

Excerpt from "Skirts for the Men." *Chicago Tribune*. March 21, 1895.

SKIRTS FOR THE MEN

EXPERT OPINIONS ON DR. SARAH HACKETT STEVENSON'S IDEA

Dr. Thomas, While Taking Considerable Interest in the Dress Question Just Now, Is Not Prepared to Give an Unqualified Assent to the Proposed Reform—A.S. Trude Fears He Might Be Mistaken for Minnehaha When He Goes Hunting Among the Indians.

The Tribune's cartoonish has taken artistic liberties with Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson's idea of dress reform. Dr. Stevenson did not say a word about puffed sleeves, or crinoline, or big hats, or stuffed birds for hat ornaments, or most of the accessories that the cartoonist has so successfully depicted. What Dr. Stevenson did say in The Tribune about men's dress, actual and ideal, was this:

There is not a single graceful line in masculine attire. For my part I believe men would look better if they wore skirts. In fact, men did wear skirts in the long ago. When men wear short skirts on the stage how much more graceful they appear. In fact, I think a

change in men's attire is to be commended, and nothing would be more graceful for evening wear than knee breeches. Harriet Hosmer calls our statues "betrousered obituaries," and I think she is about right. In England the deans wear knee trousers and buckles.

Still, it will be seen that Dr. Stevenson's idea is more or less revolutionary, sufficiently so at any rate to arouse much interest among the sterner sex. Several representative men were yesterday asked what they thought about the subject. They were evidently intensely interested, but man-like they persisted in concealing their deep emotions under a mask of levity...