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## The Dawn of Spring Suggests Visions of New Millinery.

some of the Features in the Fashionable Headgear of Women-Inauturation Gowns to be Worn by the Daughter and Relatives of the President.

(By Our Own Reporter )

We are still struggling in the icy bonds of Winter, but already we feel a loosening of our fetters. The hard cold grip of the Frost-King is relaxing, the icicles are falling from his bowed and hoary head, and his snow crown is melting in the shimmering sheen of a lengthening sun shine. Soon the March breezes will glory will be torn from his grasp and torsed along on the wings of the whistling wind that clears the way for the entry of and flowers.

Old Mother Earth has set her children an example of fastidious taste and herself anew in splendid beauty of varying design. She travels a great deal in spite of her weight of years, and the dust of travel and the clinging endearments of her numerous offspring work great havoc among the delicate em-broideries and soft ermines of her wardrobe: so she keep a supply of light fleecy clouds and beautiful mist veilings which she wraps around her form to hide the defects of her raiment until her great dressmaker the Sun has time to renew her costumes. This is the reason, I think, while she is always tripping around in his neighbourhood. She is a brisk old lady and sometimes she finds the Sun rather slow, so she keeps turning constantly round and round to show him the flaws in her attire, and when he is very busy he covers the rents with a lovely green moss that makes them very attractive. The dear old earth is rather stout, and everything would not prove Now we find them with heads full of the coming of Spring, and while the birds are flying northward to join in the pushing their way up through the hard mold in search of the sunshine that woke them, earth's daughters, old and young, are hastening away to seek appropriate garments for the glad time. And they find an endless variety o form and texture to select from. Clever heads, skilled tingers and busy looms have been occupied in the preparation of materials.

and an exquisite confection in white fancy straw and mousseline de soie, suitable for a little girl. The most Striking features of this season's millinery sri the fancy straws, which are very effective; the combination of colors, the new arrangement of ribbon trimming, and the whip osprey. Foliage, chiffon and flowers will flourish luxuriantly amid ornaments of jet, steel and paste jewels in the early spring styles, but there is a taste and skill displayed in the arrangement of these materials that surpasses all previous efforts. To Mile. Virolle, the artistic and success ul de-signe for Meters. Caverhill & Kissock, we are indebted for the privilege of view-ing their extensive display before the regular opening. Mile. Virolle received her training in Paris : and the exquisite taste and deft skill of the Parisian adept are blended in her handiwork.

The shirt-waist is even more popular than ever. Already the counters are filled with lovely materials for the come hurrying along with the mad manufacture of this sensible and dainty joyous rush of a victory winning army, garment, which has won such a promiand then the last shred of Winter's grim nent place in woman's wardrobe. Its freshness, ease and comfort has made it forever," and it will not soon be cast aside. It adapts itself to all forms and spring and her royal followers of birds figures, and is within the reach of rich and poor alike. There are so many ma terials to choose from this season that one is bewildered with their beauty, and the only way out of the difficulty changing fashion, for every little while seems to be the selection of many inchanging fashion, for every first and robes she lays aside her garments and robes the lays aside her garments and robes cheviots, and fawns of last season are supplemented this spring by an array of d inty organdies, dimities, dotted Swiss in lovely tints and fine striped and embroidered linen muslins. There are single patterns containing sufficient material for one blouse; and these are of the finest gauzelike linen with tiny bouquets of rose buds or forget-me-nots in satin embroidery scattered all over their surfaces. The new models have the sleeves smaller, and yokes tucked crosswise with the fulness distributed in the centre. Detachable linen collars and cuffs are seen on many of the new designs. Some have plain turn-down collars and deep culls of plain white linen; others have immense white sailor collars with revers in front, bordered with tiny wash gimp the color of the shirt-waist.

More importance seems to be attached to the shirt waist than to the spring becoming to her, yet she displays excel jacket, although the latter comes first in lent judgment and refined taste in order of sensons. No particular fixed adapting new designs and trimmings to shape has been assigned to it and we see her matrculy form ; and always appear it in all its forms and of various malovely and charming. No wonder her terials The palest shades of ladies cloth daughters endeavor to model their and fine light-weight meltons are emtoilettes after the style of their ployed in the making of the more ele-fashionable and dignified mother. gant jackets seen this season. These are lined with satin of the same or a contrasting tint and are simply trimmed with fine silk stitching and expensive chorus of jubilation and the flowers are buttons. There are English jackets of severest tailor trim, and among the novelties Polish coats of bright red braided in black.

In the retail stores muslin is the sub ject of the hour. The thought of it makes you shiver perhaps, but if you see these particular dotted Swiss and the and even the sun has been outdistanced linen muslins you would forget February in manufactures, for the daughters of and its frist and revel in summer sunin manufactures, for the daughters of earth will be decked with flowers before he can offer their mother a spray. There are dainty linen muslins with satin stripes and Veal in-



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With hands filled with violets, Fashion leads on her willing votaries and soon every maid and matron in the land will wear her badge-a bunch of pnrple bkom-fastened upon their vestments. Violets, violets, everywhere. They will thrive upon the furry soil of your coat or mull; they will live, unharmed, in the grinning jaws of a mink ruff, and when they reach your hat they will run riot along its brim and over its crown, and peep from the curls of your hair-violete, violets everywhere.

Speaking of hats, reminds me of a visit I paid to a wholesale millinery establishment yesterday, and makes me think that perhaps you would like to know what novelties I saw there. Well, I shall be glad to tell you, but remember newspaper article even a shadow of the prevailing combinations, and the ingenuity displayed in the artistic arrangement of color and form was a marvel to one unskilled in the mys-teries of the art of millinery. For it is an art now-a-days when the chimney pot hat and the coal-scuttle bonnet with a ribbon stuck here and a feather stuck there with a Yankee Doodle recklessness are no longer tolerated. The masculine eye eclipsed in a theatre by an expansive hat m y not be able to discern the art in its creation, or, discerning it, may consider it a black art, that robs him of the enjoyment of another; but a masculine eye is not the best judge of such matters, if we may take the hard, polished, precise male head-gear as a criterion.

Dearme, how did I ever get away from the millinery and violets to man and the theatre? Well, to go back to the hatsthere was one little beauty of fancy straw, a round sailor-shape with black brim and a yellow crown of the same weave. A wreath of violet bouquets on a foundation of black velvet ribbon that was held by a bright steel buckle placed between each purple nosegay circled it found, and from the back waved a beau thul green whip osprey. There was an other pretty hat, odd shaped and brilliant, but very becoming. It was a Russian toque-so named because the Czarina of Russia wore one of this pattern on her recent visit to France. It will be one of the popular designs of this season. This particular Russian toque was of violet straw-rough weave, of course, with a glittering buckle fastened to its upturned brim and a curiously de soie; a band of mousseline de soie, stranged alart and a curiously de soie; a band of mousseline de soie, aranged cluster of violet and cream studded with pearls and gold beads, ex-hued ribbons springing upward from a tending down either side. A girdle of hued ribbons springing upward from a tending down either side. A given on the other. A sailor pearl and gold passementerie, high in the back and with butterfly effect in four completes the costume. foliage and green and white striped ribbon arranged in the new bow, which is

sertion running up and down their gauze like surfaces and the sheen of a delicate hued silk lining-mauve, green, pink blue, yellow or white-completes the exquisite beauty of effect. There was a pretty pale blue dotted Swiss muslin with a pattern of feathery chrysanthemums and a dainty dimity with maiden hair fern scattered all over it, beautiful crepons in lovely colors, and I could not nelp thinking what an irresistibly fascinating creature the summer girl will be this year of muslin, ribbon and lace.

Miss Mabel McKinley, daughter of the President-clect's brother, Abner McKin ley of New York, will make her debut at the ball, and she will be one of the belles. She is a beautiful girl of 18. Her ball gown is a heavy brocaded silk, of the it is not the easiest thing in the world to infuse into the cold black and white of a newspaper article oven a shorter of a decollete a little around the waist. It is varied and brilliant tints that met my decollete a little around the watter phere gaze. Violet, white and green were the and there with lilies of the valley. The and there with lilies of the valley. The sleeve is four inches long, of chiffon and caught up with flowers. A belt of white satin ribbon worn around the waist is finished at the right side with a pointed French bow.

> Miss Mabel will carry in her hand a large bunch of lilies of the valley. She will wear no jewels. Her mother will wear a gown of pearl gray, blue brocade satin. The costumes of both ladies will cost about \$5000.

Grandmother McKinley, as the President-elect's venerable mother is known, will wear a rich black satin gown, with plain demi-trained skirt, a short pointed waist of the same material, having a point lace front surmounted with soft white chiffon. The waist has a ripple back and Medici collar, the sleeves being finished in point lace, which also fur-

nishes the cap. Miss Grace McKinley of California, now at Mt. Holyoke College, will be in white crepe de chine, the neck being cut moderately low and the bodice draped and finished with plaiting and sprays of flowers. The sleeves, reaching to the elbows, are of crimped chiffon, tapering from the shoulder.

Mrs. A. J. Duncan, Major McKinlev's sister, will wear black brocade with Vshape neck and Medici collar of black chiffon, bands of white satin embroidered with gold and jet extending from shoulders to waist. The sleeves are puffed, skirt demi-train.

Mrs. S L. Bowman, Mrs. Duncan's married daughter is to wear a brocade of robin egg blue, the bodice artistically

Miss Sarah Duncan niece of Major Taring and wire mounted. There was Miss Sarah Duncan here brocaded satin, another little toque of bright red color dancing length, with flared skirt and

gown of flowered mousseline de soie over pink satin, with a flounce of lace about the neck. She is now at Smith College. Mrs. Garret A. Hobart will wear white silk with plain skirt and a corsage of unique design. A quantity of the ma terial is drawn in soft folds from right to left, and, combined with some rare old lace, is gathered at one shoulder under a knot of violets. Then it is brought in a soft fall over the corsage and fastened with violets to the other shoulder, falling over the back in soft, artistic draping. Diamonds will ornament the whole. Mrs. Mark Hanna's ball gown will be

defined with panels of pearl and emerald embroidery. The bodice, close fitting and pointed and relieved by lace, is crossed by this jewelled band, extending around the neck, and short puffed sleeves. On the right shoulder is a sun-

Miss Mabel Hanna's gown is of Nile green satin, full skirt, with striped gauze overdress, gathered with five rows of shirring at the waist. A round bodice, half low, is in alternate stripes of satin and gauze, two little revers coming from beneath a ruche of chiffon, giving a V-

and gauze, with Mechlin lace flounce and edging. The sleeves have chiffon puffs and are shirred at the shoulder.

will be worn all through the spring with

Linen collars worn with stocks are very neat. The half inch turnovers are

Street costumes have loose short jackets, showing a high belt, that close on one side with a row of fancy frogs, the same idea being carried out in a side

Windsor ties and ribbon are used in the place of a stock, but then a full collar is worn. A change can be made by using the jaunty sallor's knot instead of the regulation bow.

side of a bodice is a modish style of garni ure, whether the line be carried out on the skirt or not. It is pretty, and suits figures that could not stand the two lines of fluffiness.

A beautiful sofa-pillow was made from the fine pieces of wrought work on an old lace curtain, which was worn to shreds so far as the net was concerned. The lace designs were appliquéd on a cich shade of brown velvet, the cushions backed with a plain cream silk and

when all other preparations failed, that