

OUR WOMAN'S PAGE.

THE ENGLISH WOMAN ADOPTS FRENCH STYLES,

BUT KEEPS HER INDIVIDUALITY.

Fashion Notes Among Social Lights— Styles in Millinery Become More Simple—The Directoire Coat and Louis Seize Styles.

(Correspondence of the Dispatch.) LONDON, August 4.—Even in its most frivolous phases, English fashion maintains a certain air of solidarity and unconscious poise which is as far from the briskness and dash of the American

volles, and silk gauzes are greatly in evidence just now, for the influence of Paris is felt, especially at the season of calm in the fashions. The recent garden fete for the officers' families fund at Sheen House, East Sheen, in which Lady Lansdowne has so deeply interested herself, proved a brilliant success in every way. All of London society was represented, and the beautiful costumes worn were a positive treat to those so trivial as to feel a keen interest in dress. The garden fete was opened by Lady Lansdowne, who wore a charming gown of gray lace, hand-painted in a design of green ferns, and trimmed with plaques of green and gray mousseline. She carried a beautiful bouquet of pink roses, and did the honors most graciously. The Princess Christian and her daughter, Princess Victoria, were among the first visitors to the fete. Princess Christian wore a gown of perverche blue voile, with a chimesette of gypure. The color of the gown was in most artistic contrast with the bunch of mauve-colored orchids which she held in her

Phases of Fashion in Summer Wraps.



In these three figures valuable hints of the ever changing modes are to be found. In the figure to the left we have a French model of a mantle, the smart little wrap now in vogue with the masses, the little fitted cape which comes over the shoulders and forms a deep point in front is of white gauze brocaded in velvet flowers and mounted upon a white taffeta foundation. The scarf-like drapery which outlines this little fitted wrap is of black taffeta with a deep silk fringe hanging over the shoulders, which ends where the rosette holds the shoulder drapery in place on each side of the front. The silk drapery continues down the side of the fronts to the point at the waist, where it is held in by a smart large bow, the fringed ends of which fall nearly to the bottom of the skirt. The second figure shows a typically English model of a coat, which is a race of ivory cloth lined with broche silk and trimmed and fastened with sil tassels, the extravagant flowing sleeves of which show how daring present cuts. The draped Capuchon and great flaring collar are other marked features of the modes. Even more smart, perhaps, is the coaching coat upon the third figure, which is of pale tan cloth, with its no vel scarf and streamer ending its half-centure, which partially encircles the waist. These half-length coats are shown among fall models.

The Louis XVI. Corsage.



This extremely smart and modish corsage is constructed of embroidered taffeta. The back forms a coat, while the fronts are cut shorter and are double-breasted. The upper crossing front is cut out in two points and held by the antique buttons. The upper part of the corsage opens upon a plastron of gypure over a transparency of cream satin. The fichu is of embroidered mousseline de sole, the collars of gypure, and the elbow sleeves have a turned-back cuff of embroidered cream satin.

styles as it is from the chic and subtlety of the French.

There is a great charm in this indescribable quality which one feels more and more as one studies English women and their dress.

Undoubtedly, this severe style, with its smartness and simple elegance, is best suited to this vital type of woman, and she is in line form when adhering to her own thorough and compact way of dressing this summer. However, the future for all that is eminently feminine, mischievous and fussy is telling very strongly upon the English modes, and never, perhaps, has London seen such frocks of airily-clad fashionables. Batistes, mousselines,

hand. Princess Victoria's gown was of white mousseline and she wore one of those large touques of gauze which seem to be peculiarly characteristic of the English fashion.

One of the most fascinating gowns I saw on this occasion was worn by a very distinguished-looking American woman, and was evidently a concoction fresh from Paris. It might be described as a tone study in shades of rose. The rose color merged into soft pinkish tones of brown and old-rose, rather than a true bright pink, but these more sombre shades were lighted here and there by a touch of clear pink ribbon knots. She wore with this costume a toque of brown cloth with a tangle of pink buds and

A Smart Bathing Costume.



The summer girl has found that no hair most successfully retains its crispness and style when wet. This one is of russet-brown with an elaborate ornamentation of white mohair tassels and white braids.

black, and a beautiful brown boa of accordion-pleated chiffon surrounded her neck. The skirt was a form of three graduating flounces of mousseline de sole, the upper one of which formed a tunic, these flounces were cleverly arranged so that the darker brown shade fell over a ruche underflounce, which was very scant, and which was colored in a light shade of old-rose, showing a bewildering change of colors as she moved across the lawn, or whenever the flounces were fluttered by a passing breeze. The flower stall, which was under the auspices of several young bachelors, was presided over by Lady Hood, who was assisted by some charmingly dressed young maidens. The vending of the flowers proved a rather too arduous task for the young men, who gladly relegated it to their sisters and mothers. Lady Hood's appearance was delightfully picturesque. With a costume of pure white voile, which showed no gleam of color, she wore a large picture hat of black, which was in the most fitting and fitted to the figure, and showed some of the latest notions of fashion.

The Directoire style was given by a coat of the white voile substantially mounted upon silk, and bordered by a hand of stitched white satin. The front showed wide revers which extended over the arm in sharp points and tapered to nothing at the waist, where four large pearl buttons with holes of satin gave a smart trimming to the jacket front.

The large turned-back cuffs were also smartly trimmed with these great buttons and holes. In the back the coat was made to continue in long wide tails that reached quite to the bottom of the skirt. The front of the corsage was of blend net over mousseline, encrusted with appliques of gypure, the pattern of which was varied by trimmings and embroidery of chiffon, which gave a very rich effect of fluffy embossed flowers on the pattern of the lace.

Among the heavy girls who were assisting in the sale of flowers was Miss Chester Masters and Miss Lindo. The latter wore a pretty little twine-colored muslin with a large black hat trimmed with green roses.

Miss Baden-Powell, the sister of the hero, was much feted and sought after. She wore an exquisite little gown of cream chiffon, which was elaborately tucked and trimmed with very pretty applique of cream satin, put on in scroll design and in bands. The skirt was formed of countless little tucks, which were released not far from the bottom, where the scroll applique of ribbon formed a deep border between narrow bands of ribbon at the top and bottom. Just below the waist a number of these bands, spread at short intervals, encircled the skirt and seemed to form a yoke at the top of the skirt. Over this little yoke effect was a stylish drape of soft chiffon, festooned in panier style. This drape ended in the back in a bow, with short loops and two long scarf ends, which came to the bottom of the skirt, and were finished in a soft fringe of silk floss.

It is apropos to mention here that this yoke effect upon the skirt is gaining high favor as the season advances, and promises to assert itself strongly by the fall. Whether paniers will take in anything more than this tentative and meagre form remains to be seen, but certainly there is a decided leaning toward penguins, yokes, and trimmings about the hips.

I was particularly struck with the pre-eminence of blue gowns at this fete, and concluded that the rage for blue is even stronger in England than with us. There were a number of black and white costumes also, which were very charming. Among the latter Lady Randolph Churchill's gown deserved some comment.

It was with some interest that I studied her, wondering all the while about her imminent marriage to a youth as much as twenty years her junior, and looked closely for traces of her years. She was thoroughly happy and brilliant in appearance, however, and though somewhat matronly in figure, gave the impression of a young and very handsome woman.

Her gown was of white mousseline ornamented with quantities of narrow black ribbon and small pearl buckles. The skirt had a deep yoke of a series of smocked mousseline to which a series of fluttering flounces were attached. The sleeves appeared beneath an epaulette into a graceful ball at the elbow, and were lower sleeves being of lace and having rows of narrow black strappings, which

were held in place by pearl sequins. The yoke and chemise of the gown was also of lace with strappings of velvet ribbon across the shoulder, bow-knots and festoons of the ribbon extending from one shoulder across the waist to the girde and on to the bottom of the skirt.

The prevailing style in millinery which seems to hold all the fashionable world is the wide swirling toque; this seems to be quite at its zenith of popularity, and is, indeed, a most thoroughly English-looking hat. I notice it everywhere among the elite, but as yet it seems to have escaped the caricaturing hand of the masses and has not appeared in cheap and inartistic shapes.

Some ideas in sunshade hats appeared not long since at Henley, and while scarcely promising to maintain more than a passing popularity, they at least signify a growing simplicity in taste and a lightness of touch in millinery. These sunshade hats, made in tiers of airy white materials and flopping in an ingenuous fashion about the face, present very much the appearance of children's sun hats.

One very attractive girl wore a wide-brimmed white chip, with no other trimming than a single wreath of black roses, which, in spite of their violation of nature, gave a very charming and simple effect.

The Directoire coat, a charming creation with little shoulder caps, large lapels, and rather full skirts or basque, bids fair to rival the long empire coat, and the full-gathered skirt, which is distinctly of the Louis Seize time, as is also the sharp pointed bodice, a certain and appropriate accompaniment, the fichu and closely-fitting elbow sleeves following in the natural sequence of things.

The present style of dressing the hair with its soft waving curls and vague undulation is peculiarly becoming to the classic English type.

Altogether, the Englishwoman as she is to-day is a refreshing and delightful picture. To be sure, she wears the frills and flighty trimmings of the French with a somewhat sober and earnest mien, but she lends them a dignity that has a peculiar fascination of its own, and conveys to us some loss in their splendor and chic. Her fresh and wholesome complexion is doubly enhanced in the light and frothy setting she now affects, and showing as she does a mysterious expression of her thought and character in a fashion of dress which belongs strictly to another type, is pleasing to look upon and consider.

One of the New Fronts Worn With Open Jackets.



A novel and becoming front to be worn with jackets and coats. It is of white mousseline and insertions, with a square collar of silk, trimmed with lace and insertion of a bolder pattern than that which alternates the groups of tucks upon the collar and vest. A scarf of green taffeta ties in front beneath the collar, the fringed ends falling below the waist in front.

FRECKLESS VICTORY.

How Toddy Jones Was Spelled Down by a Girl He Teased.

(Buffalo Evening Times.)

There was a new girl in school. She was not a pretty girl. She had fiery red hair and freckles, and the tiny little pug nose which invariably goes with the combination.

Toddy Jones disliked little girls when they were not pretty and although Fannie Sanders appeared to have all that could be desired in the way of good manners and temper, Toddy lost no opportunity for teasing her.

Toddy's teasing was something one wished to avoid. "Hi, Freckles! Wher'd you get 'em?" was his favorite way of saluting the luckless Fannie.

He devised various means to torment her. He tied her poor little pig-tails fast to her chair, so that she could not get up to recite when the teacher called upon her; he tripped her up with twine, sitting from the round of one desk to another; he pinned pieces of paper to the back of her dress, calling attention to her hair and freckles; and he even went so far as to slyly prick her with pins when he found her good nature was proof against all other annoyances.

In fact, Toddy Jones set out to make Fannie's life miserable, and if it had not been for a certain circumstance, no doubt he would have succeeded. All of this would not be worth the telling, if Toddy Jones had not held so prominent a place among his classmates. Toddy was not only first on the playground and among his school-fellows, but he easily distanced them in studies as well. And it is a curious thing to record that Toddy was more proud of his scholastic achievements in school than out. There was nothing on earth he liked so well as to be able to figure out a sum on the blackboard that the others had failed in, or to be called upon to read for the superintendent, or to display his writing when the board commissioner called, or to spell the class down at a spelling match.

Spelling-match days were great occasions, but up to this time the children had grown rather tired of them, because of the fact that Toddy always carried off the prize, and it is quite certain that no one would have cared for them at all if the teacher did not occasionally offer a second prize.

A grand spelling match was ordered for the close of school. Every one entering was given a pretty little red ribbon badge to wear, and the school-room was specially decorated for the occasion.

Two prizes were to be given, the first a \$5 gold-piece, presented by the new superintendent himself, and a little fancy box filled with candy as a consolation prize for the second best.

There was little doubt in the minds of the pupils as to who would win the \$5 gold-piece. In fact, Toddy was already speculating on the strength of it. "See here, Jim Davies," he said to the village carpenter, "I will want to see you next week about making that fish bar, 'cause you say you can do it for \$5?"

Toddy thrust his hands deep into his pockets with the air of a young millionaire, and Jim grinned and nodded. The momentous day arrived and the children with freshly scrubbed faces and hands, and clean pinafores assembled in the school-room. Mothers and fathers were there, too, to witness the spelling match.

FANNIE STUDIED. It was a proud moment for Toddy Jones. He saw them nodding and whispering about him. He watched his teacher look at him with admiration, and explained to the new superintendent about her "brightest pupil," and he waxed warm and glowing under the flattering words of the little girls.

There was only one little girl who did not smile at him. That girl was Fannie Sanders. Fannie's small pug nose was deep in the pages of her spelling-book, she was giving herself a farewell peep at the hard words.

Toddy spied her and his own nose curled with scorn. However, he felt extremely indulgent, and instead of plugging Fannie, he strove over to where she sat, and patronized her. "Studying, are you?" he said. Fannie closed her book with a slam.

"No," she said. "I expect to win the first." Toddy was made almost hysterical by Fannie's remarks and lost no time in communicating the fact to the others. "Oh, dear!" he laughed, "what do you think, Redhead thinks she's going to win the \$5!" And the others joined in with his laughter.

The teacher rapped sharply for order, the judges took their places, and the little folks settled into their chairs. Leaders were chosen, and they in turn called out the spellers for their respective sides. Toddy was naturally the first chosen, and the others followed in the order to which their scholarship entitled them. Fannie was taken on speculation, also, near the first. She was an unknown quantity in the matter of spelling.

FANNIE'S VICTORY. The spelling began briskly, up and down the lines the words went, and the first to stumble was little Ruth Harrison. "Fowl, a bird," said the teacher. "F-o-w-e-l," responded Ruthie, and the word was promptly passed on to the next. Soon others followed her, and at the

Toddy misspelling anything. The teacher was nearing the end of the spellers. It was growing late, and still the spelling kept on.

Finally the superintendent leaned over. "I will give them some words, if you please, Miss Barton," and the teacher gratefully made way for him.

The superintendent was mightily pleased with his task. He beamed kindly down on the two little contestants and started in. Toddy's face was dripping with perspiration, and as read as the proverbial lobster, while Fannie stood demurely looking down at her little freckled hands, which were folded in front of her. "Fundamental," said the superintendent.

"F-u-n-d-a-m-e-n-t-a-l," spelled Toddy. "Cresote,"

"C-r-e-s-o-t-e," spelled Fannie. "Eryngo," said the superintendent. There was a breathless pause. Toddy turned white, then red, then spelled: "E-r-y-n-g-o."

"Next," said the superintendent, and a thrill went through the expectant crowd of little folks as Fannie, with her pale

The Latest Gold Braided Bolero.



This smart corsage is of rose-colored reeling. The short and rounded bolero is bordered with a bias of white taffeta strapped with bands of gold braid. The bolero opens over a vest of white taffeta, which is cut low and opens in turn over a plastron of gathered mousseline with a straight collar. The half length sleeve has a border at the bottom of gold braid strappings like the border of the jacket. The upper sleeve falls over a lower sleeve of white taffeta strapped with yellow satin bands. The high girde is of draped black taffeta. The skirt is perfectly plain.

end of an hour only three people were left—John Bennett, Toddy Jones, and the little freckled face Fannie Sanders.

John Bennett only believed himself to be there by accident. He could not account for his having spelled everything correctly, and was quite sure that, given a little time, he would follow in the footsteps of the others. He was right, for at the word "benzoin" he was forced to take his seat.

The word passed on to Fannie, was spelled correctly, and then, to everybody's amazement, the spelling settled itself into a regular round, neither Fannie nor

blue eyes upturned meditatively, spelled correctly: "E-r-y-n-g-o."

It was altogether too bad from Toddy's standpoint, but they say there is always some good to be gotten out of everything. Perhaps the good in Toddy's defeat was in the fact that he never teased poor Fannie Sanders again.

Orders for printing sent to the Dispatch Company will be given prompt attention, and the style of work and prices will be sure to please you.

Dainty Frock of Blue Eolienne.



The waist of this graceful little gown, which is made of pastel-blue color, is of ecru gypure, which is held into a girde strapped with lines of narrow black velvet. A very short bolero falls over the gypure blouse and is held into groups of small pleats which are allowed to flare at the bottom. Ornaments of ecru lace are applied upon the spaces between the pleats, and insertions of ecru lace adorn the jacket fronts, an d elbow sleeves, which have a puffing of mousseline at their base. The strappings of velvet, which trim the girde are also introduced below the collar between the fronts of the bolero and at the base of the puffing of mousseline at the elbow. The skirt is pleated in little lingerie pleats, with encrustations of the ecru lace in bands which appear to be caught in a single knot in the centre of the front.