



FASHION NOTES.

LONG before the day when Herrick wrote his sentiments in the lines which begin:—

“When, as in Silks my Julia goes,”

mankind has had a predilection for silken gowns, and the “glittering taketh us now,” just as it did the poet of old. And now fashion decides that silk is to come to the fore again as costumes for walking and visiting, and all purposes in general. But it is to be deplored if silks are again to be worn on the streets, of course one excepts the light varieties for summer wear, but we refer particularly to the gros-grains and other heavy makes which always become gray with the dust of the street. If one could be an autocrat in these matters we should put a ban upon wearing silks beyond the threshold. In point of fact, sufficient unto the season are the silks thereof, and the many soft varieties are charming indeed, being exhibited in summer gowns under the most fascinating aspects. It is still the bodice which usurps our attention to the almost entire seclusion of the rest of our wardrobe. The round basque is still immensely popular, and it is far more becoming to the majority of women than the long coat. Zouave jackets are to

be a revived feature for the summer, and they are both pretty and convenient to wear with any gown. They may perhaps share their honors with the Eton Jacket, but at any rate they each have their individual charms. Blouses are as varied as ever, whether made of silk, crepon, percale, or flannel. One of the choicest is made of mauve surah, the front full, with a finely plated frill, and the collar straight, turning down, and fitting tightly around the throat. The sash which accompanies it is made of a broad piece of ribbon, drawn through a buckle in the front, and fastened under a small rosette bow at the centre back. The ribbon is particularly effective, being in plaid, and combining mauve, white, black, and yellow. Some charming suggestions are offered in our illustrations. The first is a very graceful dress made in pretty cream-colored foulard, with sprays of pale pink iris and green foliage scattered over it. The bodice has a wide corslet of green silk, points of gold salon and fine antique lace. The bonnet has a quaint little crown of jet, about the size of a pill-box, and is trimmed high at the back with a plume of ostrich feathers. The second is a lovely French gown in one of the newest flecked crepons with touches of grey, green, and old rose, upon a ground of biscuit colour. Round the waist there is a wide sash of emerald green velvet, the full sleeves being of velvet to correspond. The hat is very pretty, made in lace with jet crowns, and finished at the back with upstanding lace lappets.