

THE DRESS OF WOMEN.

Present on the Reform Lines.

Mr. Gladstone Approved Flowing Grecian Draperies, Opposing the Bloomer.

Dress Reform Runs Counter to the Current of Fashion and Makes Progress Very Slowly.

It is not at all improbable that Mr. Gladstone told one of the women dress reformers that he liked the old Grecian draperies better than the existing conventional feminine costume.

The expression of his opinion on this subject, however, is of no practical importance, extraordinary and manifold as his abilities may be. Fashion is a domain in which the greatest of the leaders of men are powerless, and where the principles of aesthetics do not necessarily hold sway.

More than 40 years ago Amelia Bloomer began an agitation for the reform of the dress of women out of aesthetic and sanitary grounds. She did not content herself with mere general suggestions, but adopted and advocated a particular costume.

The costume did not satisfy the taste of Mr. Gladstone for flowing Grecian draperies, but was devised for the very purpose of getting rid of them as obstructive of the free movement of women, and the reform dress recommenced its career.

Mrs. Russell, the woman who reported the remark of Mr. Gladstone, has devised a new costume on her own account. It is described as a gown which "seems to rest entirely on the shoulders," looking as if "she had hung a bedspread upon her back and a table spread upon her front."

The dress of the woman represented in the Tanagra statues and in the gems executed at Mycenae is not radically different from the Grecian draperies, of which Mr. Gladstone approves with so much good taste.

The history of fashions, as shown in the superb French works which picture the costumes of all ages, indicates that under civilization the dress of women of fashion has followed the same general principle of construction and has been continually in accordance with Mr. Gladstone's taste for flowing draperies, and in accordance with the reform dress now recommended.

Premature baldness may be prevented and the hair made to grow on heads already bald, by the use of Hall's Vegetable Sialian Hair Restorer.

Itching piles are known by moisture like perspiration, causing intense itching when the parts are touched, and when the itching is not relieved, it leads to the formation of a protruding pile, which may be cured by the use of the Japanese Pile Remedy.

The dress reform starts out counter to the whole current of fashion in feminine dress, because it is devised with reference to utility and without prime regard to beauty.

Girls, all of you, everywhere, this is a word to you: Be womanly. Be true to yourselves and be guided by the promptings of those who have been through it all and know by experience the best line of conduct to pursue.

Remember that and don't yield to the temptation to be dippant and untrue, to be womanly.—Boston Herald.

To prevent the sticking of a poultice to sensitive spots rub the skin with sweet oil or vaseline before applying.

Women in Finland.

I was chatting a few days ago with a lady who had been making a short stay in Finland, and she told me several very interesting facts about the women over there. They seem from her account to do a good part of the work of the community.

Among the better class of Finns the women work quite as hard as they do in the lower. In the banks there are far more women than in the bureaux de change.

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I will not say that the punishment of children can be dispensed with in every instance. No possible rule can apply to all cases, since every instance must be a law unto itself.

Kindness draws us all closer; firmness of character cements lifelong friendships; sympathy unites us all. And as these elements appeal to us as we have matured, so do they, and even more strongly, appeal to the more responsive nature of a child.

The young women of the mediæval ages learned their lessons with their governess, practiced their lute, went to church every morning, read devotional treatises and star charts and studied wonderful magic spells for the cold stage warts.

They could pluck or brew virtuous simples, bind a broken limb or nurse a fever. They could amuse the convalescent with endless tales of the Round Table, with the legends of Charlemagne, and with lives of the saints no less interesting and romantic.

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