WOMAN'S REALM

CLINGING EFFECT IN AN EVENING GOWN.

SPRING VISITING TOILETS

Smart Trimmings and Their Uses on New Styles in Gowns.

Paris, February 21.

All the characteristics of the winter seem intensified in the early spring gowns, the full skirts, sloping shoulders and sleeves full on the lower arm. Sleeves seem really larger, more trimmed and generally more important than they were, but then one expects spring models to be more trimmed and slightly more emphatic than the modes of the winter. High belts are popular and promise to be even more worn, for it is a fashion that suits well the thin fabrics that will be used later on. Many of the light cloth suits made up now have high fitted belts.

A dainty spring visiting toilet is of a light weight tan cloth, embroidered in silk and chenille in the same shade and in white. The embroidery is used on the skirt in a heavy pattern that seems to start from a large chou of tan mousseline de soie that is placed on the front of the skirt about eight inches above the hem. The blouse and the big sleeves are embroidered all over. There is a draped belt of the cloth pulled down in front to make a point on the skirt. The skirt is slightly bouffant on the sides and the belt is evidently attached to it. Over the shoulders is a little cape, a pelerine, of the cloth. The choker of this dress is high and straight and covered with the embroidery, but opened a bit in front to show a little bow made of inch wide, light blue velvet ribbon. This pretty idea is often seen carried out in black ribbon.

Rather an odd finish to the long skirt of a handsome visiting suit is a ruche of velvet following the shallow scallops into which the bottom of the skirt is cut. There is evidently a support to these scallops, but it does not appear.

White, especially in the light weight cloths and thin wools, seems more popular than ever. Some of the wool voiles are embroidered in half openwork patterns copied after the English embroideries. A charming gown made of this has a skirt full over the hips and hanging in two embroidered flounces. The bodice has a high draped belt drawn down over the skirt in a pompadour point and an embroidered fichu over the shoulders. The sleeves are shirred from shoulder to wrist with embroidered elbow flounces.

A light weight white cloth can hardly be made up in a prettier fashion than the one expressed by the following model: The skirt has a small yoke which finishes in a narrow panel in front. This is detached from the skirt proper and ends in a point which is finished by long filet fringe. The skirt is hung in small, unstitched box pleats. The bodice is nearly covered by a box pleated bolero of filet lace laid on cloth and finished out with the fringe. The choker and cuffs are of filet embroidered in large knots done in violet and pale blue.

Little box pleated Norfolk jackets are used for spring walking suits. They are cut out low about the neck, although they often have two or three flat collars of stitched cloth. With a coat of this sort one expects a high, turn over linen collar embroidered in a pale color. These starched collars are becoming more and more used, and the embroidered ones are sufficiently expensive to make them the property of the high class lingerie shops.

A charming trimming used on a crepe de chine gown consists of squares of filet lace surrounded by pleats or wide tucks taken in the stuff. The squares are not entirely surrounded, for the tucks form a Greek pattern that only goes around three sides of the lace. There are two rows of this on the skirt and more on the bodice. The lower part of the bodice is made on a pointed pompadour lining with the soft crepe draped across.

The little pelerine capes, a feature of street costumes, appear on dressy evening gowns framing a modest décolletage. A gown noted at the Ritz the other night at dinner time was of some soft white stuff with a deep border to the skirt of incrustations of lace and white silk embroidery. The skirt was shirred about the hips in little rounded teeth. There were enormous sleeves of white gauze, shirred down the inside of the arm and into little lace cuffs, and about the shoulders was a close, tight pelerine of lace and embroidery. The bit of neck exposed was covered by an elaborate necklace. A turban of white tulle and roses was worn.

Gowns for the evening, whether they be high necked or cut décolleté, emphasize the prevalent pompadour effects. Rows of little bows ornament the fronts of bodices, and a becoming idea is to have these attached to scraps of velvet that run up in V fashion to disappear in the underarm seam. The long, pointed, V shaped bodice is having a certain vogue, although it may not prove a lasting fashion. The effect is generally softer than would be the case if a true pompadour bodice for the stuff is draped to cover the bias seams.

A NEW COFFEE POT.

The latest design for coffee lovers is the new French steam coffee pot. This is made in France, and is said to make the best coffee that can be produced. It has glass filter, faucet and ebonized handle. The pots come in every variety. A circular can be obtained free by addressing the Bimetal and French Steam Coffee Pot Company, No. 148 Broadway, New-York.

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Mr. Mostkowitz announces that he will offer, at a reduction, at his high class ladies' tailoring establishment, No. 18 East Twentieth-st., handsome spring and summer gowns made of imported materials, and silk lined. He will also make to order black broadcloth suits at a price lower than usual. He offers newest designs and most seasonable cloths.

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THE HOME CENTRES.

Importance of Kitchen and Dining Room—Ideal Conditions.

"In scientific nomenclature nowadays the kitchen is recognized as the laboratory of the house, the place where energy and health and personal comfort are created," said a suburban lecturer recently, by way of prelude to certain practical suggestions, "and the dining room is also regarded as quite as functional a place as the kitchen. Nowhere in the household are the workings of cause and effect more plainly visible than in these centres.

"There are two ways in which the kitchen may be a vital centre in the home—one wrong, the other right. It is wrong when the atmosphere of the household takes a pervasiveness from the kitchen—figuratively or literally. Just as Nature considerately covers the stomach and liver and all the mechanical force producing apparatus of the body, letting the world see only the results, so do sensible, refined people keep the details of the kitchen processes out of sight—never the fact of the kitchen's importance, remember, or the welfare of the people who work there, but the unsightly, unsavory details.

"Families in moderate though comfortable circumstances are most in danger here. The start into the day is too often spoiled for everybody concerned because the housewife (with perhaps only one maid of all work) complains perchance at breakfast how the stove oven would not heat, and then in the same dismal strain at night, when John and the children have reassembled, clouds the atmosphere because the man whom John promised to send did not appear to mend the stove.

"In many a household one, entering, recognizes at once the pervasiveness of the kitchen, not only in the way its vicissitudes dominate family conversation and comfort, but also in the very air itself. One of the most unmistakable evidences of unrefinement is air charged with food odor, or any odor. Generally, if this be analyzed, it will be found to contain not only this morning's bacon but last night's beefsteak and onions, with possibly a flavoring of furnace gas. It is not that country houses are always fresh and sweet; they are often frightfully close and stuffy; but they do not harbor the accumulation of overladen air of other families that too often makes the landings, stairways and elevators of city apartments so unbearable. Some houses are so constructed that odors are inevitable; in that case, try the remedy of frequent, thorough airing. Fresh air, and plenty of it, will give any house a clean, untainted odor. And science has proved, unquestionably, that pure, fresh air heats and holds the heat better than heavy, impure air.

THE IDEAL KITCHEN.

"The ideal kitchen has a tiled floor, or linoleum floor covering; the walls of tiles, glazed brick, or hard plaster; plenty of cupboards with glass doors or none. It has a large, firm, zinc-covered table, ample sink room, the sink itself being set on legs, with all its pipes and traps exposed to view, according to the best sanitary method. No hiding-place is left available for dust or vermin. The kitchen has a sunny exposure, with windows on all sides possible. There is an opening in the chimney over the range, and a hood to the range, to prevent the cooking odors from pervading other parts of the house. This is the ideal kitchen which 'eternal vigilance' never fails to keep a safe, reasonable central point.

"As to furnishings, there is a place for everything, and everything in its place—a hackneyed but very effective fashion of order. All the utensils needed around the stove are near and within easy reach. The sheives hold plenty of tin boxes, with tight fitting lids, for yeastcakes, spices, tea, coffee, and so on. Hampers or bags for soiled towels and aprons are conveniently disposed. There is nothing superfluous. As William Morris says, kitchens are about the only rooms furnished in good taste, because all the articles there are of good shape, declare their use, and are appropriate to it.

"A window corner in the kitchen may well be made available, with an easy chair, for chance moments of rest, for the cook, who is practically on her feet all day. Indeed, such a corner in a new model kitchen in a beautiful home has been occupied nearly every morning this winter by the blind grandmother of the family, an old fashioned woman, wonted to her own kitchen, who has found this sunny, comfortable spot a positive luxury and the kitchen radiance of heat preferable to register or radiator or even open fire.

"It is to be hoped there is a servants' dining room, be it ever so small. At all events, however, the family of any pretension has a separate place for its meals. One of the first steps in civilization is to eat in some room other than the kitchen. Even the one great living hall of olden times had a raised platform at one end, whereon the dining table was placed apart.

"The dining room to-day is quite as much a family centre as the living room. A deal of health and family affection depends on our way of taking our meals. Many a family, where all the members are busy about one thing or another continually, does not meet except at meals and in the evening. In the breaking bread together is the time to cultivate acquaintance with one another.

ABOUT TABLE TALK.

"Try to have the table, as the common meeting place, very attractive to the eye; try to have it orderly, so that the table talk shall not be interrupted by looking for needful articles or by anxious directions to the maid. It is necessary to health and comfort to avoid coming to the table overtired, if possible. The successful mistress of a household has always on hand some subject for good conversation; a cheerful flow of talk helps a meal on wonderfully. Above all, she avoids having troublesome topics or any matter of dispute brought up at meals. People as a rule do not take time enough for their meals; we are always hearing of that American malady, dyspepsia, first cousin to the other American affliction, nervous prostration. And, besides taking time enough for your meals, don't make too much ado over having a guest. As a recent writer says: 'A welcome, friendly visitor makes a meal twice as valuable; you are the gainer, not the giver.'

"A family table should, of course, be provided with a sufficiently generous supply of palatable, nourishing, well cooked, well served food. The expenditure for the table is naturally graduated according to the fulness of the family purse. There are the favored people who can afford the first strawberries and green peas, can indulge in game and fowl when these are really luxuries, can buy the best cuts of mutton and beef. Then there are the many others who must practise the strictest economy in their marketing. In such circumstances the table is wont to absorb the greater part of the living money share of the income. Wastings and savings alike are most closely registered in the larder. But it is no economy to buy too little or unwholesome food, for what we save in this direction is likely to be taken off by doctors' and druggists' bills.

"A word in passing as to the dining room furnishings. These should be, first of all, substantial, then as beautiful as the pocketbook admits—but always with the function of use in mind. Meaningless ornaments, dust collecting bric-a-brac, an extreme of pictures, are out of place. In the selection of dishes and table linen—dear to womanly hearts—there is abundant opportunity for good taste; but even here beauty must not be at the expense of utility. For, according to modern rediscovery, one aspect of beauty is simplicity; appropriateness.

VITAL HOUSEHOLD CENTRES.

"The better equipped the kitchen, the better ordered the dining room the greater will be the efficiency of the family. Thought and care for these great, vital centres of the household will find its return in physical, intellectual, moral wellbeing—for the three are intimately related, as we have it from no less an authority than Herbert Spencer.

"Life, especially to the conservative New-England type of mind, has been too often confounded with labor, and thrift with progress. To eat, work, sleep, surely there is no dignity, no ideal in a life like that. When all begins and ends in labor, when the effort is simply to keep up appearances or make both ends meet, the natural and inevitable result is physical and mental deterioration. But when into the ideal of life the proper functions of kitchen and dining room enter, then that family is a unit of value to the nation. It performs its task, thereby enriching all."

TOTS NEED "MOTHERING."

Institution Babies Droop and Die Without It.

It was long since discovered, in the investigations of charity workers, that babies cannot be successfully raised by "job lot." The average infant asylum is cleaner than the average home. The care given is more intelligent and systematic. Babies are fed and washed more regularly and systematically. Their linen may be immaculate, and doctors and trained nurses stand ready to minister to every ill. And yet the babies die at a rate out of all proportion to the infant mortality in even the poorer classes of homes.

AFTER A MONTH'S CARE BY A FOSTER MOTHER.

This was what the Sisters of the St. Vincent Home in Philadelphia found recently. The death rate was greater than it should be, and no care on the part of the nurses or the doctors seemed able to check it. Finally a mother who had raised a large family of children most successfully was asked to go through the home and inspect all its arrangements with care. She did so, and at the end of her tour, after watching rooms full of babies playing by themselves, under the eye of one attendant, she delivered her ultimatum.

"These babies have got to have mothering," she said. "If a little baby doesn't have individual care, attention, handling and love, it will pine away and die. Put them out to board with good mothers."

Her advice was followed as an experiment, and has proved sound. The babies have since been sent in turn to women with children of their own, who were willing to take in the little stranger for a time, for a consideration. Each baby in its boarding place got rocked and handled, petted and played with, and came back so much improved in health and spirits that the efficacy of the plan was demonstrated. When all had their turn once, they began over again, letting each youngster have two weeks at a time.

Italian foster mothers were chosen, and they have now been made a regular adjunct of the institution.

A GROUP OF "MOTHERED" FOUNDLINGS IN THE ST. VINCENT HOME IN PHILADELPHIA.

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When we began preparations for the spring and summer seasons our European agents were instructed to secure only special designs, new and original. They have succeeded beyond our expectations.

The fabrics used here are of the latest importations, some of which cannot be duplicated at any other establishment.

This week we will take orders for handsome Tailor-made costumes to order, made of imported materials, silk lined throughout, for only

$55, worth $80.

Mr. Kneitel attends personally to all fittings and guarantees a perfect fit and thorough and artistic workmanship in every detail.

MARRIAGE OF THE FUTURE.

Women Will Not Then Sell Their Freedom for a Home, Says Carroll D. Wright.

One of the effects of the growing freedom of women, according to Carroll D. Wright, will be to decrease, temporarily, the number of marriages and increase divorces, but the ultimate result will be a more beautiful ideal of marriage than the world has ever seen.

"Women of independent means," said Mr. Wright, in a lecture given yesterday morning before the League for Political Education, "will not sell their freedom and their souls in return for a home and social position. In this they are quite right, and I am able to see no difference between the woman who sells herself to a man permanently and the one who does it for a temporary period. When this necessity is removed marriages will take place only when companionship in the holiest sense is intended, and the race will be recruited from the highest rather than from the lowest orders of society. Many lugubrious predictions have been made regarding the disintegration of society that must result from the increasing freedom of women, but I believe that with more power they will act still more wisely. Their loveliness will be increased, and their freedom will lead to happier and purer social conditions. They will exert an influence which we cannot now fully comprehend, and if this leads to political life we must not quarrel with it."

Up to the present time, Mr. Wright thinks, the participation of women in industrial life has done nothing but good. They have improved intellectually; and, so far from the moral deterioration which was predicted from their mingling with men in the affairs of the world, the morals of working women are on as high a plane as those of any other class of women, if not higher. Even that respect which civilized society has always accorded to women, and which it was feared might suffer under different conditions, had been increased, rather than diminished, by independence and proved capacity.

Mr. Wright began his lecture with a brief discussion of the subjection of women. "It is difficult," he said, "to explain how this originated, but it was confirmed and given a new lease of life by religious superstition. Men found in some misunderstood texts of Scripture a warrant for their cowardly position; but though the degrading doctrine of Paul cannot be explained away, I decline to believe that any such teaching ever emanated from the devout father or the gentle Nazarene."

The lecturer was introduced by Professor Ely, who appealed to all those who care for the rights of children to write to Edgar T. Brackett, expressing approval of the three bills in reference to child labor which are now before the New-York State Legislature.

Professor Ely also referred to next Saturday's lecture, on the tenement house question, and expressed the hope that the meeting would result in a formal protest against the proposal to change the present law.

MODISH CREATIONS FROM PARIS

At O. Haas Bros.

A number of exclusive models and Paris creations are on view at the establishment of O. Haas Brothers, ladies' tailors, No. 345 Fifth-ave., opposite the Waldorf-Astoria. They include long coats, skirts and Russian blouse suits for the coming season, and will be offered at exceptionally low prices. It is here also that handsome tailored costumes to order, in imported materials, richly silk lined, can be secured for only $50; regular price $75. Fancy Tailored Gowns, usual price $125, for only $85. A perfect fit is guaranteed in every case.

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The newest and latest designs and the most seasonable cloths to select from. Perfect fit guaranteed.

In regard to fitting we wish to state that it really takes an artist to cut a gown properly; that the perfection of design, fit, the bringing out of the lines in a figure that makes a costume look so well and which is so often sought for, can always be attained at this establishment. The lines in the back and under the arm are beautifully cut, moulding the garment to the figure perfectly.

Mr. Mostkowitz has the faculty of making a tall woman appear graceful and a stout woman look well.

Notes of Social Doings.

The New-York City branch of the Vassar Students' Aid Society will hold its third social meeting on Saturday afternoon at the Women's University Club, No. 13 East Twenty-fourth-st. Unusual preparations are being made, as Dr. James M. Taylor, president of Vassar College, and Mrs. Taylor are to be the guests of honor. The Rumanian Band will play in costume, and harp solos will be given by Mr. Charles Schultzer. Tea will be served from 4 to 6, and the president, Miss Delle Fay Norris, will be assisted in receiving by a committee of young women. Miss Helen Miller Gould was recently made an honorary member of this society, in recognition of her great interest in Vassar.

One of the pleasantest affairs of the upper West Side was the dramatic entertainment and dance given at Lotus Hall on Tuesday evening by the Young People's Christian Union connected with the Church of Eeternal Hope, on West Eighty-first-st. The dramatic part was under the direction of I. Wolff, who produced his original drama in one act, entitled "The Refuge," in a successful manner with the aid of the following amateurs: A. Herman Wegner, Frederick A. Branig, J. H. Bashford, Ruel S. Darling, jr., Royal E. B. Clarke, Harold Simmons, Clarence Cohen, Miss Grace Levy, Miss Abbie Whitney Crowell and Maude Lucille Branig.

This was followed by a farce from the German, called "The Obstinate Family," and the mirth provoking actors were Messrs. Passapal, Wegner, Clarke, Mrs. John I. Brooks, jr., Miss Josephine Ottman and Miss Grace Morganroth. The dance which followed was participated in by a large proportion of the audience.

Mrs. William S. Lounsbery, of No. 487 West End-ave., is at home on the second and fourth Tuesdays. She is assisted in receiving by her daughter, Mrs. Thompson Faulkner, who has recently returned from her wedding trip.

Mrs. Lincoln Rea Peabody will be at home on the first and third Thursdays, No. 227 Riverside Drive.

Mrs. Norman G. Raff, of the Hotel Endicott, will discontinue her Sunday afternoons "at home" during Lent.

Mrs. David Fraser, of the Rockingham, has given the last of her Wednesday receptions.

Mrs. William Raimond Baird and Mrs. Herman Meyer received on Tuesday afternoon, February 24, at No. 63 West Eighty-third-st.

Mrs. Herbert Jerome Davis, No. 255 West Seventy-first-st., receives her friends on the first and third Fridays of the month.

A successful entertainment and dance were given on Tuesday evening at the Lexington Opera House. Nearly twenty-five hundred persons attended. The affair was under the auspices of Colfax Council, No. 1,220, Royal Arcanum. The committees were as follows: Officers—President, Ellery Sanford; vice-president, F. W. Ruhl; secretary, D. A. Henderson, and treasurer, C. A. Robinson. Floor committee—R. W. Clark, chairman; assistants, J. A. Gray, J. J. Roe, G. A. Bloomfield and W. H. Leslie. Reception committee—F. R. McMillan, chairman; Wilson Taylor, C. H. Bushong, A. W. Durand and G. J. Cary. Executive committee—Thomas B. Chigoy, chairman; D. A. Henderson, R. J. Dilworth, G. J. Bloomfield, A. J. Phillips, G. B. Jolliffee, C. D. Knapp, R. W. Clark, J. B. Smith, C. E. Ensign, G. D. Hodges and G. H. McAdam.

The Ladies' Friday Night Literary Circle, of Mount Vernon, had its second reunion of 1903 at the home of Miss Alice Andrews, in South Second-ave., last night. Various topics of current interest were presented in well prepared papers, and they were also discussed. The club is enjoying its most successful and interesting season since it was organized.

The thirtieth anniversary of the Chapin Home for the Aged and Infirm, No. 151 East Sixty-sixth-st., will be held on Tuesday, March 3, from 3 until 10 p. m. There will be addresses by prominent clergymen and an interesting programme of music and recitations has been arranged. Supper will be served à la carte.

Mrs. Julius Hubbell Seymour, of No. 304 West Eighty-sixth-st., will give her third "at home" on Tuesday, March 3. Assisting her will be Mrs. John Troeland, of Englewood, N. J.; Mrs. W. B. De Haven and Miss Helen Louise Brown.

"Some Improved Conditions in the Industrial Life of Women" is the subject to be discussed at a reception to be given by the women's conference of the Society for Ethical Culture on Monday evening, at 8:15 o'clock, at Tuxedo Hall, Fifty-ninth-st. and Madison-ave. This will be discussed in three phases—"The Industrial Life of Women in Education," by Professor Mary Schenck Woolman; "In Retail Stores," by Mrs. Florence M. Stowell, and "In Factories," by Miss Leonora O'Reilly. A paper, "Thoughts on Needed Improvements—Women Wage Earners' Section," will then be read by Miss Wanda Travers.

The patronesses of the micarême musical breakfast to be given at the Waldorf-Astoria on Saturday morning, March 14, have decided to engage an additional room for the affair, the two larger dining rooms, on the Fifth-ave. side of the hotel, having been found too small to accommodate the expected guests. They have also arranged to reserve tables suitable for parties of five and six, as a good many breakfast parties are being made up for the occasion. Tickets for these tables may be secured up to March 10 from Mrs. Henry Clarke Coe, No. 8 West Seventy-sixth-st., or from Miss Delle Fay Norris, No. 328 West Eighty-third-st. Every day brings new assurance to the patronesses that the entertainment will be one of the most notable of the Lenten season. All the boxes have been sold for the musical, which will precede the breakfast, and 75 per cent of the auditorium tickets have been disposed of at $5 each. The musical will begin at 11 sharp, and will be followed at 12:30 by the breakfast. The proceeds, it will be remembered, are to be divided between the Vassar Students' Aid Society scholarship fund and the fund started earlier in the season by the patronesses of the Knickerbocker charity ball for the musical education of the three little Kellert brothers, who will be sent abroad in April.

The patronesses have recently selected a large committee of young women to act as ushers, among them being the Misses Stella Miles, Manira Simpson, Louise Robbins, Florence Harrah, Tennie V. Dickson, Jean Burnet, Adelaide Wallach, Louisa Robbins, Florence Cornell, Elsie Seidenberg, Caroline Pelgram, Ethel Pelgram, Helen Nutting, Abigail Tillotson, Abby A. Vaillant, Emma Bradley, Elizabeth White, Marjorie Lawrence, Nellie M. Smith and Edith Schmitt.

Among the box holders are Miss Helen Miller Gould, Mmes. Russell Sage, William R. Thompson, Frederick J. Swift, Frederick F. Thompson, Miss Sarah L. Middlebrook, George E. Dodge, Charles J. Harrah, William T. Cornell, Miss Caroline Pelgram, H. Calvin Gage, Mrs. George R. Hurd, George Kramer Thompson, Frank Scott Gerrish, William Reynolds Brown, Golla Condery, James M. Taylor, Anson Wood Burchard, Charles Lincoln Wetherbee, Henry Bramble Wilson, Robert Franklin Adams, William A. Parke, Frederick Hewitt Parks, George Wilkinson Stetson, Jules Ehrich, Oscar Straus, Jacob Schiff, Henri Wertheim, Arthur Scott Herendon, Samuel Shipley Blood, and Henry Clarke Coe.

At the last meeting of Minerva, held at Delmonico's on Thursday, February 26, there were musical numbers by Mrs. Clara T. Purdy, Miss Kathie Huttig and Miss Frances Miller, and an original monologue was given by May Isabel Fisk. Dr. Sarah J. MacNutt read a paper entitled "Along the Coast of Scotland," and Mrs. Mary Moffat spoke on "The Fair and Famous Women of Russia."

Mrs. George Walter Newton, of No. 2 West Eighty-third-st., gave her last reception before Lent on Tuesday, February 24.

Mrs. Philip Carpenter receives on Fridays at No. 265 West End-ave.

There will be a free morning talk on "The Power of Breath" at the Hotel Nevada, Seventieth-st. and Broadway, on March 6, at 11 a. m.

A tea in aid of the Riverside Day Nursery Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. James W. Taylor on Friday afternoon, from 3 to 6. There was a large attendance. Mrs. Thomas E. Hardenbergh, president of the auxiliary, assisted Mrs. Taylor in doing the honors. At the tea table were Mrs. Edwin W. Orvis, Mrs. William M. K. Olcott and Mrs. Julius H. Seymour. At the package table presided Mrs. Ernest Pfarrius, with great success financially and otherwise. A pleasant feature of the entertainment was the singing of Creole and plantation songs by Masters Fred and Edward Williams, who are nine and ten years old, respectively. A large and representative gathering was present, and the fund of the Day Nursery, No. 121 West Sixty-third-st., will benefit substantially by the receipts taken in.