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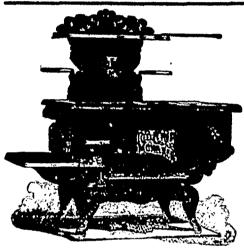
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MODISH DRESSING.

dressing is a pair of stays which fit fashion leaders of the hour. Many wo- on either side. She reasoned this way: men sacrifice fit for line, but your corsetiere does not advise this if she is a lover of her work. Just now as enthusiastically as they sought the "sudden" hip a few seasons ago. Neither extreme conforms to every figure, though it is recommended for the straight front stay that it is hygienic. The profile of a woman's figure, undraped, they say who reason about it, falls in a straight line from the chest. Hence the front steel which we were for years and which curved in at the belt line, was most injurious and accounts for much feminine irritability, bitherto chargeable to weath-



er, man or maldservant. I sought out the head of a department in one of the best shops, a woman who holds her work most important, and who fits to you the cheapest corset in her the second twice as wide upon a drop department rather than have you dis. flounce, and the third sometimes as department rather than have you dissatisfied or ill-fitted. 'Why do corsets deep as the knees, the real trimming which one wants to buy cost so of the petticoat itself. much?" I inquired. For answer she held to the light and together we Chemises are in as high favor as counted thirteen different pieces of corset covers; and the latter as the

Nothing which women wear, at its please the eye, often are faise in fit. "The Only Safety." The only safety," said my author-

reputation, and then having it carefully tried on by an expert. Imagine a woman ordering shoes without trying them on," she continued. "The best of corsets need adjustment to the particular figure wearing them. It is exceptional to find a woman whose measurements conform to the standard. And it is particularly necessary to have one's corsets adapted, when her waist changes every few months as at present, with women giving so much thought to athletics. The fashionable waist measurement now is twenty-two Yes; several inches larger than the ideal of a few years ago. But the chest expansion of women has increased, so that the contrast is as

We are told by the artists, are we not," I asked, "that the proper difference between waist and bust measure is ten inches?"

"Yes, and some of the health waists. are made on those lines. But they do because fashionable women necessarily lace more than others. But because all their training tends to make their waists small, hips symmetrical, chests full and round. This will be interesting to you," went on the woman who knows. "I fitted with health walsts an entire fashionable school of 170 girls. The young women are obliged to wear waists during lesson hours, though they put on corsets with evening dress. Well, the waists had to be taken in at the belt line in every instance. Yes, they bought a ready made waist, whose only fault usually is in the excessive belt measure. There is more than ten inches difference between the bust and waist measures of American women. Often the proportion is 22 inches to 36 and 38."

Summer corsets are made on the materials are lighter, white linen and batiste being in favor. Pink and blue are the colors preferred for silk stays top of the skirt. Some opportunity to

OUR FASHION LETTER prove upon them. An 'reverse of this was shown in the marries out of a petticout top after a French water had A PAIR OF STAYS THE BEG NNING OF concluded her calculations. The akirc WAN fastened with a tiny builton, and THE PIRST OF A NUMBER OF GIRANthe size permanently fired. As the Estment was an expensive of all fails and lace, it was necessary that It should be adaptable at the walst to Health Waista Summer Comets Skirts any of the possible measurements of the Eashlonable woman. The capable With Yokes Laws Petticonts Night-American designer who had the cour-After all, the beginning of modish ressing is a pair of stays which fit grade sent to her should have its week and have the outline approved by the inverted plaits at their backs; three

"The material is so fine and crushable, the little fullness made by the plaits below the belt is exectly what a women are pursuing the straight thinner woman needs. One or all front, bias-cut corset with long hip, three on either side of the placket may thinner woman needs. One or all be let out if necessary to give size." It is interesting to learn that habit back petticoats had and have no vogue whatever. Even with the extreme gowns which we were last season, and in some cases are wearing yet, a slight fullness on, the very least—is desirable at the back. But never any thing approaching bulkiness.

Lawn Politioents.
It is not certify that rough are wearing more lawn patticonts now than silk. Many more than formerly are sold, but this is quite as true of taffets skirts. So it is clear that women are indulging in a greater number of both sorts of such luxurious necessities. And the prices are from eighty-five cents for a wearable white lawn garment with hemstitched ruffe, to \$75 or anything else for the finest of linen with applique and edges of real lace and interlecing ribbons. The American woman is my loy and my despair," said an enthusiastic director of a notable lingerie department. One week a patron finds \$16 too high for a lawn petticoat. The next she comesback, and judging from experience, I show one at \$27 to her. She inde it beautiful and reasonable, orders it ment home immediately and reproaches me for not showing it to her the week be-

All white lawn petticosts have a least three rumes. One, two or three inches wide on the foundation skirt!

In High Form. material on either side of the corset former. Some women wear both the t was the Vesta-twenty-six in all, chemise under their stays. But this is Some straight, some bias, no two not general. In covers or cardle-corsections alike, and fitted one to an sets," as the French say, those short, other with an accuracy not less than not reaching over the belt, are in wonderful. Besides, there were bones great favor for fastidious use. They and cross-bones, stitchings and cross- are ornamented after the familion of stitchings, until there were three and corset covers, having their lace, little four, perhaps more, different tensions frills and ribbons. Often the oly at many points in the corset. Every fastenings are the ribbons run section and stitch meant a special con- through and knotted. More practical, sideration of a particular curve in the for general use are the covers out in best, is fashioned so cumningly as her below, keeping the garment from riscorset; nor, at its worst, so barbarous- ing untimely. One variety of corsely. Even stays, which in material cover is made with small sleeves. It is intended that absorbent shields should be placed in these sleeves. which are appreciated much by women ty, "is in buying a corset with a good who have not known how to wear shields conveniently with shirt waisis.

A Spring Calling Contume. This dainty Spring gown is made of a bluish little settings. shed cashmere. Both the bodies and the skirt are stitched with groups of pipings; on the latter these pipings stop near the bottom, giving a graceful flare. The bodice is turned away from the



shoulders in pretty revers which are face with white silk spotted same lines as those for winter, with with lifac polka dots. The plassidentical bones and stitchings. But trom is made of heavy willte lace over white hits. The scar sirds is of white crepe de chine, fringed at the ends

it has been said before in this column that three lacings are the proper
number for one pair of stays. The
first division is fixed permanently, at
the top, ending in the third hole. The
second lacing ends at the waist line
and may be arranged after the stay is
on. The third is wholly below the
belt, the longer pointing upward, the
is a present and pretty idea to lace
stays with pink silk strings. Skirts
with yokes are relics of a few seasons ago, when the matter of a half
inch more or less of cloth about the
all their undergarments, their choics
and for summer use, all skirts of exnightgowns are made with the or
low arch, square of circular what you
of less than ten lindes calibre.

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A disprain for less than ten lindes calibre.

A disprain o

means of darts taken in around the top of the skirt. Some opportunity to regulate the size of the binding is allowed by the drawstring, which is run through the half-inch opening that serves for a belt. At a pinch, too, the size of the waist of the skirt may be regulated by changing one or more of the darts.

Sometimes we hear of how American designers take French ideas and important to the skirt of the skirt may be a signer take french ideas and important to the skirt of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a seconds, at an elevation of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a seconds, at an elevation of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the skirt of the might case the wide ribbon with a second of the skirt of the skirt

SEA COAST DEFENCE -

TIC WEAPONE

This Gun Will Welch 136 Tone The Turretalizady Mask Will Cost \$1,000,000-This Will Greatly Strengthen Our De-

A little party of human pigmies at the Watervilet Armenal accomplished findle by the Bethleson from the a tank the success of which will probably enable New York city to defy the dated December 20 1880 and ably enable New York city to defy the dated December 20 1880 and ably enable New York city to defy the dated December 20 1880 and ably enable the world that may seek to anter her proper working of the broad narbor. They recembed in abrinking lass a dumpny mechanism was the steel jacket on that leviathen of and fitted to a 15 inch masset. The destruction, the first sixteen-inch as for the gus image, a more than the breaching property of the way has blanked about the mounted at Sandy Hook in a position sixteen-inch masset. The teacher of the command the changes the grantle feet a inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the grantle feet inches the diameter of the command the changes the command the changes and the command the command the changes the command the c iffe Waterviet Armenal accomplished



elevation of five miles. The presence on the gun at the moment of its disthe jacket sta charge is \$6,000 pounds to the square inch. The projectile itself will weigh 2,870 pounds. It will be sixty-four inches long, or almost the height of an average man, and behind it will be a powder charge of 1,000 pounds. Hvery time this wespen is fired for business purposes it will cost Uncle Sam \$155, \$600 for the projectile and \$165 for the zuppowder.

First of a Series. This great sixteen-inch ride is the first of a series of similar gigantic weapons which will be made for the meacoast defences of the United States. The Endloctt Board, which took the whole subject of seacoast defence into consideration a few years ago and drew up recommendations which are now in the main being carried out, came to the comelusion that sighteen of these enormous wespons should be made for the protection of New York. The Endloot: Board also recommended. that ten sixteen inch gums should be mounted at San Francisco, eight at Boston and four at Hampton Roads. The only previous guns of equally great. The callbre were made by the Muglish and Italians for naval use some years ago. The English made several 15 % itself. 110-ton guns, and the limited made words seventien-inch 108-ton guns. These weapons, however, were fail-ures because of grude methods of man-ufacture and faulty construction. For use in ships it is not now considered that guns of this sime are advisable. The mounting and protection of a gun of over 100 tons weight in an earth and concrete empiacement tosts far less than it does to place the same gun with equal protection upon a battleship. The unsteady platform afforded by a ship's deck, corabined with the slowness of firing so huge a weapon, makes the probability of acoring a life very remote. But such a gun mounted in a fort and trained scross a channel like the entrance to New York at Sandy Hook, where the rauges are mode erate and accurately increm would on aver-have every chance to get home a shot a scoty on the belt armor of a passing ship. One shop of this kind would probably sink the greatest battleship affort which could easily withstand a battering with shells of lighter exclore.

and for summer use, all skirts of \$2- nightgowns are made with slow one-fourth of a ten would rue to an tach section of art the best by sleeves and long sangel falls of lace extreme alithms of a miles or more means of darts taken in around the or embroidery. The fichn is a favorite than a mile higher then Mont Blane.

The turgings for our to

to command the channel this gigantic feet 5 factors. Its diameter gun will be the most powerful place of breech is 6 feet 1 inches energy that a product of the world. There is none tall man's height. Its weight will be so modern, none so scoutrate, none so the carriage is lie toos or about the deadly. The mere statistics of this 000 pounds. It is processed to make the weapon fairly stagger the imagination, this great engine of war under a time that the projectile at the highest back stair like a great dome of make thin that the projectile at the highest back stair like a great dome of make the point of the market of the commands o tain that the projectile at the highest back after. like a great some of making point of the parabola which it describes during its flight will reach an will project and no other part of the will be exposed to an enemy's the will swing so low that for all nothing to constructed of element the gun will handle to constructed of element of the tweet the properties of the tweet the properties of the tweet the about 120 (see square. The cont of the cont of the cont of the first sample of the first sample of the tweet the great the parameter of the first sample of the cont of the first sample of the first sam tient to the operation of the fill is estimated at about \$2.50 cm. operation of shrinking of the San steel jacket, which is the moderate part of the entire test of the nontraction, was assessed by the construction, was assessed by the construction, was assessed by the construction of the late Chief, of Grant Lieutenant J. W. Joseph and Thomas and D. M. King. All of these distance are West Point graduates and the Tolking of the Ordensee Sorre of the Tolking Chief Ordensee Chief Ordensee Sorre of the Tolking Chief Ordensee Chief mechanical springer and the Royal Polyterhale Incitation Christiania, Nerway, ... When it is deretood that the include waste was about thirty tone, mad thete ence between the city the gun and the label justed is only about dredths of an instruct been heatst the well operation may be thirty tone of bot un nace, swing it we see

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