

four years of age. They are made to reach down to the top of the gaiters, the latter being of black velvet. Cloaks of the Talma form are in favour for very young boys. Some consist of black velvet, ornamented with embroidery in silk; others are composed of grey, blue and black cloth, and are edged round with embroidery either in black silk or in silk of the same colour as the cloak.

In the costume of little girls all the elegances of female costume is presented in miniature. As an instance of this, we may mention a carriage-dress prepared for a little girl of four or five years of age. The dress is composed of pink cachemere, and is trimmed with seven narrow flounces, scalloped and edged with white silk. Within each scallop a rose-bud is embroidered in white silk. To this dress is added a pelisse, or loose jacket, of pink satin lined with white silk, and trimmed with a rouleau of swansdown. The bonnet is composed of white plush, and is ornamented with a white ostrich feather streaked with pink; the inside trimming consists of a cordon of small roses. Pale-grey kid gloves and boots of grey cachemere complete the costume. The dress just described may serve as a model for others of a plainer kind, the degree of elegance imparted to it depending on the material employed and on the style of trimming. If, for example, the dress be made of napaea, merino, or poplin, the flounces may be ornamented with braid, narrow fringe, or bands of plush; the plush being either plain and of the same tint as the dress, or figured with a pattern in different colours. The paletot or Talma worn by little girls, is frequently made of the same material as the dress. Many little costumes, consisting of a dress and paletot of black velvet, have both garments trimmed with a band of black, pink, or blue plush. A very pretty walking costume is composed of a dress of pale slate-colour poplin, having five flounces edged with a band of blue plush, spotted with black, and set on in a wave. A Talma of the same poplin is trimmed with three rows of plush, and is finished at the edge by a row of fringe of three colours combined, viz: grey, blue and black. The bonnet is of dark blue velvet, trimmed with a black feather: in the inside are carnations in black and pink. Another consists of a dress of dark-green merino, trimmed with rows of black velvet placed horizontally in the Bayadere manner. A cloak of black velvet, trimmed with minever. Grey beaver bonnet, trimmed in the inside with a cordon or rouleau of curled feather, the colour being pink. Muff of the same fur as that employed in trimming the cloak; and green achmere boots.

Among the new ball-dresses prepared for Christmas parties there is one composed of white crape, with three flounces, each edged by a miniature wreath of roses with foliage. On the front of the jupe are placed four bouquets, consisting of lilies, roses, mignonette, and forget-me-not. The corsage is trimmed with two frills edged with small roses, and with bouquets of

flowers like those on the skirt. The sleeves are formed of bouillons of tulle intermingled with bouquets of flowers.

A mourning dress, suited for evening costume, has been made of black moire-antique, covered by three skirts of black tulle bouillonne, and profusely sprigged with jet. On one side the three skirts of tulle are raised each by a bunch of grapes formed of black velvet and gold beads. The corsage, in folds, is ornamented with two bunches of grapes similar to those on the skirt; one being placed in the centre of the bosom, and the other at the point in front of the waist. On each shoulder is placed a bunch of grapes. In the hair are worn an ornamental comb, bunches of grapes in gold and black velvet, with black velvet foliage, and, on each side, a black feather spangled with gold.

The new dresses of the season are being made even fuller than heretofore, and the skirts are expanded so as to display the ample flow of drapery.

We have seen some Opera cloaks of Parisian make, composed of white plush, and ornamented with coloured bands disposed either horizontally or perpendicularly. These cloaks are of the Burnous form, and have hoods lined with silk or satin of the same colour as the stripes or bands on the body of the cloak. They are edged round by a deep row of chenille fringe, and the two points in front are each finished by a tassel in chenille. One of the prettiest is bordered with bands of blue moire edged with gold. The fringe and tassels are of blue chenille intermingled with gold. Another, entirely white, is composed of plush, and lined with satin. Round the border is placed a wide ribbon of white moire. Three long tassels of white floss silk droop from the throat. The hood, which is lined with white satin, is trimmed only with a band of plush run in the inside.

NOSEGAYS.

Flowers should not be cut during sunshine, or kept exposed to the solar influence, neither should they be collected in large bundles and tied tightly together, as this invariably hastens their decay. When in the room where they are to remain, the ends of the stalks should be cut clean across with a very sharp knife (never with scissors), by which means the tubes, through which they draw the water, are left open, so that the water ascends freely, which it will not do if the tubes of the stems are bruised or lacerated. An endless variety of ornamental vessels are used for the reception of such flowers, and they are all equally well adapted for the purpose, so that the stalks are inserted in pure water. This water ought to be changed every day, or once in two days at the furthest, and a thin slice should be cleanly cut off from the end of each stalk every time the water is removed, which will revive the flowers.