

# FASHIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

**I**N THE world of dress for 1900 the outlook is most gratifying from the fact that we are to continue the wearing of picture clothes and aesthetic colors. Delicate shades increase in numbers with each month's fashion reviews. We owe this to doctors who say that light colors are more beneficial to the health and spirits than dark ones. Thus we are to have cream colored cloth spotted with black velvet and pale blue, pastel, pearl gray and "wine and water" colors instead of darker shades. The automobile color is the exact shade of the vehicle which gives its name to us—that is, a kind of reddish ruby—and is supposed to bring good cheer with its wearing.

We are told, however, that green in multitudinous variety is booked as a favorite. Almond green, over which women are raving, is a curious silvery shade, suggesting blue and gray and resembling much what we used to call willow. Combined with white, it is particularly effective. Next in order might be mentioned the various shades of red, from deep scarlet to mulberry.

Skirts may be divided into two classes. The kind which perpetuates the habit back will come to us in fitted gowns, sometimes as many as nine forming the skirt. The other is placed or may be gathered like the housemaid's skirt. A disposition to introduce panniers in connection with the plaited skirt will scarcely find much favor. Still, Worth is making a determined effort to foist them upon the public. Madame predicts that, emanating from such a source, the pannier, and not the tunic, will be the success of the spring. One of Worth's latest models has down the back three broad plaits which depend from a yoke moulded closely to the figure, and across the front, draped from the right to the left side, is a looped up tunic which is practically the initiatory pannier. The bodice also exhibits a new feature—that of the handkerchief corner effect, which is draped low, producing a sort of sloping shoulder outline. Handkerchief drapery in some form is to be the vogue.

Sleeves will fit closely. Those of velvet and satin are unlined, and, if intended for evening wear, are of the adjustable kind—that is, they are not sewed into the bodice armholes at the top, but there is a space left through which the arms show. Those for dinner occasions are sewed in, and for evening wear left off, and oftentimes are used in two or three different bodices. Of course this is not possible unless the sleeves are of lace, as they harmonize with other dark or light colors.

Velvet long coats trimmed in satin ribbon are heralded as the modish spring

undulating flounce which borders the close fitting skirt.

Flowers are to be the millinery feature, roses especially—not the huge kind, however, but baby roses such as you recall growing upon the trellis leaning against the wall of an old southern flower garden. Sometimes a half dozen will cluster on one stem and be adjusted to stand high, while anon they will be formed into wreaths. In the latter case they will circle the hat and fall over the hair at the back.

The bolero coat goes with the skirt of tapering seams. The black frock is par excellence. This must be of peau de sole or satin. If you would be smart, have it tailor made, with as many bands of stitching as though it were broadcloth. Cheviots for ordinary wear will supersede plain cloths. Without exception, in these, too, light colors will predominate. There will be pale blues with touches of white; also a variety of rough black and white stripes. Stripes, it is said, are to be much used and cut on the bias.

In Paris, added to the list of dresses for numerous occasions is the restaurant dress, which must be a little more pretentious than a street costume, not so elaborate as a dinner gown, and yet have a frou frou air about it.

Decollete dresses for evening wear continually become more pronounced. They are now positively cut below the point of belief. Their one redeeming feature is the sleeves, which at least give some pretended protection and covering.

Ostrich boas are again favored and take the place of the chiffon and mousseline de sole neck ruches. Fine cottons, velvet trimmed, are to be an early spring extravagance, because lavish trimming is to be the rule, and velvet precludes the possibility of a trip to the laundry. Therefore to the cleaner's they must go, which is quite expensive.

Patista hats, tucked instead of shirred and fawn trimmed, will succeed those of velvet with plaited brims.

As to children, generally speaking, they will be clothed quite as their

or theater has been adopted in America. Sometimes these overshoes are of quilted satin, lined with fur. They reach far above the ankle, oftentimes to the knee. Chills ought to be impossible when feet and legs are thus protected.

Fancy waists for evening wear have not lost prestige. The 1900 advance models are strikingly chic and attractive. Those of panne velvet are in the lead, though in making a selection one is sorely perplexed by a beautiful array of silk embroidered in tiny gold, steel and jet beads. Two new features of the separate waist are the square tab collars and mitt cuffs which fall to the finger tips. As much attention is given these days to the sleeve of a bodice as was formerly bestowed upon the fit of the sheath skirt. The correct sleeve fits perfectly, without a wrinkle or particle of fullness, and is fastened by hooks and loops or small crocheted buttons for a depth of six inches at the wrist, in order to obtain the glove-like effect. Even the cuff is made to hug the hand and flares not at all. Many of the new waists are made to wear outside the skirt, in which case a very narrow belt, scarcely an inch and a half in width and like the blouse, is provided.

All over tucks are still in favor and are now cut on the bias. A very pretty example is in polka dot surah silk, which displays a novel crescent shapely collar, opening in front with the widest part ending just under a moderately high collar.

No recognized rival has usurped the lace bodice's special distinction as a theater waist. Chiffon scarfs, choux and paste buckles, with an occasional introduction of colored and black velvet tabs, are used to vary the style and keep it in line.

A corn colored silk, with an insert of white satin embroidered in fine jet beads, displays prettily this newest blouse feature. On stock and cuffs are also seen the beads set at regular intervals, which at a distance look as if they were woven into the fabric.

Rose panne velvet, cut in points and joined by herringbone stitching of coarse silk, is a pleasing model illustrated. It has a box plait in front to give the slight pouch which has been recognized, according to some of the latest importations in the barracks of blouses. On it, too, will be noted the knotted scarf which English grandes dames are

plainer silk blouses and are an addition the home dressmaker can make to a passe blouse with most satisfying results.

Banting is the fad of the new year. The real secret of banting lies in systematic living and lack of self-indulgence. Exercise and moderation will reduce weight only if religiously adhered to. Lillian Russell has always had to battle with a decided tendency to stoutness, and the victory which she has won and maintained against her enemy is a proof of the best proof on record that it is unnecessary for any one to put on superfluous pounds if one is willing to apply oneself seriously to a cure. To the Prince of Wales belongs the honor of the "bulldog miniature" fad. Mrs. Massey painted Peter, his famous bull terrier, for a birthday present for one of the prince's friends. When the miniature was finished, so great was the prince's delight that he sent for the artist and expressed his pleasure with her work, telling her she might make what use she pleased of his opinion. He added that he thought the princess might have her dogs' portraits done too. Needless to say, since this time dog miniatures are the rage.

*Daisy May*  
New York.

"I suppose you, in common with most people, think that shop windows are dressed by the employees," said a man, describing himself as a professional window dresser, recently to the writer, "and, of course, with regard to the smaller shops, you are right."

"In the case of some of the larger businesses, however, dressing the window is a profession by itself and is taken in hand by men who devote all their time to thinking out new ideas for the purpose."

"To do a window well a man must not only have great experience of the trade, but also considerable taste and a sense of the artistic, for unless the colors shown harmonize the effect of the whole will be lost. A friend of mine re-

**"NEW YEAR, BE KIND."**

The King is dead, long live the King!  
Aloft the bells of New Year ring  
One span of life is past recall:  
Its joys and woes are known to all.  
And just before the future's night  
Must slowly fade to dawn and light.  
No eyes may pierce the veil ahead:  
Hearts fill with hope and nameless dread.  
Lips shape the prayer that fills each mind,  
"New Year, be kind—be kind!"

Time runs each sorrow of its sting:  
Each hour of trouble ends at last:  
Each year's a memory of the past.  
The old Old Year has reigned his day:  
The young New Year seems blithe and gay,  
And o'er his head afar on high,  
The star of Hope shines in the sky.  
God hear the prayer that fills each mind,  
"New Year, be kind—be kind!"

EARLE HOOKER EATON.

## WHAT THE CENTURY HAS DONE FOR WOMEN.

**T**HE nineteenth century is now in its last year. This century has, with or without just cause, been called the woman's century. Why? Because in no other equal period of time has womanhood risen from a position so degraded to one of comparative freedom and dignity. It is not by the degree of respect that is accorded the exceptional woman that the position of the sex may be determined, but by that of the husband who is upheld by the law; he had a right to chastise his wife, his children and his cattle at any time he thought best. If he wished, in certain lands, he could sell his wife, and the wife of the average poor man was valued at about the same price as a cow.

The wife had any money before she married, on her wedding day it became her husband's; the marriage forfeited for her all legal right to it. She could not recover her fortune even if she separated from the man.

Divorces were almost unknown in those days, and if a wife became heirless to any property after her separation from her husband, if he desired to do so, he could appropriate the money to his own uses. Moreover, he had a right to all her earnings and could collect them unchallenged, no matter how he may have sinned against his wife.

The case of Mrs. Caroline Norton, the English poetess who had a profligate husband from whom she was compelled to separate, yet who regularly went to the publishers and collected the royalty on her works, had a good effect in rousing public opinion against this unjust law. Mrs. Norton was the grand-daughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan and a sister of Lady Dufferin and the Duchess of Somerset. Her husband, the Hon. George Norton, a brother of Lord Grantley, was an unprincipled spendthrift, yet by birth and education he was what was considered a gentleman. If such a condition existed in the common people.

In 1808 an English paper commented on the sale of a wife for sixpence and a quid of tobacco as an occurrence growing to be much too common.

Marriage was the only career then open to a woman, and if she did not marry it was supposed to be because nobody had asked her. Jean Jacques Rousseau expressed the sentiment of the day when he said: "The education of women should always be relative to that of man—to please, to be useful to us, to make us love and esteem them, to educate us when young, to take care of us when grown up, to advise, to console us, to render our lives easy and agreeable. These are the duties of women at all times, which they should be taught from infancy."

At the beginning of the century if a girl desired an education for her private teacher, for few of the states in America had public schools. In these schools a girl could not retain her place if it was required for a boy. Sometimes girls were allowed to attend school during the summer months, but in most places it was thought best to keep them from becoming too erudite. The daughters of well-to-do people were taught the common "branches" and sent to a female seminary, perhaps, where they received a smattering of trivial accomplishments.

Today, at the close of the century, almost all the important colleges of the world have been opened to women, and in the public schools their education is conducted along the same lines as that of the male pupils. Women have shown that they are just as apt as men in taking up any branch of learning they have pursued.

In the beginning of the century a woman left alone and without an income was forced to beg or starve—that is, unless she chose the doubtful alter-

native of matrimony. There were no occupations open for women, and if she happened to be a single woman her support was supposed to devolve upon her nearest married male relative. In his house she was a mere unpaid drudge for his wife, often ill treated and always despised.

In the United States alone the census of 1900 is expected to show 5,000,000 women engaged in various occupations, in 1840 31 a week and boarding route, was considered good pay for the school-teacher. Now women teachers are paid from \$350 to \$5,000 a year.

Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman who studied medicine, had to bear the brunt of numerous insults. While she was attending college at Geneva, N. Y., the inmates of the boarding house where she staid declined to have anything at all to do with her.

At the beginning of 1900 women physicians are not only numerous, but prosperous. Their position in the community is an enviable one. In proportion to ability and personal qualities, for many of them have the latest practices, which bring them fine incomes.

The ministry is a field into which comparatively few women have entered, women of the religious type usually devoting themselves to the advancement of some great reform, as in the cases of Mrs. Mary Livermore and Frances Willard.

In journalism, the most exacting of all professions, women have signally proved their success. Mary Clemmer Ames, Jane Grey Swisshelm, Margaret Fuller, Fanny Fern (the gifted sister of Kate Field), and more recently Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Margaret Sangster, Eliza Archard Conner, Mary Krout, Isabel Mallon (Bab) and Mrs. Frank Leslie are women whose success has been equal to anything men have done in the same lines. Mrs. Croly was the inventor of the process of manifold, which made possible the syndicate system. Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Sangster were successful editors, and Mrs. Conner is an editorial writer whose literary style Mr. Charles A. Dana, himself a master of editorial writing, repeatedly complimented by cutting in the editorial columns of the New York Sun.

Miss Mary Krout is a traveler and correspondent of distinction, and Mrs. Frank Leslie has twice built a flourishing property out of a seemingly wrecked magazine.

Women lawyers are many. In the west they are more flourishing than in the east, because, it is said, of the greater liberality of thought in the west.

In political liberty advancement also has been great. In two states women have the constitutional right to vote on all questions; in some others they vote only on certain subjects. There are only two states in which married women have not control of their wages and property. They have now an equal legal interest in their children, instead of, as formerly, the husband having sole ownership and control of the offspring and being able to will them away from his wife if he wished. In almost every way, in fact, women are accorded equal privileges before the law, and it is only in the cases of bigoted and ignorant men that any effort is made to deprive them of these rights.

**THE LEATHER CHATELAINE.**

This is the latest development of the leather chataleine. Fastened to four leather straps is a large sized purse, while below, on the lengthened ends of the straps are the usual silver trifles. Now that dress skirts are so determinedly tight, there is no possibility of a pocket, and some place to stow the pocket handkerchief is absolutely necessary. Since sleeves, too, are worn tight, that refuge for the bit of cambrie no longer exists.

The pocket chataleine bag comes as a boon to harassed womankind and in this novel design deserves to be popular.

**ART IN WEARING JEWELRY.**

This is very little studied. Long, slender fingers can wear many rings, and a well formed white throat is improved by almost any of the beautiful necklaces now in vogue. The wearing of jewels was originally intended to call attention to certain personal beauties—not to hide defects. A sallow face is not improved by diamond earrings. Nothing makes the skin look whiter than pale pink coral, and there are many novelties in this. Some of the necklaces are made of squares of coral separated by diamonds, and some oblong pieces are joined together to form a sort of flat, wide ribbon, crossing in front and ending in a gold fringe. Corals set with diamonds are strung to a fine gold chain. Some wonderful imitations of pearls in single rows are worn in the daytime, and a collar of pearls at night.

**BELGIAN QUEEN'S HOME.**

The queen of the Belgians was brought up in her father's castle at Fesit amid surroundings and customs which remain one of the feudal ages. At night her father himself descended the great staircase to lock the outer gate and the door of the principal hall. This hall was divided into two parts, one end being raised a little above the other. At the elevated end the daughters of the house sat at their needle work or painting or music, while the attendant sat at the lower end of the hall.



NEW WAISTS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

wraps. The three-quarter cut, however, obtains, and on this will be observed the three revers idea which gained some headway during the winter months. One revers will be of cloth like the garment, one of white satin and one of stitched cloth in color. Velvet is also regarded as the smartest dress fabric of the coming months. Cloth lace is the novelty which will appear on cloth costumes. It is really openwork cloth wrought into a lacy pattern by threads of heavy silk and forms either the pannier drapery or the

mammas are. They will be seen in flitting clinging materials, crepe de chine, nun's veiling and barge being favored in the order given. As to color, no particular one is in the lead, as all light shades are worn, and their becomingness is the only point to be considered.

The small girl will fall soire heir to the boat, as women no longer take to it kindly for anything but coaching or automobile wear.

The German fashion of wearing soft, woolen overshoes when going to a ball

affecting to an alarming extent. Lace scarfs are seen in London on hats. They are duplicated on bodices and adorn the skirts of the up to date.

An odd waist of black and white tafeta, with bowknots of white satin ribbon, is a very dressy affair and is destined to become popular. The bow-knots run around the neck and down the front in a graceful border and extend over the steves as well. The waist fastens a little to one side with tabs and rhinestone buckles.

Big lace collars are a feature of the

cently created quite a sensation by dressing a large draper's window in solid masses of black and white silk, in imitation of a certain school of illustrators so popular just now.

"The common mistake in dressing a window is to put too many different articles in it and to try to show them all to the same advantage. The best way, perhaps, is to fill the whole window with one kind of goods only in a special line; then it will attract attention. To show what I mean, I may mention that one large London firm which sells nearly everything makes a point of dressing its windows in this way. Each window contains one kind of goods only. The first will be full of a cheap jam, the second nothing but a special line of soap, and so on.

"The fees charged by professionals are very high, so that it would pay only a firm doing a very large amount of business to employ them."

## Mrs. Rowland's Advice on Training a Young Girl.

**I**FTEN note with regret that the home educational methods of the present day are less satisfactory in their results than those of 50 years ago. In those days a girl was brought up with a view to filling that sphere to which nature called her. While there are some women who are so devotedly wedded to their careers that they never have a thought of matrimony, yet most women do marry. As it is the destiny of most to be wives it seems to me to be folly to cram a girl's head with accomplishments that will never be of any practical use and leave her absolutely ignorant of the first principles of housekeeping.

The domestic sciences are just as important as any other branch of learning. Yet they have few feminine students of their various branches.

In some schools branches of domestic science are taught, and all over the land a great organization for women, the Household Economic Association, is endeavoring to awaken interest in the subject. Interest

in something of the sort is, in some circles, more or less of a fad. There are certain elect teachers of the culture art in the larger cities whose business is to instruct the daughters of the wealthy in cooking.

Every girl should be a thorough housewife, no matter whether she means to marry or not. Her mother will be her best teacher, if that lady herself understands housekeeping. The daughter should be taught in advance how to manage her servants, and then she will never need to complain that they manage her.

Should a girl who has been thoroughly trained in household economy marry a man in moderate circumstances or one who happens to lose his fortune, she will be able to help him to save his money instead of squandering it.

It is important that parents should bring their daughters up with modest tastes, no matter what their station may be. The daughters of the Princess of Wales, as indeed are almost all royal children, were brought up

with a simplicity after which the humblest commoner might pattern. They were allowed but a limited amount of pocket money, were taught to make their own hats and gowns, and how to look after a house with just the same conscientiousness as though they had been born to cottages instead of to a palace.

The knowledge of how to make bread and how to broil a steak need not interfere with a girl's application to Wagner and Browning. Housework is one of the best exercises, and the girl who makes it part of her daily routine may find compensation in the reflection that she is adding to her health and therefore to her beauty in making herself mistress of the neglected accomplishments—cooking, sweeping, dusting and sewing. With the woman to whom intellectual pursuits are matters of inclination, not affectation, the grounding in household science will not serve to swerve her from the interest she feels in literature, art or the sciences.

Another mistake that many mothers make is in overdressing their daughters. The overdressed young girl generally grows into an extravagant woman whose soul is captive to the milliner and the mantua maker. Too much attention called to what they wear makes children vain and egotistical.

Whether a young girl should be sent to a boarding school or not is a question by itself. I have no prejudice against sensible boarding schools, but I do object to those elegant institutions of learning which are more noted for fashionable dress than for the excellence of their curriculum. A well bred, well brought up young girl should be dressed sensibly and neatly, but never extravagantly.

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New York.