Chat of the Boudoir.

The fascinating time when fashions unfold themselves in rapid succession has arrived once again, and feminine ambitions in regard to dress are running high. The very first scent of spring in the air is like a sniff of gunpowder to a war horse, and every woman with a wavering hope of even one new gown is up in arms at once and ready for the fray. She wants not one only, but dozens of new gowns with hats and parasols to match, inspired no doubt by the visions of spring buds so soon to open. Spring times brings rapid growth in nature, and instinctively women seem to have an irresistible desire to keep pace with the unfolding beauties by blossoming out in varied and fanciful gowns. It is in summer that caprice in fashion can run riot in chameleon-like changes of color and diversity in style, so woman can indulge her fancies to the fullest without stopping to consider the usefulness of the gowns six months hence, providing, of course, that the dress allowance will admit of the ex travagance.

The especial novelty among the new rib bons, which are legion as to variety, shows a white gauze edge a little more than a half inch in width. Joining this is a flowered border of roses, perhaps with a delicately spotted centre, all of which has the appearance of gauze, giving it a beautiful sheen The secret of this is in the weaving, as it is hand printed on the warp with all the colors in the design, and the white silk is woven in on this with most charming results. Another very artistic sash ribbon of taffeta is in pale tints with here and there a large poppy or an orchid in shadowy exquisite coloring and long graceful stems woven in. Pannette ribbons, a sort of cross between satin and panne velvets are still another charming variety which doubtless will find many modes of usefulness on the summer gowns as they come in all the dainty pastel colors.

Despite all the pretty æsthetic colors and dieaway sort of tints seen everywhere in ribbons, flowers and dress fabrics, the report comes from across the waters that Parisian women are wearing red in rather a brilliant shade, and that red and a soft silvery blue are the leading colors in Parisian fashions, barring, of course, the neutral tints of gray, tan and brown which are always worn. The newest tan shade has a delicate tinge of yellow in it. There seems to be a slight tendency in Paris to discard all the pastel colors which can be classified under the heads of blue, red and purple, but all the delicate shades of dove color, mastic and gray flourish for gowns in every kind of material with white trimmings and mixed embroideries of various kinds.

Perforated effects in decoration are very much to the fore again, especially among the cloth gowns. The cloth is cut out in various designs which are embroidered on the edges or finished with a silk cord, and applied on a silk or lace net, or left without any foundation and the open spaces are filled in with lace like stitches; but in any case it is a very expensive mode of decoration. One imported model in gray cloth has a close fitting Eton jacket which is entirely of this cloth, guipture of a pale green silk foundation which fills in the spaces with very pretty effect as the design is not very open. A trimming which consists of cut-out cloth applied to a foundation of white chantilly lace and finished with silk cord, chenille dots and silk embroidery, is one of the season's elegant productions and is is used to trim a gray cloth gown. The hem of the long tunic has a wide band of this falling over two accordeon plaited chiffon ruffles attached to the white silk foundation shirt. Ruches of chiffon edge the flounces, and the entire jacket, which is Eton in shape, is of the embroidery over white silk. Sometimes the sleeves in this sort of jacket are of plain cloth with a narrow cap effect on the embroidery at the top, and sgain the whole upper part of the eleeve from the elbow up matches the jacket and the lewer half is cloth.

Hand painting on linen, silk and gauze seems to have a place among the modes of decoration, and it is made realistic by the application of artificial flower petals at one



Headache

Is often a warning that the liver is torpid or inactive. More serious troubles may follow. For a prompt, efficient cure of Headache and all liver troubles, take

Hood's Pills

While they rouse the liver, restors full, regular action of the bowels, they do not gripe or pain, do not irritate or inflame the internal organs, but have a positive tonic effect. 25c. at all druggists or by mail of C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

side of the painted blossoms with heads for the centre; but it cannot be recommended as a desirable variety; almost anything else on the list is in better taste, and yet at one of the important openings of new dress models there was a black silk costume painted all around the edges in sprays of wild yellow roses the leaves veined with dull green beads. Narrow black velvet ribbon trims some of the new cloth gowns in rows-possibly five-around the hem of the skirt, and stripes the bodice in vertical lines all over. A lattice work design of velvet crossing lace and chiffon vests is another use of velvet, and sleeves are encircled for their entire length with velvet bands, all of which can be applied to ar old gown as a very successful means of freshening it.

Evening dresses, whether of net, lace. or chiffon, show some decoration of black velvet ribbon either in rosettes, loops, or bands applied in various ways, one of which forms a girdle at the waist.

Fancy braids are still in use for trimming cloth gowns and a finish of small buckles or buttons, at the end of braid strappings is one of the variations. One glance at the new muslin, dimity and foulard gowns so far exhibited is conclusive proof that any and every mode of treatment as to decoration is in order, and as for the cotton materials, they are almost most beautiful in coloring than the silks, while in quality there is every gradation between pique for the morning gown and exquisite sheer mousselines for evening wear. Silk gowns are not a necessity in young girls summer outfit this season, as the cotton and wool materials fill every requirement. Many of the cotton fabrics bave a mixture of silk or satin finished stripes which make them very attractive, and they are made up with ruffles and most elaborate designs carried out with insertions of lace. One yellow organdie has a fiveinch circular-cut ruffle edged with a tiny straight ruffle which has black velvet baby ribbon sewn on she edge Three ruffles about three inches wide, also edged with black are sewn on above the wider one overlapping each other a seam's width, and above these a scalloped edged white lace insertion encircles the skirt, Black velvet ribbon edges this, stripes the yoke of muslin up and down, and encircles the sleeves the entire length. A band of insertion is set in just below the yoke al around both back and front, extending in a rounded line over the sleeves and giving the broad appearance across the shoulders, which the small sleeves take away. This is an important point in the dressmaking art just at the moment, as it is the effect of a long shoulder seam which is required. If the shoulder seam is really cut long, it is ugly, and uncomfertable as well, so the aim is to produce this effect with the decoration. If the top of the sleeve is like the yoke, even though it is of the dress material, simply tucked, the difference in effect is very marked.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

The new parasol is a thing of beauty and a joy forever, sure enough, since it has shown itself so capable of variety in design and daintiness in effect. There are so many kinds that it is difficult to single out the specialties which are really new, but it is pretty safe to assert that the square parasol covered with one of the irrepressible Persian-patterned handkerchiefs is a conspicuous novelty. It is anything rather than pretty, but the woman who likes striking, bizarre effects in her summer outfit will take to it very kindly, no doubt. The latest handle is club shaped, but there are all sorts and kinds, of course. A handle decoration of ruit and flowers made of celluloid tinted in the natural colors is one of the extreme novelties. There are gold and silver mounted wood handles set with real and imitation jewels, handles of ivory, coral and lapis lazuli, and handles of light wood, which are very pretty. Red and a pretty shade of purple are the fashionable colors among the plain parasols of silk, some of which are finished with the ruche of white taffeta silk falling a little below the edge. For driving or walking in the morning the plain silk parasol is the correct thing, but there is a great variety of striped and flowered silks as well as foulards. A plain white satin parasol decorated liberally with | Ont.

designs of applique lace is a desirable purchase, and then there is an endless number of variations carried out in the transparent materials. Chiffon is tucked, shirred and ruched into shape and finished with ruffles black Chantilly lace and white chiffen are combined together, the chiffon being accordeon plaited between bands of insertion The centre of the parasol is sometimes of cream lace, and the band below of tucked chiffon edged with plaited ruffles finished with a narrow cream lace edge. Silk parasols scalloped around the edge and trimmed with white silk braid are a pretty novelty, and then there are others made of bands of silk joined together with open hemstiching.

Jewelled chains talling with an ornament of some kind, just above the line of of the bust, are worn around the neck over the high necked bodice.

The stitched and tucked taffeta silk hats will usurp the felt hats this season.

Toques made entirely of foliage, with the accompanying flower for a finish and possibly a touch of the black sol fashionable in all things this season, are gone of the seasons's vagaries. Ivory white lace toques with ostrich pompons or down and and York roses are another variety.

Among the pretty fancies in buttons used to fasten the cuffs and fronts of dainty silk and lawn waists, are silver and enamelled fishes, pearl balls and pale pink coral buttons. Any antique piece of jewelry which can be utilized as a button is a valuable possession.

A novelty in dress fabrics is an all-wool canvas with a patterned border and narrow fringe on one edge. Two bordered handkerchiefs of canvas are sold with this to complete the costume, and the whole robe

Mohair is going to be very much worn this season for hack-about costumes. It comes in the pastel colors with a hair line stripe of white, and the price is \$2.00 a yard, double width.

The new wraps for summer show a great variety of capes in light cloth covered with stitched bands arranged in some fancy design, and no end of net chiffon, lace and silk combinations for dress. Capes of cloth applique on cream lace net made over white silk and satin and finished with plaitings of chiffon matching the cloth are really good style and very pretty. Taffeta silk guipure over black forms another style of cape, and cream lace with black net and chiffon is another variation. The capes fit the shoulders closely, fall moderately full below, and are finished with medium high flaring collars. Something novel in a carriage wrap is a long garment made entirely of black satin ribbon alternated with cream lace insertion. In shape it is a scant cape or dolman, and there is a bertha effect around the shoulders, made of the ribbon and lace running around. This is fully a quarter of a yard deep and is set on as if it were outlining a yoke. The lining is gathered white chiffon with a five inch plaiting all around the edge, but showing only the little ruche on the edge from the right side. Scarf ends of lace, net or chiffon are a feature of all the dressy wraps, which in black net or lace over white silk have white chiffon scarf ends to fasten them at the throat. These fall longer than the garment itself in many instances. There are long coats and threequarter length coats of cloth in the clock department but these are mostly for driving purposes.

Sashes arranged around the waist like

Eczema Tortured

About three years ago I had to leave school with sore hands. My teacher said it was Salt Rheum or Eczema and told me to see the doctor.

Mother got some medicine, but it did me no good.

After I had suffered with the itching and burning about three months, mother thought she

would try Burdock Blood Bitters. I only took two bottles, when my hands got completely cured. -Emma Sheridan, Parry Sound,

ROBINSON & CLEAVER BELFAST, IRELAND.

And 164, 166 and 170 REGENT STREET, "LONDON, W. IRISH LINEN & DAMASK MANUFACTURERS,

AND FURNISHERS TO H. M. THE QUEEN, EMPRESS FREDERICK, Members of the Royal Family, and the Courts of Europe.

Supply Palaces, Mansions, Villas, Cottages, Hotels,

Railways, Steamships, Institutions, Regiments and the General Public, direct with every description of Household inens

From the Least Expensive to the FINEST in the WORLD.

Which being woven by Hand, wear longer and retain the Rich Satin appearance to the last. By obtaining direct, all intermediate profits are saved, and the cost is no more than that usually charged for common-power loom goods.

Irish Linen: Real Irish Linen Sheeting, fully bleached, two yards wide, 46cts. per yard;

Surplice Linen. 14cts. per yard. Dusters from 78cts. per doz. Linen Glass Cloths, \$1.14 per dozen. Fine Linens and Linen Diaper, 17cts. per yard. Our Special Soft Finished Long Cloth

Irish Damask Table Linen: Fish Napkins, 70cts. per doz. Dinner Napkins, 2½ yards by 3 yards, \$1.32 each. Kitchen Table Cloths, 23cts each. Strong Huckaback Towels, \$1.08 per doz. Monograms, Crests. Coat of Arms, Initials, &c., woven or embroidered. (Special attention to Club, Hotel, or Mess Orders).

Matchless Shirts: Fine quality Longcloth Bodies, with 4-fold pure linen fronts and our Special Indiana Gauze, Oxford and Unshrinkable Flanne, s for the Season. Old Shirts made good as new, with best materials in Neckbands, Cuffs, and Fronts, for \$3.36 the half-doz. Irish Cambric Doclart Handlagershiofs. "The Cambrics of Robinson and

Irish Cambric Pocket-Hand kerchiefs: "The Cambrics of Robinson and fame."—The Queen. "Cheapest Handkerchiefs I have ever seen."—Sylvia's Home Journal. Children's, 30cts. per doz.; Ladies', 54cts. per doz; Gentlemen's, 78cts. per doz. Hemstrohed.—Ladies', 66cts. per doz; Gentlemen's, 94cts. per doz.

Irish Linen Collars and Cuffs: Collars—Ladies', from 84c s. per doz.; Hemstrohed.—Cuffs: Gentlemen, from \$1.42 per doz. "Surplice Makers to Westminister Abbey" and the Cathedral and Churches in the Kingdom. "Their Irish Linen Collars, Cuffs, Shirts, &c., have the merits of excellence and cheapness "—Court Circular. Irish Underclothing: A luxury now within the reach of all L.dies' Chemises, binations, 94cts. India or Colonial Outfits, \$40.32 Bridal Trousseaux, \$25.80 Infants' Layettes \$12.00 (see list).

N. B .- To prevent delay all Letters, Orders and Inquiries for Samples should be addressed

& Cleaver, BELFAST, IRELAND. (Please mention this Paper.)

Swiss belt are fastened with a rosette and finished on the ends with silk fringe.

Embroidered ecru linen which is trans parent makes lovely summer gowns, with pink batiste for the underdress which may be accordion plaited. Use the plaited batiste for the under bodice with a short bolero of the linen.

Long lace barbs which are carried twice around the neck and tied in a sailor kno falling a little below the neckband are one of the fads in neckwear.

Anecdotes of Col. Ege of Kansas.

Col. Ege was a famous character in the early days. Although living in Doniphan county, he was often in Atchison, followed by a pack of hounds. He was a hightoned Southern gentleman, with a kind heart and one day while returning home from this city, he came across a man whose wagon was stuck in the mud in Independence Creek bottom. Col. Ege at once started in to help the man pry out his wagon with fence rails. While both were working away Ege became angry and yelled to the man: 'Lift, you son of a gun, you are not lifting a pound.' The man picked up the endgate of the waggon, and split it over Ege's head, laying him up for three weeks Ege had his bat off when he struck, and was so bald before coming to Kansas that he was known as the bald eagle of Mary.

Ege always carried a pistol, and was always trying to shoot through somebody's hat without hitting him. One day, at the Independence Creek terry, he shot at a man, but aimed a little too low. But Ege was always a gentleman; he took the man into his home, and tenderly cared for him until he recoved. Col. Ege owned the 1,500 acre farm where Joseph Somons now lives.

Petitions to Congress.

What is to be done with the petitions presented to Congress? Not with the requests themselves, but with the paper on which they are expressed. They have become so bulky that it is impossible to examine them, and it is even a problem to provide storage room for them.

The privilege of petitioning to those who make the laws is one of the fundamental rights of a free people, and no one desires to restrict it. But in these days o easy letter wrting the average Congress man asks himself, when he sees a pile of letters and petitions: 'Who has been starting all this up? For usually some e makes it a business to have Congres bombarded with petitions in order to bring influence to bear upon it. Word goes out to the labor unions, to the farmers' associations, to the commercial bodies, or to religious societies to petition for this thing or that, and thousands, sometimes hundreds of thousands, of responses follow.

One man has been so active in bringing pressure upon Congress on behalf of several matters in which he is interested that he is said to have doubled the volume of mail received at the Capitol. His system of stimulating the public to present petitons

is most elaborate. When the case of Mr. Roberts of Utah | Institute, 780, Eight Avenue, New York.

A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES.

Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia, Pennyroyal, &c. Order of all Chemists, or post free for \$1.50 from EVANS & SONS. LTD., Montreal and Toronto, Canada. Victoria, B. C. or Martin Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.

was before Congress, the petitions against his admission, piled in front of the speakers desk, made a larger load than a horse could draw. Sometimes petitions are presented in picturesque form. The collarmakers of Troy, during a tariff debate, once submitted a great book shaped like a coffin, which contained thousands of signatures. Some petitions have been pushed into the House in a wheelbarrow, to give dramatic effect to the outburst of popular opinion which they were supposed to re-

Nevertheless, a simple letter from a constituent to his representative, which bears evidence of having come spontaneous ly from the writer, sometimes exerts as much real influence as a million signatures obtained by organization, and affixed to a petition as a result of personal solicitation.

shopping in Scotland.

The Scotch have their own idea of a 'bargain day,' and their view is not without a touch of shrewdness. A London paper describes a conversation between an English matron and Mr. Angus McIver.

'I suppose, Mr. McIver,' said she, 'that they have bargain days in Glasgow?

'Ma conscience, no! It wad na do ava!' 'Indeed!' replied the lady. 'Why, I thought bargain days would just suit your people!

'Weel,' said he, 'that's juist it. It wad suit them ower weel. If they had bargain days, naebody wad buy onything on the ither days, ye ken !'

A ten cent package of Magnetic dyes and very little work will make a new blouse of your faded silk one-try it.

One Striking Advantage.

There is one point about a clock that strikes the half hours may not have occurred to the unthinking.

'Papa,' asked a boy who had stood in silent admiration before the new timepiece on the mantel until the burden became oppressive, what's the good of a clock that strikes every half-hour ?'

'Well, my son,' replied his father, after some reflection, 'if you are lying awake at night and hear it strike one three halfhours in succession, you know that you hear it again it will be two o'clock.'

A Running Item,

'Who defrays the expenses of the government of the so-called Filipino republic? asked the newly appointed colonial com-

'There are none now,' replied General Otis, 'except Aguinaldo's running ex-

TO THE DEAF .- A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noises in the Head by Dr. Nicholson Artificial Ear Drums, has sent £1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply to The