

jelly, and every time he mentions it, I am sorry that I do not know how to make it. Please, dear Mother, teach me that secret by the first chance you have after receiving this, that is, if the French allow this letter to reach you.

For the information of my dear sister Therese, I take the liberty of using a little of your paper to tell her about the fashions—the hair is usually arranged in little curls in front but at the back, instead of being raised, is rolled into a round knot. Hats are surprisingly large. The way to trim them is to put a piece of ribbon straight all around the crown, with a buckle, and the ends hanging at the left side. One or two ostrich plumes of any color whatever, arranged in the front of the hat, is the height of fashion. They are worn very far back on the head and are drawn down at each side by a handkerchief of gauze or muslin, or even a piece of ribbon the same as that on the hat tied under the chin. But the muslin must be thin and not double. The fashion is to arrange it in folds from the top of the crown and have the corner show, which is very pretty when embroidered. Now that's enough for the head, let us say something about the gowns. The bodice is extremely short, and the neckerchief arranged in a way to show the breast. Sashes are very long and in folds at the front so as to make them narrow, since the width of the sash lengthens the bodice. Skirts are made to trail at the back like a court dress, but not nearly so long. Big sleeves are still in fashion, and there is nothing so vulgar as to see silk stockings the least bit blue. They must be white as snow. Here you have the styles, but I would not advise my dear sister to follow them in everything, for the short bodice is a disgrace and above all for young girls. The open neckerchief does not accord with my idea of modesty, but I thought my good sister would be pleased to know how people dress now. I intend to write to her by the first opportunity that presents itself.

My happiness was very great, dearest Mother, to see by the letters from the family that you all enjoy such good health. My beloved father says that if he could persuade