

frame; these will be ready to plant out by the end of April, at which time the boxes are turned out, one side being removed, and the mass planted in the centre of a bed. The bed is then filled up with the young plants from the 3-inch pots; those out of the boxes, being oldest and strongest, take the lead and keep it; Thus the plants in the centre of the beds, being the highest, a striking effect is produced.

## MRS. GRUNDY'S GATHERINGS.

### DESCRIPTION OF PLATE.

*Fig. 1.*—A silk dress of delicate apple green silk. The skirt has three flounces, edged with fringe of the same colour. Basque waist, fitting close to the form; open in front, and ornamented with bows of ribbon, loose pagoda sleeves, with slashed over-sleeve, to correspond with the basque, which is slashed at the sides, and ornamented in like manner with the sleeves and niches and bows of ribbon. Bonnet, white silk.

*Fig. 2.*—Is a dress of rich royal purple silk. The skirt is ornamented with eight flounces alternate black and purple. Basque waist, fitting close to the form, and descending in deep points, edged with narrow fringe; open in front, and worn with a black silk under vest; each side of the opening is finished with graduated bands of silk about an inch wide, edged with narrow fringe, and ornamented with black buttons. Pagoda sleeves, finished at the bottom in Vandyke points, and narrow bands of silk edged with fringe, and a row of buttons running up the inside of the arm. The cap is of rich Honiton lace, tastefully arranged with blue ribbons; collar and under-sleeves to match.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON FASHION AND DRESS.

The variety of head-dresses adapted for evening costume is on the increase. In addition to many new coiffures composed of flowers, foliage or feathers, we have seen several consisting entirely of pearls, coral, or jet. Those formed of a combination of flowers and ribbon, may, however, be mentioned as among the most tasteful which have yet appeared. Some of the new coiffures consist of several rows of excessively small foliage in crape or velvet, the rows being disposed crosswise in the trellis or net manner. These nets of foliage are intermingled with lilies of the valley in gold, and are intended to cover the plait of hair at the back of the head; they are fixed on each side by pendent

sprays of the foliage composing the net and lilies of the valley in gold combined with sprays of the flowers above mentioned. Head-dresses in the net form, like that we have just described are also made in coral and pearls. One of the most elegant of pearl nets is surmounted by a demi-coronet formed of foliage in pearl. This coronet passes across the upper part of the head, and is finished on one side by small bouquets of flowers in pearl.

The newest evening dresses include one composed of light blue terry velvet. The skirt has a front trimming consisting of two perpendicular rows of blonde, the rows being spaced at the lower end of the skirt, but approximating to a point at the top. The corsage is low and pointed with revers of blonde lace falling over it. The sleeves which are short and puffed, are trimmed with the same lace. This dress was worn a few evenings since with a hood, bracelet, and carrying of garnets encircled by turquoises. The hair was ornamented by long pendent sprays of flowers and foliage placed at each side of the head and drooping towards the shoulders. The flowers were composed of light blue velvet and the foliage of garnet colored velvet.

Another evening dress has just been made of pink crape, and trimmed with three rows of pink feather fringe intermingled with pearls. The corsage has a berthe formed of this fringe, and the sleeves are ornamented with a trimming of the same. We may here mention that one of the prettiest trimmings recently introduced for dresses of black velvet or moire antique is black feather fringe, in which stars of jet are at intervals intermingled.

One of the new velvet dresses is of a beautiful cerise color. The front of the skirt is ornamented with a *tableir* embroidered with jet, set on in a lozenge pattern. The corsage is low and pointed; the same embroidery of jet which ornamented the skirt is repeated on the corsage in a smaller pattern. The sleeves, skirt and buffante, are ornamented with jet. A berthe of Honiton lace is added to the corsage, and the sleeves are edged with the same lace. The jewels to be worn with the dress just mentioned, consist of brooch, bracelet, and earrings of brilliants. We have seen among the embroidered pocket-handkerchiefs imported from Paris, several having designs suggested by the War. In one, the crescent forms a conspicuous feature; the waved or scalloped edge, which surrounds the handkerchief, being formed of a