

## THE FASHIONS.

Fig. 1. *Evening Toilette*.—Pink silk skirt, trimmed with five flounces of plaited white tarlatan, each flounce being sewn on with a row of black velvet; pink silk bodice, low and square, and trimmed with plaited white tarlatan and black velvet; black velvet waistband and sash. The bow in the hair is partly made of velvet and partly of pink satin. Gold necklet, with jet drops; earrings and bracelets to correspond; white gloves; pink satin shoes, with white lace rosettes, and black velvet loops in the centre.

Fig. 2. *Green Satin Dinner Dress*.—Green satin train skirt, the shade called "gas green;" long tunic of Chantilly lace, looped up at the sides with two large bows of a darker shade of green satin. The lace overskirt forms a *tablier* in front, and a *pouf* at the back. High satin bodice to match the skirt, fastened half way to the top with buttons of the same colour; lace bodice, high at the back, and open and square in front; a lace ruche, with a green satin ruche in the centre borders the top; sash of the darker shade of green satin; gold ornaments and locket; green satin boots, with a black satin rosette on each instep.

Fig. 3. *Indoor Toilette*.—Train skirt of dark claret *faute*, bordered with two box-plaited flounces, which measure eight inches in front and twelve at the back. High bodice with *basque* fastening, with claret satin buttons. The sleeves have epaulettes and cuffs, scooped out at the edge and bound with satin. The *basque*, which is short in front and deep behind, is likewise scooped out, and is followed by two other *basques*, two satin loops, and two sash ends. Satin bow and waistband.

Fig. 4. *Indoor Toilette*.—Dark green cashmere dress. The skirt is trimmed four inches from the edge with a 4-inch band of velvet. The second skirt forms a single point in front, divided into two, and fastened from top to bottom with green velvet buttons; there are two points at the back. It is trimmed with a 2-inch green velvet ribbon. Jacket to correspond, made high, and with velvet *revers*; it forms two box-plaits at the back and a short *basque* in front. Cambric collar and cuffs. Louis XV. *pouf* of white lace, ornamented with small green velvet bows.

THE COURT TRAIN TOILETTE.—This toilette is composed of a skirt reaching to the instep, made of the same material as the rest of the dress, or only of the same tint, or of different colour and material. This skirt is trimmed with two flounces extending all the way around the bottom; then the front breadth is entirely covered with the same flounces, either to the belt or half-way up the skirt. A string is fixed above the second flounce on each side. Over this skirt is worn a court train, that is to say, a trained skirt minus the three front breadths, which is trimmed with velvet if the dress is silk, or with lace if it is velvet. Under this is a string, which is tied to that of the skirt. The bodice is like the train. This ball toilette, designed for persons who do not dance, is made of satin or moiré as to the skirt, and of light velvet as to the train and waist. One model will serve as a sample. Skirt of white moiré with green stripes very far apart, flounced with white lace surmounted by narrow bands of green velvet. Court train and low corsage of light green velvet. The train is edged all the way round with two flounces of white lace, with the straight sides sewed together and separated by a piping of white moiré. Coiffure composed of a small pouf of green velvet and a large white feather.

BALL DRESSES.—Ball dresses are extremely voluminous. For these dresses, and only for these, the crinoline is abandoned—that is to say, the hoop-skirt with steel springs; this is replaced by three or four skirts of muslin or stiff gauze, the back breadth of which is trimmed from the top to the bottom with flounces; the first of these skirts is rather short, the second longer, and so on to the last, which is of the same length as the dress; this is covered with the silk or satin skirt, over which the ball dress, of tulle,

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FIG. 1. EVENING TOILETTE.

FIG. 2. DINNER DRESS.



FIG. 3. INDOOR TOILETTE.

FIG. 4. INDOOR TOILETTE.

tarlatan, crêpe, lisse or crimped, or silk gauze is worn; these dresses are literally covered with ruffled flounces, ruffles, and puffs, arranged *en tournure* behind. To increase the size of the hips still more, the lower edge of the waist is often furnished with a scarf of the same material as the dress, about half a yard wide, which is draped in the middle of the back and under each arm; over the places where perpendicular folds form this drapery are set bows of ribbon or sprays of flowers. This scarf thus arranged (the upper edge is gathered as if it were a little skirt) takes the place of a pouf for ball toilettes, and calls to mind the draperies of the same kind seen in portraits of the reign of Louis XV.

The sleeves of dresses designed for evening toilettes are generally wide, or at least half wide; the pagoda sleeves, worn a few years ago, are again in vogue, richly trimmed with rather wide lace. For house dresses a kind of surcoat or basque is much worn, with long basques in front and a double basque behind, the first flat and long, the second attached to the belt and plaited. These surcoats are sleeveless, and are worn over high-necked and long-sleeved bodices of dresses of any kind whatsoever. They are sometimes of velvet. Good taste requires they should be of the same colour as the dress with which they are worn, the latter being generally trimmed with velvet, which is used universally now; the surcoat completes the toilette and harmonises with its trimming.

All the corsages of evening dresses, except for dancing parties, are open, square, or *en fichu*; the first, which are very open, are worn with a fichu of plaited tulle set inside, with some fine lace—point d'Alençon, point d'Angleterre, or point de Venise—set on flat around the opening of the corsage; the others (open *en fichu*), which are specially adapted to portly figures, are trimmed with two rows of lace, sewed together and set over the opening of the corsage; application d'Angleterre is the lace best suited for this kind of trimming. The dress is sometimes trimmed *en tablier*, with lace of the same kind that is used for the corsage. The fashion, indeed, permits the use of white lace, even on dark or black dresses, provided that the dresses are velvet or satin.—*The Queen*.

TIGHT LACING.—The Chester correspondent of the *Middlebury Register*, Vt., gives the following account of the death of a young lady in that town from the effects of tight lacing:

The cause of the death proves the terrible hold an accursed fashion has on the ladies of our day, and among its victims are the pure and the good. Tight lacing killed the poor, foolish girl. To such a fearful extent had this practice been indulged in, that the ribs were found lapped over one another, and the breast bone was pressed over one lung so that she had entirely lost its use. For several months previous to her death, this poor victim had been obliged to sleep with corsets on and tightened to the last notch, for the loosening gave such pain in the internal expansion that she could not bear it. This is but one instance; we have heard of similar cases within a short time. There is a child not out of Windsor county, whose head is flattened on either side as though a pair of squeezers had been applied to it. The mother has laced her child into this inhuman shape. Who can tell what misery is caused, not to this generation alone, by the unwomanly passion for a small waist.

DRESS IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The costume introduced by the missionaries, nearly fifty years ago, is still the dress of the native women. It consists of long skirts, high waists, immense conical bonnets, and apparently, no underclothing. The effect was laughable, as we met troops of pretty girls mounted astride of ponies, and dressed in the costume of our grandmothers' portraits, chattering and laughing gayly as they cantered along, their bright-coloured dresses fluttering in the wind, and scarcely concealing their well-rounded forms. It was not without much difficulty that the missionaries succeeded in making these children of nature adopt any dress whatever, even for decent attendance at church.