

A bachelor man and a bachelor maid sat sipping a cup of tea. Said the bachelor man: "Elizabeth, dear, it certainly seems to me that never a cup of nectar rare, Or wine from the vaults of kings, Was equal to this luscious brew, While the bright little kettle sings."

The bachelor maid, with a sigh content, Stirred the nectar about in her cup, And thoughtfully paused to ponder a bit Before looking merrily up. And saying: "Why, where will you go, my dear? For since little heaven of rest? For if we are married, don't you see, You never can be my guest."

So these bachelors twain sat quietly down And talked the matter over, While the kettle sang, and the fragrant herb Its part in the council bore, And the story ends, as stories should, In wedding bells and laughter. Of course they married—you knew they would— And lived happy ever after. —Woman's Life.

Smith and His Counterpart

By CLARA AUGUSTA.

It did ever occur to you what strange things might happen to you if you looked just like somebody else, and were liable to be taken by this other mortal's friends for their friend, and to receive treatment accordingly?

was represented as my confiding employer, but I had never heard of him before, and certainly had not the pleasure of being possessed of any of his funds.

A little awkward sometimes, though there are pleasant features about it, as an experience of mine last fall leads me to believe. Having nothing better to do, suppose I give it to you. "Smith, my boy," said old Harland to me, one day—Harland was my employer, and I was head clerk in his great importing house—how would you like to go West, to Chicago, St. Paul and Omaha, as our agent? Important business relations in these localities will oblige some employe of the house to go, and Hendricks is down with the rheumatism and I had as lief be shot as sleep in any bed but my own. What do you say?

I tried to impress this fact upon my captors, but they only laughed, and assured me that Mr. Pelham and Mr. Ball, the detectives who had seized me, had a very accurate description of the recently clerk, from Mr. Streeter himself, and my appearance tallied with it perfectly.

I was delighted, and told the old fellow so at once. I had been in New York five years, without taking any other holiday than the law prescribes. Fourth of July, Christmas, etc., and the prospect of a journey made me as happy as the prospective first pair of trousers makes a four-year-old boy.

I was to have my examination next morning, and then, if I could prove that I was anybody but John Smith, I was at liberty to do so.

In a few days it was all settled. I packed my satchel, received my instructions, and said good-by to my landlady, who, as I always paid my bills promptly, and at least of two on the corner of her apron in honor of my exodus.

Shades of Hebe and Venus! The morning star itself was no comparison to her! Blue dress, blue ribbons, blue eyes, blond tresses, and a voice sweeter than a fifty-dollar music box!

Everything went on swimmingly. The day was lovely, the car a new one, nobody in it was scented with musk, the conductor was a model, and there was such a pretty young lady in a seat or two ahead of me, with a ravishing hat and feather, neatly arranged hair, and eyes as bright as diamonds.

She rushed toward me, flung her arms around my neck, put her soft cheek against mine, hunted under my mustache for my lips, and planted there such a regiment of kisses as to take my breath away. I was quite willing to have her take it away, and did not care a penny for the fact that she was a stranger.

And she had such a comely way of cutting the pages of her book, and presenting her railroad ticket to the conductor, and asking him in a sweetly imploring voice "if we were almost there," that she quite took my fancy, and I resolved that if one of those inevitable smashes took place such as we are regaled with in first class novels, I would throw all personal considerations aside and "go for her."

"Dearest cousin John!" cried she; "it is such a shame for you to be here! But it is just like those blundering fellows! They fancy themselves wonderful in the detective business! They'd arrest their own grandmother if they had one, darling!"

They acted like men who were hunting for something. They took seats just before me and turned around back to back, and read their newspapers and looked at me over the tops of them. Now, men generally do not look over the tops of their newspapers at anybody but handsome women, and their persistency made me nervous. I changed my seat, but did not get out of range.

"Of course he is," said I. "And you'll come up with papa to dinner, dear John?" "Yes, darling."

I exhibited a specimen of the "clear grid" which President Roosevelt speaks of, and knocked him down.

"You are my prisoner," said I. "I must go home and order your favorite roast duck, with oyster sauce," and she kissed me again, and vanished.

Papa Gordon—that was his name—laughed heartily. But Alice crept out of the room, and I was sure her eyes were running over with tears, and I felt like a mauler—yes, indeed! like a pair of them.

It was a long time before Alice came back to the room where we were sitting, and then I managed to draw her aside for a moment to ask her pardon for not having undeceived her at once. "Really," said I, "it was all so delightful that I could not speak the words which would drive you away from me."

The United States is now the greatest coal-producing country in the world, the output of 1903 reaching 300,000,000 tons. This is four tons of coal for every man, woman and child in the United States.

With 385 pounds of smokeless powder the new forty-caliber, twelve-inch gun will send an 850-pound armor-piercing shell through nineteen and five-tenth inches of Harveyized nickel-steel armor at a distance of a mile and a half.

Hundreds of electricians are at this moment striving to construct lamps in which nothing is consumed save the electrical energy applied to them—lamps that have the radiance of the sun and the coldness of the moon.

Erith's Engineering Company, London, have got possession of an automatic stoker as a specialty, and it is certain to come largely into use, it will effect that great improvement in smoke consumption and fuel economy which has been so desired.

For high-grade work requiring precision and excellence there is to be found in nearly every machine shop in Germany a group of American tools—a silent tribute to the remarkable position held in the world to-day by the American machine tool work.

Animals have a language made up of signs or inarticulate sounds expressing impressions, sensations, passions, but never ideas. So this language excludes conversation and is limited to interjections or signs of movements expressing joy, grief, fear, anger, all the passions of the senses, but never more.

A novel watch in Zurich is in the form of a ball which moves imperceptibly down an inclined plane without rolling. There is no spring, the sliding giving motion to the hands, and the trip from top to bottom of the inclined surface, a distance of sixteen inches, requires twenty-four hours. The ball is then lifted again to the top.

A tree using aluminum almost to the exclusion of other mineral elements has been reported in New South Wales by H. G. Smith, of Sydney. It is known botanically as *Orites excelsa*. It, Br., and the aluminum is deposited as a taste succinate. Other flowering plants show only a trace of aluminum, although it seems to serve as a food of cryptogams.

HORSES' HORSE SENSE. Equine Facial Expression That Suits the Occupation.

"The man who does not think that horses have good, hard sense simply does not study them," remarked a well-known liverman to a Washington Post man. "I believe they are the most peculiar as well as the best-natured of all animals."

In the long line of men who have been and who will be at the head of the army until the retirement of Wood, in 1924, none since Schofield has been or will be West Point men. Neither Miles, Young, Corbin, Chaffee, MacArthur nor Wood is a graduate of the famous Military Academy. All except Wood came over from the Civil War.

FOR A WOMAN'S BENEFIT

A Woman's Limitations. "I wish the utilitarian side of a girl's education could be more considered," grumbled papa, who, after paying out untold sums for the education of his daughters since their babyhood, found that he had on his hands three pretty specimens of perfectly useless womanhood.

Care of the Complexion. A woman, even if plain, can command all criticisms if her complexion is that of the "lily and of the rose," as the poets said of old, or better, of healthful hue.

Chinese Colorings. The craze for Oriental fabrics and colorings seems to be shifting from the Japanese to the Chinese. At least a prominent society lady has started the tide of fashion in that direction.

Selecting Gloves. The most durable glove for cold weather wear is the silk-lined moccia and heavy suede, and these, with one large pearl button, are the coming fall mode with us.

Links Instead of Cuff Buttons. Many of the new shirt waists have the cuff arranged so that links are used instead of buttons. If ready has had several pairs of odd cuff links laid away during their hour of unpopularity she can now bring them out once more.

For the Girl Whose Hair is Thin. For the girl whose hair is thin the making of a big, fluffy pompadour has involved much trouble. It has meant the wearing of a "rat," which has overheated the head and made the hair grow even thinner.

Very few tight-fitting backs are seen in the new gowns. Evening gowns are made in both heavy and light materials.

FRILLS FASHION. Many of the fashionable gowns are almost all made in the blouse effect, bagging slightly at the back.

Blacks are always good, and bright red is also seen in sufficient quantities to give color to the wintry landscape.

A beautiful theatre cloak is of old rose cloth, lined with ivory satin and trimmed with chinchilla and held together by rows colored silk cord and tassels.

A charming evening gown is of heliotrope crepe de chine, only slightly trained. The skirt is accordion pleated, the edge of each plain lined with iridescent beads.

season, new members were constantly taken in, so that the small expense for each girl continually grew less. When a book had gone the rounds of the club it was either bought by a member who especially wished it or was sent to some agency for distributing literature to less favored parts of the country.

But for a face to be free from all ugly blemishes it is necessary that the general circulation of the blood be good, that the nervous system be of normal function, and that the digestive, generative and other internal organs be in perfect health.

Among the causes which exert a disastrous influence on the skin and predispose it to skin-disease are heredity, indigestible food, alcoholic stimulants, general ailments, the absorption of certain medicines (bromides, iodines, arsenic, mercury), the application of stale pomatum or rancid creams, powders of inferior quality, the handling of irritating substances, parasites of the skin, excessive heat or cold, and the excesses of violent passions, such as rage, chagrin, worries, fear, or the shedding of tears, all of which should be avoided.—Woman's Home Companion.

Indian embroideries are being used as well as Chinese on dress coats and wraps. It is not unusual in a shop that deals in Eastern fabrics and curios to find a woman in the upholstery department seeking for bits of embroidery which may be utilized for coat or dress trimming.

Then, if the customer will but place a little confidence in the clerk, she will get satisfactory service. But the customer is very apt to get tied up to a name, and may get quality without getting the right fit.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is six yards twenty-one inches wide, five yards twenty-seven inches wide or three and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide with one-half yard of bias velvet, three-quarter yards of all-over lace, three-quarter yards of chiffon or lace frilling and one and a quarter yards of ruching to make as illustrated.

Moleskin For Winter Wear. Moleskin is the latest fur craze for the coming winter. It has all the soft, smooth becomingness of sealskin, and its quiet unobtrusiveness when unlined with another fur commands it. While as a foil to ermine, it not only is itself beautiful, but adds to the whiteness of ermine in a most attractive way.

Hats still incline to the flat crown effects, though somewhat higher than last season. Loose flowing effects for sleeves, when they are worn at all, are the proper thing.

Lace is more used than ever, and deep silk fringe is found on most of the imported costumes. The bodies of fashionable gowns are almost all made in the blouse effect, bagging slightly at the back.

Blacks are always good, and bright red is also seen in sufficient quantities to give color to the wintry landscape. Satin will be much worn this winter, as well as the heavy, rich stuffs which are so well suited to the new (or revived) gilet skirt.

A charming evening gown is of heliotrope crepe de chine, only slightly trained. The skirt is accordion pleated, the edge of each plain lined with iridescent beads.

BETTY THINGS TO WEAR

New York City.—Blouses shirred to give a broad effect at the shoulders make one of the features of the season, and are shown in many variations.



SHIRRED BLOUSE.

This May Manton one is peculiarly chic, and forms a yoke of shirring and lace that is exceedingly smart. In the case of the original the material is maize colored crepe de chine combined with chiffon velvet of the same color and cream lace, but all materials soft enough for shirring are appropriate.

The narrow vest, covered with frills of the chiffon edged with ruches, is a noteworthy feature and the sleeves are among the most graceful of the season, while the wide belt is both new and becoming.

The waist is made over a fitted lining that closes at the centre front. Both the fronts and back are shirred to yoke depth and are combined with the lace to give the effect of straps over the

In spite of the ostrich feather attempt at monopoly. Those who can indulge in but one dress hat will have that one flower trimmed, for to depend on a plume trimming, which goes to pieces in damp or wet weather, would mean losing more than half the pleasant things socially that would naturally come one's way.

Reversible Garments. Another new and ingenious idea is making reversible garments of a dark fun lined with a light-colored one, in order that they may serve in the double capacity of day and evening wraps.

Green Shoes and Stockings. Bright emerald green shoes and stockings are worn with an evening gown of white lace and emerald ornaments. The color may be repeated again in a velvet bow worn in the hair.

Blue Lynx. Blue lynx is of a very beautiful gray blue shade, has long, silky hair and is quite delicate. The black has a brilliant jet black lustre.

Wraps Are Shorter. The loose coats are all shorter than of late years. Three-quarters, or an even shorter length, seems to be popular.

A Late Design by May Manton.



shoulders. The vest is narrow, faced with lace to form the square, and covered with frills below. At the edges of the fronts, which are outlined with ruches of chiffon, are narrow sections of velvet that give the effect of a plain waistcoat over the full frills.

The newest importation in dress and millinery velvet goes by the name of "tiger skin."

Cape or yoke collars and all devices that give a broad shoulder-line are to be noted on the latest waists and are singularly graceful. The May Manton model shown is extended to form a narrow plastron and is among the best seen.

The waist consists of the fitted lining, the fronts, back and cape collar. The portions of the waist are arranged over the lining and the cape collar over both. At the neck is a standing collar that is closed with the waist at the centre front.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is six yards twenty-one inches wide, five yards twenty-seven inches wide or three and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide with one-half yard of bias velvet, three-quarter yards of all-over lace, three-quarter yards of chiffon or lace frilling and one and a quarter yards of ruching to make as illustrated.

The sleeves are the new ones with the deep pointed cuffs and are arranged over fitted linings. To the lower edge of the waist is attached a bias portion that extends below the belt and serves to keep it in place, so avoiding all bulk beneath the skirt.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is four and three-quarters yards twenty-one inches wide, four and a quarter yards twenty-seven inches wide or two and five-eighths yards forty-four inches wide.

Flowers Still Popular. It is evident that flowers as hat trimmings are as much to the fore as ever.

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BLOUSE WAIST WITH CAPE.