



worn with a high-necked bodice, can be varied indefinitely. A strap of ribbon passing over the shoulders forms a short brace on each side, and these straps are joined by a ribbon that crosses the figure horizontally. Rosettes of ribbon conceal the joining, and thus the Pompadour collar is formed, and insertions of ribbon and lace are added to the yoke part and frills of chiffon or lace to its edge.

Drab is one of the season's favored colors. The French call it "winter grey," but this is too poetic a title for its uncompromising dull metallic tone. It is not like soft nun's gray, swallow gray, silver, dove, fawn or anything as delicate and dainty. Drab is not a becoming color on its own merits. We associate it with the coats and gowns of the Quakers, when far stricter in sectarian and dress matters than they are now, and with the old Puritan drivers of the defunct stage coach, with their many-caped long drab coats. But a French modiste can easily make a gown of beauty out of drab. She combines it with black and Danish or Spanish or British red, so artistically and daintily that the dowdy dress of drab becomes in the hands of this sartorial prestidigitator a triumphant success. Set it against, for example, one of the black-ribbed gowns of clear blue and white, and you will find a brick-red velvet toque en suite and rivalry there is none between the two. The top one is vulgar and provokingly aggressive, the other sufficiently smart and eminently attractive, but quiet and dainty. Another fancy of the French woman concerns the drab material with cream cloth accessories braided in gold or striped with the narrow lines of red and gold braid laid side by side.

Many of the winter street coats and capes have added collarettes made of very delicate textiles in marked contrast with the heavy wrap itself. Formerly these delicate additions would have been deemed fit only for the most ornate theater or opera wraps. An instance of present modes is a green velvet cape worn with a green cloth tailor costume, with a huge collar of pleated black chiffon interspersed with sable tails and satin ribbon loops. A black velvet cape lined with old-rose satin has an immense ruche formed of lace, net, old rose, ribbon and jet ornaments. A black velvet jacket has a similar ruche showing a magpie mixture of costly white lace, fur and accordian-pleated mousseline de soie.

Many of the newest Parisian evening toilets show the coveted heaped billows and waves of accordian-pleated mousseline de soie, chiffon or India gauze. Double and triple rows of it frame the edges of the low neck, and form the short full sleeves. Immense neck ruffles and ruffs are made of the pleated muslin intermingled with loops of velvet, of satin ribbon or tiny ostrich tips. Silk and satin dress skirts are trimmed with knee-deep rows of the frills, and they also border fancy theater and opera collars, handkerchief muffs, and even the brims of large picture hats.

The Empire or sack-back coat has gained much ground in favor this winter, and is found to be at least a very easy and useful garment. The cutters have greatly improved on the shape we were first familiar with, smartness and a sack-coat-back being a few seasons ago quite irremediable. Though there are disagreeable people who insist that this was only a very ordinary pepper-and-salt that no really tasteful woman would wear. However, this denial has no effect upon the prettiness of the "Napoleon blue" shade; authentic or not, it has its admirers and electors. Brutus brown is a rich, tawny shade of that color, found in cloth, velvet, and corduroy fabrics. Prelate purple, in combination with reseda green and tan, is attempted by stylish women with pink and cream complexions. A new and peculiar shade of Flemish red is favored by French designers, and is combined with jet and chamois yellow, and even with brown and gold. It is something like pale peltuna, but it is a trying color that has for years been despised by all save Italian women of both high and low degree.

Upon stylishly attired young women in afternoon dress at the various picture galleries in the city, are noted

gowns of cloth, soft India cashmere or drap d'ete in black or colors, dark or pale, the costume consisting merely of the gown lined with silk and a little too bolero jacket on velvet, brocade, or moire, edged with fur, with a giraffe to match, a huge Empire muff, a spreading picture hat with a witch-like crown, and a number of disjointed looking featherers apparently fastened on with one stitch and a promise, and blown hither and yon over the "picture" creation. The wearers of these jackets, spite of their big muffs and big hats and merely ornamental and short-waisted, long-skirted and short-waisted, and of proportion to their insufficient little twelve-inch jackets. Certainly until one has become accustomed to this mode of dress it scarcely appeals to one's sense of the appropriate or becoming for winter wear on the street. However, it is considered "the height of style"; therefore what further need be said against it or in its favor?

Faced cloth remains a great favorite this winter, and some of the most attractive imported tailor gowns are made of this material. The prices of these goods seem disproportionately high. The material is only wool, not even intermixed or flecked with silk. But it is wool of the finest description, most carefully prepared, and beautifully dyed, looking almost equal to heavy drap, and for certain uses being more fashionable than silk. A stylish winter costume of Russian green faced cloth has a jacket bodice finished with wide revers joined to a cape-collar made of white satin overlaid with a delicate arabesque embroidery of iridescent beads. The revers and collar are edged with mink fur and gauratet cuffs match the color of the dress trimmings, soft canary and primrose tint being worn when deep cream lace is the garniture of the dress, flesh and cameo pink when rose-colored chiffon is chosen. Spanish yellow gloves with ecru guipure lace, cream-white gloves with white accessories, etc. This is the general rule; therefore, those who select modes now select gloves that match the color of the gown itself and not its decorations.

The general tendency is to discard all stiff interlinings on the newest gowns. This does very well where one can afford a crisp taffeta silk lining, which is a dress, but when this is not possible not a few women are protesting against the use of nothing but a soft finished percale lining, with no sort of interlining added even as a facing. They argue, and justly so, that a skirt so finished has a lank unattractive appearance (especially if of soft wool fabric) after the softness of the color of the dress trimmings, with a crisp flange and a certain cachet wholly absent in a soft-lined model whose folds or breadths fall limp around the feet like those of a Quakeress. There are a number of fashionable modistes who have come to the rescue in this matter. They make an underskirt nearly as long as the dress skirt, employing crinoline, haircloth, moire, etc., as may be preferred, for the foundation. This skirt can be covered with silk of some dark shade, and if well cared for will last a long time. This skirt is gored on the front and sides, with a deep flounce at the bottom, and the three or four back are run through the inch-band at their edges, with a single band of featherbone. Worn under the dress, all the slightly flaring effect of an interlined skirt is given.

This winter an altogether new and very elegant invoice of dress garniture is exhibited, the first including superb embroideries and galleons in novel devices manufactured in Paris and Vienna, and among these are shown the most beautiful jeweled effects in Persian colorings mingled with gold and bronze, trellis patterns and Byzantine arabesques in pearl, opal, gold and cashmere beads. Greek designs in silk cord and cut velvet hoods, Russian and other short jackets formed of these same passementeries or in jet and gold or cut-jet beads, points and cabochons; also piastrons, hip-pieces with dangling fringes, sleeve-caps, vests, bretelles, girdles, ceintures reaching to the armpits, revers, collars in ermine, and decorations pertaining to either the bodice or skirt. Many of these ornaments are very reasonable in price compared with former values placed upon them, and the plainest gown is at once rendered notably rich and attractive by the addition of these handsome accessories, of course, very expensive, and call for very elegant dress fabrics, and special occasions for their wear.

Harder to Believe. "If you believe in the story about Joshua commanding the sun to stand still."

"Well, I've told my wife worse stories than that in trying to prove to her the clock was wrong." - Washington Times.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists send the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

What is Talked About in San Francisco.

Reflections on the Passing of Shortridge—The Grand Jury and the Public Schools—Abuses at Golden Gate Park—How the People's Money Has Been Wasted—Will Theodore Durrant Ever be Executed?

(Special Correspondence of Record-Union.) SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15.—The passing of Shortridge is not regarded in this city as final by any means. It is not a total eclipse of a star of destiny, but merely a temporary obscuration from which the planet will emerge more resplendent than ever to disclose the depth of night and old chaos like the headlight of an airship.

It has been given out by the friends of Mr. Shortridge that his recent candidacy for the United States Senate was not so serious as his brother Charles tried to make the people believe. They claim that Sam was only "trying it on the dog," a phrase borrowed from the slang of the theatrical world, and signifying that he was experimenting with his popularity to ascertain how far it would stretch. The elasticity of the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-men within the scope of his political ambition is the subject of an ultimate rebound that will land him in the seat he so ardently covets. It was a "grand stand play" that has won the applause of the "clapper-clawing groundlings," and an effort that must blossom to an honorable fruition when a successor to Senator Durrant is chosen from the commonwealth of California "with dignity pedestaled on ability."

The ambition of Samuel M. Shortridge may never be satisfied—satiated is a better word—with minor dignities. These are thrust upon men—the honors that a Shortridge craves are achieved. He would not be content with the respect he commands success. As a boy orator "pointing with pride" when he was not "viewing with alarm," he longed to utter his eloquence in a big loud voice where the startled nation might hear. Almost from his cradle he has yearned to stand where Clay, and Webster, and Calhoun, and Randolph, and Marshall stood, awaking the same echoes from the same historic walls and recalling the lost oratory that "made and preserved us as a nation." And he promised himself as a boy, long after the Casablanca period of his youthful eloquence—far along in the Spartacus days when his admiring friends and relatives did well to call him chief—that he would one day restore to Senatorial debate the art persuasive of a Cicero and the splendid invective of a Demosthenes.

As there were warriors before Agamemnon, so there will be charlatans subsequent to Shortridge. Preceding the advent of Shortridge, charlatans had attained an imposing historical importance. Cornelius Agrippa had achieved a splendor that dazzled the understanding of his contemporaries; Simon Magus had befouled the Roman Populists with a legend that would not procure for him the title of "show bill" of a modern dime museum; Pythagoras had returned from Egypt with his mysteries and his theory of magic numbers; Zoroaster had lighted the fires of an enduring superstition in the temples of Persia; Mohammed had proselyted the fanatics of the Koran with the eloquence of a prophet; Aristotle had opened the confines of Ormus and Ind; Castiglione had found the philosopher's stone and the elixir of life—all these had traversed the stage of a world's theater, compelling the plaudits of a wondering multitude before the coming of Shortridge.

There have been pretenders aside from Shortridge—astrologers, prognosticators, alchemists, usurpers of authority, false teachers and fakirs. In the fierce glare of history Shortridge casts a shadow as thin and wavering as the penumbra of a comet threading the vast desert of a far-stretching constellation. In the presence of his historical prototypes he is a pigmy in the presence of a giant; but that comparison is not taught in the political grammar of a Shortridge, nor is it consonant with the overweening conceit of a Shortridge understanding. Gamaliel is a memory and at no other feat can this "favorite son" humble himself. It is doubtful if he would have abused himself even in the presence of the Great Teacher, certain it is that if compelled for a time to listen to the wisdom of the Wise Man he would have spared no effort to usurp the sacred seat.

The Grand Jury, assisted by Mayor Phelan, has made a remarkable discovery. It has ascertained from the records of the School Department that 214 teachers have been added to the pay roll during the past ten years, and that in the same period the attendance increased only 10 per cent. The fact that the cost of this increased teaching force aggregates over \$200,000, is also a basis of criticism by the Grand Jury and a subject of considerable worry to the Mayor. These representatives of good government and civic reform do not thoroughly understand the necessities of the school system, for four pupils and paying for the service an average of \$1,000 a year.

It is proposed to investigate this "extravagance," and there is not the least doubt that the Grand Jury and the Mayor are sincere in their intention. It is every day becoming more and more found, and they will "recommend salutary reforms." That any action they may undertake will prove effective or even assist in removing this burden from the taxpayers is extremely problematical. Perhaps the best way out of the difficulty which confronts the new administration would be to wait until the population of San Francisco increases sufficiently to furnish a school attendance adequate to the teaching force. Unless the next census shows a more encouraging estimate of increased population and consequent necessities, it is probable that the school shown by the record of the last decade, it will be a long time before these teachers cease to enjoy the ease and emolument of two hundred educational sinecures.

Grand Jury. It is charged that material has been furnished at exorbitant prices; that supplies have been purchased without heed to the market rates; that contractors have been paid hundreds of dollars more than their contracts called for; and that there has been the usual looting of the treasury of the people.

All of which seems to be a just retribution upon the people for not attending to their business in a business like way. It has long been apparent to those whose habit it is to observe these things understandingly that it is very bad policy to intrust the affairs of the municipality to the mercy, tender or otherwise, of the State. The city should look after its own interests in its own fashion. This is not an argument complimentary to the good management or economical administration of the metropolis. The city officer is not more honest, he is not more capable, than the commissioner delegated by the State; but the effect is certainly pleasing whatever the result of the stewardship may be. If there can be a preference by the victim of a robbery he will rather choose to be despoiled by his immediate acquaintance than by the stranger within his gates.

Golden Gate Park is a part of San Francisco. There was never any valid reason why the people of the whole State should interest themselves in its management. The park is a metropolitan show place, every sense of the term; it is not even an advertisement of California's "glorious climate" or its "unrivaled productions," for its climate is rigorous at all seasons and its productions are transplantsations. The State has no beneficiary interest in the park whatever, and a State Commission to manage it is as unnecessary as a State Commission to manage the affairs of the New York City Hall.

There are many objectionable features connected with this park aside from the suspicion of peculation in its management. These include numerous artistic "improvements" and costly innovations that would not be tolerated by an older or more critical community. The so-called "lodge" near the main gate, occupied as a residence by the Superintendent, may be instanced as especially unnecessary in its present location. Such a sum of money for the keeper of the park is a constant reminder of one class of extravagances imposed upon the taxpayers, and the sooner the tenant in occupancy is evicted and the structure converted into a receptacle for the contents of a museum, the sooner will the people begin to appreciate that their pleasure ground is being properly utilized for the sole benefit of those who are compelled to pay the bills for its maintenance.

It is a righteous effort to prevent the variegated from gratifying their greedy instincts at the expense of the people, but it is also meritorious to reform some of the existing abuses. Enough money is expended in "beautifying" and "adorning" this park to insure some degree of common sense in the selection of the ornamental adjuncts; and if the genius of those who go about seeking what they may call "artistic" improvements should have the grace to retire from the place of authority. It is hoped that the investigation of the Grand Jury will extend beyond the allegation of criminality and include a wholesome criticism that may result in a better management of the park in every department.

The filing of a final brief in the Supreme Court has revived a languid interest in the fate of Theodore Durrant. The atrocity of the crime proved against this abnormal young man has been gradually overshadowed by passing events equally important in the public estimation, if less striking in spectacular features. The circumstance that Justice Rogers superintended at the hearing of the murderer has been a subject of occasional comment couched in sarcastic or cynical phrase chiefly critical of California's lenity towards her criminals. The law's delay in this case has been frequently ascribed to the use of money, whereas the truth is that the only use of money in the effort to save Durrant from the gallows was for the hiring of lawyers to defend him, and when convicted, to erect obstacles in the way of the execution of the sentence. That money was used otherwise for illegal purposes is a truth fully asserted, which impresses the fact that it is not necessary to resort to occult processes in the effort to thwart a verdict or to overrule the decision of a court. Skilled attorneys may defeat justice in an open field as effectively as those agents who have recourse to unlawful methods.

There is an impression abroad that the Supreme Court will order a new trial for Durrant. No substantial basis for this supposition is apparent, although it is claimed that one of the Justices has expressed himself favorably to such ruling on the ground that the proofs against the defendant were insufficient and that a conviction was obtained in response to popular clamor.

In his effort to foreshadow an event that has scarcely been formulated, it is apparent the eagerness of a desire on the part of the people in mass to find fault with something—anything. It is also indicative of a prevalent suspicion that a cold-blooded judgment may not accord with a popular decision on a band of the people in mass to find fault with something—anything. It is also indicative of a prevalent suspicion that a cold-blooded judgment may not accord with a popular decision on a band of the people in mass to find fault with something—anything. It is also indicative of a prevalent suspicion that a cold-blooded judgment may not accord with a popular decision on a band of the people in mass to find fault with something—anything.

The Nonpareil

GREAT Winter Clearance Sale.

The price statements that follow are surprising; such as best know real values will be most astonished. Your question quite naturally is: "How are such offerings possible?" The answer follows: "We are about to take our yearly inventory and these lines must not be taken up in it."

Black Goods.

Special Assorted Lot Sale.

AT 28c YARD. This lot of fifteen pieces contains 28 and 44 inch. Figured, Solids, Granite Cloths and Mohairs, all in beautiful designs in floral and scroll patterns. Regular 65c and 75c values. Sale price, 38c.

AT 98c YARD. Twenty-five pieces in this assortment; all new and elegant designs in Brocade, Solids, Etamines, and Canvas Cloths. A genuine \$1.50 value. Sale price, 98c.

AT 25c YARD. Our entire assortment of All-Wool Black and White Plaids and Checks, all of which sold at 50c, 75c and \$1 the yard for this line. Sale price, 25c.

Silk and Velvet Specials.

Odd lots of Pushes and Velvets which must not be taken up this season in stock. Their uses are varied and the quality or cost cannot be judged by the special price.

Handsome Changeable Velvets in dark and medium shades, for waists or trimmings.

Quite an assortment of plain shades of Plush and Velvets in dark colors.

Fancy Stripes and Figured Velvets in a variety of colors, very desirable for trimmings, etc.

Twenty-four-inch wide Plushes in dark and medium shades; these are splendid values and can be used for a variety of purposes.

SPECIAL AT 75c YARD.

A lot of handsome Velvets in heavy qualities, with novelty stripes of silk, satin and velvet combinations; also, brocaded effects.

SPECIAL AT 75c YARD.

Fancy Taffeta Silks in mottled grounds with wide black satin stripes; very stylish for a waist or underskirt.

SPECIAL AT 75c YARD.

Fancy Figured Taffeta Silks in many pretty desirable patterns and in both dark and medium colorings; suitable for dresses, waists or trimmings.

Specials in Men's Neckwear and Furnishings.

Men's rich Silk Scarfs, Tecks, Four-in-hands and Imperials, newest and latest designs and most approved shapes; certainly the biggest value ever offered in men's neckwear.

Men's Sanitary, Natural Unshrinkable, Wool Shirts and Drawers; all sizes, 34 to 50 inches; finished seams, pearl buttons, silk bound necks, and drawers with patent gusset.

Men's Scarlet, Medicated, All-Wool Shirts and Drawers, 34 to 48 inches; very soft and warm; drawers with patent gussets; shirts silk finished and ribbed bottom.

Men's Sanitary Natural Wool Shirts and Drawers; unshrinkable, and finished throughout in very best manner; these are high-class goods and very remarkable value.

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Whole Wheat Shredded Biscuits, Ralston Cereal Coffee, Postum Cereal Coffee, Imperial Granum, Quaker Rolled Oats, Whetena, Chase & Sanborn's "Seal Brand" Coffee. ROBERT D. FINNIE, Grocer, 721 J.

THE FAIR, SPECIAL THIS WEEK.

Men's Cardigan Jacket	\$1.75	Now	\$1.25
Men's Wool Shirts and Drawers	1.00		.75
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THE GRAVE ON THE HILLTOP.

It stood on the very summit of the hill a little, lonely, neglected grave. A weather-beaten, wooden headstone, whose name and date, if they ever bore one, had long since been obliterated by the elements, marked the spot, while the whole was inclosed by a rusty iron fence fast falling into decay.

But if man had long since ceased to think or care for the little grave, nature had been more kindly. At all times and in all seasons she remembered it. In the spring the overshadowing trees put forth their fresh, green leaves, the birds returned from the South and built their nests in their leafy branches; here, too, they taught their young to fly. Sometimes the baby birds, all unused to their feeble wings, would fall prone upon the grave beneath, but the quiet sleeper never disturbed them. There were flowers, too, on the little grave in the spring time, bright-hued anemones and big golden poppies, nature's kindly compensation for man's neglect. By and by the sun veered around in his course and sent his hot, searching rays directly upon the brown, parched earth, under his fierce glow the wild flowers drooped their tender heads, the moss became seared, while the whole earth quivered and palpitated under his ardent caresses. But each night the heat abated, the sun sunk slowly, until it seemed to rest upon the very topmost peak of the far away mountains, before bidding the world "good night." Then the gold changed to deepest orange and yellow, the sky and the distant waters were so tinged with its last ruddy glow that they resembled burnished bronze; from yellow the color changed to intense red, from red to purple and from purple to a million kaleidoscopic opalescent hues. This in turn gave place to a shimmering, silvery veil out of which the moon shone and the stars twinkled. Far away in the valley tiny lights appeared in each of the houses. The moon beams filtered through the leafy branches of the trees and fell in weird fantastic patterns on the grave.

As the earth moved on its axis another change took place and autumn was abroad in the land. The sun shone as brightly as of yore but his rays had lost their power. At night the frost king and his entire retinue came forth and played at hide and seek in the trees, and each leaf was turned to richest red and yellow! Then he waded his magic wand and presto! each tiny blade of grass was instantly armed with a glistening spear of sparkling silver!

Finally even the day of the Frost King was at an end and winter with his chilling blasts and fierce storms held the earth in subjection. The wind moaned a requiem through the naked branches of the trees, snow and sleet fell unrelentingly. The headstone on the lonely grave was buried deep in its chill embrace. Icicles twined themselves

LOOKING BACKWARD.

I often sit and fancy that I am a child again, And think how hard the world appeared When I was nine about the year. I wonder if I wonder if, when I Have reached the gray three score, I still content me for the same? So grave at thirty-four.

I wonder if the downy bird Looks longingly ahead, And, in the autumn, sighs because It isn't spring instead? I wonder if the awkward foal Would drag the creaking drag, And, in its youth, with vain regret Upon the coat lay pray?

A Famous Idlle.

There is a violin in the possession of Frau Grigorief-Kruderer of Luerne, the widow of the brilliant young pianist, former Grigorief, which is reported to be worth 60,000 francs. Vulliamme, Bianchi, Sivori, and other experts have agreed in this extraordinary estimate. The greatest artists, Faganini, Spohr, Vioutemps, Joachim, and Sarasate, its history for the last 150 years. It was originally one of the so-called "Kurfursten-geige," or Prince-Elector fiddles, twelve of which were made as presents to the Electors of the Holy Roman Empire by Jacob Stainer Amati, and is the only one of the twelve which is still in existence. About a century and a half ago it came into the possession of Baron de Krudener, the Russian diplomatist, and husband of the famous Madame de Krudener, the singular religionist who played so great a part in bringing about the so-called Holy Alliance in 1815. Madame de Krudener was a sort of German Lady Huntingdon, always surrounded by a court of clergymen. But one of her family, the last of the name, was born a musician, and delighted himself with the dusty old neglected "Amati." He took to music as his profession, renounced the name of Krudener, and adopted that of Grigorief—Westminster Gazette.

An Inquiry.

New Arrival—I'm a reporter for the "Daily Sentinel," which is reported to be worth 60,000 francs. Mephistopheles (at home)—Intend to stay or have you merely come to write us up for Sunday's paper?—Brooklyn Life.

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