

THE REALM OF FASHION.

FANCIES APPROPRIATE TO THE MIDSUMMER.

Two Pretty Gowns—Transparent and Changeable Fabrics—Inverness Capes—White Gowns—A Natty Garment—Fashion in Aristocratic—Paris Millinery.

Although autumn styles are already talked about, the reign of the summer gown will prevail through August and September. Wraps will be worn as the season advances, but those used for



MID-SUMMER COSTUMES.

evening wear are quite adapted for the occasional cool days that are liable to appear after midsummer.

Two pretty and strictly on regie summer costumes are shown herewith. The first is in coarse cream canvas, plain skirt, with fold at the side; crossing bodice, full front of chiffon, large sleeves; belt and sash of ribbon, checked with green and white; hat of coarse black straw, with bouquet of gardenias and foliage. Pajamas covered with cream lace, frills and bouillottes of silk chiffon. The second is of brown holland, skirt beautifully cut with a double pleating down the front; bodice with box pleat at the back, and in front a full cascade of white baize edged with yellow Valenciennes lace; belt of white satin ribbon, crossing at the back to entirely support the skirt, and forming a corset in front; full sleeves tied with white satin bows. Caps are in coarse, sunburnt straw, tricorn shape.

Transparent fabrics have been gaining ground, and dotted and printed muscades, organdies, lawns, batistes, milis, and muscades are freely used. The larger class of wearers make these up unlined, while others use a white or colored lawn lining, while those who can afford it use silk.

Very young and slender girls wear Swiss dresses, having the skirt covered with two-inch ruffles, each edged with "Val" lace, the sleeves fashioned to correspond with ruffles from elbows to shoulders, and waist having a round yoke of ruffles. Crush collar and belt of piece satin, the style giving width to any figure.

White organdies and muscades are trimmed with fine embroidery, as other gowns are made up with lace, using it in the same manner. The skirts are gored at the front and sides and have a gathered back. The unlined waist having "bag" seams may have lengthwise tucks from belt to armholes, leaving the upper part full, or a shirred yoke of tiny tucks shows gathers at the waist line, back and front. The sleeves are in a full puff to the elbows, with tucks shaping them to the wrists. Sleeve epaulettes or flat cape collar of the lace and insertion and frills of the same at the wrist.

Changeable fabrics are quite the mode still, and some of them seem to combine all the colors of a pousse cafe. A pretty two-toned thin serge trimmed with changeable silk to match or a neat shepherd's plaid in brown, blue and white, with brown and blue shot lining, will be found useful for general wear where lighter and more fanciful toilets would be out of place and inconvenient.

The gay Inverness capes are the proudest of all the cool day wraps of the season. They are almost a necessity with the big sleeves, and in deep red or fawn brown, with plaid or peachblow silk linings, and the straps, which let them fly without dropping, are very fetching.

To one of the new effects in gowns has been given in Paris, with that curiously apt irony of which only the French are capable in dress nomenclature.



AN OUTING COSTUME.

ture, the name bobetomato, or tomato gown. It is a combination of electric green and vivid scarlet, the huge leg-of-mutton sleeves being of the green, with revers and belt of scarlet, over a bodice of lace and chiffon combined.

Something new in white gowns, and more "dressy" than those of duck or muslin, is a white barge dress made over with taffeta. The gored skirt is kept quite plain, except for side pieces or tapering panels set in each seam of the front breadth, beginning at the belt and graduating to a point at the foot. The outer edge of each panel is bordered with white moire ribbon, an inch wide, neatly stitched on, and a rosette or bow of the ribbon accentuates the point at the foot. Sometimes a pointed tablier is preferred to these panels, and is brought up from the foot in front to form a pleated mesage on the sides and back; this is also edged narrowly with moire ribbon, and has a single very large bow at the foot directly in front.

A very natty and becoming garment, combining the ease of the jacket with the dignity of the coat, and thereby losing the negligent appearance of the

former, is a new style of blouse. It is close-fitting and completed by a waistcoat and chemise, and combines well with any sort of skirt. Brown or tan colored covert cloth is the best material, with revers of brown moire and waistcoat of changeable moire in blue and brown.

Just at present Fashion is pre-eminently aristocratic, with little sympathy with "cottage simplicity." Spangled and sequined trimmings are just as popular as ever, and the addition of fine cut jet detracts nothing from their richness. If anything, it has the contrary effect. Some of the garnitures now used would not seem out of place in a painting of one of the ancient masters, so dark and rich, and yet so superb in color and so elaborate in design are they. Bands of pearl, pale mauve, heliotrope, and opal on silk net, or of gold and emerald with cut-jet sequines surrounded with smaller ones in mock topaz and ruby, are among the new Vienna importations opened this week. A description of all the rare and unique garnitures of this variety for the enriching of both gowns, wraps and costly-head-coverings would fill a small-sized volume.

The natty French hats are very much affected by the summer girl. Ivy is very much in vogue this year. Bonnets are made entirely of ivy, and hats freely trimmed with it. White satin violets are also much used. They are massed in large overtopping bunches.

The flowers shown for midsummer hats, even in the cheaper grades, are so true to the originals that they are positively deceptive. Among these are clover blossoms, with foliage and grasses; petunias in every variety of shading, copied from nature; the richly-tinted English wallflower; the dainty little Scotch rose, with its fine sweetbriar foliage, in clusters of white, yellow, and pale pink; beautiful tris, and the many varieties of the regal orchid. Some very dressy hats are set on a veritable coronet of brilliants, fastened on velvet or mingled among flowers. White, cream, corn-cob, pale pink, and green, are the chief colors seen in colored tips in midsummer hats. Large rosettes of tulle are the correct trimming for large hats, but chiffon, gauze, net, etc., are used in bow effects. Black tips, birds, argettes, violets, roses, etc., jetted lace employed in various ways, black



A Paris hat, velvet and black tulle, are among the many black materials used. The natural black flowers still continue in favor, and black mignonette has rapidly followed black wallflowers, while black roses and carnations have become quite fashionable.

For elderly ladies black hats, trimmed with large bows of moire ribbon and jet ornaments, seem to meet with the most favor.

The variety in style and texture of the dainty summer blouses and shirt waists is responsible for the buckle fad, which will prove a heavy drain on the ordinary pocket book. The silver buckles are most popular. They are only long and narrow or round and much ornamented. Some are of filigree, while others are plain or oxidized. Buckles of black enamel inlaid with silver or gold are effective upon a delicately tinted ribbon belt. The gold buckles are beautiful enough to warrant the price at which they are sold. Plain gold buckles have the owner's monogram engraved upon them. Among the newest silver buckles are those inlaid with pale blue enamel. Delicate buckles of tortoise shell are also seen this year, inlaid with gold or enamel. The buckles which adorn the tennis belt are sure, somewhere, to show a racket. A new buckle to be worn with a yachting gown is of Roman gold shaped like an anchor, with bronzed cords coiled about it. A dainty buckle attached to a wide ribbon belt was formed of a wreath of blue enamel forget-me-nots.

Old Age and Matrimony.

When he was considered quite an old man, James Lord Balcarras, went to stay with old Lady Keith. There were a number of young ladies in the house, and before he arrived Lady Keith said to them, "Now, there is this old gentleman coming to stay, and I particularly wish that you should all endeavor to make yourselves as pleasant to him as you can." They all agreed to do so, but a Miss Dalrymple said, "You may all do what you like, but I'll bet you anything that you please that I'll make the old gentleman like me the best of all." And so she did; she made him perfectly devoted to her all the time he was there; yet, when he asked her to marry him she laughed in his face. Lord Balcarras was exceedingly crestfallen, but, when he went away, he made a will settling everything he could upon Miss Dalrymple. Somehow, she heard of this, and said: "Then, after all, he must really care for me, and I will marry him," and she did. He was fifty-eight then, but they had ten children.—New York Home Journal.

Corn and Oysters.

To one quart grated green corn (that called evergreen is the best) add three eggs and three or four grated crackers; beat well, and season with pepper and salt; have ready in a skillet, butter and lard, or beef drippings, in equal proportions, quite hot, but not scorching; drop in little cakes, about the size of an oyster, using a teaspoon for the purpose; when brown, turn and fry on the other side, watching constantly to prevent burning. If the fat is just the right heat, the oysters will be light, and have much the flavor of fried oysters. Serve hot, and keep the dish well covered. By beating the whites of eggs to a stiff froth, and adding just before frying, they will be still better.

CAUSE FOR LAME HORSES.

Most Farriers Lower the Left Side of the Foot More Than the Right Side.

A curious mistake, common among blacksmiths, was pointed out to me recently by a practicing veterinary surgeon to whom I took a horse that had become lame gradually, with considerable heat in the feet. He drew attention to the fact that most farriers, being right-handed, unintentionally lower the left side of the foot more than the right side. As a result the pastern does not set quite evenly on the coffin bone, or the bone suspended inside the wall of the hoof, and in time the concussion of the foot on the street produces soreness in the joint which could not exist if the foot were level. A trifle out of joint, so to speak, the foot at night cannot repair the injury received or the fatigue of the day; it gradually gets feverish and then tender, and the horse is suddenly seen to limp. I have noticed this in hundreds of cases. The lameness disappears in a few days if the cause be removed by leveling up the foot carefully. A person will experience the same difficulty in his ankle if he wears for a few days a boot that is run over at the heel. The soreness will not be so pronounced for two reasons; the boot is not worn nor stood upon nights and leather furnishes more of a cushion than iron when brought in contact with the pavement.

Neither man nor horse is permanently injured unless the faulty condition continue. How such an error, almost unnoticeable, should be so frequently committed is easily understood when it is seen how much faster the knife removes the horn while being drawn than pushed. The shoeer lifts the foot and draws the knife toward himself on the bottom of what is then the right side, but which is really the left of the hoof, as his back is toward the horse's head. To pare the left (right) side of the hoof is more difficult or unhandy and it is, as a consequence, left thicker. The horse's forefeet are so constructed that if they must turn over, to turn out is less hurtful than to turn in; hence, the first indication of lameness from this cause is usually noticeable in the right foot, the left side of the foot being the lower, thus inclining it to roll in. The lesson is, hire competent farriers and be sure to keep the horse's feet level from side to side as well as front to rear.—Hollister Sage.

Nitrogen and Crops.

It has been found that a crop of eighteen bushels of wheat removed, from one acre about twenty-five pounds of mineral matter in the grain and ten pounds of nitrogen and 178 pounds of mineral matter in the straw or a total of thirty-five pounds of nitrogen and 114 pounds of silica, thirty-two pounds of potash, twenty pounds of phosphoric acid, as well as smaller proportions of lime, soda, magnesia, etc. Healthy plants contain more nitrogen than those that are feeble, while eighty-seven per cent. of the nitrogen was in the gluten. About 85 per cent. of the total material is taken from the soil during the first sixty-five days of growth. Heavy wheat contains nearly a quarter of a pound more nitrogen to the bushel than inferior wheat, which is a cost of about four cents more of the plant food taken from the soil. The most expensive fertilizer to the farmer is nitrogen, and this cost can be reduced on his farm by growing clover, cow peas and green crops for turning under, for the purpose of renovating his soil.

Vegetables for Autumn.

Beans for the table, as snap beans, may yet be planted, and they will come in ahead of the frost; and what pods are not wanted for the table make excellent pickles. From New York southward, in favorable situations, corn may yet be planted for table use. Plant the early varieties, in good, rich soil, where early potatoes were grown or in any vacant spot, and in a majority of cases, a crop will be secure. A few rows of beets may yet be planted. If the beets do not get very large—but they may—the tops and small roots make a splendid dish served as spinach. Summer squashes often perfect their growth when the seed is planted early in August, and a delicious vegetable it is late in autumn. Radishes, too, may be sown any time this year, and if the weather is not too dry and hot, good radishes will be secured. Cucumbers can be had for the table and for pickles if planted early in the month. Spinach does nicely if sown any time during the month. Make garden in August.

Pure Water in the Pastures.

Many springs that are not protected by fences in the pastures get foul and choked up in the summer season by reason of the cattle trampling in the mud, standing there to fight flies, and gradually contaminating the water until it is unfit to enter into the composition of healthful milk. A simple way to remedy this is to fence in the spring and after cleaning it out, thoroughly and making a deep pool, lay one or two lengths of iron pipe, an inch in diameter, to convey the water into a tub. The latter may be the half of an old cask or hinged-oil barrel. The pipe will cost only five to eight cents a foot. To prevent the water running too fast, and keep the pipe from clogging up, put a spike or plug, grooved a little to admit the water, into the upper end of the pipe in the spring. The pipe can then be flushed or raised any time by pulling out the plug for a few minutes. Before winter, a tight plug should be put in, to prevent water getting in to freeze and burst the pipe.

A Few Practical Hints.

Every owner of a home in a farming country or village, should aim annually to make some improvement of his surroundings. Buildings were erected years ago in haste, leaving the grounds with more or less of a rough surface. Being now covered with grass, the owner does not wish to have the surface broken and the sod spoiled; but he may make a smooth lawn by gradually filling the depressions with fine earth or sand to a depth of an inch in the hollows. The grass quickly penetrates this thin bed, and by repeating the operation several times during the season, he may with little cost and no breaking of the surface, have made a great improvement.

Senatorial Courtesy.

Vices are objectionable, but senatorial courtesy is a crime. For years it has been the cover for fraud and scandal of all sorts. We welcome any light that may be thrown on the actual proceedings of the national senate. We want the people to know that body as it is, that they may rise up in their wrath and either abolish or radically change it. It has become an excrescence on American government, a hindrance to progress, a walled town for the plunderers of the people.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

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