

MOTHERS' COLUMN.

THE TONGUE.

'The boneless tongue, so small and weak,
Can crush and kill,' declared the Greek.

'The tongue destroys a greater horde,
The Turk asserts, 'than does the sword.'

The Persian proverb wisely saith,
'A lengthy tongue—an early death.'

Or sometimes takes this form instead,
'Don't let your tongue cut off your head.'

'The tongue can speak a word whose speed,
Say the Chinese, 'outstrips the steed.'

While Arab sages thus impart:
'The tongue's a great storehouse is the heart.'

From Hebrew wit the maxim sprung,
'Though feet should slip, ne'er let the tongue.'

The sacred writer crowns the whole,
'Who keeps his tongue doth keep his soul.'

A PLEA.

How can any woman who has husband, brother or son, say that it is all right for a man to take a social glass? Is it not that very social glass that has ruined so many of our fathers and husbands?

I have in mind a young lady who at a Christmas gathering, not long ago, refused a glass of wine, and in consequence every other lady present also refused it. Her example was not in vain. She was a stranger in the house.

The work of rescuing our husbands and sons from the demon of drunkenness rests with us. We must do it or it will be left undone. Dear girls have nothing to do with a man who takes even a social glass. If by your attention you encourage him, he will take more and finally become a drunkard. This may seem going pretty far, but desperate diseases require desperate remedies. I would rather see a man on his death bed than to see him drunk, even though he were my nearest and dearest.

A man never yet reformed for any woman's sake. He may promise all sorts of things before marriage, but forgets all about them after. And remember, when you are married to a drunkard there is no escape. You may get a divorce, but your life will be ruined nevertheless. And what pure woman wants to go to a divorce court. Mothers teach your children the evil effects of this curse of mankind from their earliest childhood. A boy who loves his mother will not easily be led from the path of duty which she has instilled into his mind. We have temperance meetings and temperance preachers all over the land, but the preacher who can do the most good is the mother at her own fireside.

I hope that every reader is faithful in excluding all alcoholic dishes from her table.

Let me give you a scene from real life. It is Christmas and the family are at dinner. A bright handsome boy of say six summers is the pride and joy of parents and friends. 'Mother, may I have some more sauce?' And with proud and willing hands she helps him to more of the rich brandy sauce. After dinner, when all the other children are at play, the boy comes to his mother and complains of headache. Little does the mother think, as she folds her darling in her arms, that it is the sauce or rather the brandy in it which has caused the headache.

Time rolls relentlessly on and again we see the family on Christmas Eve. Our boy is now a handsome lad of fifteen and is joining his companions in their frolic in the large kitchen. On the table stands a large pitcher of hard cider, from which he continually refreshes himself. The kind, indulgent parents would rather die than do their boy any harm, and yet they are placing ruin for body and soul in his way. Let us look once more at our hero. He is a young man at college, and in his room at night he is in a helpless condition, while on the table are bottles and glasses. He and his companions have been having a carousal and it is not the first one either. He has entered full upon his career as a drunkard. Far away is his poor mother praying that no harm may come to her boy, little thinking that the brandy sauce and cider she gave him in her ignorance have led to his ruin. Oh! mothers, be careful that you do not likewise.

HOW THE LAPLANDERS DRESS.

THE costume of the Laps has not altered very much in the last thousand years. Their summer garment is usually of coarse woollen goods, and has something the cut of a shirt with a high collar. Among the sea Laps it is for the most part undyed; among the other Laps usually blue, sometimes green or brown, and even black smock-frocks have been seen. Around the wrists, along the seam in the back, and on the edges this smock is ornamented with stripes of red and yellow cloth. Under this garment is a similar one, either plain or figured, worn next the body, for the Lap never wears linen underclothing. The trousers are of white woollen goods, rather narrow and reaching to the ankles, where they are tied inside the shoes with leggings of thin, tanned skins, reaching from the ankles to the knees. Stockings the Lap never wears. He fills the upward curving tip of his shoes with a sort of grass, which is gathered in summer, and beaten to make it soft and pliable. The winter costume only differs from that worn in summer in that every piece is made of reindeer skin with the hair on. The dress of the women differs slightly from that worn by the men. The smock is somewhat longer, and is made without the big standing collar, instead of which a kerchief or cape is worn about the neck. To the women and often silver-ornamented girdle hang a knife, scissors, key, needle and thread. The head covering is not only different in the two sexes, but also differs according to the locality.

LONDON AND PARIS FASHIONS.

SMART AFTERNOON TOILETTES.

(SEE FASHION PLATE, PAGE 117.)

No. 1 is a very effective gown, with the back draperies, and the folded epaulettes on either sleeve, in dark brown ottoman silk. The front of the skirt is of fawn bengaline, the same bengaline being also used for the coat bodice, which is very smartly arranged with long pointed basques, and a softly-draped vest of pale pink *cripe de chine*. Both skirt and bodice are also trimmed with very effective lines of biscuit-coloured guipure lace, brightened here and there with threads of gold.

No. 2 is a graceful gown of fawn cloth and silk, the front breadths in the centre of the skirt, and the whole of the back of the skirt being of fawn bengaline. The sides of the petticoat was formed of long panels of fawn cloth, handsomely embroidered with gold, and having large yellow crystals in the centre of each gold design.

No. 3 is made in quite a novel kind of silk. The foundation colour is pale grey with wide stripes of pale yellow, the said stripes being entirely of tiny yellow spots, set very closely together. The striped grey and yellow silk is draped over a skirt of plain yellow bengaline, the latter being prettily visible here and there. The skirt comes up over the bodice, and is fastened round the waist with a girle in which the colours grey and yellow are prettily mixed. The vest is of yellow bengaline, the coat sides of the bodice being also lined with yellow to correspond.

No. 4 is a useful frock for afternoon wear, made in one of the new pale grey woollen materials, with a woven design, very like a double sharp in music, carried out in a darker shade of grey. Pleats of velvet are placed far back on the side of the skirt, while the trimming in front consists of rosette bows, and smaller pleats of velvet. The bodice is very prettily arranged, and is made with wide sleeves of grey velvet to correspond.

There are so many pretty materials to choose a summer frock from that selection becomes quite difficult. Amongst the various patterns are the 'Wild Rose' and the 'Egyptian'; the new 'China Blue' may be mentioned as a very successful pattern, together with the 'Hoop,' the 'Lily Leaf,' and the 'Fretwork.' Among the more expensive patterns, the 'Wild Grass' is particularly effective, while the selection of French satens will be found to include a number of beautiful combinations of colour. The silk brocaded zephyrs, with shell designs in silver on grounds in various pale shades, also make up very prettily.

AN ALL-BLACK GOWN.

I HAVE noticed many people wearing black for choice. In this bright climate it is an unsuitable colour for summer. However, here are a few ideas for those whose fancy runs this way:

Black surah, light of weight and not too dull in tone, is made into a pretty gown. The skirt has a deep, scant ruffle that extends over the front and sides, a style of decoration much in vogue. The back is prettily full and trains just a little. The basque is a long one, having its edges outlined with small jet beads. A waistcoat effect is produced by a full jabot of French lace, which extends from the throat to the edge of the basque. The sleeves are moderately full and have lace cuffs as their decoration. A small, round lace cape, formed of three ruffles with ends, is worn with this gown, and the bonnet accompanying it is a lace one, with a jet coronet upon it; the gloves are black undressed kid, and the parasol is of black dotted net.

Black surah is a desirable dress, because it 'shakes' the dust—a something that very few black gowns do. For a black surah that will be given general wear, nothing is in better taste than one made with a plain, full skirt, and having with it a tucked blouse that can be fitted as one may desire. In indigo-blue such a costume will also be found as becoming as it is useful. Either blue or black in the plain colours are to be chosen; blue is specially fashionable this season, and black is always in vogue. The olives are occasionally becoming in the soft silk, but most of the other shades are neither specially becoming nor do they make up picturesquely. Of course, I am referring to the dull shades, and not to the light or bright ones.

DRESSES AT A FRENCH GARDEN-PARTY.

THESE very chic costumes were worn at an autumn *al fresco* fête in Paris. Sketch 1 was a pretty combination of pink taffeta, with spotted black silk gauze, worn with a black hat and a broad black belt. Sketch 2 shows the gown worn by an American lady which was of grey pean de soie, with a shade of pink in it. The skirt was bordered with three ruches of pean de soie, from which were flounces of white lace. Lace was placed gracefully round the neck of the gown and finished in a cascade at the back. The bonnet was of gold gauze, with gold wings spangled with sequins, and black velvet strings. The sunshade was of white tulle, with black satin bows.



DRESSES AT A FRENCH GARDEN PARTY.