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PHILADELPHIA, PENN'A.

SOME OLD TIME STYLES.

HOW THEY COMPARE WITH THE FASHIONS OF THE PRESENT.

Thirty Years Ago Hoops and a Profusion of Primary Colors Were the Proper Thing—Fall Wraps and Riding Habits Then and Now.

[Special Correspondence.] NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—How grateful we should be that those who get up the fashions went back to director days for the present modes, and did not stop at 1850 for the styles which were then in vogue! I came across some fashion books of those days, and the pictures in them are enough to make your hair stand on end. I hope I shall die before fashion gets around to them again. I present two of the styles of those days in contrast to those of today, so that if there are any persons now living who insist that "old times were better than the new," they may look at them and forever after hold their peace.



FALL COSTUMES 1860 AND 1889.

In reading the books over we find in the resume of fashions for the month that "all the brightest of the primary colors are worn," and one silk street gown of astonishing proportions is of Goffredo (a bright crimson) silk with purple flounces in festoons, "a very attractive combination," the book says. Another gown, that certainly must have required forty yards of silk in the making, is of "royal purple silk with fulet, fan like gorges of emerald silk, headed by rosettes of green and purple." It is destined by an enormous hoop.

"A graceful and attractive fall wrap," which is reproduced here, is made of azure (the silk trimmings with black velvet in Grecian pattern, and worn over a black silk dress, with a blue bonnet to "correspond" with the cloak, with "artificial flowers in the cap." The pretty fall suit of today opposite this one, which looks like the great bell of Moscow, is of soft gray cashmere, with braiding of silver and a darker shade of gray, a vest of white surah and a jacket of fine striped chevrot, gray and fawn. A glance at the differences in the fashion of riding habits here presented also gives a few causes of thankfulness. Today the habit is trim, snug, with no superfluous length or breadth of skirt to tangle or flap about a horse's legs, nor petticoats or hoops to catch on the saddle horn and drag a woman to death, as often happened in those days. Indeed how they ever managed to ride in those ungainly clothes I don't see. And, besides, I think our style of writing fashion letters is better than theirs was, and offer, that every one may judge, a paragraph descriptive of that surprising riding habit: "Gray cell like hat, the brim trimmed with gray velvet and trimmed with

COLLIDING WITH KINGS.

One of David Kerr's Queer Experiences in St. Petersburg. [Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—At the time when the great Russian statesman, Nikolai Alexeievitch Milutine (the chief agent in bringing about the serf emancipation of 1861), was first attacked by the disease which proved fatal to him some years later, his official residence at St. Petersburg was thronged for several days together by native grandees of every class, all eager to learn which way the chances of life and death were likely to turn in the case of a man whom many of them loved and more of them feared, and whose vacant place not a few among them would have been very glad to fill. It was at this time that I, happening to be staying in the house, met with an adventure that would have made an admirable "stage situation" for one of the comedies of Scoble or Dumas the younger. Running briskly down stairs one morning to start out for my early walk, I encountered a man who was coming up so hurriedly that before I could stop myself he ran right into each other. The stranger—a man of middle age, whose broad, heavy, rather sunken face was framed in a pair of long grayish brown side whiskers—wore the uniform of a Russian naval officer, but the increasing corpulence of his short, thick set figure and the dull, shortsighted look of his large gray eyes (in one of which was stuck a gold rimmed eyeglass) were anything but sailor like.

As we clashed together he growled out something that sounded not at all like a blessing, but I flew past before he could finish and reached the foot of the stairs just in time to collide with another man, younger and taller than the last, whose thick cavalry mustache and firm, handsome, sun browned face harmonized well with his dress—the olive green uniform and glittering gold lace of a Russian general.

I was just beginning to apologize, when he caught me by the arm and said, in a tone of undisguised anxiety: "Do you know how Nikolai Alexeievitch (Nicholas the son of Alexis) is this morning?" "A little better," answered I, and passed on.

I arrived at the front door just at the right moment for a third collision with another visitor who was just entering—a tall, stately, very handsome man in the gorgeous uniform of the Russian imperial guard, with a troubled, weary look in his large, lustrous eyes, and a visible tinge of gray in his short, dark brown hair. I apologized for the accident, but he was apparently in such a hurry to pass in that he hardly noticed me. But I had noticed him sufficiently to remark the close resemblance of his face to a portrait familiar to all Russia, and I began to have a diagonal suspicion that my having bumped against him in this way was neither more nor less than high treason! This suspicion was changed to certainty on my return from my walk, when M. Milutine's son and heir, Yury (George), a sharp, little 10-year-old (who has since had some strange adventures in Central Asia), told me, as well as he could speak for laughing, that the three men whom I had jostled so unceremoniously were the czar's eldest brother, the Grand Duke Constantine (lord high admiral of Russia), his second brother, the Grand Duke Nicholas, commander-in-chief of the Russian army, and—last, but certainly not least—the czar himself! A few years later, I was telling this story to some friends in England, when

STOPPED HIS GROWTH.

A Virginian was showing a company of northern men over a lottified, when one of them said:

"I am reminded of an incident which occurred here. I had charge of a Sunday, while there was no firing going on and we were all leading about, I saw a man come over that hill by the cemetery and down across the slope toward the rear of the Confederate lines. His comfortable and serene manner irritated me. I determined to see how close I could come to him, and we all chuckled at the idea of scaring the life out of him. I took good aim and landed a shot about six feet from him. You ought to have seen him jump! He was the most demoralized Johnny Reb you ever saw. How he did run and how he laughed to see him!"

"So you are the man who fired that shot, are you?" said the Virginian. "Yes, do you know anything about it?" "Well, yes, I think I do," was the reply; "I was the fellow you shot at. I was a lad coming with something for my father, who was in the works. I didn't suppose there was a Yankee fool enough or mean enough to shoot a cannon at one little fellow carrying grub to his father. But you don't exaggerate the scare. I didn't grow another inch in a year."

OBSERVATIONS ON WHIST.

A Brief History of the Game—How Short Whist Was First Played.

It has taken centuries to form the present game of whist. The game first started, in all probability, as early as the beginning of the sixteenth century. But the game of those days was as different from the game of today as black is from white. It was first known as whisk. The name trump also probably came first from triumph, at least, all the evidence points that way. It was not, however, until the age of Edmund Hoyle that the real game of whist can be said to have been launched forth on the world. Hoyle was born in 1672, and is said to have been educated for the bar. York shire has been called the county of his birth, but the present representative of the York shire Hoyle, who acquired estates near Halifax, Mr. Pittwell Hoyle, has taken great pains over his genealogy, and has come to the conclusion that the Edmund Hoyle of whist celebrity was not in any way connected with his family. It has been stated, again, that Hoyle was registrar of the prerogative court in Dublin in 1742, and that he held property there. This, however, seems unlikely, though it is

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