

Chat of the Boudoir.

FILLS OF FASHION.

Silk petticoats are so important in these days, says a dress authority, when so much depends upon the skirt hanging well to give the gown the smart look that is its chief requisite, that more time than ever is spent in choosing colors and materials, and also in having the petticoat fitted well.

The best hanging petticoats are those that fasten at the side, are in circular shape, and have a deep attached flounce trimmed with ruffles and lace. The petticoats to wear with street gowns are made on the same lines as the ones for the evening gowns, but are much less elaborate in the trimmings, and the darker hued silks and brocades are used in preference to the lighter ones.

India silk and surah are chosen by some women in preference to taffeta, and they are, of course, much softer more clinging materials, and consequently seem more in keeping with the soft materials and the clinging effects that are so fashionable, especially in house gowns.

An elaborate and effective petticoat to wear with a ball gown is made with a short train, is of white satin, and on the circular flounce has rows of point d'esprit edging headed with lines of narrow black velvet, and on the point d'esprit itself are lines of the black velvet ribbon crossed and re-crossed to form squares. The material of the petticoat extends to the edge of the flounce, and is finished with pinked ruffles of taffeta silk.

A charming fashion, although of necessity an expensive one, is to have a petticoat made to match each gown or the lining of the gown. Taffeta is the most popular fabric, but pretty brocaded silks and satins are also considered smart. Another fashion is to have corsets and petticoats made to match and for this purpose brocaded silks and batistes are used.

Petticoats trimmed with lace ruffles and knots of ribbon are always effective, but not all new; and the embroidered muslin flounces which button on the petticoats and can be cleaned separately are far smarter. Muslin and cambric skirts will always be worn with simple wash gowns, and the prettiest of these are of the figured with lace insertion and having silk flounces that button on to the skirt below the flounces. These are always of taffeta silk and are finished with pinked edges.

Black silk petticoats are trimmed with ruffles of silk and lace, or with pleated flounces edged with pinked ruffles. They are only worn by people in mourning or with traveling gowns or skirts intended for general hard wear. Plain color taffeta petticoats, the same color as the lining of the dress skirt, are more fashionable than the all black, and the different shades of purple are the most popular.

The shaded taffetas make good petticoats and are more in favor than a year ago, but oddly enough are preferred in the darker colorings, shaded green and blue, or green and red especially. This season the checked or striped silk petticoats have been fashionable, with accordion plaited bias flounces trimmed with pinked ruffles in plain colors. Black and white effects are the smartest in these, but blue and white are effective also.

There are frugal minded mothers, with a good deal of reason on their side, too, who never look with favor on the plain woolen materials for school gowns, so frankly they do reflect all grease spots and ink stains. They make their choice only among the plaids, the checks, the broken stripes and the heather mixtures.

They are making these gowns up this fall on the very simple lines of the shirt-waist-frock that flourished in duck and gingham this summer. The corsage is made on the lines of the latest approved shirt waist patterns and the skirt is correspondingly simple.

There is opportunity here for the bright little belt and tie to work wonders. For instance, a coral morocco belt and the same shade of tie marry so well with a wood-brown chevrot frock and these accessories in turquoise blue give just the needed touch to a heather mixture frock where green predominates.

The new flannel and silk waists are beginning to show themselves shyly and promise delectable things for the coming season.

Of course, the plain shirt waist, plaited or tucked and worn with a fetching stock and girdle will be correct for certain wear, as it always is, but there are to be other shirt waists that make the humble name sound like profound irony.

Flannel, cloth and the heavier silks such as Louise, peau de soie and Liberty satin, will be the popular materials and wools

or silk and wools may follow the same model over cotton linings and bring the cost of the gown down to a very reasonable figure.

While the early importations of fall hats display few differences from the models worn during the summer, there is, however, a decided tendency to drop much of the former exaggeration in both the trimming and the flare at the left side, though the latter feature is still observable.

The picturesque Gainsborough, showing a modification in the turn of the brim and the mode of trimming, will undoubtedly become the most popular hat for ceremonious wear. When fashioned from flexible braids and ethereal textiles over fine wires this shape is capable of enough variations to insure almost universal becomingness, says the Millinery Trade Review.

The hat with a double brim—one of the novelties of the season—suggests innumerable possibilities in adornment. A wreath effect in silk and velvet roses, poppies or geraniums arranged between the edges all around and supplemented by a bow of black velvet ribbon falling over at the back is the usual trimming, though soft folds of tulle, chiffon or rich lace over tulle may be used instead of the floral wreath, and dainty little blossoms may be disposed at the left side on a bandeau to rest on the hair, with the inevitable bow of black velvet on top of the hat at the back, the ends falling gracefully over.

This type of hat will be fashionable in the satin straw and chenille and velvet braids for present wear and for late autumn as well.

The tricorne in a modified form will be popular for the autumn season, and it promises many interesting effects. The crown in the latest examples is flat, and the turned-up brim will extend far over it, being secured almost at the centre by a pretty ornament or a broad bow of velvet ribbon. An extreme novelty is a four-cornered hat forming a narrow square front and back, with long, straight rolled-up sides. The odd creation depends upon its adornment for its beauty and becomingness and should only be selected when adapted to the wearer.

Toques of chiffon, lace and tulle intermingled with soft silks or wide Liberty satin ribbons and adorned with flowers or ostrich tips and aigrettes, or others made of jetted and spangled nets in association with panne velvets, will be favored for dressy wear, while the smart turban with rather low crown and rolled brim, developed in the fancy braids and rich velvets, is also included in the autumn models.

Evening wraps now being shown by customers recall the style of preceding seasons in outline, but they are what the market offers the woman who prefers a becoming garment which she knows to a problem—one whose virtues are yet to be tested, says the New York Sun. The high Medici collars that have so long distinguished the short evening capes—the long ones, too, for that matter—have been found too universally beautiful to be done away with.

But a perfectly new detail with many of the short imported capes is a wide, three quarters length sleeves. 'Chinese sleeves' is the name they go under, and some of the China silk used for the little wraps is said to be from China.

Other pretty evening capes are made of silk poplin in white or pale colors, with which ochre-colored lace is sometimes combined with rich effect.

Skirts Clearing The Ground.

What a joy the 'walking length' frocks have been to us this summer! How nice it was to return from a scramble on the rocks or a ramble in the woods or a morning's boating in the outing skirt, and find the hem perfectly fresh, and the lustre of the binding undimmed by mud, dust, or soaked with sea water, says the Philadelphia Record. How much the short skirt simplifies the duties of the girl without a dressing maid only she can tell. The putting on of fresh skirt binding is a task only less repulsive than the removal of a soiled binding and the cutting away of the tattered fragments which result from letting a long skirt sweep along the streets.

The summer brought us a welcome relief from skirt lifting and skirt carrying. Who will want to reassume such onerous duties. The proper place for a trained skirt is the drawing room or the carriage. The train is obviously out of place in the skirt of a street costume.

After our three months holiday from carrying a street dress to train over the arm we are loth to go back to distasteful servitude. The girl with small, well-shaped feet will not be an obstacle to any movement which will popularize having our autumn frock out with the skirt 'walking length.' The skirt which touches but does not drag gives some degree of trouble because the binding receives a coat of dust mud, and the skirt is too short to be

held up. The skirt which clears the ground gives real satisfaction.

Variety in Dainty Collars.

Never before has there been such a variety in neckwear as this year. The openwork collar is no doubt the novelty of the season. It is made of black or colored satin bands between which there are strips of white or colored netting or chain work. These collars owe their stiffness to skillful boning. A pretty stock worn by smart girls is of taffeta or lawn tucked or corded for a space through the centre and worn twisted twice around the neck with a single loose knot in front. Fold and jeweled slides are often used to hold these ends. The handsomest of these ornaments are on the art nouveau order representing flowers or leaves.

A chic white pique stock has a narrow colored tie fastening to the left with two ends and a square buckle. Stocks and butler bows made out of madras handkerchiefs are all the rage. Position collars of plaid figure finish in front with two long tabs laced with gold cord and tiny gold buttons.

For very dressy occasions openwork collars of lace are very smart.

Necklaces for Evening Wear.

The summer low neck gowns call for necklaces. Strings of artificial pearls are now sold made in such a perfect manner that they defy detection when placed side by side with the real jewels. These strings of pearls are the prettiest things a woman can wear. They are ornamented with crystals or pearl pendants and art nouveau medallions. Pearls also look pretty in long ropes to be used as watch chains or simply allowed to hang carelessly about being wound twice around the neck.

The veil of the moment is of white chiffon with a black ring. The rings are rather large and are placed wide apart. Closely figured veils are no longer worn by fashionable women.

In regard to hair ornaments, flowers still lead. Huge black poppies spangled with rhinestone dewdrops are very effective, and so are black chrysanthemums, but the latter are extravagant to buy as the petals soon lose their curl. Geraniums in all shades have to some extent taken the place of roses, which are now regarded as too common. Two of the latest artificial blossoms are morning glories and orchids.

Fastens At The Back.

Following a current fashion in bodices, a new style of night dress is made to button down the back. The fastenings should be small and carefully covered with a fly fold, otherwise your buttons which close the gown will be uncomfortable if you rest on your back, to say nothing of their imprinting themselves literally upon you.

One model has a pointed yoke in front. Rows of Valenciennes lace insertion alternate with rows of fine tucking. The tucks are arranged in groups five, each one-eighth of an inch in width. The yoke is deeper in front than in the back. The gown is fastened with flat linen-covered buttons, pierced in four places, as they can be sewed on through the button instead of raising it by a shank.

We are quite able, while bating sin, to pity and be charitable to the sinner—when we happen to be the sinner concerned.

The importance of plain talk can't be overestimated. Any thought, however abstruse, can be put in speech that a boy or negro can grasp.

When a woman ceases to care how she looks, or a gentleman loses restraint in the presence of his servants, the end is not far off.

I sometimes forget the good things that happen, but hang on the other side, and 't' air the fault ov other people ez well ez myself.

I don't know what to do with those poplaine angels that arrived yesterday, complained the chief musician in the Elysian Fields.

How that inquired the assistant? They say they won't play on anything but silver harps.

'Do you think that a young man who is poor has an advantage over the child of luxury in an artistic career?' asked the aspirant.

'Well,' answered Mr. Stormingtoar Barnes, reflectively, 'of course, he has this comfort: He isn't nearly so liable to lose a lot of money.'

LIQUID refreshments—baths.

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Sunday Reading.

How the Church Will Ultimately Conquer.

Ultimately the church is going to conquer the world by conquering the home; and it can only conquer the home by going there more than it does holding the hands of little children. If Christian nurture is ever to take place of spasmodic evangelism it can only be this way. The lambs must be fed with tender, individualized solicitude. They must be taught and loved and watched and trained by men and women who see and understand that for them this is the loftiest service which they can render to the human race, and the deepest proof of their own devotion to the Saviour of the world. If all Christian parents, the parents of the average Christian home and of those homes which fall below the average in faith and intelligence, are to be taught to train their children, we all see and know that it cannot be merely through general rebukes and exhortations from the pulpit. Some one must do what the pastors of former days did in Scotland and in New England—some one must go into the homes as the teaching pastor of the children. We know that the general pastor of a large church cannot do this. He must preach his powerful sermons, he must fulfil many public functions, he must supervise the general policy and work of the church; give him as his colleague the man who is trained and has consecrated his life to be the teaching pastor. This is the next step in church organization and method, which has been already taken by some congregations, which promise more than can say for the future nurture of the children of the church.

Shame On Us Christians.

After Rev. M.B. Shaw had been in India as missionary for a time he wrote home that hardships and comforts were mixed as in other callings.

'If I were here in the British service, I would be congratulated; why pity me then, when out here in Christ's service? Is it not a shame on us that we call it sacrifice to do for Christ what hundreds of men are doing for their King all over the Empire? Government agents hasten into the Klondike and no one remarks it. But when the first minister went it was talked of as a sacrifice for Christ. Is it any harder to preach Christ than to attend to official business for the government? Government appointees travel all over Canada—the Indian reserve included; physicians do so too; yet I have heard people talk of the sacrifice of the missionaries and ministers of the churches in doing the same for Christ. Are we not putting the minister to shame by such talk? Is a servant of Christ to seek ease or endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ? Are we not leaving the impression on the world that a minister is a man who earns his money easy—a gentleman of leisure? Let us have done with this thing. Appreciate to the full all that our brethren do; but to raise no cry when a little hardship comes. Every traveller for every firm in Canada has a harder time than the average minister and has nothing. But he gets ample pay for it so do you, if you believe what your Lord has promised.

'Quit you like men and be strong,' brethren.

Don't let the tender-hearted spoil good service.

Enthusiasm for Christ.

Every Christian should be filled with enthusiasm for Christ, actors are enthusiastic in executing their plays. Teachers devote their time to their calling. Doctors with professional skill, apply remedies for the restoring of the health of their patients. Lawyers, with zeal, work day and night for their clients. Soldiers have been enthusiastic for their generals. Referring to the soldiers under Napoleon great the writer says: 'There was a magic about the emperor which swayed his soldiers. They were emptied of themselves, and he lived in them. The great emperor marched in them on long marches endured in great privations, toiled in them over snowy Alps, charged in them in bloody charge, exulted in them in magnificent victories and when they came to die, in their heart of hearts were enshrined the emperor himself. This was great enthusiasm for a mere man and should not Christians be filled with more zeal for Christ, the Captain of their salvation? Ought they not to have as great zeal as the teacher, doctor, lawyer, actor? Ought they not, at least, to have as great enthusiasm for Christ as the soldiers have for their generals?

Blessed be God, we have many preachers and laymen, in our beloved Zion! whose zeal for their Saviour burns within and

shines without with a splendid flame, and they are doing all they can in spreading the glad tidings of salvation. Lord help us to be more zealous in the salvation of souls.

One Remedy For Fat and Lean.

The pretty stenographer had never worked for a physician before, and hence, when on this first morning, office hours began, she settled back in her chair to listen with as much interest as though she were at a matinee. The first patient was a young man whose padded coat would not conceal the narrowness of his shoulders and the weakness of his chest. He was a very puny young man, indeed.

Doctor, he said, I want to get fat. I want to resemble a man rather than a lead pencil. I want to wear a bathing suit without shame.

The physician answered: 'Dine at 7 o'clock and exercise an hour with chest-weights and Indian clubs. Then take a cold bath and breakfast without coffee or tea. During the day contrive, somehow, to get a two hours' walk, and sleep at least nine hours a night. Don't smoke. If you follow these directions you will gain ten pounds in a month.'

After the thin young man had gone a fat young woman entered.

'Doctor,' she said, 'make me thin. Take off most of this too solid flesh. Let me wear a straight front like other girls.'

The doctor prescribed: 'Rise at 7 o'clock and exercise an hour. Then take a cold bath, and for breakfast have no coffee or sweets. Go a two hours walk during the day, and sleep at least nine hours every night. You'll lose ten pounds a month if you obey me.'

The patient left and the stenographer asked the doctor how it was he prescribed for leanness and for fatness the same thing 'Because,' he said, 'that thing is exercise and exercise makes you right. It makes you, if you are too thin, stouter, and, if you are too stout, thinner. It is the only remedy in which I have confidence.'

'Johnnie, your hair is wet. You've been in swimming again.'

'I fell in, ma.'

'Nonsense. Your cloths are perfectly dry.'

'Yes'm. I know'd you didn't want me to wet 'em so I took 'em off before I fell in.'

'HOW old is she? Do you know?' 'Not exactly; but she can't be less than twenty-seven. Why do you think so?' 'She has been contending that no girl should marry until she is twenty-six, at least

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