

# FASHIONS —FOR THE— NEW YEAR.

The fact that the desire for ornamenting and decorating the body was the original impulse which led the feminine mind into a realm of fashion may account for the craze in jewelled chains which seems to possess all womankind. It apparently has no limit and women of all ages deck themselves out with some sort of chain with whatever suitable article at the end of it they happen to own. It may be a locket, a watch, a smelling bottle or a purse; it is all the same, since the chain is the supreme object of attention, even if it does not cost more than \$1.50. The chains range in price from the lowest to any sum you choose to pay, as the jewels are real or poor or good imitations. The muff chains are, perhaps the most useful and least expensive, but if you haven't a long chain of some sort it is best to invest in one before the fashion wanes, or you cannot keep up with the possession.

The latest hat in Paris is shaped very much like a square breast plate, with a narrow turned-up brim and medium crown, and loaded down with flowers of all sorts and kinds.

Hand-painted mousseline de soie is the material for your most elegant evening dress if you would be in the latest fashion. These gowns are made with tunics edged with fine lace, and the painting is done after they are cut and fitted, so that each seam is decorated, and the color is used to give the effect of shading down from the bodice, deepening in tone to the edge.

Red mousseline de soie over red, trimmed with cream applique, makes a stunning evening gown, with a touch of black, which may be tulle, in the corsage.

One novel feature of the season's evening sleeves is the open space just below the point of the shoulder when a long or elbow length transparent sleeve is worn. A narrow strap extends over the shoulder, and the top of the sleeve is cut away in a sort of half moon to show the prettiest part of the arm.

Elaborate arrangements of trimming and pretty harmonies of color seems to be the special notes of the season's fashions, and they are quite as evident in evening cloaks as in any other department of dress. The circular shape rounding up in front seems to be the most popular, and it is often made in a series of circular frills. Frills of fur, alternating with guipure lace, form an elegant garment, but they may be of cloth or velvet as you desire. One garment in grey velvet has a chinilla collar and one deep frill of lace at the bottom. Guipure lace embroidered with sequins forms a deep yoke, which reaches nearly to the waist on some of these garments, giving a pretty close fitting effect around the shoulders. Two deep frills forming the cloak below.

A bolero bodice with a novel finish shows little straps of velvet caught at each end, with a small button fastening the bolero to the belt all around the waist. This space is usually two inches wide, and some contrasting color shows underneath between the straps.

Every woman wants a black skirt to wear with separate waists, and what to get seems to be a puzzle, now that satin is not so fashionable. Moire, which has no gloss, seems to be the latest fancy in Paris, and the skirt is made with a tunic overdress edged around with a band of black velvet.

Mousseline de soie skirts with shirred ruffles put on in the form of a tunic, and worn with a guipure coat made long at the back to meet the ruffles, are one of the variations in evening dress. Incrustations of silk of the color of the skirt set in here and there all over the coat give a very novel effect.

Belts have become so conspicuous a feature of dress that a whole volume might be written about them without giving an accurate description of the beauty and variety which meet your eye at every turn. A succession of enamelled flowers with in-iamond centres strung together, with a space between, on two gold chains, is one of the expensive novelties; but there are all sorts of silver, gilt, oxidized silver and fancy metal belts and buckles set with imitation jewels which can be bought for from \$4 up to a very much higher price. The particular one you want usually runs up in price, but very pretty buckles can be purchased for \$3. Any width of belt seems to go; the important thing is to have a belt; but

the very narrow ones are most generally liked, and vastly more becoming than the wide ones. They give a touch of brightness to the gown which nothing else can, and belts of some description are worn with every sort of gown, whether it is for evening or day use, and with every sort of coat, long or short.

Brown cloth gowns seem to have gained favor late in the season, and the special fancy for trimming in a mixture of orange and blue. Violet cloth, embroidered in white moire applique with black and steel, is also very pretty with brown and the usual accessories of cream lace.

Gold thread is worked in with chenille in many of the new embroideries, and braid mixed with lace and chenille is another combination in trimming.

Fashions come and fashions go, but the shirt waist stays with womankind. It is well this is so, for man says that nine women out of ten look better in a shirt waist than anything else. She who is of stout girth and short waist should avoid it as she would a plague, and especially when made of materials of conspicuous designs. At the moment the most popular waists are fashioned of fine French flannel in plain colors or spotted velveteen. Both materials wear well and are warmer than silk or satin. The newest cut is not made exactly as cotton shirts usually are, but is more dressy and oftentimes trimmed with pipings of a contrasting color. The average woman wears a shirt waist of one kind or another under her coat when she does not expect to remove the latter. For this purpose one of silk or satin is preferable since the coat slips on and off much more easily, but it is very hard on the waist. Plaid and striped flannel in combinations of pale blue and white, or pink and cream, pale heliotrope and violet, cerise and black and many others are very smart for morning wear and are as easily laundered as a cotton waist. All sorts of fancy ribbons, lace collars and bows are worn with these waists, making them quite dainty enough for the daintiest and dressiest of women.

Every now and then a great lue and cry is raised about the silk petticoat.

'It is going out of style,' says one.

'It is a nuisance,' declares another.

'And a frightful expense,' adds a third.

All the same, the silk petticoat holds its own. Women's clubs and what not may declare against its rustling rule, but it refuses to be ousted from women's wardrobe. As a matter of fact, the silk petticoat grows more elaborate and expensive every day. When skirts were wider and not so tight about the hips the silk skirt was a thing that could be treated more lightly than now. If it was a trifle loose about the waist and did not have just the proper flare at the bottom it made no great difference in the set of the skirt. Not so now. The really fashionable woman has all her petticoats made to order, and they are fitted just as carefully as her dress skirts are. It is quite the thing to have one's dress petticoats made of liberty silk, which hugs the figure closely. These liberty silk skirts are dreams of beauty, and they are as perishable as beautiful. A number of fluffy plaited ruffles, embellished with lace, gives the necessary flare to the bottom. Notwithstanding the great beauty of these skirts, the women would miss in them the swish-swish of the skirts of stiffer materials—a sound soothing to feminine ears.

A riding crop is a useless enough thing at best, unless one does a deal of cross-country riding where gates are plentiful, but the average horseback rider, man or woman, feels poorly equipped without one. The newest crops are exceedingly handsome, though by no means so elaborate as formerly. They are made of fine wood and the handles finished with some fine leather or skin and mounted in gold or silver. An especially attractive one has a handle of grey snake skin and is tipped with silver, finished in grey. Another has a handle of elephant's skin and is mounted with gold.

'Woman has very erroneous ideas about a few things,' said a man, surveying his Christmas presents sadly. 'Now all of the women in my family know my weakness for cigarettes, cigars and pipes, and every one of 'em from my wife down, has a notion that a man who is fond of the soothing weed likes to take it in the most elaborate manner imaginable. On the other hand, the man who really understands the artful science or the scientific art of smoking, just as you choose to put it, likes to enjoy his smoke with the least possible fuss and feathers. What am I to do with all this smoking paraphernalia? Let me look them over. Here are three of those new-fangled pipes with a bowl underneath for catching the nicotine to keep it from running into the mouth. No pipe of this sort was ever known to work and nobody but a tender mouth would think of using one if it did.

Next I see an elaborate cigar cutter and lighter. The little swinging alcohol lamp, set up on ivory legs, and with a fine cigar cutter in one of the prongs, is beautiful to look at, but a man who realizes that a good cigar is a smoke prefers his teeth and a live coal for cutting and lighting purposes. What I am to do with these seven cut glass and silver cigarette holders I do not know. No matter how many cigarettes I buy I never have but one left, it seems to me, and so small use I have for receptacles in which to preserve my cigarettes. Yes, women have queer ideas about some things. No wonder Kipling said:

'A woman is only a woman,  
But a good cigar's a smoke.'

'It seems to me that by the end of the nineteenth century the sex accredited with so much intuition might have learned that only amateurs in smoking like to smoke with a great show.'

Is this man alone in his opinion this Christmas Day in 1898.

Perhaps, after all, a few of the pearl necklaces to be seen at the opera are not priceless. Paris is sending some imitation pearls over here now that are calculated to make the real Oriental article doubt its own genuineness. These mock pearls have an opalescent lustre that most defies the detection of experts and are mounted exactly as the real gems are. The vary in size as in price and, some are made to fit the neck closely, while others hang down almost to the knees. Women should be careful how they adorn their necks when in evening dress. If the neck lacks plumpness and whiteness no ornament should be worn about it that will attract attention to these defects. Indeed, she who is wise will wear a brilliant ornament at her waist or elsewhere that will tend to draw attention from her bare neck. Only the women with beautiful necks and shoulders can afford to attract attention to them by means of gems and other ornaments.

Gun metal chateaines have superseded all others. The most elaborate ones have as many as ten jingling gimcracks dangling from an elaborate ornament which hooks in the belt. The plainer the chateaine and its ornaments the more stylish it is considered, and those decorated with a few semi-precious stones and no engraving or applied work are really the most desirable.

Now that the excitement of buying, giving and receiving Christmas presents is over, the sex which feeds on excitement, as some mere man has put it, is, looking forward to the midwinter sales. These usually begin the first week in January and no matter how much milady has decided the bargain counter at home in society and in her clubs during the old year, she simply cannot resist the rare temptations offered upon it while the new year is still young. Every conceivable feminine article, from stockings to hats, can be purchased at very small cost at these midwinter sales, and the person who has strength of will enough to buy only such things as are needed derives great benefit from them.

## GOLDEN, JEWELLED GARTERS.

The Round Variety Being Slowly Displaced by the Socking Suspender.

The round garter dies hard. Slowly but surely the stocking suspender is taking its place, but the old-fashioned round affair is not yielding without a struggle. The queerest feature of the fight for supremacy is that the round garter retains its grip principally at the two extremes of society. This sounds, perhaps, as if the wrong word had been used and extremities was the one really wanted. But extremes is all right. The round garter is worn nowadays by the rich and the great and by the poverty stricken.

The rich and the great seem to affect the round garters, or, rather, to contrive to endure them, because the round variety is, as a rule, provided in handsome designs. And when it comes to the very poor woman why she gets a few cents' worth of cheap elastic, cuts it and sews it herself and there she is. She has saved ten cents at the least, and that is her chief aim in life. The rich woman can spend a good round sum for the side suspenders if she wants to. There is a stunning hundred-dollar pair in one of the swell shops right now awaiting her coming. It has solid gold buckles and clasps with good-sized sapphires, on cabochon, by way of ornament.

But force of habit and prettiness together are irresistible. The round garters lie so innocently in their lace-papered boxes. No one could suspect them of causing cold feet, swollen veins, fatigue and all manner of bodily ills. But there is one element of the population which knows the round garter at its true worth. This is the younger generation, which has been brought up on hygienic principles. Hygienic principles would curl with scorn at the sight of a round garter; and mothers who don't think that they themselves could get used to wearing hose sup-

porters do not dream of putting on their children the torturing circle which they wear themselves.

'Do you really find the supporters more comfortable?' they ask of confidential friends.

A sufficient answer could be had if they would try putting their suspender children into round garters. The howl which would go up would be convincing. There are a great many compensations in belonging to the middle ranks in society. This has been said before, but, so far as the writer knows, garters have not been mentioned among the compensating circumstances. When a woman belongs to the middle ranks she is neither rich enough to buy round but magnificent garters, nor too poor to buy the humble but precious side suspender at 25 cents for a medium quality. So she purchased this 25 cent treasure and enjoys the bliss of having warm feet even if her elastics are not gold-buckled.

Even when a rich woman would like to reform and be comfortable she often falls a victim to friends. They give her such stunning garters that her conscience simply won't allow her not to wear them. So she continues to pag up and down the world, numb up to the knees, but all right as to her vanity. The round garter is, however, slowly losing its hold. This, by the way, is nothing new when taken literally. Losing its hold has always been one of the pleasing habits of this particular article. At the shop which pretends to be authoritative on all matters of jewelry and silverware they say that they are selling more of the suspenders this year than they did last. But the salesmen evidently retain a lingering fondness for the round garter. They take them out with greater alacrity, and they handle the suspenders gingerly and with an air of disapproval. The round garters are certainly a temptation to the eye. The dealer in question carries very few of colored elastic. Almost without exception the elastic is black or white. It is an exceedingly small consideration, anyway. The garter sells because of the buckle. The wearer can put in any elastic she pleases.

The buckles with the four-leaved clover by way of ornament have been very popular and are still somewhat in demand, though they have seen their most fashionable day. Now the old rose gold is in great favor. It is that dull finished red gold in which everything from hatpins to yachting trophies is now made. The best buckle, according to up-to-date ideas, is of the old rose or the Roman finish, with a fleur de lis or scroll pattern and having one or more jewels set down into the gold. For instance, a very stunning pair has a rather simple buckle of satin-finish, roman gold; crossing each other are two little gold clubs made of tiny diamonds, with diamonds in the angles to represent the balls. Another beautiful pair has a single large turquoise set in the center of each buckle. Another has a pattern in Russian enamel. Still another has clasps formed or perhaps twenty or thirty stones of different colors. This pair costs only \$350.

But one need not pay so much as that. Indeed, very much prettier buckles may be had for a fraction of that sum. When it comes to the suspenders, one may buy a pair with all the usual metal parts made of gold handsomely carved, and it will cost the modest sum of \$30. The prettiest pair shown the other day was the one with sapphires, above the mentioned, for \$100.

## LADIES AND OTHERS.

Some Instances of the Various Uses of an Abused Word.

The word lady still has about it a certain halo which ought to prevent its indiscriminate use. In this country we can hardly expect to see social distinctions reflected in the use of the word; and yet we might perhaps expect to see it employed more equitably than it was by a certain dry goods store keeper in Massachusetts town not very long ago.

The daughter of a Senator of the United States drove one day from her father's summer cottage to a store in a city near by and ordered some articles to be sent to the house.

When he goods were sent a mistake was made, and the Senator himself stopped at the store to correct it. The proprietor called the saleswoman, and after consulting with her, apologized for the mistake.

'You see, sir,' he explained, 'the lady who took the order didn't quite understand what the girl said.'

A somewhat similar story was told of a remark made by a Yankee servant of the family of John Lothrop Motley, the historian. On one occasion when the historian was at home on the ancestral estate near Boston, and when his brother James was also there, an intimate friend of the family who was sojourning at the house came out from Boston on a late afternoon train. The family coachman met him

with a carriage at the station. On the way to the house the guest said to the driver:

'Did any one come out on the earlier train?'

'Oh, yaas,' said the coachman, 'there was four; the' was John and Jim and two ladies.'

The guest knew that 'John and Jim' were the historian and his brother, but he wondered who the ladies were. Afterward he found out that they were a seamstress and a new chambermaid.

The most extraordinary use of the term that we are likely to find any record of is related from England. The house surgeon of a London hospital, we are told, was attending to the injuries of a woman who had been badly bitten on the arm. As he was dressing the wound he said:

'I cannot make out what sort of a creature bit you. It is too small for a horse's bite and too large for a dog's.'

'Oh, sir,' said the patient, 'It wasn't a animal—it was another lady!'

## Under the Green Banner.

It is understood to be a Mohammedan doctrine that a 'jehad,' or holy war, can only be proclaimed by the Sheikh-ul-Islam, the religious deputy of the Sultan, by the personal order of the Sultan himself.

The proclamation is always performed by unfolding the flag of the Prophet. This banner is made of green silk, with a crescent at the top of the staff, to which is attached a fine horsehair plume.

This flag which is deposited in the Mosque of St. Sophia, at Constantinople, is not the original flag of the Prophet, as that ensign was white and was made from the turban of the Koreish which Mohammed captured. For this, some time later, was substituted a black flag, made of the petticoat of Ayesha, the favourite wife of the Prophet, in whose arms he died.

Omar, the second Moslem Caliph, obtained possession of the banner by conquest, and it passed subsequently into the hands of the Abbasides and the Caliphs of Bagdad and Kalmira, being brought to Europe by Amurath III. and deposited in the seraglio at Constantinople.

When the flag was changed in color from black to green is not known, but according to the doctrine of Mohammed, the Sultan and his deputy have the sole authority to unfold the flag over Constantinople and proclaim a 'holy war,' a war against all Christendom—one in which every species of atrocity is perpetrated in the name of the Prophet on the unbelievers.

## Why the Third Finger is Used.

How many women who fondly love the golden symbol of their wedding vow know why they wear it on the third finger of the left hand? That particular digit was chosen because it was believed by the Egyptians to be directly connected by a slender nerve to the heart itself. And these ancient worshippers of Isis held this finger sacred to Apollo and the sun, and therefore gold was the metal chosen for the ring.

Miss Blackleigh (looking at her photograph): 'I should like to know what people say about my picture.'

Miss Daisey: 'No, dear, I don't think you would.'

A gallant named Cobb met a maiden named Webb.

And straightaway he sat down beside her, And quickly proposed in a manner so glib, That he won her as soon as he spider.

## PUT YOUR FINGER ON YOUR PULSE.

If It is Weak or Irregular don't Hesitate to Start the use of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills at once.

With a strong, steady, regular pulse we may expect vigorous health.



With a weak, irregular, intermittent pulse we can tell at once the vitality is low—that Dizzy and Faint Spells, Smothering and Sinking Sensations and similar conditions are bound to ensue.

By their action in strengthening the heart, toning the nerves and enriching the blood, Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills relieve and cure all these distressing conditions just enumerated.

Mrs. B. Croft, residing on Waterloo Street, St. John, N.B., says:

'For some time past I have suffered from pallor, weakness and nervous prostration, I had palpitation and irregular beating of the heart so severe as to cause me great alarm. I was treated by physicians, but got no permanent relief.'

'I am glad to say that from Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills I derived the first real benefit that I ever got from any medicine. My appetite is improved, my entire system toned up, and I can do no less than cheerfully recommend these pills to all requiring a reliable heart and nerve tonic.'

Miss Mary E. Hicks, South Bay, Ont., says: 'Laxa-Liver Pills cured her of Sick Headache, from which she had suffered for a year.'

## Important to Athletes.

Mr. Mack White, the well-known trainer of the Toronto Lacrosse Club and Ossonge Hall Football Club, writes: 'I consider Griffith's Menthol Liniment unqualified for athletes or those training. I have used it with the best success, and can heartily recommend it for stiffness, soreness, sprains, and all forms of swelling and inflammation. All druggists, 25 cents.'