

AMERICA NOW THE HOME OF STYLE. Paris Supplanted by New York—Charming Costumes for the Ball-Room, the Parlor and the Dinner.

Paris Supplanted by New York—Charming Costumes for the Ball-Room, the Parlor and the Dinner. (Copyrighted, 1892.) NEW YORK, January 30. PARIS may be the recognized centre of the world of fashion, but it is no longer true, as Mrs. Trollope once remarked, that it is necessary to go there to see the perfectly dressed woman. There is quite as much wealth and luxury, quite as much refinement of manners and physical grace in the capital of the New World as in that gay and frivolous city, which constitutes the Mecca of those who pursue pleasure as a sort of cult.

Now that the season is at its height, the woman of fashion to be seen at her very best, and I can't help noting that ball, dinner and reception dresses have steadily maintained their simplicity of make up, relying upon the elegance of material to attain fine effects.

In my initial illustration, for instance, you will possibly be struck by the simple style in which the gown is garnished and set off, and yet the effect is altogether charming, for it would be difficult to find a more lovely gown than this very one—a pale blue satin with a collar in plaited cream silk gauze, and ruffles of the same on the sleeves and bottom of skirt, the entire being of cream satin. Beside satins, Louis XV. brocades and the heavy Louis XVI. failles are extremely modish for evening wear. These elegant fabrics are often set off with fronts of white tulle embroidered with floss silk, or with multi-colored pearls in Byzantine style. The overskirts worn with evening costumes are either of silk muslin in two colors, black or white tulle sparkling with spangles or stars, or of gauze dotted with metal butterflies.

For young persons, crepons and silk muslins trimmed with lace and set off with satin ceintures in delicate tones are in vogue. In one instance, a young person, which, contrary to the usual dictum that flowers belong to the twenties, feathers to the thirties, and lace to the forties, was beautifully trimmed with a light fluffy



BALL TOILET FOR YOUNG PERSON. feather ruche encircling the bottom of the gown and running up the side to the waist. You will see this ball toilet partially pictured in my second illustration. At the shoulder there was a bunch of the feather trimming which was in cream white, while the gown itself was in a delicate pale green.

The floral ornaments of ball gowns are usually geraniums, Persian lilac, heather, eglantine and hydrangea. When I hear the men railing against the elegance of our toilets, I am reminded of the Abbe Gobel's rebuke against the beautiful dowager of Madam de Maintenon, who, however, was not yet the famous woman she was destined to become, but plain Widow Scarron. Said the Abbe: "You should dress more simply and in this way overcome your inordinate desire to please." To which the lady replied that she was really dressed as plainly as a little country girl. "I couldn't make my costume any plainer; there is not a ribbon or a piece of lace that I could do without." But the confessor refused to be convinced.

"I don't know what it all is," said the priest, "but when you come to confession, see a mass of material sink down in front of me, and it is altogether too graceful and becomes you too well." To return to that fascinating subject, ball dresses and their concomitants, I shouldn't fail to remind you that pearls have been all the rage this season. If you can afford the real gems, so much the better for you, but the imitations are good enough for some of us. Anyway, you can't very well use too many of them. They should be worked into the berthas and twists of thin material which are applied to the edges of corsages, and they may also be sown over the dress itself. A pearl necklace made up of three or four strands is very good in its way, but the modish thing is the dog collar, and it brings out the beauty of a fine skin in a most delightful manner. I don't suppose I need warn the brunettes against the use of pearls. They are the exclusive privilege of the children of the North, with whose blue eyes and golden hair they accord deliciously.



CREPE DE CHINE BALL DRESS. must be a foundation skirt of tafeta or silk of the same color, cut very bias and lined half way up with muslin or a thin woolen stuff. The crepe de chine is caught up on both sides as shown with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathers thrown to the back. The puffed ruching of the bottom of the skirt is made of straight bands of the crepe de chine gathered on both sides and sewed on with reversed seam. The ribbons which spring from the centre are tied with bows, as indicated. The corsage consists of an adjusted lining covered with the puffed material, the decollete being edged with a small ruche made of the head of the upper puffing. The gores are only made in the lining. The ceinture, composed of interlacing ribbons, closes invisibly

on the right with looks. The puffed sleeves are garnished with ribbons. The right shoulder has a bow, the left a small bouquet. Lace continues to hold its place as a favorite garniture, and the modes of using it vary very little in the costume. It takes the shape of Louis XIII. collars, berthas, flounces, panels, jabot effects, torsades and draperies. With a white gown you need a white nainsook or surah undershirt, trimmed with Valenciennes. For full dress the silk stockings in harmonious tone with the costume is rigorously insisted upon, the black stocking being used only with the street toilet. For evening dress the white glove with fourteen or sixteen buttons, leaves a portion of the upper arm visible. Gowns which are worn under the sleeves have this in their favor: they conceal absolutely all the defects of plumpness.



BALL-COSTUME AND DINNER DRESS. A ball toilet. The dinner dress is made up in a black tulle with Pompadour figures over a silk foundation. There is a demi-train which is trimmed with a ruche gathered in the middle and fastened at the top and bottom. The skirt is caught up in such a way as to produce a wavy effect. The corsage is pointed, lined with silk, laced at the back, cut square in front and partially covered with a velvet figaro ornamented with pink feather trimming; short velvet sleeves over those of tulle. The fronts of the figaro are hooked to the corsage and may either constitute a part of it or be put on separately. The ball costume is made up in Persian lilac satin, a shade of pink mauve. The high flaring collar is in silver embroidery, stiffened and fastened to the neck with reversed stitching. The bodice is in silk muslin, ornamented with silver, and is sewed on one side and hooked on the other. The tablier also forms the plastron. It is lined with white silk and the scallops at the bottom are ornamented with a silver fringe. The long train has a thickness of flannel or thin woolen stuff between the material and the silk foundation. The grille at the back of the dress, and has two long pendant ends at the front.

It has long been a mooted question whether a lady of fashion went to a grand dinner party to please the host or herself. Certainly there is no particular pleasure in attending such an entertainment, rather it is something to be endured, a ceremonious and unobscure proceeding, interrupted by awkward pauses, long waits and the arrival of thoroughly indigestible food. Therefore, would it seem more logical to claim that the lady of fashion goes there to show her dinner dress, a gown which, barring the low neck and short sleeves, often surpasses in the ball and short dress in magnificence. Even if you never have an opportunity to wear one of these



FOR DINNER PARTY. rant gowns known as dinner dresses, yet you will not be disinclined to examine the beautiful creation pictured in my last illustration. It is the genuine thing, rich, harmonious and intricate, and is made up as follows: A straight skirt, a corsage with paniers, both richly embroidered, and a train trimmed with swan's down, with the corsage also being trimmed with the swan's down, which frames the V-shaped cut-out at the back after it leaves the front. The embroidery consists of an applique and gold stitching. The folds of the train are supported on the underskirt by a ribbon band. The train itself is made up of the back pieces, with the diamond stitches, turned toward down, which furnishing the requisite fullness. The Watteau fold springs from middle of the back. The pointed corsage hooks in the middle, one side crossing over the other. The leg o'mutton sleeves are embroidered at the wrist and are tight from the elbow down, and puffed at the shoulder, but not much raised. The band of swan's down which ornaments the side that crosses is not sewed to it, otherwise the corsage could not be put on, but it is fastened at the lower part of the waist. In putting on the dress pass the band of swan's down over the head.

Georgia Railroad Building. Railroad construction in Georgia is so often spoken of that it may not be uninteresting to explain some of the reasons controlling it. The State is unexceptional in its geographical location, and in its topography it presents very few of the difficulties which attend its northern line in the southern limit of the great Appalachian ranges of mountains. For several hundreds of miles northward there are but few passes for railroads between the Northwest and the southeast and from the Eastern to the Southwestern States. Its northern line is the southern limit of the Blue Ridge mountains, and they do it. The cost of a railroad in Virginia is several times more per mile than the cost in Georgia. Georgia railroads are not to-day built for Georgia business. The railroad construction in that State is almost wholly confined to "short cuts" and to extending and completing lines for through business. It will be instructive for any one interested to place a tracing of the general railroad map of Georgia in Poor's Manual for 1891 over the map in the manual for 1890. He will find that the only new road of any considerable length was one which, in May last, went into receivership only half completed. January 29, 1892. ENGINEER.

Chicago's Water-Works Trouble. CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—The water-works of this city were in trouble again yesterday and there is still danger of another water famine. Few people know how near they were to a famine a second time within a week, as diligent efforts were made to keep the facts within the walls of the City Hall. The situation was equally as serious as it was a week ago. The supply of water was entirely cut off from one of the tunnels for hours at a time. The clogging of another had begun but the men finally prevailed and the channel was cleared. A diminished supply at the faucets of the down-town buildings at times during the day suggested that something was wrong at the crib or pumping station. The trouble proved to be at the East Chicago avenue pumping station. The pumps began to pound about 1 o'clock yesterday morning, and the engineer stopped the engines. He found the chamber below the Holly engine apparently full of solid ice.

TRADE COMBINATION. The British House of Lords on That Subject. (Saturday Review.)

After nearly two years and a half the decision of the court of appeals in the Mogul Steamship Company's case was unanimously affirmed on Friday last week by the House of Lords. The delay both in hearing and in deciding the appeal is to be regretted on many grounds of practical convenience; but if the postponement of judgment over the long vacation was in any way due to doubts on the part of one or more members of the tribunal who were ultimately removed, it was not too heavy a price to pay for the authority of the unanimous judgment in a case of such importance. It is worth notice that the House of Lords, as constituted on this occasion, represented the learning of both common law and equity and the judicial experience of every part of the United Kingdom. The facts on which the decision proceeded are capable, as the Lord Chancellor said, of being reduced to a pretty simple form. The defendants were a number of ship owners, who in 1885 were associated in a "conference" for the purpose of controlling the tea trade with certain Chinese ports and keeping up freights. For this purpose they offered special low rates to local shippers in order to undersell the rival traders, and, moreover, offered a special rebate of 5 per cent. to shippers and to agents who would deal with the "conference" on the terms that the rebate for the whole year's shipping was to be forfeited by any breach of this condition. The Mogul Steamship Company, a rival trader outside the "conference" complained of this action as a wrongful interference with the general freedom of trade, and claimed as damages the difference between its actual earnings in the season and the freights it would have earned but for the exclusive combination. No evidence of "malice" in the sense of a special desire to injure the business of the Mogul Company was or could be given. On the contrary, nothing would have pleased the "conference" better than that their rivals should find elsewhere a more profitable occupation than competing with them in that particular trade.

Now, the object of all trade competition is to get as much business as profit as one can, and in that sense to withdraw business and profits from rivals. If making profit at another's expense by means not in themselves unlawful is unlawful, and "malicious" then is all competition unlawful. And such is the Socialist opinion, but when applied to existing law, it would tend to the destruction of society as it exists, the conclusion, Lord Halsbury truly said, is a reductio ad absurdum. Again, doing business at a temporary loss in order to undersell rivals is one of the commonest forms of competition, so far from being a new and unusual device. There was in this case no violence, no intimidation, no procuring or counseling of any breach of contract. If any such element had been present, it would have been a different matter. So Lord Justice Bowen was careful to mark in the court of appeals the distinction between the "conference" and the "conference" in the House of Lords. And Lord Hannon said still more pointedly that "a different case would have arisen if the evidence had shown that the object of the defendants was a malicious one—namely, to injure the plaintiffs, whether they, the defendants, should be benefited or not." But as it was, there was nothing to show that either the end contemplated by the "conference" or the means used to obtain that end were contrary to law. It is quite true that as between the members of the "conference" the whole scheme was almost certainly "in restraint of trade" so that any of the associated firms could have withdrawn from it at will without being liable to any action for breach of contract. But this by no means involves, as supposed by Lord Esher's dissenting judgment in the court of appeals, the illegality of a restraint, being either a punishable offense or a civil wrong as against third persons who lose money by its performance. On the whole, then, whatever may be thought of the "conference" scheme as a matter of commercial courtesy, there is nothing in it amounting to a legal cause for action. And since there is nothing unlawful in either end or means and the nature of the act complained of was not determined by the number of persons doing it, the fact of the thing being done by several parties and not by one made no difference.

Lord Bramwell went a little farther on an economical ground than his colleagues. He pointed out that the public interest was far from being clearly all on one side. The consumer, at all events, gains by the lowering of freights, and if the defendants could, as they alleged, keep up a continuous service through the year only by getting a practical monopoly of the trade for tea seasons, it would seem that more good than harm ensued to trade in the long run. We may add that the conspiracy argument was a rather weak one in the case. Lord Bramwell pointed out that the "conference" plan to prevent a similar plan from being carried out, under conceivable conditions, by some one great company or individual capitalist with equal effect. It is most fortunate that in this case the question is purely between competitors, so that it was not possible to import class sentiments of any kind into the argument or decision.

Let us try to sum up the results. What is actually decided is that there is nothing unlawful in a trader, or several traders acting in concert, giving preferential advantages to persons who deal with them, and not with a rival. But the decision, taken with the reasons given, affirms the wider principle that a combination to do something not unlawful by means not unlawful cannot be made into an offense or wrong by judicial surmise, as the results may be some way beneficial to the public. In other words, what may be called the extreme high view of the offense of conspiracy at common law is now finally untenable, if it was not already so. This, we think, is both good law and good sense.

It will be observed that the decision gives no countenance whatever to the employment of unlawful means for the attainment of even the most lawful ends. Neither does it effect the existence and proof of offenses, which are such that their essence, so to speak, is multiple of persons, riot and unlawful assembly for example. Neither does it legalize interference with another man's business without any corresponding benefit to one's own. Neither does it prevent the fact of concerted action from being often material, not as constituting in itself a species of offense or wrong, but as evidence of the intention of the persons acting, and so of the character of the act. Lord Hannon expressly pointed out that this might be important in determining whether selfish but legitimate gain to one's self or gratification and pleasure to another were the real object. There are some forms of injury which can only be effected by the combination of many persons. Thus if several persons agree not to deal at all with a particular individual, as this could not, under ordinary circumstances, be done by one person agreeing, it might well lead to the conclusion that their real object was to injure the individual. Boycotters will certainly get small aid or comfort from this. The judgment of the House of Lords, it may be worth while to add, does not either strengthen or weaken the decision of the Queen's bench division in the "Trade-Union" cases of July last. That decision turns on a construction of the word "intimidates" in the Conspiracy and Protection of Property act, 1875, and was guided mainly by the consideration that Parliament could not have intended in 1875 to make the law more stringent than it had been made in 1871, as, indeed, reference to Hansard which the court might not judicially refer to plainly shows that it did not.

In short, those persons who thought the House of Lords could annul the tenth commandment will be disappointed now as those, if any, who act upon the assumption that it has abrogated any of the others will be more disappointed hereafter. Foul Play Suspected. GREENVILLE, S. C., Jan. 29.—Sany Young (colored) and his two children were burned to death at their home in this city shortly before 1 o'clock this morning. The charred limbs and bodies were taken from the ruins by the firemen. Young's widow says when she woke the house was in flames. She escaped by a door, but Young attempted to save his two children, aged six and three respectively, and all three perished. There is a suspicion of foul play, but the evidence before the coroner's jury to-day did not confirm the suspicion. The three people were horribly burned that nothing was left but the trunks of their bodies. FOR DYSPEPSIA, Indigestion, and Stomach Disorders, use BROWN'S IRON BITTERS. All Dealers keep it. \$1 per bottle. Genuine has trade-mark and crossed red lines on wrapper.

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