

# The DEAN & ATOR

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## Remarks on Current Fashions.

Half-long coats were accorded a very lukewarm reception last year, many tasteful women declaring that they were ungraceful and decidedly unfriendly to all figures below medium size. Now, however, they are universally admired.

Dressy coats in Louis XIV. and Louis XV. styles appear in the newest dinner gowns, street costumes and bridesmaids' toilettes, their fabrics and decorations varying, of course, according to the uses for which they are intended. In the former shape skirts are attached by curved hip-seams, while in the latter the parts are seamless from shoulder to lower edge.

The Louis XIV. coat is more becoming to women with prominent hips than the coat which has no cross-hip seams.

For top garments rough, soft woollens,

smooth, firmly woven damasks, Bedford cord and silk, woollen and cotton corduroys are fashionable; but it is impossible to predict which will be most popular.

Gay linings will be seen as frequently as heretofore. Printed sateens, changeable Surahs, glossy printed China silks, damassé silks in plaids and stripes, and brilliant taffetas will be chosen to line thick coatings and thinner woollens, the latter being also interlined with cotton flannels or, as they are often called, cotton plushes.

These flannels are shown in many colors and thicknesses, and those of lighter texture are used for lining trains, and even for mak-

ing foundations to wear under skirts of light-weight silks or satins

English box-coats and top-coats (the former double and the latter single breasted) have strapped seams and double-stitched raw edges when fine-textured cloths are used for their development. The fronts are underfaced and the sleeves lined with silk in some dainty, harmonizing hue.

The new long top-coats may also show strapped seams and double-stitched edges if their materials are not too loosely woven.

Rather masculine pocket-laps are among the most charming features of Autumn coats, which, by-the-bye, will continue fashionable throughout the Winter.

English frock-coats are double-breasted, and their finely curved skirts are added in hip seams. These coats will stylishly supplement outdoor costumes for early Autumn wear. They are longer than the historic French coats and have pocket-laps on the hips, two buttons at the back, three at each wrist and a double row on the breast. The buttons may be of metal or bone.

An elegant walking costume consists of a tucker, vest, blouse or shirt-waist of silk and a skirt and a frock coat of Bedford cord or any of the handsome cool-weather materials.

The English frock will be popular in velvet or plush with all sorts of skirts.

The fashionable top-garments for walking and shopping are trim, of elegant shaping and plainly finished, while coats for indoor and visiting wear are enriched with handsome garnitures, elaborate vests, platings suggesting Medici collars, etc.

Long cloaks and short capes having yokes, raised shoulders and high collars will be fashionably developed in flexible woollens, with pretty linings and a reserved amount of feather trimming.

Richly figured wool goods are best suited to cloaks that show no folds.

Circular wraps with prettily lined ecclesiastical hoods are once more in vogue.

The new basques show high collars or ruffs with dainty linings, and hip trimmings of various kinds, such as fitted or gathered short skirts, fringe-like garnitures, gathered laces, and puffs that remind one of a portrait by Holbein.

High, full waists will be worn under low-cut, corselet-like bodices of rich fabrics that are ornamented with glowing garnitures.

Bell skirts will be more generally favored than they were during the Summer. Tall women find them very becoming, especially in house fabrics. Made of dignified materials for outdoor wear they are both stately and graceful.

Lighter colors are promised for indoor gowns, although black trimmed with jet, laces or floral garnitures will be much admired.

It is said that long, plaited cloaks with high shoulders and square yokes will soon be made of satin lined with the same material in a figured variety.

A decided reversal of former modes is displayed in silk skirts decorated with short kiltings or flouncings of wool goods, and worn with woollen basques, coats or waists showing silk sleeves finished with edgings or platings of the woollen material.



FIGURE NO. 339 R. FIGURE NO. 340 R.

LADIES' TOILETTES.—(The Front Views of these Toilettes are Shown on Page 164.)