



to take the head bridesmaid in to break the... The order of precedence is as follows: The bride and the groom, the bride's father with the mother of the bridegroom's father with the mother of the bride, next the best man with the chief bridesmaid, followed by the rest of the bridesmaids with their attendant groomsmen.

FIVE FINE FROCKS.

A Quintette of Loveliness in Satin Chiffons and Old Lace. A lovely gown is of crême satin cloth, with a coat bodice covered in tan-color guipure, and has white-satin revers, covered in the same guipure. The brown net worn with this smart gown has tufts of red roses for relief.

A soft Indian muslin frock in crême color has broad gold tissue stripes upon it, and crême chiffon is wound round the waist and neck, and forms the beautifully of the extremely pretty hat worn with this frock.

A smart frock is of pink crepe de chine with satin stripes, the bodice having revers of crême lace, bound with crême satin. The hat to accompany this frock is of transparent black net, with wide brim upturned from the face, and a large tuft of white opeyres upstanding at the side.

A lovely white reception-gown is of white satin en train, with coquilles of silver-spangled lace, festooned in vandyke fashion on the edge of the beautifully young train. The seams are hidden under a thick embroidery of silver.

Another exquisite gown has a brocade-train of blue-silk net with a brocaded pattern of red and pink convolvuli, each flower having a diamond drop glistening in its heart. The train is edged with a trimming of crystal edging, and the corsage has a knot of crême velvet for a perfect touch of coloring to a perfect gown.

OSTRACIZED DIVORCEES.

Duke of Marlborough's Mother One of the Three Socially Recognized. Although divorce is just as much a recognized legal institution as marriage in all countries of Europe, save Italy, yet divorced women, even when the decree has been granted in their favor, are pitilessly excluded from every royal and imperial court of the Old World.

And of these three only the Marchioness of Blandford is, strictly speaking, a divorcee; her marriage to the late Duke of Marlborough having been dissolved in consequence of his flagrant immorality and well-nigh incredible cruelties. Of the other two the Countess Festetics, sister of the Duke of Hamilton, was first united with the now reigning Prince of Monaco, snatched by the Vatican on the ground that she had been wedded under compulsion; while the Duchess Rignano, sister of Prince Doria, and favorite lady in waiting of Queen Marguerite, is merely judicially separated from her ignominious husband, who has been cast off by his own relatives.

A CELESTIAL RECEPTION.

Apartments and Costumes as Much as Possible Like Those of China. A very pleasing and somewhat novel way of entertaining one's friends is to give what the invitations call "an afternoon in China." The rooms should be decorated with Chinese carvings, hangings, ornaments, etc.

The program might include the showing of photographs and curiosities, and a talk by a man or woman who had visited the East, or, if this is an impossibility to obtain, one who had written to read up the countless literature upon that subject to be found nowadays, and to so retail this information as to give the impression of first-hand ideas. The girls who serve refreshments should be in Chinese dress, and should have a little apartment carefully fitted up to simulate one of the picturesque restaurants. The food may be tea in shallow cups, without milk and very strong, and slipped with a dash of any potent spices. Preserved fruits, odd nuts, and small cakes should be the sole other refreshments.

Bob White. (Monroe H. Rosenfeld, in New York Clipper.) Old friend, I hear your whistle upon the gigzag rail; Your cheery voice of welcome rings on the autumn gale; When scarlet leaves and golden dance in the autumn gale; In the arms of my old friend, With a vim, Bob White!

A whole-souled little fellow in speckled coat and crown. You need not summer's passing, Or skies that darkly frown; While other birds are quiet, Your call comes to delight; And that is why I like you Most of all, Bob White.

Philosopher in feathers! I'd join your happy school, The heart forever sighing up the countenance in the fool! Happy-go-lucky fellow, The chilly breeze is light, There's always summer sunshine In your heart, Bob White!

The world has so much sorrow, We need your lively call; A soul to face all troubles, Ah! that's the best of all! The snow will soon be falling, Nor bill nor vane in sight, But I have learned your lesson In my heart, Bob White!

Velvet Gowns. Velvet is treated in many new fashions, and among them patterns are pressed out upon the pile in stripes, after it has gone through the usual finishing process, and, indeed, the effect known as "mirror" is also a final process, which can be applied to almost any kind of velvet. A beautiful gown in the pressed velvet of royal-blue tone, opened at the side of the skirt to show a fever of white tulle, the bodice and skirt appear to be cut in one, but were, in fact, united beneath a white satin revers, and opened at the neck with white satin revers, over a vest of fine embroidery, with a jabot of lace in front.

In Personal Vein. Georg Ebers has, as usual, written a new novel for the Christmas market. It is entitled "Im Blauen Hecht," and is set in the sixteenth century. Senor Enrique Trujillo, editor of the Cuban revolutionary organ, is a typical Cuban: short and dark, with glittering black eyes and a nervous manner. He is one of the leaders in the movement, and is trusted by all of the revolutionists.

The Prince of Montenegro is a great admirer of Gladstone, and recently sent the following greeting through a friend, who was told to say "where the Prince of Gladstone has fallen freedom has sprung up from the ground. And add that I hold his name in my heart of hearts." Another poor fellow, who finds himself rich by Kafir speculation in London, is Florence O'Driscoll, a once penniless engineer, who came over to this country as a delegate to our world's exhibition. He has since figured conspicuously in the mining boom, and Harold Frederic says he could retire to-day with a fortune of \$2,000,000.

THE AWFULLY FAT WOMAN.

What She Must Do to Reduce Her Adipose Tissue. In large cities, says Womanland, middle-aged women who through gymnastic and physical-culture schools to learn how to reduce the too abundant flesh and keep off the rheumatism, which is too often an accompaniment. The woman who does her own housework has most of her muscles called into exercise every day, and the danger with her is that they are over-fatigued. Much relief can be received by sponging every night after bath with the following inexpensive lotion: Two ounces of spirits of ammonia, 2 ounces of spirits of camphor, 11-2 cups of sea-salt, 1 cup of alcohol, and 1 quart of rain-water. The woman who does her own housework can remedy the thickness by frequent bathing in cool water, and before retiring rubbing in some good cream. In rubbing the wrinkles should be rubbed against, so as to rub them out, and it is as much in the rubbing as in the cream. A nice bit of soft, white flannel rubbed several times daily over the face will be beneficial, and she should double chin detracts from her good looks, by judiciously rubbing downward, get rid of the superfluity.

A REGAL GOWN.

Of Mandarin Tinted Satin Noire, with Soft Cream-White Chiffon. The new tints designed by the fashion- autocrats to prevail in the coming season were amply an evidence—for instance, that of the rich and eminently becoming hue known as the "mandarin," which is the color chosen by Viorin in his representation of an exceedingly striking gown of satin moire, glistening with silver ornaments. Soft ruffles of creamy lace festoon the hem of the full skirt and train,

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THE HOME CONCERT. (Drawn by R. Franck, from the painting by F. Andreotti.)

And are caught at intervals with chiffon rosettes. The sleeves are of white Brussels net, and have shoulder-straps of black lace, with diamond buckles. A regal gown is of an exquisite shade of lime green, in an exquisite shade of lime green, the bodice being cut very low, and the huge sleeves are held by narrow shoulder-straps of velvet. A magnificent gown, worn by a handsome chaplain with powdered hair, is of ecru-bianc satin with loose sprays of pink roses on the bodice, and falling down the skirt. Another exquisite gown is of velvet brocade, the ground being crême color, and the bold pattern of gigantic red roses, one being sufficient to extend across the whole front of the corsage.

Middle-Aged Plaits.

Fashionable elderly women are this season wearing plaits of large sizes, but in black, with broad bars of black satin or lustrous velvet, and lustrous cords silks, marked with inch-wide bars of mauve, damson, or drab-gray satin.

A NEW-STYLE GARMENT. Black chiffon, Marie Antoinette collar of lace, jet collars, and vests, and also fur, jet, and chiffon combined, are the materials used to decorate gowns made of these plaited fabrics.

An Election-Night Philosopher. (Washington Star.) He had pruned the downy pillow At the prudent hour of nine; And his bark was on the billow Where the dream-day's always fine; Let the rattle boom and sizzle; For a time, must have its fling. He was proof against disturbance—For the door-bell wouldn't ring.

Limpp the several wight dangled; Cold and stark the knob came out When they sought to will how mangled Bravest hopes were strewn about. He was happy with his nappie, Careless if man weep or sigh; For by the door-bell wouldn't ring.

A Short-Sighted Man. (Detroit Free Press.) Jinks: Our friend, Fobson, is extremely shortsighted. Oculist: He ought to come to me to be treated. Jinks: I'm afraid you can't help him. Oculist: Why not? Jinks: It isn't that kind. I asked him to lend me \$10, and he told me he couldn't see it.

A Real Marie Louise Gown. The Empress Marie Louise's bridal dress, in which she was married in 1804 to Napoleon I., is at present for sale in Rome. There is no "wait" to this historical robe, which is decorated with embroidered silk flowers and is considered

a masterpiece of embroidery. Marie Louise gave this dress to a court lady in Parma, who, after she was restored to health, after a serious illness, gave it to a church, where it was used on solemn occasions on the altar. Several times large sums were offered for this valuable piece of work, and in 1882 it was sold to an Italian Countess, who now wishes to sell it again. The Austrian



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are to be believed. In Paris whole velvet gowns are being worn by the women in the most exclusive set, and here regal-looking princess gowns of velvet are being designed for reception wear. They are trimmed lavishly with jeweled lace and fur. Jeweled girdles are also made to be worn with them. With cloth skirts, tight-fitting velvet jackets are to be worn, with tucks to match. The jackets are



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skin of any small animal. The paws and tail are used to form a girdle. The small head fastens the box, and the skin of the rest of the body acts as a short bolero jacket.

Delicious Fern Dishes.

New fern dishes for the centre of the dinner-table are of soft and exceedingly pretty. There are now jariniere, also.



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LIGHT ON THE MAYAN RECORDS.

Alleged Discovery of Key by Which Hieroglyphics May Be Read. (San Francisco Examiner.) The brilliant success of Mr. Joseph T. Goodman in deciphering the Maya hieroglyphics is not surprising to the friends who have known the inexhaustible patience, the tireless industry, and the resourceful ingenuity that he has devoted to the work; but it will startle the general public to learn that one of the greatest achievements of modern science has been thus unobtrusively wrought out. Mr. Goodman, from all accounts, appears to have found the key by which all the inscriptions left by the ancient civilized inhabitants may be interpreted. Of course, that does not mean that he has himself read all, even of those hieroglyphics that are available in facsimile. That will be a task for many patient students, and when it is done there will remain the still more extensive work of making reproductions of all the inscriptions that remain buried in the forests of Guatemala and Yucatan, and which no camera has ever approached. But Mr. Goodman has cleared the way, and any sufficiently trained investigator can walk in it after him. The hints he has already let fall of the abysmal antiquity of the Mayan civilization will make the complete exploitation of all the surviving hieroglyphic material the most fascinating undertaking that can engage the attention of anthropologists.

The condition of this Mayan problem suggests some interesting reflections about our own civilization. The Mayans had voluminous records on perishable materials, and doubtless thought that these would survive, or be copied, to the end of time. They did not reckon with the Spanish conquest, which brought destruction to almost all the writings on cloth and skins that existed at that time, and left us to reconstruct the history of the vanished nation from the few fragments of inscriptions cut in rock, too solid for the indolent conquerors to destroy. Mr. Goodman states that the chief need at present for the study of Mayan history is the accumulation of more material from the forests of Central America. The estimated cost of this work is about \$20,000 a year, and Mr. Arthur McEwen makes the excellent suggestion that the Academy of Sciences, by the California Academy of Sciences. The opportunity to prove its fitness for the custody of Lieke's noble gift is one that the academy should welcome. There is no other way in which California can place for itself in the scientific world at so little expense.

A Harper's Part at Home.

(Harper's Round-Table.) One of the sweetest things a girl can do is to receive friends graciously, particularly at home. In one's own house one can walk in it after him. The hints he has already let fall of the abysmal antiquity of the Mayan civilization will make the complete exploitation of all the surviving hieroglyphic material the most fascinating undertaking that can engage the attention of anthropologists.

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White and Gold Screens.

Four-fold white and gold screens are dubbed "empires," and of satin and velvet, and are indeed, "something worth having." If one's domicile is suitable for so much impressive, portable elegance.

Heirlooms for Rare Hits.

The copper by pewter chafing-dish is most highly esteemed because it conveys the idea of an heirloom—something in the family "whenever grandmother was a little girl." One has to think of all these things nowadays.

Curious Fur Ornaments.

Neckties of fur, 4 inches deep, are much in fashion. They are fashioned in front with a little animal's head and two or three tails, and finish at the back with a large velvet bow.

Resented Pillows.

The newest sofa pillows are finished with rosettes at each corner, instead of

TWO PRETTY CLOAKS.

A frill all around. The prettiest rosettes are made of innumerable loops of baby ribbon spread out like the petals of a flower, and of a shade to either match or harmonize with the cover.

A New Chiffon.

"Chiffon brilliant" is a new substitute for tulle. It comes in all colors, and is very glossy.

Wrapped in a Hunny's Skin.

A decided novelty in the way of fur trimming this year is the use of an entire

POINTS FOR BEST MAN

Must Perform Numerous and Delicate Duties.

HOW AND WHAT TO ADVISE HIM. If He Falls In Any of the Little But Important Tasks a Fine Wedding Ceremony May Be Ruined—He Requires a Great Deal of Savoir Faire

(Written for the Dispatch.)

Whenever a man is honored by some dear friend by a request to act as best man at the latter's wedding, the man so honored feels complimented and perplexed. He appreciates the honor, but he knows that to fulfill the position worthily is quite a task. He usually hunts up some woman friend who is supposed to know all about such things, and induces her to map out his numerous and delicate duties. Few women are capable of giving this advice, and some suggestions will be made here for their benefit.

The best man often has not the least idea of his duties, and yet he does not like to refuse an invitation which is such an undoubted compliment. For the bridegroom generally chooses his dearest friend to bear him company on this trying occasion, and some one in whom he has every confidence who will look smart enough to please even the most fastidious bridesmaid, to whom he is a very important person on this particular day. It is necessary that the best man should be a bachelor—a married man must not act in this capacity, even if the bridegroom were a widow.

If the bridegroom has an unmarried sister at hand, he would naturally ask her to officiate, but otherwise he will choose his dearest friend, and one who represents a creditable appearance during the ceremony.

The chief bridesmaid is supposed to be the particular care of the best man, and she is to be attentive to her as soon as she has taken the bridegroom off his hands. She takes a not unnatural interest in the bridegroom's election, and often urges him to choose some smart and handsome man in lieu of some precocious but less



FOR STREET WEAR. Magnifying friend. She endeavors to persuade him that handsome Captain Dashwood has always been his most intimate friend, and that it was quite a delusion she ever cared for Mr. Bookworm, who was his greatest chum at college, but is too plain and absent-minded to be of any value from a social point of view. The bridegroom must make his own choice in the matter, but it will be a good thing if that choice is as pleasing to the chief bridesmaid as it is to himself.

A best man requires a great deal of

savoir faire, and he has to work very hard to make the wedding go off well. He has to pay the fees, and he has also to attend the bridegroom on the wedding-day, and to take care of the bridegroom's hat. Why the bridegroom should always want to leave the church without his hat is one of those things which no one can understand, but that he does want to do is certain, and the best man must not forget to be mindful on this point.

The best man usually calls for the bridegroom on the morning of the wedding, and they generally take a hansom to the church. Arrived at the sacred edifice, and after the best man has carefully deposited the bridegroom's hat, with his own in the vestry, thus releasing himself from that responsibility, the two men have to endure the weary period of waiting for the bride, and it is about as trying a time as can well be imagined. When there are guests to be invited, the best man is sure to fancy something has gone wrong. They are then supposed to remain in the church till the bride appears, standing at the right-hand side of the altar.

The modern bridegroom sometimes lightens the period of waiting by talking to some of the friends who happen to be seated in the front row of pews, and no doubt this makes the time pass more quickly. The best man stands at the bridegroom's right hand during the ceremony, a little to the rear, and he follows the bridal party into the vestry at its conclusion, in company with the parents of the happy pair, a few of the most distinguished guests, or the chief bridesmaid. He signs the register, after it has been signed by the bride and bridegroom, their nearest relatives, and the chief bridesmaid. He says the fees to the clergyman while he is in the vestry after the ceremony.

With regard to the procession down the church, there are two ways of doing it, and the best man must find out beforehand how it is going to be arranged. As a general rule, the bridesmaids go down the church in the same order in which they came up, and in this case there is no particular place for the best man; he can go down as he likes as soon as the bridal procession has passed, and the bride's mother has followed, escorted by her son or some other near relation. When there are other near relations, the old fashion is occasionally revived, and the best man follows in the wake of the newly-married pair, in company with the chief bridesmaid, followed by the remainder of the bridesmaids, with their attendant swains.

The best man should be the last to leave the church, as he can make himself extremely useful by putting the ladies into their carriages. The crowd outside the church is often very great,

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