# Confessions of a Lady's Maid.

BY JEAN CARRINGTON.

WATER WAVES.

BRILLIANTINE ON BRUSH.

APPLY WHITE OF EGG WITH BALLS OF FINGERS.

DOING UP HAIR.

TONIC ON HAIR.

"MY mistress," said a French maid, with an expressive shrug of her shapely shoulders, "was—how shall I express it—not exactly noveau riche and yet scarcely le grande monde, as it were. But certainly madame was pretty in a way, in capable hands she would have been beautiful and I soon made her so.

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"She came of one of those Puritanical families, incredible to my country women who seek to think it a deadly sin to preserve and bring out whatever of beauty and charm le bon Dieu has gifted them with.

"But when she married a man of society the first thing he did for her was to engage a competent maid, a Parisienne, cela va sans dire.

"I found that madame had a beautiful skin, but her hair had no charm at all. It was dead looking, a dull brown, with no gloss or life. My first duty was to get it into condition, for if the natural tresses are ugly no aids to the coiffure, switches, puffs, braids, etc., can be worn becomingly.

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"Every other night I treated madame's hair with a good tonic, first parting the locks and applying it to the scalp with a nail brush. The sort of tonic to use depends naturally on what is the trouble with the hair.

"Mamade's hair was falling a little and I used a formula of my own with which I have had results most excellent.

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"But certainly it improved her hair marvelously. It is of very simple construction. Tincture of nux vomica, one-half ounce; alcohol, one ounce; spirits of rosemary, one ounce.

"Then, every two weeks, oftener in Summer, when she went out every day in the automobile, I gave her a Parisian shampoo. The formula is not a secret, though I paid many francs to get it of a famous hairdresser in Paris.

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"It is a compound made by taking a small cake of good pure soap and melting it in twice its quantity of water. When it is all liquid you add about a teaspoonful of borax and a tablespoonful of cologne for scent. The white of an egg is whipped in with an egg beater. I have sometimes put in a drop or two of ammonia, but this is bad for the eyes.

"With this liberally spread upon the hair I give the scalp a thoroughgoing massage. Then I rinse the hair. The rinsing is the main thing. I rinse the hair for five minutes by the clock, using water as hot as is agreeable to the patient. The art of shampooing lies entirely, I believe, in the rinsing. Unless that is well done there is no clean hair.

"When the hair is thoroughly dry it is ready to be dressed, but first it must be burnished to bring out the color and make it shine. For this I always use brilliantine, naturally I prefer the French, but there are also some excellent American kinds to be had.

"I drop a very little on to the palm of one hand, then apply the fine bristled brush to this and brush lightly the surface of the hair. When this is done I rub gently the hair with the same palm to which I have applied the brilliantine to give it an added lustre.

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"Then the hair is waved, a loose natural wave is the mode at present. If, for any reason, time presses, I wave the hair most carefully with a hot iron, but most certainly the best, most natural looking wave is made with the old-fashioned hairpin with the clasp at the end. Do you understand what I mean? The kind used by our revered grandmothers.

"The hair should be lightly twisted up on these and allowed to remain a few hours. Over night is better. They can be hidden by a coquettish cap. When they are taken out the wave is brushed nearly out, just enough being left to make a fascinating undulation that is, oh, so becoming and takes years off madame's age.

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"Now, the hair can be dressed high or low as is most becoming, and a good maid should make it her business to find out the most becoming pose. She should be an expert hairdresser and know how to arrange a fashionable coiffure like an expert, otherwise she should resign from her profession.

"If her hair has been treated as I have advised, when you do it up be very sure it will have some life to it. You can fluff it and fasten on your braids and other artifices. Your pompadour will sit close to your head and not seem to stand out from it in that exasperating way, and your puffs and curls will fit your coiffure as if they grew there."