

Bathing Suits.



NE of the materials which will be very much used for bathing suits this season is lustre. Serge and flannel, especially the former, cling to the body in a most unpleasantly tenacious way, leaving the bather, when on the sands, a dripping, soggy looking object. One great advantage of lustre is that it will not cling; and further, the water runs off and leaves it glistening prettily in the sunlight. Another of the newest things is ticking, which also possesses the advantage of not clinging. Illustration 1 is of bright blue lustre, prettily tucked. No. 2 is a striking costume, such as a daring little French girl would don, of scarlet lustre braided in

worn for the country, and for these rice straw, either white or black, will be used. Geraniums and camellias of odd shades are to be used a great deal as trimming.

In order to illustrate what is going to be worn in millinery I will describe a few beautiful hats seen at the *Maison Violette* on Madison Avenue.

Amazon hat of black straw with handsome black plumes, on the side a bow of satin with rhinestone javelot stuck through it.

A very odd English walking hat of mordore straw with Prince of Wales crown and narrow biases of velvet "en jarretiere." The brim is covered with a wreath of violets. Goura quills on the left side.

A turban hat of blue and green straw has a narrow brim, but the crown is also the very popular Prince of Wales shape. Rosettes and drapery of blue moire taffetas ribbon with twists of white gauze and aigrette of natural preserved grass, which gives it a particularly smart appearance.

A dream in red is for a garden party. It has a ruching of red mousseline de soie around the straw crown; in the back quill-aigrettes, and as "cache peigne" red geraniums and a twist of the mousseline de soie.

A natty evening bonnet is an "Arlequin" hat of green straw with a sky-blue aigrette of ribbon. The whole shape is almost covered with forget-me-nots and leaves. This is a very

The trimmings may either be arranged in side panels as tablier, or as simulated drapery.

Capes, of which we may certainly be tired, but without which it seems hard to exist, are now of supreme elegance. They seem to more and more take the appearance of an accessory to the toilette rather than a garment. They are made a great deal of white, ecru, or black lace, upon a lining of white satin or light colored damask with complications of trimmings, frills, ruffles, plaitings, passementerie, appliques, and fringes of gold, silver, and jet. Thus they gain a very dressy appearance, and can no longer be worn with woolen costumes. They are short, full, and much trimmed in contrast to the longer capes, which are very simple. But for street wear jackets are generally preferred.

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The Jubilee craze while still fresh in the minds of every one, is on the wane. A few weeks ago, for instance, the Victorian bonnet with its lavish display of white ribbon bows, its red, white and blue plumes, its roses, thistles and shamrocks, was considered the correct thing to crown the most elaborate or the simplest coiffure, and frame faces of all ages and kinds. How often do you see one now? The fever of the times has abated a little, and the conviction has grown that they do not enhance the charms of the pretty faces of '97, whatever they may have done for features of the maids of



black, and worn with black stockings. No. 3 is blue and white ticking, with white duck collar trimmed with blue braid, the skirt bordered with a band of white duck and a line of narrow blue braid. No. 4 is a bloomer suit of white canvas finished with blue braid. No. 5 is of navy mohair and white braid.

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There is no better authority on the fashions of the day than Toilettes. It not only gives what is being worn, but anticipates as few journals have the art of doing, and long before they are really in, Toilettes tells us what is going to be the thing to wear during the coming months.

On the subject of hats Madeleine De Genraye says colored straws are almost the rule, although black is still preferred by a great many.

Picture hats are the thing, and the "amazon" is one of the favorites.

A great many have the trimming on one side, arranged from underneath the brim, which gives it a slight tilt, becoming only to youthful faces and looking ridiculous on others.

A great many Gainsborough hats will be

chic and simple headgear and most becoming to a blonde.

A very smart sailor is of mixed green and black straw. The oddity of it is that it has taffetas folds of all the different shades of green ruched on upward to the crown. On the left side black quills as aigrette.

A symphony in heliotrope is a wide shape of straw with mauve gauze and a profusion of roses, heliotrope, violets, and lilies of the valley as "cache peigne" and holding the brim high up in the back.

Lace also trims this season's hats to a great extent, and it makes such ravishing "tours de cou" or neck garnitures. I consider lace as a trimming or material the handsomest and most becoming thing for either young or old. In former years the only objection to it was its expense; but now that it may be had almost for the asking, and imitation lace being hard to detect from the real, and coming in such very pretty designs, everybody can afford it and ought to have it.

Skirts will be decidedly much trimmed either with ruffles of the goods themselves, if a sheer material, or with mousseline de soie.

sixty years ago. As a compromise—just a slight surrender of loyalty, and a little sacrifice of vanity—a modification has been evolved from the late extreme style, and although they are still seen, the Queen's colors are worn in a much more sensible and less exaggerated form.

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To be ridiculous is not to be convincing, and a parade of constancy to a bygone manner of dress convinces nobody of the undesirability of preferring the style of the present to that of the past. Fashion is the pivot upon which turns the commercial world, and those who denounce it as foolish, unnecessary and even sinful, have evidently failed to penetrate beneath its surface.

In the highest and best sense the ever-changing mode of our garments represents woman's eternal endeavor to reach the unattainable ideal of perfect beauty and grace. In another sense too, woman's apparel is the outward expression of her own individuality, and the woman of taste and culture will instinctively select the style which harmonizes with her personality.

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Blouses grow prettier and more elaborate