

OUR PARIS LETTER.

Of a truth, the straight full gowns have ceased to exist, and there is to be seen at present only the clinging skirts but in an infinite variety of styles. Some modistes have brought out the old-fashioned skirt with points, a style especially successful. All the breadths are cut on the bias; those of the front out bias on each side, with a width of 29 inches, then come two points of about 30 inches in width which make in all five breadths, including the two back breadths which are joined in the centre by a bias seam. These skirts are extremely desirable not being too clinging. Those made like an umbrella have the breadths bias on each side, and joined by a very narrow open-work insertion-like points. This effect is very desirable, especially when the insertion is used in the centre of the front. Gowns of gauze, muslin, in fact all light colors are made in this style. Speaking of robes of gauze we will describe a gown that we have seen in the rooms of a leading modiste. It is of black gauze embroidered with little dots of all colors. The umbrella shaped skirt was finished by very small open-worked points with insertion to match. The bodice was completed by a deep pleated basque, the pleats being very fine. The lining *decollote*, in V shape, was veiled with gauze and finished with a straight collar in anemone velvet. A corslet of black jet extremely high under the arms and crossing both in front and back, was adjusted at the bottom of the bodice. The sleeves were a little large, high on the shoulders and confined at the bottom by two bands of jet, separated by a light drapery of gauze. These gowns, which are in great favor this season, replace the old lace gowns so comfortable and so elegant. A very pretty toilette, with pointed skirt, is of helio rope silhouette with brocade to match; three graduated bands of dull passementerie terminated by ball fringe descend on the front of the skirt. The jacket, very full and long, has deep revers of brocade and opens on a plastron of silk muslin of the same shade. The full sleeves of gauze reach just below the elbow and are held by a band of passementerie; beneath these, close sleeves of brocade extend to the wrist. Paris has never seen so many light gowns as are worn this season, a fact due, largely no doubt, to the unvarying fine weather that we have had.

Many gowns are made of silk crepon, which is truly the gown "par excellence," because it has none of the incongruities of poodle, zephyr, batiste, muslin etc. One wears these gowns as freely as if they were wool without their becoming soiled or crumpled. They come in most novel designs, and in colors most charming. Another fancy of the season is the colored underwear. It has a charming coquette, and its forms are varied and intimate; for trimming large pointed scallops in color, or guipure mounted on a band of insertion through which are drawn ribbons. Wide drawers without bands have made their appearance again, a style which was always more or less agreeable to wear. In order to render them more dressy a row of buttons is worked above the trimming and through these is threaded rose-colored ribbon which is knotted on one side. The chemises, in Empire style, are very pretty and elegant; crossed on the chest and in the back, they are confined at the waist by a band of insertions or a series of fine pleats. But among all these things we must not forget the most important article of the toilette—the hat; whether very small or very large it matters not, they are pretty. If very large they are of straw, the brims twisted in queer, fantastic shapes. As for the small hats, they are legor, capotes or round. Many are mere folds, made of nothing, placed on a crown of roses or fine flowers. In the back a knot of velvet or ribbon, two wings, an ornament of some sort, anything to raise it a little above the contour. The round hats are also very small with straight brims, the crowns, as small as those of capotes, are surrounded with a ruche of satin ribbon. White or black lace falls over the brim and also stands up against the ruche like the calyx of a morning glory. Two agrettes of ribbon or feathers, placed well to the left front, completes the garniture of this hat.

Some rose-colored straws trimmed in this way with black lace, black ribbon, and black plumes produce the most charming effect.

FELICE LESLIE.



No. 1144.

No. 1144, has a serge skirt of dark crimson over which is a drapery of ivory white flannel with a wide crimson stripe, partly woven in silk. The back and sides of the bodice and the elbow cuffs are of the serge, while the upper part of the sleeve is of the striped stuff, buttoned on the inner seam with small gilt buttons. A white linen shirt and Russia leather belt are worn with this costume, which is also furnished with a crimson silk blouse waist. The white straw sailor, has a large rosette of white silk, pinked in the edges, and a narrow band of crimson velvet.



No. 1145.

No. 1145. This other hat which may be used for summer drives is one of Redfern newest shapes and the trimming is embroidered chiffon ribbon and ostrich tips, all of shaded green. It is impossible for chiffon to be more in favor or in greater variety than it is



No. 1146.

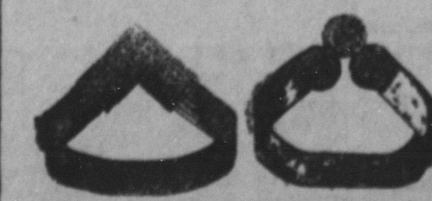
now. A novel kind is similar in effect to the chameleons silks being woven in all colors pink, shot yellow, green and pink-heliotrope and old gold, etc., one of the colors being accentuated by a rather wide selvage of the dominant shades. Even still the flowered chiffon's white colors are not pronounced but have a faded look as in China silks.



No. 1147.

No. 1146. DRESS FOR A GIRL TEN YEARS OLD.—For this neat costume cream-colored foulard is used, with trimmings of embroidery and silver buttons.

The full skirt is finished with a broad band of white embroidery, and the round bodice has the centre of the front and back of embroidery to match; the front forms a plastron and the back is closed in the centre. Pleated bretelles entwine the back and front of embroidery to the chest, from which point

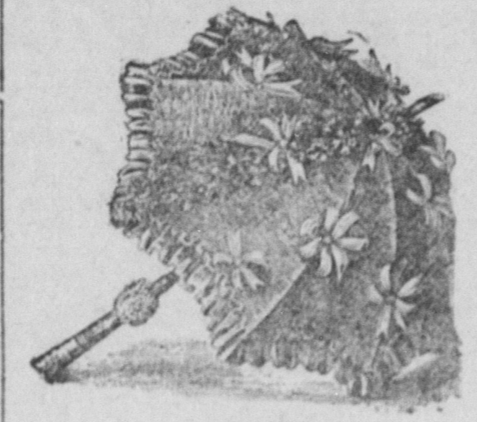


No. 1148.

No. 1149.

they descend perfectly plain to the waist. Sleeves, buttoned on the upper side from the wrist to the shoulder. Belt and high collar of embroidery.

No. 1147. GOWN OF FOULARD.—This gown of figured and plain-striped foulard has for trimming cream-colored, embroidered tulle. The front of the skirt is trimmed with a draped flounce of the tulle; the front of the bodice is also draped with tulle which extends below the waist line forming a basque drapery. The half-long sleeveless coat is of willow-green bangaline, open in front with notched revers. High collar draped with tulle, also bottom of the sleeves. Hat of lace straw trimmed with green ribbon and several swallows.



Belts.—No. 1148, shows a plain ribbon belt with clasp of oxidized silver. No. 1149, one of striped ribbon with steel clasp.



No. 1150.

No. 1150. THEATRE BODICE.—This is made of wheat-colored China crape and black velvet trimmed with gold embroidery. The full back and fronts are gathered in the shoulder seams, and arranged in fichu shape over a V shaped plastron of black velvet. A corslet of embroidered black velvet is placed over the bodice of crape (which terminates in a full basque, formed by a flounce of the crape mounted at the waist) and is opened in the centre of the front. Half-long sleeves in crape finished with a band of embroidered velvet and fringe of wheat-colored silk, with balls, which fall below the elbow. High collar of velvet with knots of crape on each side. Skirt of plain black velvet.



No. 1151.

No. 1151. VEST FOR A JACKET BODICE.—This vest is made of colored surah, to be worn under an open jacket or blazer. The fronts are pleated and the back is gathered at the waist line. The neck is finished with a standing collar which is covered with a triple box-pleated ruche of bias fringed surah; the same trimming extends down the centre of the front which is confined by belt ends of the silk, which proceed from the under arm-seams and cross in front.



No. 1152.

No. 1152. COMBINATION CAPE.—Yoke with high collar in black lace or embroidered grenadine over old pink bengaline silk, which also appears through the folds of the pointed plastron, front and back. Fly bows in green ribbon, faced with pink. Wing like sleeves in moss-green crepe braided with silver.

FANCY WORK.

WICKER LAWN TABLE WITH COVER.—This table has a circular top twenty-one inches in diameter, three lower shelves, each ten inches in diameter and a central shelf near the ground fifteen inches in diameter. The top and three upper shelves have covers of cream colored canvas on which the pattern is worked with red and blue linen threads. The working pattern for the cross-stitch embroidery is given in No. 1 a.

The covers are made to fit the shelves and finished at the edge with a tassell fringe of red, blue and white, the heading of which is crocheted with coarse cream-colored Kensington croch thread, and has a satin ribbon drawn through the upper edge.

For this heading work a foundation chain long enough to fit around the edge; the number of stitches must be divisible by eighteen; join the ends with a slip-stitch.

1st row.—A single crochet on every stitch, closing with a slip-stitch on the first single.

2d row.—By turns 7 chain and a single on the following 6th stitch.

3d row.—Around each of the next 3 scallops of 7 chain, work 11 single crochet with the 3d and 4th and 5th and 9th separated by 2 chain, then around the first half of the following scallop 6 single with 2 chain between the middle 2; turn, 7 chain, connect to the middle single of the preceding scallop, the same to the other two scallops, turn, around each of the next 2 chain scallops work 11 single with 2 chain between the 3d and 4th and 8th and 9th, around the first half of the next scallop 6 single with 2 chain between the middle 2; turn, 7 chain, connect to the middle single of the preceding scallop, the same to the 2d scallop, turn, 11 single with 2 chain between the 3d and 4th and 5th and 9th, around the preceding 7 chain, then fill out the succeeding 3 half scallops below by working around each 6 single with 2 chain between the middle 2; repeat from the beginning, but in each repetition make only 2 compl to scallops of 11 single before the half scallop, instead of 3, and after turning make the 3d connection to the middle of the last scallop finished in the last pattern.

4th row.—Work a row of single on the other edge of the foundation chain.

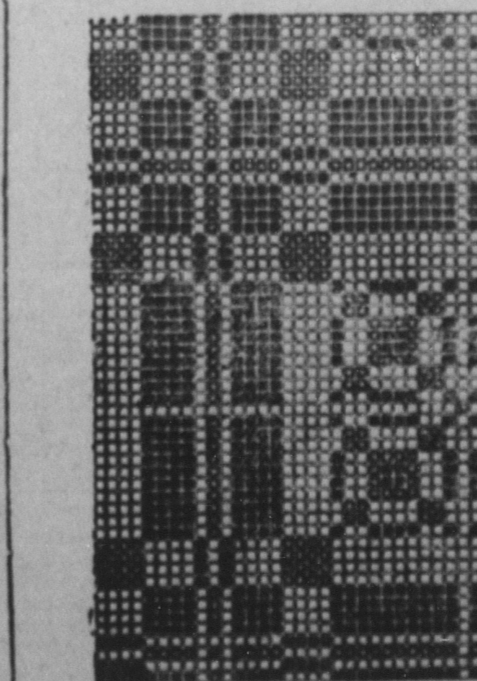
5th row.—The row through which the ribbon is drawn; work 5 chain to begin, * for a cross crochet work a treble crochet on the following 2d stitch but work off only the lowest mesh and keep the other 3 loops on the needle, a double crochet on the succeeding 3d stitch, work off the 2 upper meshes of the treble, 1 chain, a double crochet on the middle mesh of the treble, 1 chain a treble crochet on the following 2d stitch, 1 chain; repeat from *.

6th row.—Like the first.

7th row.—By turns a picot and a single on the following 3d stitch; for a picot 4 chain and a single on the first of them. Fasten the tassels at the tips of the scallops, as illustrated.



WICKER LAWN TABLE WITH COVER.



WICKER LAWN TABLE COVER, No. 1a.

One of Chauncy's Latest.

Chauncy M. Depew tells the following story of the many interesting characters he encountered last Fall while addressing his fellow citizens on the vital issues of the campaign. It doesn't sound so much like a true story as some that are extant, but it is getting pretty late in the day to doubt his word:

One night, after the meeting was over and while the hall was clearing, a weather-beaten man buttonholed me and took me to one side and said:

"I'm postmaster out here at Shingle Corners. Blaze away and elect your man if you want to."

"You don't care for the office, then?" I said.

"No that ain't it," he replied. "It don't pay but \$14 a year, or maybe good years, when I boom for a little, \$15, but it's powerful handy to have in the house. No, my idea is that we can keep it in the family anyhow."

"How's that?"

"The old woman, you see, she's a rip-sartin' Republican, powerful o' reg'lar uncompromisin'. If Cleveland gets it I stay; if Harrison slides in the old woman comes to the front for her reward. Nobody else wants it, so there we be."

"Well, you're all right then."

"You bet we are. If we get tired of it or too old for it, or anything ever happened there's my boy, a red-hot Republican, and my oldest gal, Democrat from 'way back. On, we're hustlers in our family when it comes to politics."

"But suppose the Mugwumps should develop power some day and carry things?" I asked.

"Well," he replied, "we will soon be fixed for that too. The baby is a Mugwump—I know it cause he howls all the time. If you see anybody lookin' for p'ints on keepin' a good thing in the family's best send him out to Shingle Corners."—Wasp.

A Pretty White Cap.

A pretty blonde young woman who dives and swims with fearless grace off the long pier at Narragansett dresses herself for these water gymnastics in white from top to toe. Her golden locks are securely tucked under a coquettish white oil silk cap with a little white tassel bobbing on the crown. A white twilled flannel goods interwoven with silk forms the blouse shirt and tunic skirt of the suit. The trousers are gathered at the knee to cover the tops of the long-ribbed white stockings, and finished by a strap and small buckle. Where her wide sailor collar turns away in front is laid a flat vest of flannel, barred with bands of white wool braid. No sleeves protect the round, white arms, raised high over the white-capped head as their owner stands poised a moment before taking a header into the cold, clear water.

One of the Rules of the House.

"There's shall expect you, Alfred," she said, "call for me this evening at 7.30 sharp."

"I'll be on hand unless the cable breaks, Dora," he replied. "I live on the North Side, you know."

"No allowance for breakage," rejoined the pretty queenware clerk, with a glitter in her eye.

He was a young man on a small salary, but he went out and engaged a cab. He couldn't afford to run any risks.—Chicago Tribune.

Freshly powdered charcoal is an excellent absorbent of foul gases.

WOMEN WITH MILLIONS.

New York City Can Boast of a Good Number of Them.

A New York paper gives the following list of women of that city who are the fortunate possessors of a million or more:—

Mrs. Moses Taylor, the widow of the famous dry goods merchant, is carefully estimated to be worth not less than \$15,000,000.

Mrs. Robert L. Stuart, the widow of the successful sugar merchant, inherited from him \$500,000 outright and a life interest in \$10,000,000.

Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts, who is often pointed out as the most desirable parti among fashionable widows, has a life interest in \$1,000,000.

"The Widow Hammersley" that was, now her grace the Duchess of Marlborough, has a life interest in \$5,000,000.

Mrs. Augustus Schell, widow of the famous banker, has twelve solid millions of money while she lives.

Mrs. Frederick Stevens, now the Duchesse de Dino, is a New Yorker still to the tune of ten real golden millions of her own, and now, one may say, the duke's, too.

Mrs. Robert L. Livingston, who is Elbridge Gerry's mother-in-law, is worth \$5,000,000. Mrs. Bradley Martin has \$2,000,000 of her own besides all her husband's money.

Mrs. Robert Winthrop has a private fortune more than adequate to the maintenance of even such a fine old family name as hers. She has \$10,000,000.

Mrs. Percy Pyne has \$10,000,000 of her own. Mrs. Fred Neilson, Freddy Gebhard's sister, has a cool million. That same cool million represents also the private fortune of Mrs. Matalin Livingston. Nobody will be surprised to hear that Mrs. Ogden Mills has a million of her own.

The two elderly Misses Rhineland have \$5,000,000 between them, and bid fair to leave it to collateral heirs with wonderfully fat accumulations!

Mrs. James P. Kernochan has \$1,500,000 in money and real estate at a low estimate. By the same appointment Mrs. John C. Green has at least \$8,000,000, and Mrs. Mason Jones, so often called by queer old people "Lady Mary Mason Jones," she has \$1,000,000 of her own and is contesting the Hammersley will besides.

Mrs. Josephine Ayer, the widow of the doctor who made a fortune in patent medicines, is said to have received from him about \$5,000,000. Mrs. Martin Bates was left by her husband \$1,500,000, which he made in dry goods, and Mrs. James Brown, who lives in a fine house on Park avenue and Thirty-seventh street, received from her husband's estate about \$4,000,000, which he accumulated as a banker.

Mrs. W. E. Dodge is worth \$4,000,000, much of the income of which she sends to the heathen. Mrs. Robert Goetz is worth \$3,000,000, and Mrs. John C. Green, the widow of the Princeton College patron, is reputed to be worth \$10,000,000.

Mrs. John Minturn is another wealthy New York widow; she is said to be worth \$2,000,000, and her father was an Aspinwall. Gov. Morgan's widow is worth several millions; Clarkson Potter's widow has an immense income from his estate, and Mrs. Edwin Stevens, who owns "Castle Point" at Hoboken, is one of the richest widows in America, and counts her wealth by millions. Mrs. Paron Stevens' husband made \$6,000,000 in hotels and left her the Victoria and a share in the Fifth Avenue.

Mrs. Craig Wadsworth, who lives in Washington, but is a New Yorker, is said to be worth a million. Miss Sarah Hitchcock is not only a society woman, but is said to have in her own right several millions with which to command society. Mrs. Levi P. Morton is said to have well over a million of her own.

Mrs. Ulysses Grant, from the pension and book of her famous husband, has, it is said, an income which entitles her to rank among the rich women of New York, although her capital is small. Mrs. Cleveland has about \$150,000 of her own. Mrs. Garfield is a millionaire, judged by the standard of income.

But the richest woman in New York, probably in the world, is "fiftie" Green. She is about 47 years old and is worth at a conservative estimate about \$25,000,000. She married E. H. Green of New York. Mr. Green was worth \$700,000, and it is said Miss Hetty had an ante-nuptial contract with him whereby he agreed to pay all of the household expenses and to leave her property of \$2,000,000 and more in her own name. After her wedding she kept up her activity and through her husband got into Wall street speculation. She did the speculating herself and made while her husband lost. She could buy large blocks of stock and would buy or bear the market as she thought best. She made money right along and is now reputed to be worth forty-odd millions. She is economical, frugal, and though her income must be immense her total household expenses are not over \$5,000.

Power of the Whale.

An English naturalist who has been out to see the whale in his native pastures estimates that a full-grown whale, driving ahead at full speed, could break down any breakwater ever built, and that the sweep of his lower jaw is equal to the force of a thirty-horse power engine working at full speed.

Coal in the Province of Almeria, in Spain, is so dear that here is great rejoicing over the discovery of an inferior quality in a large vein near Albanchec.

The telephone cables laid beneath the streets of Berlin are estimated to meet the requirements of 30,000 answers a day, the present number being 15,000.