and Vienna for the real master pieces in a season's wardrobe. The
great dressmakers and milliners go to the same cities for their new
models. Those who can not go abroad seek inspiration and ideas from
those who have gone or those the fashion plates they import. The
French or Viennese mode started on upper Fifth Avenue spreads to
23rd St., from 23rd St. to 14th from 14th Street to Houston and
Canal. Each dress seen it reproduced in materials a little less
elegant and durable, its colors a trifle vulgarized, its ornaments
cheaper, its laces poorer. By the time it reaches Houston St.
the $400 gown in brocaded velvet from the best house in Europe has
become a cotton velvet from Lawrence or Fall River
become decorated with mercerized lace and glass ornaments from
Rhode Island! A travesty and yet a recognizable travesty. The
East side of Fifth Avenue has done it original. The
very shop window where it is displayed is dressed and painted and
lighted in imitation of the uptown shop. The same process goes on
inland. This same gown will travel its downward path from New York
to Buffalo, from town to town until it arrives in some cheap and gay
mining or factory town. From start to finish it is imitation, and
on this imitation vast industries are built! — Imitations of silk, of
velvet, of lace, of jewelry, in varying grades of quality until the
end in the chain of these imitations are a far greater
extravagance cheaper as they are in the
buyers' minds the original work.
soundness must be forever duplicated, instead of freeing industry to go ahead producing other goods and permanent things.

What it all amounts to is that the instinct for ornament has gotten the upper hand of a great body of American women. We have failed so far to develop standards of taste, fitness, and quality strong, sure and good enough effectually to impose themselves. There is no national taste in dress; there is only admirable skill in adapting fashion made in other countries; there is no national sense of restraint and proportion. It is pretty generally green that getting all you can is entirely justifiable. There is no national sense of quality, even the rich to-day in the country, wear imitation laces. The effect of all this is a bewildering 

Sheep-like willingness to follow to the extreme the grotesque and the fantastic. The very general adoption of the ugly and meaningless fashion of the last few years—peach-basket hats—hobble-skirt—slippers for the street—is a case in point. From every side this is bad—defeating, destroying, purpose in the line of the corrupting national taste and wasting national substance.

Moreover the false standard it sets up socially is intolerable. It sounds fantastic to say that whole bodies of women place their chief reliance for social advancement on dress, but it is true.

[Underlined]

They are or are not as they are gowned! The worst of the fantasy, moreover is not that it forces too much attention from useful women but that it gives such poise and assurance to the ignorant and unlearned.

If you look like the women of a set, you are as "good" as they are, is the democratic standard many a young woman holds. If, for any reason she is not able to produce this effect, she shrinks from contact, whatever her talent or charm! And she is not altogether wrong in think she will not be welcome if her dress is not that of the circle to which she aspires. Many a woman indifferently gowned has been made to feel her difference from the elegant she found herself among. If she is sure of herself and has a sense of humor, this may be an amusing experience. To many, however, it is an embittering one.

Now these observations are not presented as discoveries! Recently in New York, a critic of these little essays sought to discredit them, because there was "nothing new" in them! They are not offered as new. The writer has never so far in her life made any discovery or had any ideas which she had not been able to trace
at least, as far back as the Greeks! She is unable to see anything in the so-called
woman's movement, which in its essence did not exist then. The stream of human
aspirations, with its stretches of wisdom and of folly, has flowed steadily through
the ages and on its troubled surface, man and women have always struggled together
as they are struggling today. These little comments are not offered as new but as
old truths. They simply seem to the writer worth making because for the moment they
are not getting as much attention as they perhaps deserve. Certainly the tyranny
dress exercises over the woman in this American Democracy is an old enough theme.
Indeed it has always formed a part of her program of emancipation. Out of her revolt
again against its absurdities, has come the most definite developments in American cos-
tume which we have had, and that is the sensible street costume, which in spite
of efforts to distort and displace it, a woman still may wear without differentiating
herself from her fellows. The short skirt and jacket, the shirt-waist and stout boots
allowed today, are among the many good things which the Women's Rights movement of
the 40's and 50's secured for us. When those able leaders made their attack
on man, demanding that the world in which he moved alone, be opened to them,
they were quick enough to see that if they succeeded in their undertaking they
would be hampered by their clothes. They did not say:
True they did not increase in their historic list of "injuries and usurpation on the part of man towards women" the---. They did not say:
"He has compelled her to hamper herself with skirts and stays, to
decorate her head with rags and puffs, to paint her face with poisonous
compounds and walk on the streets in foot gear which is neither suitable
or comfortable."
This statement, however, would have had exactly the same degree of truth if a separate which were included in the historic "list of grievances" as much as the declaration:

"He has compelled her to submit to laws in the formation of which she has had no voice."

"He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her."

Wore admitted to

Dress reformers quickly sprang up in the ranks of the agitators. The initial revolt was thorough-going. They discarded the corset, discarded it when it was still improper to speak the word! They cut off their hair in a day when every woman owned a chignon and many were still in fashion. They discarded the corsets, cut off their hair and adopted bloomers!

The story of the bloomer is piquant. It was launched and worn. It became the subject of platform oratory and had its organ. Why is it not worn today? No woman who has ever masqueraded in man's dress or donned it for climbing, will ever forget the freedom of it. Yet today the only woman in the Christian world who wears it at once naturally and with that touch of coquetry which is necessary to carry it off, as far as this writer's observations go, is Madame Dieulafoy, and Madame Dieulafoy is protected by the French government and an exclusive circle."
The pity of it is that the young girls were not all that they were, early in the 18th century. At 70 cents a dozen (the original model probably sold for 25 cents a pair), they were a real bargain. At 70 cents a pair, they were valuable pieces of jewelry. The original model sold for 25 cents a pair, but those who bought them were not always able to afford them properly. Moreover, they were bought not for a day, but for a lifetime. The penalties were high for those who couldn't afford to buy them. The tears, the snow, the rust, the wear all took their toll. The poor little victims were buried and forgotten. But even before they died, the tears belatedly fell. Many of their stories are bright on the insides and pages, particularly the sad and fancy stories.

And the conclusion is: it is better to be under threat once a year or two than to be free but to feel we are poor. But one thing is for sure: the children are always armed by a freer elan. They are not the natural...
reason—"Wanted to dress like other girls."
"Wanted pretty clothes."

This habit of buying poor material due not end in the vast life with her clothes. When she married she came it in her house. Declining not furnishing is the key note to all she bought. "The house and shop 2 it is she now in the best part of the elaborate piece 2 machine furniture, huge draperies covering everywhere."

Which I filled the slope of the chair which all furnished by the Michael Louis's firm.

Was similar to expect anything else. Of course she is imitating her employer's wife, also imitating that the laundries wife who is imitating the first citizen. Which is imitating the first citizen and why we 1 the shops she 2 to say if not in imitating something in Paul's "Hama."
Ah, was all this my relation to national property

done with the

What was all this to the little people.

The effect on the family budget is clear:

The effect on the family budget.

Million dollar loss.

In the course of permanent value,

acquired & the good times underlying.

All "all work" gone - the "bread clinic" of

a coat - those standards gone.

While the newly acquired "old" is a work.

The furniture, such as a dining room,

dining room is a price.

These furniture, as such, are expensive.

Purses, such as money, to guarantee

are objects of considerable expense.

In this line, by the name of

the daughter.

The name of the old name is a money.

This produce is a money, that's the money

and to substitute a new name for

gram & stamp.

This furniture, what is it - but a piece of

cloth - cheap cloth - cheap material.

What is it - but waste?

2 maladies - poor money & simple,

which has gone underneath.

Thus far shall value.
Whatever may have been fruit in Peruvian 
strangely which has no goodness or merit 
which because of their different cast of 
integrity & temperament must be more or 
duplications instead of pressing industry to 
preach productivity until paid & 
permanent strides.

What it all amounts to is that 
the mind of the ornament has gotten 
the upper hand of a past ideal of 
American nature. We have failed so far 
to develop standards of taste, fineness, and 
quality, shining over and over again 
effectively to inspire themselves. This is 
still in a way an ominous grade 
in other countries. There is no national 
dense of national proporions. It is pretty 
generally true that setting all else aside 
is entirely meaningless. There is no 
natural desire of getting quality 
from the new world in this country of 
the old advice of malt liquor. The effect of 
all this is that & all of 
a bewildering