more than one applicant for license is obliged to make affidavit setting forth that he is worth \$4,000 over and above any indebtedness. Another point raised was that these bonds are a lien on the real estate of the bondsmen until the expiration of two years from their date.

WHAT A TRAIN OF AILMENTS follow in the wake of a stomach that is out of kilter—what a story of suffering can be saved in the timely use of so pleasant and positive a cure for dyspepsia and indigestion as Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets. The pineapple is a veritable fountain of vegetable pepsin—Nature's tonic for people out of sorts. One tablet relieves. 35c. Sold by C. A. Klein.

The Wilkesbarre News says: "It begins to look very much as if the public school teachers might be obliged to take their vacations at home this summer. The balance of cash in the State Treasury is shown to be the smallest since the Civil War and it will be impossible to pay any part of the public school appropriations in June next. In districts where the schools are entirely dependent on State aid, as is largely the case in the rural regions, the prospects of the teachers with respect to prompt payment of salaries seem to be anything but brilliant."

PILLAGE—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills fill a nice vial, are planned after the most modern in medical science. They are as great an improvement over the 50 years old strong dose pill formulas as a bicycle is over an ox-cart in travel. They never gripe, they never fail. 40 doses 10 cents.—59. Sold by C. A. Klein.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Holt.

Subscribe for THE COLUMBIAN

Advertisement for Castoria 900 Drops. Includes text: 'Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN. Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC. Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP. Facsimile Signature of Dr. J. C. Holt. NEW YORK. 65 months old 35 Doses - 35 CENTS. EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.'

Advertisement for Castoria. Includes text: 'CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Holt. The Kind You Have Always Bought. CASTORIA. THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.'

Advertisement for Ely's Cream Balm. Includes text: 'LOCAL Disease A Climatic Affection Nothing but a local remedy of change of climate will cure it. Get a well-known SPECIFIC Ely's Cream Balm. It is quickly absorbed. Gives relief at once. Cures and cleanses the Nasal Passages. Always inflammation. Heals and protects the Vermiform. Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell. No Cocaine, No Mercury. No Luridous drug. Full Size 50c; Trial Size 10c, at Druggists or by mail. ELY BROTHERS, 67 Warren St., New York.'

Advertisement for Liverita. Includes text: 'LIVERITA THE UP-TO-DATE LITTLE LIVER PILL CURES Biliousness, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Sick-Headache and Liver Complaint. SUGAR COATED. Sold by all druggists or sent by mail. Nervita Medical Co., Chicago. 5c. boxes contain 15 pills. Sold by Meyer Bros., druggists, Bloomsburg, Penna. 4-13-99.'

Advertisement for Central Penna. Telephone. Includes text: 'CENTRAL PENNA. TELEPHONE & SUPPLY CO. JOHN KENYON, Manager. Direct with persons in Berwick, Catawissa, Danville, Riverside, Rupert, Willow Grove, Almedia, Lightstreet, Lime Ridge, Millville, Millville, Rohrsburg, Nesquehock, Orangeville, Stillwater and Benton. Also long distance lines to nearly all the towns in the different States. Rates reasonable. Local exchange over Postoffice.'

Advertisement for Steck Sewing Machines. Includes text: 'STECK You can save money on Pianos and Organs. You will always find the largest stock, best makes and lowest prices. PIANOS From \$175.00 and upwards. ORGANS From \$50.00 and upwards. We sell on the installment plan. Pianos \$25.00 down and \$10.00 per month. Organs \$10.00 down, \$5.00 per month. Liberal discount for cash. Sheet Music, at one half price. Musical merchandise of kinds. We handle Genuine Singer High Arm SEWING MACHINES, \$5.00 down and \$3.00 per month. We also handle the Demorest Sewing Machine, from \$19.50 and upwards. Sewing Machine Needles and Oil for all makes of Sewing Machines. Best makes of WASH MACHINES, FROM \$4.00 UP TO \$9.00. J. SALTZER, 67 Music Rooms—No. 115 West Main St., below Market, Bloomsburg, Pa. 3mt-13.

Advertisement for R. B. Grotz. Includes text: 'Fine PHOTOGRAPHS and CRAYONS at R. B. GROTZ, Bloomsburg. The best are the cheapest.'

Advertisement for TID-BITS FOR MA' HONEY!. Includes text: 'and tender little juicelets for the children, are all right, but papa and "the boys" want a good, big, juicy steak, roast or chop when business or school duties are over, and we can cater to them all. Our stock of prime meats is unexcelled for quality, and we send them home in fine shape. J. E. KEIFER. THE MARKETS. BLOOMSBURG MARKETS. CORRECTED WEEKLY. RETAIL PRICES.'

Table listing market prices for various goods. Includes items like Butter per lb., Eggs per dozen, Lard per lb., Ham per pound, Pork, whole, per pound, Beef, quarter, per pound, Wheat per bushel, Oats, Rye, Wheat flour per bbl., Hay per ton, Potatoes per bushel, Turnips, Onions, Sweet potatoes per peck, Tallow per lb., Shoulder, Side meat, Vinegar, per qt., Dried apples per lb., Dried cherries, pitted, Raspberries, Cow Hides per lb., Steer, Calf Skin, Sheep pelts, Shelled corn per bus., Corn meal, cwt., Bran, Chop, Middlings, Chickens per lb new, Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, COAL, No. 6, delivered, 4 and 5, 6 at yard, 4 and 5 at yard.