## **JACK'S RESPONSE TO** THE DOUBLE DARF

The sky was of the clearest blue, and ,the crystalline banks of snow were rsmiling, but Jack was not. Laughing comes easy when others laugh with you, but not when they laugh at you, as Jack, usually so happy hearted, was finding out. He was skating up and down along the shore, now and then nervously biting his cheek.

"What are you afraid of, Jack? This is the way to do it."

The speaker, skating at his topmost speed for a start, suddenly ceased, flinging out his arms and legs. With feet wide apart, he slid over the shining surface of the river far out toward the middle, where the main current ran and the ice was thin and dangerous. Coming about in a wide curve, so as not to lose the force of the first im petus, he struck out again and reached the applauding group near the shore in safety, although the ice under him had



HIS FIST STRUCK THE DOG ON THE NECK. cracked threateningly several times. He had gone out farther than any one else, he had therefore "double dared" them all and was correspondingly elatrefused to take part in the trials of "courage" that morning.

"That's the way to do it," quoth Jimskating slowly past.

bridged the black depths where the hungry current rolled. Leaning low over the ice, Jack spec forward, keeping his eyes fixed on the TOILETS FOR MORNING, AFTERNOON

little figure on the red sled and fearing each moment that it would suddenly vanish. The girl did not seem to heed the cries directed at her by the various onlookers-they could do no more-whe

had gone out to where the ice bent and cracked under them. In a few mo ments Jack was abreast the line of these daring ones.

He did not stop. He was five, ten, a from the shore except the half past t bell at the carshops, softened by distance. He felt the bending of the thin

skin of the water under his feet and heard the cracking that marked his path. Yet these were only incidents Chiefly was his attention fixed upon the little girl with yellow curls, whom the dog was drawing toward him and death.

Now he ceased striking out and spread his feet as far apart as he could without risking a fall, so that he would be supported by as much surface as possible. An air hole lay directly in his path. He had barely time to swerve around it. Nina Holland was just be rond

The dog, faithful, but mistaken, drop ped the sled repe as he approached and growled. Though a young one, it was of the Newfoundland breed, big and strong. Jack, with a word of greeting for Nina, stooped to grasp the rope. As he did so the beast leaped at him.

Along the shore, where the restrained ; excitement was intense and every eye followed his perilous passage and its object, a cry of dismay went up. Even as he leaned over to clutch the rope with his left hand his arm shot out. and in the same motion he sprung forward. His fist struck the dog on the neck. The impetus of its leap carried it on beyond him, and it slid straight for the air hole. In a moment it was struggling in the ky water.

seemed to lift Jack along as he sped to- able dressing gowns are not for this ward shore and safety, with the little time of day; the exigencies of society red sled and its rider in tow behind. Nina looked anxiously over her shoulder for her dog. Seeing it clamber up on the ice and shake itself, she clapped her hands and laughed gayly at the fine, fast ride she was having

So it was that they met Mrs. Holland, with a bunch of chrysanthemums, or who had seen the latter part of the ad of Nice roses, at the side, is often comes near the flesh. Yards and yards ed and ready to chaff Jack, who had venture and was hurrying down to worn with this morning costumes, or meet them. When she had kissed and else a large flat toque composed of ed costume of mauve brocade. The

same breath, she turned to Jack and or blue glace taffetas; or a plain felt my Dermott, the "double darer," gaz emphasized her thankfulness in a way hat draped and stitched, with two ing around for the admiration that he that made that proper young gentleman couteau feathers carelessly stuck white slik muslin fichu, one mave feit to be his due His eyes, wandering blush to the roots this hair, so that through the drapery. On the side over the group, fell on Jack, who was he rather welcomed the distraction turned up is placed a drapery of tai- buttons complete a tea gown meant caused by the frisky arrival of the dog. fetas resembling a knotted foulard, for the eyes of others than the wearer. said," declared Carrie, with a peculiar

"Afraid of getting your feet wet out | Jack staid for supper at the Hollands with ends falling over the hair. All This model, possibly excepting the smile. there?" said the hero, pointing sugges- and went out on the moonlit ice that these fancies are equally becoming, mediaeval sleeves, is an excellent one tively toward the middle of the river. | evening, this time crossing the river provided the class of dress is in a on which to This witticism moved the crowd to by way of the bridge. He was soon quiet style, harmonizing with them. party gown, smiles. Jack even thought that he de surrounded by a congratulating crowd, Boots with patent leather uppers and smiles. Jack even thought that he de surrounded by a congratulating crowd, flat heels are the proper things to com, sation shows an infinite amount of tected a gleam under a certain blue the foremost being a little girl in a blue plete the costume, tucking applied to white muslin and bonnet trimmed with white fur. With bonnet with trimming of white fur and plete the costume. set lips he glided away in silence, only her father. In the midst of the confuto wheel around presently and come sion Jimmy Dermott came up and held is put on for lunch, when that meal is There are 147 yards of narrow ruffling back again. He skated up to Dermott out his hand, and Jack took it. "You've double dared me," said Jimmy.- Edward Rickert in Philadelphia creations, leaving their customers

**IOUR FASHION LETTER** 

AND EVENING WEAR

Indoar and Out Deer Dress-The Evening Dress .Why Separate Waists are Repular Fur on the New Ten Gowas-A Parks Faucy.

The toilet of a woman of fashion may be summed up in three wordsscore of yards beyond them, out where morning, afternoon, evening. In the death might any moment unfold itself morning ladies have taken up the under his feet. No sound came to him habit recommended by the faculty of walking for an hour or two, whenever weather permits; it is "very sporting." Therefore, as soon as a woman is dressed off she sets in the fresh air.





Then the cheering from the other side Delicate muslin dresses and comfortlife have changed the course of indoor life. In the morning the traditional tailor made costume is donned, trimmed with fur cr worn with a fur bolero or three-quarter broadtail mantle.

A three corner hat of fur, trimmed scolded and petted Nina almost in the violet and trimmed with an aigrette princess gown opens over a white alls

For afternoon, at the races, while

making calls or visiting exhibitions.

what is known as "grand tollet" is not

worn, except on special occasions.

Black velvet dresses, ornamented with

embroideries, trimmed with fur, or

composed of broadtail with a velvet

especially short capes, appear some-

what out of fashion. The only things

worn in the way of fur are boleros or

stoles in fox fur, or large three-quar-

ter mantles, very full. The hat should

be of soft felt, trimmed with ostrich

feathers, or else a fur togue, and

glace kid boots, with Louis XV. heels.

pointed tips, and bright suche colored

gloves. Such are the supplementary

details of an afternoon dress. A lace

frill set upon a neck trimm ug of gold

braid appears in the opening of the

fur, and the hands are sheltered from

the cold in enormous soft muffs, which i

recall to mind the picture by Mmc.

The time has now come to speak of

inclust the restaurants, whch are

fer to of refined and costly garments

chesics with the idea of serving as a

prott diess could be made "out of

g flounce or a garland of flowers skill-

fully placed giving the illusion of a

dress from a "great house." The eye

has become accustomed, in regard to

evening dress, to sumptuous embro'd-

eries, costly laces; in short the mater-

ials used are of extreme richness.

Muslins and tulles are only worn by

So long as silk remnants are sold

Vigce-Lebrun in the Louvre. y

stood better. It is a brave or foolish woman who wears a barrain day gown. But for indoors and personal garments, it is rather a question of what is suitable rather than that which may be merely modish. Out of the stacks of midwinter garments every woman may find any pieces which peculiarly suit her fancies. As the sees them, they would do for no other woman in the world. This explains, perhaps, one fascination of the convertible bargain, as against the walking and visiting gown, the modes of which are nearly always commended

by the tailor and dressmaker, A woman may be vastly economical in the matter of silken underskirts if she choses to avail herself of the fashion of having a foundation skirt to the knees made in a neutral tint from some excellent lining material. The point with this method is that the lining must be fitted perfectly at the waist and hips. At the knee one or another deep frill buttons on. The same foundation may be used with a cashenere ruffle for morning wear, a sliken one for afternoon. Most women prefer for evening wear some dainty washable cambric, lacy thing, which is now absolutely unstarched.

The button-on ruffle is a great boon to the woman who wants to economize where she really can do so to sartorial advantage. The services of the little seamstress are in best order when . nployed in making up these January bargains. This invaluable assistant should be chosen for her cutting and fitting abilities, however, rather than specially as to seams. Madame, herself, is counted on to know what sho wants in modes and colors. And sewing machines are for seams. Fitting is not a mechanical process.

Sheeves continue to be the centre of interest in feminine toilet. And tea gowns and all manners of lingerie follow closely models developed in outer costume. There is no dictum which saith that the sleeves shall be long or short or medium. The faw requires only that what you decide upon you round any faster. shall have considered carefully, whether it accords with the general style of the garment in which it is placed, The tendency is in favor of flowing or "pagoda" sleeves, with or without detached portions in fine lawn below the elbow.

A touch of fur marks many of the ness of this great country for it rarely is so placed on a negligee that it of sable are used as outline for a trainmuslin underdress, which is trimmed with three rows of white fringe. A paste buckle and four mauve paste

A tea gown from the Paris Expo-



I'm sure, Carrie, I don't know what better you could do," said the widow Durrell, with a sigh, as she stood in the began fanning as "smoke house," or summer kitchen, one May morning, her sleeves rolled up, doing the semi-weekly churning. "He's certainly a good match enough for any girl in town."

"But, mother, dear," answered Carrie, throwing her sun-bonnet on the floor and pouring water on a pan-of greens she had just picked, "how am I

to know what his intentions are?" He may not want to marry at all." "There, that is just like you, Cad Durrell," groaned the widow. "Not Not know what his intentions are! and he's been coming here off and on these six months. Of course, Tom means to marry; he has a large farm, and besides, he isn't that kind of a fellow to fool round like some that I know of." "That may be, mother, but suppose Tom Stapleton doesn't care anything

about me, but does care for acmebody else ?' Mrs. Durrell stopped kneading the

golden mass of butter and looked her youngest daughter keenly in the face. All of the widow's girls, and there were four sisters, were allowed to be comely maidens, but Carrie was decidedly the flower of the flock in this respect. Her appearance recalled Byrou's description of Dudu:

> "Large, languid and laxy, Dut of beauty that would drive you crazy."

She was tall and plump of form, with a velvet complexioned face. soft, dreamy blue eyes, a tipped-up, wicked little

chin, lips just made to be kissed, and a swath of bronzy hair with sunlight shiming in every curl and ripple. "Languid and lazy" she undeniably was; no vulgar haste about her. Her brick, energetic mother had been heard more than once to wish that a wasp would sting Carrie just to see if she could get

"Who should he care for, if it isn't you, I would like to know, Cad Durrell," ejaculated the widow, after a somewhat protracted glance, "if you weren't so mortally slow, you might lous amazement.--have been settled before this time, same as Phoebe and Sally Anz. But, la! you'll grow gray first."

A ripple of silvery laughter issued newer tea gowns. It is no particular from the sweet red lips, and the effort to offset the coldness and damp- bronzed head was tossed aloft in pretty scorn.

'Why, mother Durrell, you certainly don't wish me to marry a man who doesn't want me; I think it's Lu that up there I shall know you are not I Tom is after, only he doesn't dare your right mind." And Mrs. Derr speak out.

'Lu sha'nt marry him, I'll be bound." cried her mother, hotly. "You know her daughter's sanity. that all along I've planned for her to But Carrie was in carnet, and marry "Squire Raynor. She isn't next morning she want up to the g strong enough to be a farmer's wite." "But she's got faculty, you've always ! serted."

"Yes, she has got faculty which you bread never burns, and her cream is. sure to come butter. You never did have luck with such things." Of all human afflictions a daughter who seemed to be created without the widow considered than anis boon of "faculty" was the severest to a practical. "Of course she'll have it driving New England housewife like die with it, it will be just her liek. Mrs. Polly Durrell. A slim, gypsy-looking girl, with great & dose of strychning." alls around the feet. dark eyes like sloes, and weeting a Carrie had but little time to the stand wooding a Carrie had but little time to the stand wooding a constant of anything also save here. black hair, entered the kitchen at that little patients. Frank and Herry instant. 'Mother, 'Squire Raynor's asked me,

the large ro Why while the martin her sister. Squire Raynor's two

and several others have self that he did not deem it add continue the term any lon Jones says it is small por, and

a terrible panie "The small port dear awful." exclaimed Mrs. Durry ly as not we shall all have it have been exposed. How forth declare, we must use some press I've read as how camphor is a go sorbent."

The next minute the widow: sprinkling them all and everything in the room, with that powerful w tile.

"I do hope it won't apread," mid "I don't want to be p earnestly. marked for life," and she glanced shyle

into the mirror. "Goodness knows we doo't wast be down with it, and having coming on and all the hired help to take care of ejaculated the mother. "I wonder h it happened to break out in the 'squire's family ?"

'He and little Frank were at Albany a fortnight ago, and I suppose the boy took the contagion some way, although there were no cases there that he know of. It seems real hard for the Squirs, All his servants have left him, and her can't get any one to help him for love " or money, not even Pauline Heath, the poorhouse hospital nurse. He offered me ten dollars a week to go up and to

what I could." "As if his children were anything be you," cried the widow. "You would" have been sure to catch the disease, and perhaps have died with it. But m

are awfully selfish." "Mother," said Carrie, with a so deal of energy for her. 'I don't think it would be Christian-like to let these children lie and suffer and stir neith hand nor foot to save them. I this that I shall go to Raynor Hall." Mrs. Durrell gave a gasp of increduc

"You so out to nurse Squire Har nor's children! You must be erany Cad Durrell."

"On the contrary, I was never mor same in my life," replied Carrie. "It is can get no one else I will go tomosrow

I am sure it is my duty:" "Fiddlesticks! It's a duty to fals proper care of one's self, and if you pa leaned back with a hollow groan, leaned back with a hollow groan, leaned back with a hollow groan, leaned back and the second se

| house that seemed very still and

"Don't ever come back till you had it and got well, for I won't you in the house. It's running good don't believe one has a right to said her mother as AWAY. They were cold, cruel words, 'I'd just as soon to and Walled. Carrie had but little time to think nor were very, very 111, and for da there was small hope of their recent Squire Raynor diardly left the di ened champer, and only to the and the old physician did he speak word. But after three weeks' time the disease turned and the dootor : ] 'Oh, I don't mean that he has popped - nounced the children out of dame "It's your care more than the 'Squire. "How can I ever repay To "You have already paid me fi

with his head erect and his eyes very bright.

"I'll tell you why I haven't taken up | Times. your dares this morning," he said. "Yesterday afternoon my mother was driving by, and she saw me doing it, and last night she showed me what foolish business it is, and I promised her to quit it."

"H-m," said Dermott, who was not naturally disagreeable, but overfond of "getting the best" of everybody, "nice boy-no danger of failing in with mother's apronstrings tied to him."

He was skating backward as he finished this. Jack's face was flushing and his mouth settling ominously. However, he turned without a word and made off down the river. Dermott deemed it best to send no parting jeer after him. The blue bonnet with trimming of white fur pointed in Jack's direction until his figure disappeared around the bend.

That was in the morning, a Saturday, about seven or eight years ago. What happened in the afternoon is still talked about whenever the skating season comes around.

By 4 o'clock nearly all the village was on the ice. On the west side of the river scores of flashing feet were seen, then came the treacherous middle and the rough eastern shore where no { one ventured. Just across from the village there is a tall brick house with | a white columned portico looking down upon the river.

Late in the afternoon a little girl with yellow curis, big blue eyes, and a fine red sled came down the steps leading from the porch, a large black dog frisking about her.

Jack saw her descending the steps, and knew it must be his little friend. (Nina Holland, who had often staid overnight with his youngest sister. He watched her for a minute or two as she ran down the yard, then he turned and went off for his favorite "long How could she know where to go? She skate" around the bend.

Fifteen minutes later he was back. having changed his mind about going all the way down to the island where hands and knees," said Pet, "for if I | b pt Private receptions, the theatres, the good skating ended. As he came try to walk that log I shall fall." around the bend again he heard shouts, clear and startling, coming through the crisp air.

"Go back, go back! The ice will break under you!"

thought was that it was to him the caught sight of Pet. "Hold on," he warning was given, and he looked said as he came near, but she lost ther anxiously before him. One glance, and grip, and down she went. The boy his anxiety was doubled; but this time soon caught her, and then he led her it was not for himself.

the middle of the stream and were to look for her. waving their arms and shouting in warning at something approaching "Rob does not get wet when he goes to from the other side, a little girl on a find the cows, but poor Pet is wet clear red sled, which was being dragged by through. She will stay at home now a big black dog, with the sled rope in and be a good girl."-Lavinia Gregory his mouth, straight for the thin ice that ' in Housekeeper.

1

When Pet Went For the Cows.

Pet was gone, no one knew where, ion imposes nothing except good taste, lounging gowns. A pretty example is The fact of the case was this: Pet had which is innate in every woman, and of canary yellow wool, made with heard some one say, "Now that Rob is gone I do not know who will bring home the cows."

"I can get the cows," thought Pet. Now, Pet knew that Rob went through the gate at the back of the barn when he went for the cows, so should be perfect. It is nevertheless a she went through there too. When she mark of good taste to make the indoor went past the calf, she said, "Do not cry, poor calf; I will see that you get some milk." not a single detail. As it is certain

Pet found a trail through the tall that the hangings have been already grass and was soon lost to view. Now, chosen ith the idea of serving as a Rob was a big boy of 10, and of course frame becoming to the mistress of the there was no fear that he would be house, it will be easy by studying this lost, but Pet was but 4 years of age. detail to create a harmonious ensemble.



"IF I TRY TO WALK THAT LOG, I SHALL FALL.

kept in the path till she came to a evening dress. There is much dresscreek. It had a log for a bridge. ing for evenings. Society life is reevint: " its intensity: late hours are "I think I must get down on my

t cor ; more and more fashionable, Pet did not get far. Soon her head 1 .....all these functions demand

swam, and she could not go on or turn back. A sob came from her poor throat, and she said: "Pet will fall and

die. Pet cannot go home." retting"-a muslin cleverly chiffonne, As is natural in such cases, his first | Just then a boy came that way and back by the path she had come, and Several skaters had gone out toward they met the nurse who had been sent

As Pet clung to her nurse she said girls, to whom they make a youthful and becoming set off. the separate waist, the silk petticoat, the negligee, will continue in fine fager, bargains are coming to be under-

draped over mauve silk. Mauve in taken in private or with a few friends. in the great swirl of muslin which Paris dressmakers turn out exquisite falls around the feet.

free to select the style best adapted soft flannelish material over here and most becoming for them. Fash- which is so liked for bath and actual easy is her education in the midst of train, bell sleeves and wide revers, the refinement with which she is sur- faced with India silk. It perhaps is rounded. A general effect or a detail not necessary to say that one is as it matters not which, can as well be careful to choose the color of her negborrowed either from the Empire, ligee with reference to her complex-Louis XIII., or Louis XV. style period. ion as to consider the tone of her What is essential is that the whole gowns. The idea, one supposes, is that there is some real fraternity between the best wearing colors and dress harmonize with the color of the one's self. And here is an idea of why room. A coquettish woman neglects we do not necessarily dress for the eyes of second persons.

In sthe way of petticoats I have seen no lovelier model than one from pink satin, flowered with white and black sprigs, and draped in knots of black baby ribbon velvet. The body of the skirt is cut into deep vandykes, which fail over two frills of lace. A length of beading, pierced with narrow velvet, defines the vandykes. The simplest thing to make in an ordinary skirt is one of circular shape with those bias trills. The ruffles are not hemmed at all, but are turned outward under an edging of white ribbon, flecked with corselet, are most worn. Fur capes, black or black touched out with white. This use of narrow ribbons is approved also for petticoats of more modest material; light nougat moreen, figured challie or plain cashmere.

> A gown that is very much out of the ordinary is this one in the Empire style. It is intended for evening wear, but a woman who did



in her dress might utilize the model for a very comfortable house gown ----

and I am going-Mrs. Durrell looked up eagerly, and a warm flush crept into the matronly face. "Of course, you've accepted him," she exclaimed.

the question," said the girl, her over i dropping and a pretty blush mantling tor's skill, Miss. Durrelling sale the dark cheeks. "Why, mother, how ; you have upset me! As it 'Squire Raynor could think of me in that light work; at for the rest it was all He's only asked me to teach the sum- 'to come.' answered Carris. mer school. Do you think I can?".

widow. "Why, it is just the chance motheriess boys," returned you need above all others; and Lu, if Raynor, feelingly. "Why show you are smart, you can be mistress of have done so? You are set Raynor Hall before Christmas."

shoulders gave a very slight upward hastening away with a raise perp motion. She cared more for a look countenance. for all 'Squire Raynor's wealth, his big house, conservatories and all, but the did not care to tell her mother so.

rate," she said, after a while, very gazed at the ploture thoughtfally the thoughtfully. "It is eighteen dollars a month and board, and I can walk the distance easy enough from home." And mother " without stopping to hear her mother's further expression she tripped away merrily humming "Auld Lang Syne."

"Don't you see how luck favors In." observed the widow. "She will win the 'Squire, and I don't know of anybody Durrell-Carrie. You can make the else who would make him a happler or happy, and and I love you will a more careful wife. Now, Carrie, if you not stay, Carrie my Carrie and can bring Stapleton to terms, I can go . me happy down to my grave feeling cary and knowing that you are all settled."

"Oh, mother, you mustn't say any. thing about dying yet," said Carrie, talling away from the main issue for . reasons of her own. "But I am sure you need not worry about either Lau or me. We can take care of ourselves, I am sure."

"No woman can take care of herself," declared Mrs. Durrell, with strong assurance. "She needs a husband and children. I don't believe in single women at all. But it's no use talking to you, I suppose. Some to ks don't know: what's good for them," with which she gave a ball of butter a finishing slap us if to give emphaisis to her words.

Carrie splashed the dandellons up and down in the water, and smilled placidly, her temper not at all disturbed by her mother's imputation concerning her perceptive qualities that the widow would have had an anoplectic fit if she had known all that was in her daughter's mind.

Lar's school began Monday of the sec ond week after the conversation is the summer kitchen, and Mrs. Darrell never was so proud in her life as when she saw her daughter ride away with Squire Raynor in his encopied planta. "Mark my word, she'll ride in that an her own before the year is out." the said to Carrie, "unless above here

faculty." · A BERNSTER ALL

Mrs. Durroll was one of th NULL CONTRACTOR OF THE STRUCT

"The others did not think it w "Of course you'll take it," cried the . duty to risk their lives to

"Oh, no, 'Squire Raymon, of But a couple of weeks after when Frank and Harry water play for the first line on 1 lawn and Carris sal on the So "I think I will try the school at any, crochet work, the Squirs came o "Boys, said he at length. "how you like a mother, a real mice." "Oh, ever so much.", cried Har

"that is, if we could have Miss Date "Oh, you sifly boy!" Desan Carrie

she was interrupted by the Bouten

And he knew by the look in her at that she had not refused him. Mrs. Durrell was inunderstruck ar she learned the news. To think after all Carrie, who had no bar faculty for anything, should have 'Squire Raynor the great man be village." best all." as she express

But the surprises were not si for Lau picked up courage the night to tell her motive and that Stapleton had proposed and that her consent, they were to be marrie Christmas. Go along and marry if you want to cried her and "Girls are the queerest cristlares in world, and I really believe Jo been conspiring against your mother, she who brought you world and slaved herself to your account." "Why mether, it is so said Lu, solus and the CANCE DALLING TENIC COLLEGE will Love goes. You not come by chiling. The second second second

STATISTICS PROVIDENT AND ADDRESS OF Con- in Portland Charge 

