the proper figure which was very "wasp like".
There were skirts & petticoats galore and the weight of such was formidable. The crinoline was a hooped skirt over which the rest of the clothing was worn or hung ~~an~~ These hoops were somewhere about 7 or 8 in number, conveniently placed from the bodice down wards, each succeeding hoop downwards a little larger than the upper one until the bottom hoop would be about ~~three or~~ four feet in diameter. So that the circumference would be in the region of ~~nine or ten feet~~ twelve feet or more. It was a very graceful dress in appearance". No doubt at Court functions this would coincide with the very tight fitting clothes worn by the men folks. ~~I~~ For general use now they would be out of place, & it would not be very convenient to get into a motor vehicle. This fashion went out somewhere about the late Sixtys. Later came the bustle which was an abridged form to take the weight of the clothing but was only ~~an abridged form~~ worn ~~wer~~ at the back~~side~~, and the round hoops were therefore dispensed with. The older women in particular wore bonnets instead of hats, with a white frill just inside above the fore head. There was no bobbing of the hair and the elderly women wore their hair in a bunch & held together in a net of very fine material, which was practically indistinguishable from a distance. With the younger women the fashions

were different, and it was a work of art to dress up the hair with fine plating, and in addition the side locks were all drawn up and encircled folds of hair of other species, several of these folds one on top of the other, reaching about three inches higher than the crown of the head, called shignons, the plaited hair at the back was nicely folded up behind the head and the whole held together with an abundance of hair pins. The hats worn on top of all this was was also somewhat elaborate, and adorned with feathers of various colours and ribbons also.
I mentioned the corsets used, and I call to mind that with the tight lacing, it was no uncommon thing for ~~fo~~ some of those wearing to faint whilst in an assembly such as at Church. I have heard it recorded of one mother on seeing a person faint in Church said to her daughter alongsid "Now dont you be the next".
I mentioned that about seven yards of material was required to make a dress skirt, but a considerable portion was made up in "flounces", that was tucks put in & all around the bottom of the skirt, as many as nine or ten of these over the fashion. Now a days this lower portion that was used to decorate the dress is taken up with vacancy, & the legs open to view. ~~The~~ But what a fillip it would give to the clothing industry, if the older fashions came into vogue again.