# Frills of Fashion.

It is the province of the tashion writer to specify the particular mode and varied fads of tashion which are to head the procession as well as to herald the coming of new models; but there is a stumbling block mountains high this season when it comes to giving any definite information about the special style of skirt which will prevail during the coming season. In fact there would be very little of interest from the dominion of the model makers if it were not for the continued controversy over the proposed change in skirts, since the new gowns do not differ very materially in style from those worn in the summer.

Between the varied assurances of the New York dressmakers and that the skirt with plaits is the coming mode, and the conflicting rumors as the popular skirt in Paris, the solution of the problem is not a easy one. However, there are several different models from which to choose, and meanwhile the coming display of dress at the Horse Show will doubtless settle the question from a time here. Some of the skirts bave box plaits all sround, except across the front breath; others are in side plaits something like the old fashioned kilt only the plaits are not so close together, and in either case the plaits are statched down almost to the knees to give the flat effect around the hips. The bonne femme skirt, which is gathered or finely plaited 'rom each side of the front all around, attracts the most attention in the discussion, as it has the greatest number of unattractive features, and it is evident that women will protest against this partioular style on account of the weight which so much extra material involves, if for no other reason.

There is a style which has come back from the past through the medium of old pictures that suggests it, and whether it obtains or not, it has excited more argu ment and criticism than any other one model. That it is a clumsy, ungraceful skirt goes without saying, since anything which conceals the graceful lines of the figure and accentuates the ugly features, must be wanting in all the merits of grace. A model which is a pretty compromise between the plaits and the plain skirt shows one double box plait at the back and very tiny tucks around the hips to the front, which is quite plain. These are fully five inches long at either side of the plait and gradually shorten to three inches. Another model, with a group of fine tucks directly at the back, extending five inches down from the waist line, being quite plain otherwise, is extremely pretty, and both models give a graceful cutline to the

Quite the smartest of all the plaited skirts and the one which is most highly recommended by our first-class dressmaker, is the one with wedgeshaped plaits, or better tucks, since they are stitched in nearly the entire length after the manner of tucks. They begin in a fine point three inches below the waist, and nearly two inches apart and widen out to an inch and a half at the hem. This skirt is cut something on the plan of the sun-plaited skirts worn some time ago, which means that it fits the hips with very little extra fulness, and widens out enough to acmit of the tucks and still flare prettily at the hem. Modified drap. skirts are still (another novelty, but the drapery is manipulated in such a manner that the curves of the figure are not lost in its folds. Whatever the fathion makers may devise later, they still recognize the fact that the contour of the figure must be the first consideration. Closely fitting skirts with a Watteau plat in the back, are seen among the French gowns, and are worn in some degree by Parisian women, but who will wear all these eccentricities in skirts which have been brought out by fashion is not manifested to any great extent. They continue the uncertainty, however, and that is a great factor in the fash. ion business.

For the bodice of the fashionable gown there are not many distinctly new ideas except in the variations and dainty touches of color and constracting effect brought cept around the bottom is edged with ing down through the air with a roar that out by the taste and ingenuity of the brown fox. Plainer and yet very elegant dressmakers. There are the same yokes ridingotes dispense with the lace flounce burried itself deeply in the earth. It collar effects, boleros and vests which have been in sight so long, yet all sorts of pretty changes have been rung on these until it seems necessary to go through the tashionable gowns with a fine tooth comb to find any novelty at all.

of both evening and dressy afternoon gowns is perhaps the latest variation. It is made of tulle, lace, net or chiffon, caught down very closely to give the sloping effect to the shoulders, and finished with a little frill, the whole drawn in narrowly in front with a bow, or rosette of welvet which may have a gold or rhine- made with a redingote, which in a pale

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stone buckle in the centre. It is the dinner dress cut medium low in the neck which is the best exponent of the charms of fishu. The soft drapery covers the neck just enough so give the desired effect, and makes a pretty, soft finish as well, while for crepe de chine, silk and velvet gowns nothing can be much pret-

In trimmings, anything and everything, that is, or ever was, known to the dressmaker's art, is in evidence this season. Embroideries in colored silks with gold and silver threads are applied very elegantly to velvet, silk and cloth. Applique lace is everywhere on the handsome gowns of cloth crepe de chine and velvet, and as for stitched bands, so much has been written about them already that it would not seem possible to find any new use for them. Cloth bands on silk are one of the scason's fancies, but here they are again on corduroy velvets and spotted velvet gowns with very odd effects. Heavy lace, too, such as is used for an entire bodice, is decorated with these same stitched bands of cloth, silk and panne velvet. Fringe as a finish for the scart ends, sashes and smaller bows so much the vogue, is very much in evidence on the latest gowns. The Tom Thumb fringes too are very popular for edging the net and chiffon frills on the evening gowns, and for the finish of cloth tolds as well. Black and colored silk and velvet neckties have the deep netted fringe on the ends. and any place where it can be used in small bits with good effect for ornament, it is good style. A cream silk fringe tied into the edges of cream lace forms a very fachionable trimming for the light cloth gowns.

One row each of black silk and gold braid sewn on almost close together just above a narrow bard of fur forms the pretty finish on a soft green cloth gown, and again white braid is substituted for the

Among other effects in trimming is the use of cloth in a contrasting color for yokes and vests of the new serge and tweed gowns made up for half dressy morning wear. Overlapping stitched bands of the cloth, cut round or square to fit the shape of the yoke, are extremely effective with the decoration of a few small gold buttons. Chamois colored cloth is the yoke in a dark blue cloth gown, trimmed on the skirt with a fancy black silk braid sewn on in straight around rows boginning at the heart of the circular flounce and turning at either side of the trent where it extends to

A novel idea developed recently in the art of dressmaking is the gown made on a corset, or a stiffly boned waist, which resembles one and answers all the purposes of a corset so that none is required underneath. The dress material is draped or fitted on this coreet to which it is sewn as if it were a lining, and the effect is sylphlike indeed, provi ing the wearer has a slender figure, This is especially advisable for evening gowns and in any case it gives the clinging molded-tc-the-figure sort of look which is still so much sought | meteors fell in 204 B. C. in Phrygia where

Another luxurious and striking feature of tashion is the redirgote, which seems to bave established itself in favor as a carrisge wrap if nothing more, It is made people were greatly alarmed and the Senin black, and pale shades of tan cloth and stitched with undulating bands of the same material. A wide shaped flounce heavy lace, matching the color of the cloth, forms the lower portion of one redingote in the palest tan, and the lining is of white satin. The wide flaring collar and revers are covered with lace over fall is now on exhibition at Eusishelm, white satin, and the whole garment, exand are made entirely of cloth trimmed with wide stitched bandes set on around at wide intervals for the entire length Cream colored cloth, with shaped flounce, revers and collar embroidered in dull gold and silver makes an especially fine coat, The fichu draped around the shoulders but more elegant than all others are the redingote of baby lamb with circular flounce, headed with bows of black velvet which conceal the seam. The lining is white satin and the high collar of chinchilla fastens with a bow and long scart ends of cream lace.

Cloth gowns of the Directoire style are

gray model has double revers, one of stitched cloth under the white revers of panne embroidered with soft pink, gray and black silks.

Cloth certainly embodies every elegance of dress this season, and there is every tint and color from which to choose, between black and cream white, the latter trimmed with chinchilla being especially smart. One very elegant costume in pale mauve cloth is made with a long tunic finished with a band of sable on the edge, and a design in silk and chenille embroidery above. A deep flounce of cream lace over a plaiting of mauve chiffon forms the lower skirt attached to the mauve silk lining. The rest is of cream lace crossed by bands of fur. The edges of the bodice are finished with the embroidery, the special feature of which is the hydrangea flower petals cut out of the cloth and mixed in with it, arranged in the form of the flower as nearly as possible.

Cloth in beaver and castor colors is the special favorite of fashion for street gowns, and here is a novelty illustrated which is carried out in the pretty beaver color, wi h a bodice of cream colored Cluny lace decorated with stitched scroll bands of the cloth. Stitching is the only decoration on the skirt. Another gown in automobile red cloth shows pipings of brown velvet down the edges of bodice and skirt, matching the sable on the lace collar.

Stitching is the finish wherever it can be applied and narrow stitched bands cross the lace panels down either side, the lace being finished at the edge with a tiny band of fur. A gown of blue-faced cloth, stitched strappings, shows a vest of tucked cream satin, an outer vest and partial yoke of blue velvet, and a cream lace juboted necktie falling over both. Beaver colored cloth stitched with violet silk is another novelty in stitched effects in trimming and the necktie is violet velvet with silk fringe. Black panne, with a stitched band of white satin on the edge, in turn edged with sable finished with small gold buttons. The belt is of black panne. Stitching and fur trim the skirt, and the material is gray blue cloth in a pale tint.

A costume of pastel green cloth shows a velvet underskirt of the same color, covered with vertical lines of stitching and edged like the tunic with baby lamb and one row each of gold and black silk braid just above, The vest, below the yoke of lace, is of stitched velvet, and the sleeves also of velvet are stitched. The box plaited skirt is shown in the next model, with four groups of stitching confining the plaits around the hips. Stitched folds comprise the main portion of another gown, with a stitched band of panne velvet of the same color down either side of the skirt and around the edges of the bodice.

A pretty blouse waist in glace silk shows the pretty effect of hand embroidered silk knots. The vest is of cream satin, and a pretty touch is given with black velvet ribbon run through small gold buttons. French knots are also the decoration on the second bodice.

FACIS ABOUT METEORS.

A Fragment of a Comet's Tail-The Intense Cold of Space Felt by Man.

The atmosphere forms an armor which is almost impenetrable to the meteors that are constantly pelting the earth. Most of the meters are small. They come rushing through space, strike the atmosphere, and the friction against the molecules of air heats them to a white heat, and sets them ablaze. Sometimes part of them may reach the earth; but as a rule they are consumed and the dust alone, cosmic dust drops upon the surface. One of the earliest known tor a long time it was worshiped. It was carried to Rome and was supposed to be a messenger sent from the gods. Livy describes a shower of meteoric stones. The ators were demoralized and declared a nine days' testival to propitiate the gods. There is at Mecca a meteorite which fell in 600 A. D. and is still worshipped by the faithtul. In Chinese liturature there is mention of meteors which fell in 644 B. C. The oldest known meteorite which was seen to Alsace, Germany. In 1492 it came crashprostrated the peasantry with fright. It



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the parish church. The Chupadenos meteorite, which weigh ed twenty five tons, fell in Chibuahua, Mexico. The largest meteorite known is the Peary stone which weighs approximate. ly one hundred tons. The stone of Canon

Diable weighs at least ten tons and exploded high in air, the pieces found all over the surrounding country. In Italy several instances are known of the loss of life from meteorites. A peasant was sitting in his cabin and was killed by an iron mass that crashed through the root; the act was regarded as a visitation of divine anger. The city of Milan is perhaps the only one that has been struck by a meteorite. A me teorite of several pounds' weigh fell in the heart of that city in the year 1660, on the authority of Paolo Maria Tazzayo, and struck a Franciscan monk.

More remarkable are the falls at sea. That a ship should be struck would seem an extraordinary chance, yet a Swedish ship was so struck, the stone killing two of the crew. On Dec. 1, 1896, the ship Walkomming was sailing from New York to Bremen when her officers noticed a bril liant meteor that appeared to be bearing down on the vessel from southeast to northwest. It passed with a loud roar and hissing sound and plunged into the sea ahead of the ship. That it was a meteor of large size was evident, for a few minutes later the ship was struck by a tidal wave. Even more remarkable was the experience of the British ship Cawdor, which reached San Francisco Nov. 20, 1897. During a severe storm, a large and brilliant meteor was observed rushing down upon the ship, and with a roar and filling the air with fumes of sulphur it passed between the masts of the ahip and fell into the sea not fifty feet from the rail.

One of the greatest curiosities possessed by man to-day is a supposed fragment of a comet in Mazapil, Mexico. The fragment is believed to be a part of the tail of Biela's comet. In 1846 something happened in space; a wreck occurred; Biela's comet may have collided with another comet; in any case, the comet divided and many living observers remember seeing the two parts gradually separating. Some fatality pursued one part of the comet and it met its fate in infinite space, literally went to pieces and became a wreck upon the shoreless sea of space. A tronomers predicted that if the comet itself did did appear in 1872 its wreckage would become visible as shooting stars, and this prediction was realized apparently as on Nov. 27. 1872, there burst from the heavens a cloud of shooting stars. During the display one piece dropped upon the earth and was secured at Mazapil Mexico, and was declared to be a part of the great comet.

The average meteorite immediately after its fall is intensely hot; but at least one, which was handled immediately after falling still held the intense cold of space. A few men can say that they bave experienced this. A meteorite exploded above Dhurmsala, Kangra, Punjaub, India, in 1860, and a section was picked up immediately by some natives who dropped it with expressions of pain. The explosion had exposed the interior of the meteor which had been chilled by the intense cold of space and was so cold that its effect was like a burn. This fragment is now to be seen in the stitute, 780, Eight Avenue, New York.

weighed 260 pounds and hangs today in Field Museum. Ot it, Dr. Farington, the curator said: 'This is perhaps the only instance known where the cold of space has become perceptible to human senses.

## The Claim is a False One.

Crude Materials Can Never Produce Perfect Work.

The claim is made by the manufacturers of crudely prepared package dves composed of soap grease mixed with a small amount of coloring matter that these dyes will color cotton and wool goods with the same dye. Such a claim is talse and de-Animal and vegetable fibres, such as

wool and cotton, must each have a special coloring agent. In order to meet this diffigulty the manufacturers of Dismond Dyes have prepared special dyes for all wool goods and special dyes for all cotton and cotton and wool or mixed materials. Each of these D.amond Dyes gives handsome and artistic colors suitable for the various sessons.

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Avoid imitation package dyes and soap greace mixtures; they ruin good materials and are dangerous to handle.

Still al Large.

A former governor of New York was noted for the quickness of his wit, which seldom left a chance for repartee unappropriated. An Englishman who had been visiting different parts of this country spoke with special fervor of a sight he had seen in a Western state.

'I attended a Sunday service for the inmates of the state prisoner,' said he, 'and I learned that of the one bundred and seventy persons now confined there, all but four voluntarily attend religious service held in the prison chapel twice on each Sunday. That is a wonderful thing!'

'It is,' said the governor thoughtfully. I am sorry to say it is not so with us; but then,' he added soberly, 'in New York you see, most of the respectable people do not come to prison.

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'The British reverse at Ladysmith,' remarked the Observant Boader, 'was precipitated by the stampede of some mules. 'I suppose,' the Credulous Boarder said, 'that the Boers will point to the circumstance that even the mules kick at England's policy in the Transvaal.'

Lisping Lover-Thalilie, if you don't love me, thay tho; but if you do love me. and don't like to thay tho, thqueethe my

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