MANNERS

Culture and Dress

OF THE

Best American Society.

INCLUDING

*Social, Commercial and Legal Forms*

Letter Writing, Invitations, &c., also valuable suggestions on Self Culture and Home Training.

BY

RICHARD A. WELLS A.M.

INTRODUCTION BY

REV. WILLARD E. WATERBURY.

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Chapter 26.

ECLL-BRED people give careful attention to their personal appearance. If vanity, pride or prudery have frequently given to these attentions the names of coquetry, ambition or folly, it is no reason why they should be neglected.

First Impressions.

First impressions are apt to be permanent; it is therefore of importance that they should be favorable. The dress of an individual is that circumstance from which you first form your opinion of him. It is even more prominent than manner. It is indeed the only thing which is remarked in a casual encounter, or during the first interview.

What style is to our thoughts, dress is to our persons. It may supply the place of more solid qualities, and without it the most solid are of little avail. Numbers have owed their elevation to their attention to the toilet. Place, fortune, marriage have all been lost by neglecting it.
CONSISTENCY IN DRESS.

Your dress should always be consistent with your age and your natural exterior. That which looks ill on one person, will be agreeable on another. As success in this respect depends almost entirely upon particular circumstances and personal peculiarities, it is impossible to give general directions of much importance. We can only point out the field for study and research, it belongs to each one's own genius and industry to deduce the results. However ugly you may be, rest assured that there is some style of habiliment which will make you passable.

PLAIN DRESSING.

The plainest dress is always the most genteel, and a lady that dresses plainly will never be dressed unfashionably.

Next to plainness in every well-dressed lady is neatness of dress and taste in the selection of colors.

TOO RICH DRESSING.

If we were allowed to say anything to the ladies concerning dress in a dictatorial way, and were sure of being obeyed, we should order them generally to dress less. How often do we see a female attired in the height of fashion, perfectly gorgeous in costume, sweeping along the dusty street, perspiring under the weight of her finery—dressed, in fact, in a manner fit only for a carriage. This is a very mistaken
and absurd fashion, and such people would be astonished to see the simplicity of real aristocracy as regards dress.

**Elegant Dressing.**

Some ladies perhaps imagining that they are deficient in personal charms—and we are willing to believe that there are such, although the Chesterfieldian school of philosophers would ridicule the idea—endeavor to make their clothes the spell of their attraction. With this end in view, they labor by lavish expenditure to supply in expensive adornment what they lack in beauty of form or feature. Unfortunately for their success, elegant dressing does not depend upon expense. A lady might wear the costliest silks that Italy could produce, adorn herself with laces from Brussels which years of patient toil are required to fabricate; she might carry the jewels of an Eastern princess around her neck and upon her wrists and fingers, yet still, in appearance, be essentially vulgar. These were as nothing without grace, without adaptation, without a harmonious blending of colors, without the exercise of discrimination and good taste.

**Appropriate and Becoming Dress.**

The most appropriate and becoming dress is that which so harmonizes with the figure as to make the apparel unobserved. When any particular portion of it excites the attention, there is a defect, for the
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details should not present themselves first but the result of perfect dressing should be an elegant woman, the dress commanding no especial regard. Men are but indifferent judges of the material of a lady's dress; in fact, they care nothing about the matter. A modest countenance and pleasing figure, habited in an inexpensive attire, would win more attention from men, than awkwardness and effrontery, clad in the richest satins and the costliest gems.

NEGLECT OF DRESS.

There are occasionally to be found among both sexes, persons who neglect their dress through a ridiculous affectation of singularity, and who take pride in being thought utterly indifferent to their personal appearance. Millionaires are very apt to manifest this characteristic, but with them it generally arises through a miserly penuriousness of disposition; their imitators, however, are even more deficient than they in common sense.

HABITUAL ATTENTION TO ATTIRE.

Lavater has urged that persons habitually atten-tive to their attire, display the same regularity in their domestic affairs. He also says: "Young women who neglect their toilet and manifest little concern about dress, indicate a general disregard of order—a mind but ill adapted to the details of house-keeping—a deficiency of taste and of the qualities that inspire love."
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An Amiable Exterior.

The desire of exhibiting an amiable exterior is essentially requisite in a young lady, for it indicates cleanliness, sweetness, a love of order and propriety, and all those virtues which are attractive to their associates, and particularly to those of the other sex.

Chesterfield asserts that a sympathy goes through every action of our lives, and that he could not help conceiving some idea of people's sense and character from the dress in which they appeared when introduced to him.

Another writer has remarked that he never yet met with a woman whose general style of dress was chaste, elegant and appropriate, that he did not find her on further acquaintance to be, in disposition and mind, an object to admire and love.

Dress the Appropriate Finish of Beauty.

The fair sex have the reputation of being passionately fond of dress, and the love of it has been said to be natural to women. We are not disposed to deny it, but we do not regard it as a weakness nor a peculiarity to be condemned. Dress is the appropriate finish of beauty. Some one has said that, "Without dress a handsome person is a gem, but a gem that is not set. But dress," he further remarks, "must be consistent with the graces and with nature."
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Taste.

"Taste," says a celebrated divine, "requires a congruity between the internal character and the external appearance; the imagination will involuntarily form to itself an idea of such a correspondence. First ideas are, in general, of considerable consequence. I should therefore think it wise in the female world to take care that their appearance should not convey a forbidding idea to the most superficial observer."

Simplicity in Dress.

As we have already remarked, the secret of perfect dressing is simplicity, costliness being no essential element of real elegance. We have to add that everything depends upon the judgment and good taste of the wearer. These should always be a harmonious adaptation of one article of attire to another, as also to the size, figure and complexion of the wearer. There should be a correspondence in all parts of a lady's toilet, so as to present a perfect entirety. Thus, when we see a female of light, delicate complexion, penciling her eyebrows until they are positively black, we cannot but entertain a contempt for her lack of taste and good sense. There is a harmony in nature's tints which art can never equal, much less improve.

Delicacy and Harmony.

A fair face is generally accompanied by blue eyes,
light hair, eyebrows and lashes. There is a delicacy and harmonious blending of correspondences which are in perfect keeping; but if you sully the eyebrows with blackness, you destroy all similitude of feature and expression, and almost present a deformity.

Using Paints.

We cannot but allude to the practice of using paints, a habit strongly to be condemned. If for no other reason than that poison lurks beneath every layer, inducing paralytic affections and premature death, they should be discarded—but they are a disguise which deceives no one, even at a distance; there is a ghastly deathliness in the appearance of the skin after it has been painted, which is far removed from the natural hue of health.

Color and Complexion.

A lady has to consider what colors best suit her complexion. Blue, for instance, never looks well upon those of a dark complexion; nor pink upon those of a florid complexion. Yellow is a very trying color, and can only be worn by the rich-toned brunettes. Attention to these particulars is most important. Longitudinal stripes in a lady's dress make her appear taller than she really is, and are, therefore, appropriate for a person of short stature. Flounces give brevity to the figure, and are therefore only adapted to tall persons.
Every article of dress should be well made, however plain the style, or inexpensive the material.

Dress to suit the Occasion.

The dress should always be adapted to the occasion. Nothing is more proper for the morning than a loosely made dress, high in the neck, with sleeves fastened at the wrist with a band, and belt. It looks well, and is convenient. For a walking dress, the skirt should be allowed only just to touch the ground; for while a train looks well in the drawing-room, and is inconspicuous in a carriage or opera-box, it serves a very ignoble purpose in sweeping the street. Ladies' shoes for walking should be substantial, to keep the feet dry and warm. If neatly made and well fitted, they need not be clumsy.

Hats are now fashionable for morning walks, and they are both pretty and convenient.

Evening Dress.

Evening dress means full dress, in the common acceptance of the term. It will serve for dinner, opera, evening-party, everything but the ball. Ball dresses are special. With regard to evening dress and ball dress no explicit directions can be given. The fashion-books declare what is to be worn, and the dressmaker is the interpreter of the fashion. Still, individual taste should be exerted, and no slavish adherence given in to fashion at the sacrifice of grace or elegance.
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BRIGHT-COLORED GLOVES.

Deep and bright-colored gloves are always in bad taste; very few persons are careful enough in selecting gloves. Light boots and dark dresses, dark boots and light dresses, are indicative of bad taste. A girl with neatly and properly dressed feet, with neat, well-fitting gloves, smoothly-arranged hair, and a clean well-made dress,—who walks well, and speaks well, and above all, acts politely and kindly, is a lady. Fine acts and obtrusive airs are abashed before such propriety and good taste. Fine feathers do not always make fine birds.

NEVER DRESS ABOVE YOUR STATION.

Never dress above your station; it is a grievous mistake, and leads to great evils, besides being the proof of an utter want of taste.

Care more for the nice fitting of your dress than for its material. An ill-made silk is not equal in its appearance to the plainest material well made.

THINKING ABOUT YOUR DRESS.

Never appear to be thinking about your dress, but wear the richest clothes and the plainest with equal simplicity. Nothing so destroys a good manner as thinking of what we have on. Never keep a morning visitor waiting while you change your dress. You ought always to be fit to be seen; and it is better to present yourself in your ordinary attire than
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to be guilty of the ill-breeding of keeping your acquaintance waiting while you make an elaborate toilette.

Never spend more than you can afford on your dress; but endeavor by care, neatness, and ingenuity, to make up for expenditure.

MORNING-DRESS FOR HOME.

A dress for morning wear at home may be more simple than for visiting, or for hotel or boarding-house. A busy housewife will find it desirable to protect her dress with an ample apron. The hair should be plainly arranged, without ornament.

MORNING-DRESS FOR VISITOR.

For breakfasting in public or at the house of a friend a wrapper is not allowable. A dress with a closely-fitting waist should be worn. This for summer may be of cambric, or other wash-goods, either white or figured; in winter plain woolen goods, simply made should be adopted.

MORNING-DRESS FOR STREET.

The morning-dress for the street should be plain in color and make, and of serviceable material. The dress should be short enough to clear the ground. White skirts are out of place, the colored ones now found everywhere in stores being much more appropriate.

In stormy weather a large waterproof with hood
will be found more convenient than an umbrella, which is troublesome to carry and often difficult to manage.

The hat should be plain and inexpensive, matching the dress as nearly as possible, and displaying no superfluous ornament.

Jewelry is out of place in any of the errands which take a lady from her home in the morning. Lisle thread gloves in summer and cloth ones in winter will be found more serviceable than kid ones. Linen collar and cuffs are more suitable than elaborate neck and wrist dressing. Walking-boots of kid should be worn.

Business Woman’s Dress.

There are many women who are engaged in business of some sort that it seems necessary that they should have a distinct dress suited to their special wants. This dress need not be so peculiar as to mark them for objects of observation, but still it should differ from the ordinary walking-costume. Its material as a rule should, be more serviceable, better fitted to endure the vicissitudes of weather, and of plain colors, such as browns or grays.

For winter wear, waterproof tastefully made up is the very best material for a business woman’s dress.

This costume should not be made with plain simplicity, but it should at least dispense with all superfluities in the way of trimming. It should be made with special reference to easy locomotion and to the free use of the hands and arms.
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THE PROMENADE.

The dress for the promenade admits of greater richness in material and variety in trimming than that of the business or errand dress. It should however, display no two incongruous colors, and had best be in one tint, except where a contrasting or harmonizing color is introduced in the way of ornament.

In the country walking-dresses must be made for service rather than display, and what would be perfectly appropriate for the streets of a city would be entirely out of place on the muddy, unpaved walks or paths of a small town or among the unpretending population of a country neighborhood.

MATERIAL OF A WALKING SUIT.

The material of a walking-suit may be as rich or as plain as the wearer's taste may dictate or means justify, but it must always be well made and never be allowed to grow shabby. It is better to avoid bright colors and use them only in decoration. Black has come to be adopted very generally for street-dresses; but while it is becoming for most individuals, it gives to the promenade a somewhat sombre look.

The dress for the promenade should be in perfect harmony with itself. One article should not be new and another shabby. The gloves should not be of one color, the bonnet of another, and the parasol of
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a third. All the colors worn should at least harmonize.

A lady who wishes to maintain a reputation for always being well dressed will be scrupulous in suiting her toilet to the special occasion for which it is worn. She will not appear on foot upon the streets in a dress suited only for the carriage, nor will she either walk or drive in a costume appropriate alone for the house.

CARROUGE-DRESS.

The dress for a drive through the streets of a city or along a fashionable drive or park can not be too rich in material. Silks, velvets and laces are all appropriate, with rich jewelry and costly furs.

The carriage-dress may be long enough to trail if fashion so indicates, though many prefer using the walking-dress length.

For country driving a different style of dress is required as protection against the mud or dust. It seems hardly necessary to describe the dress for country driving, we presume every lady is capable of selecting for herself, since the dress is worn for protection and not for show.

RIDING-DRESS.

There is no place where a woman appears to better advantage than upon horseback. We will take it for granted that our lady has acquired properly the art of riding. Next she must be provided with
a suitable habit. Her habit should fit perfectly without being tight. The skirt should be full and long enough to cover the feet, while it is best to omit the extreme length, which subjects the dress to mud-spatterings and may prove a serious entanglement in case of accident.

Waterproof is the most serviceable for a riding costume. Something lighter may be worn in summer. In the lighter costume a row or two of shot should be stitched in the bottom of the breadths to keep the skirt from blowing up in the wind.

The riding-dress should be made to fit the waist closely and buttoned nearly to the throat.

Coat sleeves should come to the wrist, with linen cuffs beneath them.

It is well to have the waist attached to a skirt of the usual length and the long skirt fastened over it, so that if any mishap obliges the lady to dismount she may easily remove the long overskirt and still be properly dressed.

The shape of the hat will vary with the fashion, but it should always be plainly trimmed; and if feathers are worn, they must be fastened so that the wind cannot possibly blow them over the wearer's eyes.

All ruffling, puffing or bows in the trimming of a riding-dress is out of place. If trimming is used it should be put on in perfectly flat bands or be of braiding.

The hair must be put up compactly, neither curls
nor veil should be allowed to stream in the wind. No jewelry except what is absolutely required to fasten the dress, and that of the plainest kind, is allowable.

DRESS FOR RECEIVING CALLS.

The dress of a hostess differs with the occasion on which she is called to receive her callers, and also with the social position and means of the wearer.

A lady whose mornings are devoted to domestic affairs may and should receive a casual caller in her ordinary morning-dress, which should be neat yet plain, devoid of superfluous ornaments or jewelry.

If a lady appoints a special day for the reception of calls, she should be dressed with more care to do honor to her visitors. Her dress may be of silk or other goods suitable to the season or to her position, but must be of plain colors.

White plain linen collar and cuffs belong to the plain morning-dress; lace may be worn with the ceremonious dress, and a certain amount of jewelry is also admissible.

For New Year's or other special calls the dress should be rich, and may be elaborately trimmed.

DRESS OF HOSTESS.

The hostess' dress should be rich in material, but subdued in tone, in order that she may not eclipse any of her guests. A young hostess should wear a
dress of rich silk, black or dark in color, with collar and cuffs of fine lace, and plain jewelry, or, if the dinner is by gaslight, glittering stones.

An elderly lady may wear satin or velvet, with rich lace.

DINNER-DRESS.

We do not in this country, as in England, expose the neck and arms at a dinner-party. These should be covered, if not by the dress itself, then by lace or muslin overwaist.

DRESS OF GUESTS AT DINNER-PARTY.

The dress of a guest at a dinner-party is less showy than that for evening; still, it may be rich. Silks and velvets for winter, and light goods for summer, which latter may be worn over silk, are the most appropriate.

Young unmarried ladies may wear dresses of lighter materials and tints than married ones. Middle-aged and married ladies should wear silks heavier in quality and richer in tone, and elderly ladies satins and velvets.

All the light neutral tints and black, purple, dark green, garnet, dark blue, brown and fawn are suited for dinner dress. But whatever color the dress may be, it is best to try its effect by gaslight and daylight both, since many a color which will look well in daylight may look extremely ugly in gaslight.

A lady can lay no claim to delicacy and refine-
ment no matter how richly or well dressed she may appear in public, if she do not give an equal amount of attention to her home-dress. This dress need not be expensive and should not be elaborate, but neat, tasteful, of perfect fit and becoming colors.

**Ordinary Evening-dress.**

A lady should always be prepared for casual callers in the evening. Her dress should be tasteful and becoming, made with a certain amount of ornament and worn with lace and jewelry. Silks are the most appropriate for this dress, but all the heavy woolen fabrics for winter and the lighter lawns and organdies for summer, elegantly made, are suitable. The colors should be rich and warm for winter, and knots of bright ribbon should be worn in the hair and at the throat. The former should be dressed plainly, with no ornament save a ribbon. Artificial flowers are out of place, and glittering gems are only worn on more important occasions.

**Dress for Evening Call.**

Those who make a casual evening call will dress in similar style, though somewhat more elaborate. A hood should not be worn unless it is intended to remove it during the call. Otherwise a bonnet should be worn.

**Dress for Social Party.**

For the evening-party the rules just given regard-
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ing dress will apply, except that more latitude is allowed in the choice of colors, trimmings, etc. Dresses covering the arms and shoulders should be worn; or if they are cut low in the neck and with short sleeves, puffed illusion waists or something similar should be used to cover the neck and arms.

Dark silks are very dressy—relieved by white lace and glittering gems—they are admirable. Wearing gloves is optional. If worn, they should be of some light tint harmonizing with the dress.

THE SOIREE AND BALL.

These occasions call for the richest dress. The former usually requires dark colors and heavy material, the latter lighter tints and goods. The richest velvets, the brightest and most delicate tints in silks, the most expensive laces, low neck and short sleeves, elaborate head-dress, the greatest display of gems, flowers, etc., all belong more or less to these occasions.

Still, it is possible to be over-dressed. It is best to aim at being as well dressed as the rest, yet not to outdo them or render one's self conspicuous.

White kid gloves and white satin boots belong to these costumes unless the overdress is of black lace, when black satin boots or slippers are required.

The dress to be worn in public should always be suited to the place where it is to appear. For church the material should be rich rather than showy. For the opera the extreme of brilliancy is allowable.
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DRESS FOR CHURCH.

The dress for church should be plain and simple. It should be of dark, plain colors for winter, and there should be no superfluous trimming or jewelry. It should, in fact, be the plainest of promenade-dresses, since church is not a place for the display of elaborate toilets, and no woman of consideration would wish to make her own expensive and showy toilet an excuse to another woman, who could not afford to dress in a similar manner, for not attending church.

DRESS FOR THE THEATRE.

The ordinary promenade-dress is suitable for the theatre, with the addition of a handsome shawl or cloak, which may be thrown aside if uncomfortable. Either the bonnet or hat may be worn. In some cities it is customary to remove the bonnet in the theatre—a custom which is sanctioned by good sense and a consideration of those who sit behind, but which has not yet the authority of etiquette. The dress should be, in all respects, plain, without any attempt at display. Gloves should be dark, and harmonize with the costume.

DRESS FOR LECTURE AND CONCERT.

Lecture and concert-halls call for a little more elaborate toilet. Silk is the most appropriate material for the dress, and should be worn with lace collar and cuffs and jewelry. White or light kid gloves
should be worn. A rich shawl or opera cloak is an appropriate finish. The latter may be kept on the shoulders during the evening. The handkerchief should be fine and delicate; the fan of a color to harmonize with the dress.

**Dress for the Opera.**

The opera calls out the richest of all dresses. A lady goes to the opera not only to see but to be seen, and her dress must be adopted with a full realization of the thousand gaslights which will bring out its merits or defects.

The material of the dress should be heavy enough to bear the crush of the place, rich in color and splendid in its arrangement. The headdress should be of flowers, ribbons, lace or feathers—whatever may be the prevailing style—the head should be uncovered. If, however, it is found necessary to have the head protected, a bonnet or hat of the lightest character should be worn.

Jewelry of the heaviest and richest description is worn on this occasion, and there is no place where the glitter of gems will be seen to better advantage.

White kid gloves or those of light delicate tints should be worn.

A most important adjunct to an opera-costume is the cloak or wrap. This may be of white or of some brilliant color. Scarlet and gold, white and gold, green and gold or Roman stripe are all very effective when worn with appropriate dresses.
Either black or white lace may be adopted with advantage in an opera-dress. Purple, pink, orange, and most light tints require black lace, while the neutral shades may be worn with either black or white.

Yellow and blue should be avoided in an opera-dress, as neither bears the light well. Green requires gold as a contrasting color; crimson, black.

The fan, the bouquet and handkerchief must all have due consideration and be in keeping with the other portions of the dress. Thus a lady in pink should avoid a bouquet in which scarlet flowers predominate.

CROQUET AND SKATING COSTUMES.

Both call for a greater brilliancy in color than any other out-of-door costume. They should both be short, displaying a handsomely fitting boot.

Croquet gloves should be soft and washable; skating gloves thick and warm.

The hat for croquet should have a broad brim, so as to shield the face from the sun and render a parasol unnecessary.

Velvet trimmed with fur, with turban hat of the same, and gloves and boots also fur bordered, combine to make the most elegant skating costume imaginable. But any of the soft, warm, bright-colored woolen fabrics are quite as suitable, if not so rich. A costume of Scotch plaid is in excellent taste. Silk is unsuitable for a skating costume.
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The boot should be amply loose, or the wearer will suffer with cold or frozen feet.

Costumes for Country and Sea-side.

We cannot give a full description of the wardrobe which the lady of fashion desires to take with her to the country or sea-side. But there are a few general rules which apply to many things, and which all must more or less observe. Let the wardrobe be ever so large there must be a certain number of costumes suited for ordinary wear. Thus, dresses, while they may be somewhat brighter in tint than good taste would justify in the streets of a city, must yet be durable in quality and of material which can be washed. The brim of the hat should be broad to protect the face from the sun. The fashion of making hats of shirred muslin is a very sensible one, as it enables them to be done up when they are soiled. The boots should be strong and durable. A waterproof is an indispensable article to the sojourner at country resorts.

Bathing Costumes.

The bathing-dress should be made of flannel. A soft gray tint is the neatest, as it does not soon fade and grow ugly from contact with salt water. It may be trimmed with bright worsted braid. The best style is a loose sacque or the yoke waist, both of them to be belted in and falling about midway between the knee and the ankle. Full trousers gathered in-
to a band at the ankle, an oilskin cap to protect the hair, which becomes harsh in the salt water, and socks of the color of the dress complete the costume.

Costumes for Traveling.

There is no place where the true lady is more plainly indicated than in traveling. A lady's traveling costume should be neat and plain, without superfluous ornament of any kind.

The first consideration in a traveling-dress is comfort; the second, protection from the dust and stains of travel.

For a short journey, in summer a linen duster may be put on over the ordinary dress, in winter a waterproof cloak may be used in the same way.

But a lady making a long journey will find it more convenient to have a traveling-suit made expressly. Linen is used in summer, as the dust is so easily shaken from it and it can be readily washed. In winter a waterproof dress and sacque are the most serviceable.

There are a variety of materials especially adapted for traveling costumes, of soft neutral tints and smooth surfaces, which do not catch dust. These should be made up plain and short.

The underskirts should be colored woolen in winter, linen in summer. Nothing displays vulgarity and want of breeding so much as a white petticoat in traveling.

Gloves should be of Lisle thread in summer and
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cloth in winter. Thick soled boots, stout and durable. The hat or bonnet should be plainly trimmed and protected by a large veil. Velvet is not fit for a traveling-hat, as it catches and retains the dust.

Plain linen collars and cuffs finish the costume. The hair should be put up in the plainest manner possible.

A waterproof and a warm woolen shawl are indispensable in traveling. Also a satchel or basket, in which may be kept a change of collars, cuffs, gloves, handkerchiefs and toilet articles.

A traveling-dress should be well supplied with pockets. The waterproof should have large pockets; so should the sacque.

In an underskirt there should be a pocket in which to carry all money not needed for immediate use. 'The latter may be entrusted to the portemonnaie in the ordinary pocket, or in the bosom of the dress.

GOING TO EUROPE.

"An elastic valise and a hand-satchel, at the side of which is strapped a waterproof," are enough baggage to start with. "In the valise changes of linen, consisting of two garments, night-gowns and 'angel' drawers. These latter are made of cotton or linen, and consist of a waist cut like a plain corset-cover, but extending all in one piece in front with the drawers, which button on the side. Usually the waists of these drawers are made without sleeves or
with only a short cap at the top of the arm, but for a European trip it is advisable to add sleeves to the waist, so that cuffs—paper cuffs if preferred—can be buttoned to them. Thus, in one garment easily made, easily removed, and as easily washed as a chemise, is comprised drawers, chemise, corset-cover and undersleeves, the whole occupying no more room than any single article of underwear, and saving the trouble attending the care and putting on of many pieces. A gauze flannel vest underneath is perhaps a necessary precaution, and ladies who wear corsets can place them next to this. Over these the single garment mentioned adds all that is required in the way of underwear, except two skirts and small light hair-cloth tournure.

"Of dresses three are required—one a traveling-dress of brown de bege, a double calico wrapper and a black or hair-striped silk. The latter is best, because it is light, because it does not take dust, because it does not crush easily and because by judicious making and management it can be arranged into several costumes, which will serve for city sight-seeing throughout the journey and be good afterward to bring home. Then, if there is room, an old black silk or black alpaca skirt may be found useful, and an embroidered linen or batiste polonaise from last summer's store.

"Add to these a black sash, a couple of belts, an umbrella with chatelaine and requisite attachments, a pair of neat-fitting boots and perhaps slippers, some
cuffs, small standing collars and a few yards of fraising, a striped or cheddar shawl, a 'cloud' for evenings on deck, some handkerchiefs and gray and brown kid gloves, and, with a few necessary toilet articles, you have an outfit that will take you over the world and can all be comprised in the space indicated, leaving room for a small whisk broom, essential to comfort, and a large palm-leaf fan.

"Stores, such as lemons, a bottle of glycerine, spirits of ammonia and Florida water, which are really all that are required—the first for sickness, the last three for the toilet—should be packed in a small case or box in such a way that the flasks containing the liquid will not come in contact with the fruit. After landing the box will not be wanted, as the lemons will have been used and the flasks can be carried with dressing-combs and the like in the satchel."

Wedding-outfit.

Although the fashions in make and material of the bride's dress are continually varying, yet there are certain unchangeable rules in regard to it. Thus a bride in full bridal costume should be dressed entirely in white from head to foot.

The Wedding-dress.

The dress may be of silk, brocade, satin, lace, merino, alpaca, crape, lawn or muslin. The veil may be of lace, tulle or illusion, but it must be long
and full. It may or may not fall over the face. The flowers of the bridal wreath and bouquet must be orange blossoms, either artificial or natural, or other white flowers.

The dress should be high and the arms covered. No jewelry should be worn save pearls or diamonds. Slippers of white satin and gloves of kid, make the dress complete.

The simplicity in bridal toilettes, adopted in continental Europe, is more commendable than that of England and America, where the bridal dress is made as expensive and as heavy with rich and costly lace as it can possibly be made.

Dress of Bridegroom.

The bridegroom should wear a black or dark-blue dresscoat, light pantaloons, vest and necktie, and white kid gloves.

Dress of Bridesmaids.

The dresses of the bridesmaids are not so elaborate as that of the bride. They also should be of white, but they may be trimmed with delicately colored flowers and ribbons. White tulle worn over pale pink or blue silk, and caught up with blush-roses or forget-me-nots, makes a charming bridesmaid's costume.

If the bridesmaids wear veils, they should be shorter than that of the bride.
DRESS.

TRAVELING-DRESS OF BRIDE.

The traveling-dress of a bride may be of silk, or of any of the fabrics used for walking-dresses. It should be of some neutral tint, the bonnet and gloves harmonizing in color. A bridal traveling costume may be more elaborately trimmed than an ordinary traveling-dress; but if the bride wishes to attract but little attention she will not make herself conspicuous by too showy a dress.

A bride is sometimes married in traveling costume; but when this is the case, the wedding is in private, and the bridal pair start out at once upon their journey.

MARRIAGE OF A WIDOW.

A widow should never be married in white. Widows and brides of middle age should choose delicate neutral tints, with white lace collar and cuffs and white gloves. The costumes of the bridesmaids must take their tone from that of the bride, and be neither gayer, lighter nor richer than hers.

Brides and bridesmaids should wear their wedding dresses at the wedding-reception.

DRESS OF GUESTS AT WEDDING-RECEPTION.

The guests at an evening reception should appear in full evening-dress. No one should attend in black or wear mourning. Those in mourning should lay aside black for gray or lavender.
For a morning reception the dress should be the richest street costume, with white gloves. If the blinds are closed and the gas lighted at the morning reception, then evening-dress is worn by the guests.

The Trousseau.

The trousseau may be as large and expensive as the circumstances of the bride will admit, but this expense is generally put upon outside garments.

There are a great many other articles which must be supplied in a requisite number, and these all brides must have, and of a certain similarity in general character and make. These are usually furnished by the bride’s parents, and are as complete and expensive as their taste dictates, or their means justifies.