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Gold in the Twilight.

want to be an author—My hand upon my face. A thought upon my forehead—An air of studied grace! I want to be an author. With genius on my brow, I want to be an author. And I want to be it now!

The editor of this column would like very much to divulge the name of the Kingston damsel whose soulful aspirations are voiced in the above short, but expressive poem, but a pledge of secrecy sternly forbids.

One by one, they go, our ideas regarding the attributes peculiar to woman. Go, driven forth by cold, hard, ugly facts. The latest to depart is the belief that woman, and a light footfall were synonymous terms. The day is over when a poet with any truth could sing:

"Even the light harebell raised its Elastic from her airy tread."

Now even a springboard would hardly venture to raise its crushed and trampled self, after a couple of our dear girls had passed over it. In two and three months a fair imitation of a detachment of Grenadier Guards, and they seem to be rather proud than otherwise, of the row they make. And it is not the fault of the low-heeled, common-sense boot, either. You can walk just as quietly in them as in a thin-soled, high-heeled slipper—more quietly, for the high heel will make a clatter, do what you will. The heavy, noisy, blundering tread, is unhappily, but too indicative of the loss of fine feeling, of tactfulness, of daintiness, of quick thought for others, of gentle modesty, of unobtrusiveness which is becoming painfully apparent among the younger women of to-day.

"Her feet have touched the meadows and left the daisies rosy," quoted Ruskin, in his "Queen's Gardens," and went on to say, "The path of a good woman is strewn with flowers, but they rise behind her footsteps, not before them." Ambition to lead behind her such a flower-strewn path, so common from the mind of the average girl to-day.

Mrs. Carre, of Belleville, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Groat.

Mrs. A. G. Burrows, nee Armstrong, will receive on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, December 1st and 2nd, at the residence of Mrs. John Williams, corner Queen and Charles streets, Belleville.

Mrs. J. W. Rankin will receive at her home, 21 Rideau street, on Thursday and Friday, afternoon and evening.

Canon Loucks, with Mrs. Loucks and Miss Ethelwyn Loucks, came down from Picton to-day, and are the guests of Mrs. Muckelton.

Mrs. A. W. Richardson will not be at home on Thursday till the beginning of the New Year.

Miss Violet White returned to-day to Hamilton.

Rev. J. H. H. and little Master Harry, little Miss Frances Colman, arrived to-day from Stirling and are at St. James' rectory.

The New Historical Society will meet to-night at the Y.W.C.A. rooms at 8 p.m. Great encouragement has been given the workers by two subscriptions of \$10 each, one being given by the honorary president, Miss Laidersleeve, and the other by Mr. C. F. Gidderleeve.

The Misses Adair are being much entertained, and thanks to their hospitable hostess, Miss Greene, are seeing Montreal at its best. In Miss Adair's appearance, there is nothing to suggest the "skirt parted from shirt waist" golf girl whom most of us have met with now and again, and who has unfortunately grown to be taken as a type, a fact that the genuinely smart girl golfer is certain to object to if she takes time to think of the matter. The Misses Adair according to present plans sail for home from New York on December 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Paton, Montreal, entertained at dinner last week for Mr. E. Potter, brother of Bishop Potter, New York.

Mrs. Clarence McCuig, Sherbrooke street, Montreal, entertained at tea on Saturday afternoon for her son, Mr. Rykert McCuig.

In Victoria, B.C., last week, a delightful ball was given in the sail loft of the Naval Yard, the room being brilliantly lighted and decorated with bunting. The hosts were the captain and officers of H.M.S. Grafton, the flagship, and the ball was given in honor of Rear-Admiral Bickford, who was leaving the station for home. Supper was served at tables decorated with six-inch cartridge-cases holding chrysanthemums.

The Earl of Ronaldshay, eldest son of the Marquis of Zetland, and nephew and A.D.C. to Lord Curzon, is touring the world. At present he is the guest of the excellencies at Government House, Ottawa.

Colonel Lee Knowles, M.P., has had a baronetcy conferred on him, among those who received the King's birthday honors. Colonel Knowles will be remembered by Torontonians and especially Varsity men. He visited Toronto in the capacity of captain of Oxford Cambridge athletes, who came to this continent to measure strength and endurance with the athletes of Varsity and McGill and Harvard and Yale.

The Countess of Aberdeen, when recently opening a bazaar in Edinburgh given by the Scottish Children's League, wore a gown of moss green taffeta. Lady Marjorie Gordon, who accompanied her mother, was in grey canvas, with a red belt and a touch of red in her hat.

A number of women graduates met in the common room at St. Hilda's on Friday, and formed a federated club, representing all the colleges. The officers will be, Miss Chown (Victoria) president; Dr. Helen MacMurphy (Toronto Medical) first vice-president;

Miss Cartwright (St. Hilda's) second vice-president; Miss Hunter (University College), secretary; Miss Addison (Victoria) treasurer. A paper on "The Ideal Residence," was read by Miss Addison.

Miss Cleary of London, England, who has been staying with Mrs. Philip Strathy, Toronto, left for Barris in the early part of last week, where she will be the guest of Mrs. H. S. Strathy and her sisters.

Miss Frederica Strathy, who has been abroad for over two years, returned last week, and is at present the guest of Mrs. Philip Strathy in Spadina avenue.

The Authors' Society, in Toronto, of which Goldwin Smith is president, will tender Mrs. Everard Cotes (Sara Jeanette Duncan), a reception next week, a deserved tribute to our distinguished authoress.

A somewhat difficult task in needlework has been undertaken by an Englishwoman in the transferring and adapting to modern fashions a large quantity of gold embroidery, which has been a family heirloom for some 300 years. It was originally on a foundation of handmade net and is a splendid specimen of work. Some parts have been applied on a white crepe de chine Empire gown, others on white net, of which bands are to be laid on a mantle of cloth of gold, to be worn by a countess at one of the queen's drawing-rooms. A tabler pattern and bands of embroidery are other uses to which the embroidery will be put. The flat thread of which it is made is of twenty-four carat and shines as brilliantly to-day as if just made. This thread is eight-eighths of an inch wide, in two distinct making, one smooth and sparkling, the other somewhat dulled by crinkling, by which means two bright but uneven surfaces are artistically exposed to the subtle play of lights. With these flattened strands have been delineated a chrysanthemum pattern conventionally treated with long reversible passe stitch, rather extravagant, being alike in front and at the back, hence it employs a deal of thread to boldly stand up and produce without any padding a discreet relief. The elongated leaves, petals of flowers and raised deep, recalling spangle, are wrought with the sparkling strips in contrast with the basket stitch, filling the hearts of the blossoms and forming the buds.

Light-heartedness is a graceful quality—a grace, perhaps, rather than a quality—the only substitute for good fortune, the only impregnable shield against fate, the most generally powerful of all charms. Most of us began life equipped with this gift; it is too much to say that most of us have lost it. Lightness of heart does not come of want of sympathy, a man who cannot feel the sorrow of his friends is usually well able to complain of his own. Children are light-hearted, not because they are incapable of care. They have not enough experience to enable them to look forward. They do not yet believe in the thing which has been in that which shall be. If they turn their eyes away from the present they look into a imaginary world, not into the future, that future in whose lap lies the safe for man's sorrow, together with an inextinguishable light of fresh hope. Among grown-up people lightness of heart does not seem to have much to do with circumstances, though it is commoner in some classes than in