

Chat of the Boudoir.

Cut and accessories—There you have the two fetiches of Paris dressmaking. Material is a minor consideration. This season, in all the trimmings, gold and silver play important parts. In addition to the braid and buttons, already noted, the small and large buckles, the ferret tips for ribbon ends, tiny gold tassels are attaining a decided vogue. Fastened to a veivet or a gold bouton, or sewed directly to the material, they appear on many of the autumn gowns.

A simple tailor gown in reseda green cloth has a plain skirt and a blouse jacket whose yoke and collar revers are edged with black and gold braid. A double waistcoat fold of white cloth stitched in black crosses in front. Down the left side of the jacket front are tiny gold tassels. A yoke of ecru lace has a line of braid around the collar. The girdle is of black and gold, and the modified bishop sleeve gathers slightly to a wristband of gold and black braid at whose outer edge hangs a gold tassel. Sleeves of this model grow more popular as autumn approaches, and many dressmakers prophesy that under-sleeves have been overdone and will be less prominent on the most stylish gowns as the season advances. Still, their universal popularity seems fairly certain to outlive the winter, though the ultra modish may discard them. A long bell-shaped sleeve that reaches to the wrist, and only by chance shows a small soft undersleeve, is coming to the front, and however charming the large full undersleeve may be with the dainty flowered summer gowns, it is unquestionably true that long sleeve lines are infinitely more becoming and much more suitable to tailor modes. The tight fitting mitten sleeves, reaching closely over the knuckles, are made in transparent materials, and are popular for dinner and evening wear in spite of the reign of the elbow sleeve. They are more becoming to the average [wearer and enable her to dispense with gloves.

The prevailing tendency to avoid tight fitting lines and affect clinging curves is shown in the pouched effect which many of the French frocks carry all around the bodices, above the girdle. The pouch in the back must, however, be handled carefully, and only an expert dressmaker can make it a success. In soft material the required clinging droop may be attained by the use of skillfully adjusted weights; and if the stuff is too wiry to be managed in this way, a deep applique of lace or soft trimming just above the girdle will make the droop of the bodice possible.

This feature of the bodice is shown in a rose crepe in one of the cuts. The bodice is tucked finely and droops over a girdle of black velvet. Lace applique outlines an oddly shaped yoke of folded cream chiffon, and lace motifs fasten the bodice together over a narrow chiffon vest. Lace applique runs up to the elbow, in a long point, on the inside of the sleeve, outlines the side and back yoke to which the soft skirt is shirred, and edges the bottom of the skirt.

The dotted wool gown is of pastel blue cashmere with irregular white dots. The undersleeves, vest and collar are of tuckered cream chiffon. The jacket is trimmed with straps stitched heavily in white which cross a broad applique band of cluny lace and button to a stitched girdle, with small gold buttons. The waistcoat is of white satin, with rows of gold buttons, and the cravat is of black velvet.

A more severely tailored gown is of violet cloth, and is trimmed only in bands of the material heavily stitched in white. The coat is worn over a blouse of ecru lace and the cloth yoke over the shoulder is cut away and filled in with an open lattice work embroidery, showing the blouse through. The girdle is of gold tissue and a few small gold buttons are used on the jacket.

A Russian blue serge is trimmed in broad gold braid, the whole close fitting vest being made of rows of the braid, with overlapping edges and fastening with gold buttons. The skirt has three rows of the braid applied just at the top of the flare, and ending on either side of a plain front

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breadth. The girdle and high turnover collar are of blue velvet.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

New York furriers are mute on the subject of coming fashions in furs; but for the benefit of travelling American novelties in furs are being shown by Paris and London houses. The prevailing mania for excessive elaboration is seen in furs as well as in lighter materials, and it is confidentially prophesied that applied fur will be the fad during the coming winter and that we shall have wonderful combinations of fur, lace and embroidery. Persian lamb, seal and other fine and pliable furs which lend themselves readily to manipulation will take precedence, if this prophecy is fulfilled and ermine already holds a prominent place upon the fall cloaks; and other fur trimmed garments that have been shown.

White satin is preeminently the lining for fall coats. Little else is used by knowing tailors, and the quality of the satin must be excellent. Colored satins of mediocre quality may be used for lining and give respectable service, but it is the poorest economy to line a coat with cheap white satin which neither wears or cleans well. White linings are the chic things not only for coats, but for dress skirts as well. In the latter case soft taffeta with innumerable small pleatings or frills at the bottom [to give the necessary frill. All the autumn wool gowns which are being turned out by the best Paris makers either have this white taffeta lining, which is, of course, an extravagance, or are lined with silk matching the goods in line. The old girdle linings are out of date, and with a street gown, if a silk petticoat is worn, it should, to be quite correct, agree with the gown in color.

A new trimming much in use among Paris dressmakers is a scallop of glace silk united to a scalloped edge of the gown material by openwork herring boning. This herring boning is seen also above flounce hems, down skirts gores, and, in fact, wherever an openwork effect is desirable.

The craze for gold trimming is developing in a most effective way through combination with heavy lace. Boleros of guipure, point de Venise, Carrickross, &c., are applied upon gold tissue and used upon cloth or silk with excellent results.

Automobile coats for autumn are shown in cranberry red cloth, heavily strapped, severely plain, and three quarter length. The three quarter length coats seem destined to take the place of the trailing coats of last season, so far as severe cloth coats are concerned. They will be much more easily handled and will accumulate fewer germs; but they cut the skirt length sadly, and only a tall, slim woman can wear them well.

A new garniture much in favor consists of rings of guipure linked one through the other and applied as a band.

Around the edge of many of the boleros on the new wool gowns there are, instead of the ordinary lace border, embroidered holes, through which is drawn velvet ribbon or soft lace or chiffon ending in choux on the bust.

Tucking, edged with narrow gold lace, is seen in the vests of wool gowns; and a particularly good finish for the bottom of a skirt is furnished by a number of wide folds, looking like deep tucks, and edged with gold lace. It is said that gold lace will also figure largely in winter millinery.

Broad velvet cravats and girdles, gold fringed and drawn through gold clasps, are worn with soft wool morning gowns, for which they furnish almost the only trimming.

The abbe collar, made of linen or wired lace and turning down in tabs in front like a priest's collar, is a fancy of the moment in Paris.

Point d'esprit, on which are applied trailing sprays of lace is to be one of the

most popular materials for young girls' evening gowns during the winter. It is more durable than chiffon or mousseline and achieves considerable distinction through skillful use of the lace.

Frocks for little girls have not, in many seasons, been so charming as now. They reproduce the general characteristics of the gowns worn by the children's elders; but, fortunately, those features at present are effective upon the wee women. Empire frocks with rather long skirts and soft sashes are delightful upon small girls, and the inevitable bolero, with its infinite variety in shape and trimming, redeems even the simplest child's dress from the commonplace. The broad collars, floating scarves, shirred skirts, flapping straw and lace picture hats, all are adaptable to childhood, and the gold braid, galloon and buttons brighten up little school and morning frocks that were too serviceable to be pretty. The small girl who doesn't look attractive this season has a stupid or indifferent mother.

Once more it is prophesied that lingerie petticoats are to oust silk petticoats. It is unquestionably true that fewer silk petticoats have been sold in the shops this season, but doubtless this is due to the universal use of light-weight and light-lined materials. Whether white petticoats will be in favor under heavier winter gowns remains to be seen, although fashion makers announce the departure decisively, and buyers are governing their stocks by the prophecy.

The clumsy, ready made satin [stocks which were the unsatisfactory resort] of the girl who does not sew need worry her soul no longer. Tucked and lined soft [satin] for stocks is now sold by the yard [at the ribbon counter, and a very few] [stitches will achieve a fresh and comfortable stock around which to fold any one of [the becoming scarfs or barbes.

Among the new trimmings are highly effective bands of crash, beige cloth and heavy ecru silk embroidered in Bulgarian cross stitch, with silk of Oriental colors.

The horseshoe, while not a particularly refined and subtle design for jewelry, is unquestionable here in force, and fastens sharp point of the belt ribbon, the cravat, or the scarf of the outing girl.

Short Skirts Gaining in Merit.

The short skirt has at last, so say many authorities, found some small favors in Paris. Perhaps the summer invasion of American girls in walking skirts has wrought the miracle; but, whatever the cause, Parisian tailors have evolved what they call "the exposition skirt." It is merely a graceful round skirt, clearing the ground by about two inches, and is starting in no way, save that Paris, of the frock frock and trailing robes, is giving it sanction and indorsing it for street wear in the autumn and winter. Perhaps, after all, the emancipation of woman is within sight. The ultra-delicate and feminine creations designed for the season's housewear will maintain a desirable balance; but the rumor that sweeping street gowns are doomed grows space.

He Got the Place.

The following anecdote, taken from the Western Record, is said to be one of the traditions of a manufacturing firm in Glasgow, Scotland. Whether it be anything more than a tradition or not, it is a characteristic story of Scotch pluck and persistence.

A barefooted, ragged urchin presented himself before the desk of the head of an important firm, and asked for work as an errand-boy.

"There's a deal o' running to be done," said Mr. Blank, jestingly affecting a broad Scotch accent.

"Your qualification wud be a pair o' shoon," the boy, with a grave nod, disappeared. He lived by doing odd jobs in the market, and slept under one of the stalls. Two months passed before he had saved money enough to buy the shoes. Then he presented himself before Mr. Blank one morning and held out a package.

"I have the shoon, sir," he said. Mr. Blank with difficulty recalled the circumstances. "Oh, you want a place? Not in those rags, my lad! You would disgrace the house."

The boy hesitated a moment, and then went out without a word. Six months passed before he returned, decently clothed in coarse but new garments. Mr. Blank's interest was aroused. For the first time he looked at the boy attentively. His thin, bloodless face showed that he had stinted himself of food in order to buy the clothes. The manufacturer questioned him, and found, to his regret, that he could neither read nor write.

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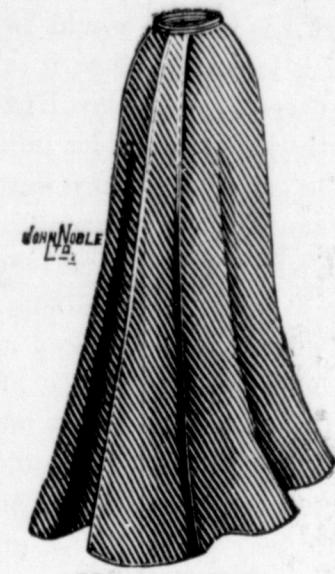
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before we can employ you in carrying home packages," he said. "We have no place for you."

The lad's face grew paler, but without a word of complaint he disappeared. He now went fifteen miles into the country, and found work in stables near a night-school. At the end of the year he again presented himself before Mr. Blank.

"I can read and write," he said. "I gave him the place," the employer said, years afterward, "with the conviction that sooner or later he would take mine, if he made up his mind to do it. Men rise slowly in Scotch business houses, but he is our chief foreman."

The Concertina.

There is nothing nerve-racking about this war story, taken from "The Relief of Ladysmith." On the contrary, it is one of those trifling but delightfully vivid incidents which seize the mind on a grand occasion.

As a column passed a camp, a Zulu driver lashed out with his long whip at his mules, and instantly let drop from his left hand, with a curious native cry of despair, that cherished Kafir instrument, a concertina.

The column moved on; "nor all the pety nor all the wit" of the Zulu could lure it back to recover the concertina. But the leader of the mounted company, coming behind, noticed the instrument lying on the ground.

"Mind that concertina!" he shouted. "Pass the word!"

He pulled his horse aside; the word was passed, a line of horses in the middle of the company swerved, the forest of legs passed, and behold! the concertina lay untouched.

The next company leader threw up his hand like a driver in the Strand. Look out! Mind the concertina!" he said.

"Mind the wind jammer!" said one man to another in tones—as they seemed—of deep personal resentment if a rider let his horses hoof go dangerously near the precious thing.

And thus all the rest of the brigade passed hurrying on to use all the latest and most civilized means for killing men and destroying property, and minding the concertina tenderly as they went, so that when the dancing sea of legs had passed it over, the concertina still lay unscratched on the ground.

Finding an Outlet.

Mr. Plunkett, a citizen of some prominence in political circles, came home from his office one day in high excitement. "I have just had a very disagreeable experience with a contemptible fellow named Rinkle," he said to his wife. "He tried to bribe me into recommending him for a consulship. It was all I could do to keep from throwing him out [of the door, and I am not sure but I should have done it in spite of myself if he had not hurried away. When I think of his infamous offer, I am

almost sorry he got off with a whole skin!" Fifteen minutes later Mrs. Plunkett, hearing a noise in the room at the top of the house which her husband had fitted up as a sort of gymnasium for his own use, went up the two flights of stairs and looked in.

There was Mr. Plunkett, with his coat off, his hair flying, and his breath coming and going quickly. He was dancing with great nimbleness about his "punching-bag,"—every boy knows what a punching-bag is,—and administering the most crushing punishment to the helpless thing in the shape of left and right-hand swings, straight punches and upper cuts.

"You infamous scoundrel!" he said. "Biff! 'Try to bribe me, will you?' 'Biff! Bang!' 'Take that! And that! And this!' 'Biff! Bang! Bang!'"

Mrs. Plunkett slipped away unseen, and ten minutes later her husband came down stairs again, perspiring and red in the face, but looking as if much easier in mind. He had worked off his indignation.

While Mr. Plunkett's method of obtaining satisfaction for an insult may not be in the highest degree commendable or worthy of imitation, it is surely better than to engage in a fist-fight with the real offender, to the scandal of the neighborhood, the lowering of one's personal dignity, and in violation of the statutes in such cases made and provided.

Advantage of Yawning.

A German scientist with all kinds of knobs on his head has discovered that yawning is a healthy pastime. It is wholesome, like oatmeal and brown bread. Yawning, it is said, stretches the muscles of the brain, maybe, or the tendons of the head, sends the blood to the jaws and sharpens appetite and intellect. It is a cheap remedy, accessible to young and old, rich and poor, and if it is as efficacious as our Teuton says health is surely within the reach of every one in this country.

An English Sentry once stopped a carriage which was out of order on the night of a court ball. A lady put her head out of the window and remarked that she had the right to go on, because she was the wife of a cabinet minister. Beg pardon, ma'am, was the firm reply, "but I couldn't let you pass, even if you were the wife of a Presbyterian minister."

As a rule the person who says he has no choice about the spring chicken never looks thoroughly satisfied with the piece he gets.

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