

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.



THE HOME JOURNAL TORONTO CORRESPONDENT.

TORONTO, Jan. 8, 1892.

WE are right in the midst of a cold snap here—snow on the ground—windows frozen up, so that shop-keepers feel quite apathetic as to the dressing and arranging of the same—sleigh-bells jingling everywhere, mingled with the rumbling of the wheeled conveyances.

Everyone and everything seems to have taken on winter wraps. Furs, furs, everywhere; but fur boas do not seem to be in at all this season, while feather-boas-coque feathers and peacock feathers are among the handsomest and most expensive things shown. All kinds of fur, however, are worn. Long furs and short furs, mink, possum, Angora wool, Alaska sable, beaver and otter. The three-quarter length coats have the turn-down collar of fur, and edged with the same, and a green cloth costume with a three-quarter length coat, collar and edging of beaver, and a little flat cloth hat edged with beaver and a bunch of pink silky flowers nestling amongst ribbon loops makes an altogether "fetching costume." Seal is combined with Persian lamb and Astrachan, and right here I would say that Astrachan seems to be the most used this season of any kind of trimming. Astrachan on everything—hats, coats and dresses. It seems an odd idea to combine flowers with laces and fur, but you can't think how really pretty the effect is.

Blouses still hold sway both for

house and street wear. Bengaline (silk) has a very pretty, soft effect for a house blouse, but for street wear cloth of the same material as the dress is used, belted at the waist with the new and pretty silver girdles, or any odd design, in a leather belt. The length is a matter of taste to the wearer, but the longer the more fashionable this season.

Gaiters and gauntlets used to be confined to the male sex, but at present they seem to be quite the rage for women. Gaiters are very useful, as well as giving a finishing touch to a costume, for they come in all shades to match almost any costume; and fur gauntlets in this cold climate of ours are a perfect god-send, but I presume in your delightfully summery climate their beauty will not be appreciated, and you will shudder for your less fortunate sisters in the East. We have the advantage over you in many ways though—for who can deny the pure, unadulterated pleasures of a sleigh-drive over the new-fallen snow; the bracing air and swift motion, putting such delightful touches of pink and red to the cheeks, and making eyes sparkle and wits keen? We like our climate quite as much as you like yours, for each has its own peculiar charm.

Street costumes for this month seem to be of the most shaggy and rough material to be found, the rougher and shaggier the more fashionable. Soft henriettas for the street are considered passe, but how delightful they are for house-dresses and tea-gowns. They fall in such graceful folds and give a softening effect to even the most angular of forms. The bell skirt with its demi-train still holds sway. For the house it is decidedly a thing of beauty, combined with a pretty soft silk blouse in a light shade; but for the street in wet weather it is an abomination, especially when one is shopping, with one's hands full of parcels, umbrella, etc., etc., and is trying to grasp the tail of one's gown—it's simply awful. I trust their reign will be short, and that common sense will soon prevail over the dictates of fashion.

The slim girl is again the rage. Tall and slim and willowy she must be, and notwithstanding the evi-

dent preference of the male sex for the "plump" beauty, she must retire into the background for a short season, hence my precipitate disappearance.

Yours,
SUB ROSA.

Chas Rattray,



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