

# TREND OF AUTUMN FASHIONS.

## Fringes and Fichus Are Among the Features—Camel's Hair Felt Hats.

New York, Aug. 25.—This is the time of the year when every new garment a well-dressed woman wears is significant of the future, and September signs are in the air. By next week all the buyers will be crowding home from Paris, telling tales of every fresh enterprise in wools, cloths, coats and hats, etc. Even now there is a revival of custom and interest all along the counters of the big shops, and in the water

harmonies deliciously with all the latest gas light colors. There is also old lace color, but this so often degenerates into a tone of dirty tea brown that the first-mentioned dye is preferred.

In spite of the charms of the ever-lovely point de Venise, a species of pretty cut-out point is guaranteed to achieve a fine place for itself and the waded antique Valenciennes, and Valenciennes incrustation is going to predominate on the toilets for debutantes.



SMART FICHUS.

color sketches, that buyers always send on before them from Paris, most interesting fortunes in finery can be told. Looking over a dozen of these pretty pictures any one would promptly catch the suggestion that fringes and fichus will be among the most well-defined features of autumnal splendor. Evening and calling gowns and the tailor suits all display some phase or another of that graceful shoulder drapery that folds kerchiefwise over the bust.

A PROTEAN FASHION.

This is a diversion of fashions which women about and thin can alike participate and with equal advantage, and the recalling of the fichu to its old time honorable estate is an excellent means of bringing into evidence fine old laces and embroidered muslin that has been worked by hand in a distant and more artistic day.

There is also a new applique lace, called ruby point, which in reality is a pale ivory cream in tone. Ruby point is worked in as heavy a pattern as Russian or rennaissance lace, while an attractive but rather startling variety of weaves is a coarse black, ecri or biscuit-colored net, adorned in a Persian pattern carried out exclusively in dull gold and silver thread. Orient veiling one hears it nominated, and for awhile it is sure to maintain a right royal position, for only a little has been imported, and that commands a price exclusive to all of moderate means.

FALL FEATHERS.

Those who are reading signs and wonders on the new horizon of fashion will not fail to observe a few first military indications, of a degree of impetuosity. For instance, it does not take great perspicacity to decide that feathers will get a big share of fall patron-

age. Whether complete stuffed fowls are going to be sacrificed again to feminine vanity, one dares not yet say, but fans of stiff feathers will adorn the big new toques. This denotes that it is the spreading tail, not the wing, of the bird, that is wanted, and plumage, handsomely marked with eyes and spots, is the most desired.

As never before, in point of perfect tint and firm or ragged shape, are they making autumn leaves for adorning the first hats of the season, made of satin

straw and chenille. Nothing could be more promising than the indications for the demi-season hat, and the milliners who can gauge their patrons' appetite for pretty surprises, are garnishing round brown and red and rusty green mixed hats, with ribbon and tufts of golden rod. A green September hat made for one who will go coaching in the Berkshire hills, was of a shade of chenille and straw known as bay green. Its crown stood an inch and a fourth high, and the two-inch wide brim sloped down from it. All about the crown ran a full grille of Michaelmas daisies with maple leaves, half turned from a dull green into scarlet.

There is a promise that later on, when headgear becomes a really serious consideration with every woman, popular taste will be invited to whet its appetite for novelty on a hat material known as camel's hair felt. The specimens seen so far show a pretty quality of rather rough-surfaced felt, in the appropriate dull colors, having a long silver wool nap springing from it. In Paris, having done long ago with the wide hat and the forward pitch of the brim, they are placing small capotes very far on the back of the head. Whether we will follow this initiative remains to be seen.

LATE SUMMER VAGARIES.

For full three weeks yet, in spite of autumn preparations, the light speech of summer garments will not be shed, and still interesting are some of the diversities in white clothes. Duck and hair turned for instance, are wearing their pockets anywhere but on the

hips and inside the front widths. Two square caps—all, with flaps that button down, are frankly sewed on the front part of the skirt, within handy reach of the wearer's right and left hands, and into these she puts her belongings easily and comfortably. The promise of the tailors is that wool walking skirts for autumn and winter shall be made with the same regard to convenience, and that none of these skirts shall have a gather or pleat that the whole waist band round. A novel pattern of easy and graceful shape is promised, and thereby a great thanksgiving goes up from the feminine heart.

Another demonstration has been made in the hand-wrought shirt waist, and a novel pattern has been evolved that we will carry right on into the winter wardrobe. This latest manifestation is tucked perpendicularly from neck band to waist line. In groups of small tucks, especially when the shirt is of silk, and not by a couple of inches, do the fronts of the garment meet. They open to reveal a straight

vest piece, of whatever in a contrasting goods or color you may elect to make it. A white silk shirt, or a black one, for that matter, will open prettily upon a vest of pale green or turquoise blue silk, or white tuckered lawn. Instead of the shirt fronts lying wide open, on either edge, at intervals of three inches, buttonholes are worked, and by new linked studs the front are held firm but open, at certain points of the vest.

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Simple school suits for young people are not difficult to find at this moment when the tailors and dressmakers for boys and girls are as busy as bees. See, for example, the five young persons who are the subjects of the drawing in the picture in the group. The 15-year-old girl wears a basket cloth suit of wood brown. The skirt is plain, the waist is a tucked yoke with all its front fullness caught in by a broad belt of dark red silk. Her zouave jacket is edged with red leather appliques, stitched on, and a collar similarly trimmed turns over her red silk throat band.

The second miss displays a kilted skirt of green French cloth worn with a darker green pleated waist of corduroy. The white blouse is of simple and tracteries of tan colored silk needlework, and a wide tan leather belt clasps her waist. The sleeves are of cloth, and high green cloth leggings button over skirts, for instance, are wearing their pockets anywhere but on the

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## YASMAK AND CHARCHAFF.

Why the Sultan Ordered Successive Changes in the Costume of Ladies of the Harem.

BY CLEVELAND MOFFETT.

When I was in Constantinople a few months ago, I found an odd state of affairs existing in regard to the dress of



THE CHARCHAFF.

Turkish women, notably in regard to the covering of their faces. I am referring now to Turkish women of the better class, those who belong to the more important harems, and are able to clothe themselves in the richest stuffs. From time immemorial, it has been the custom of the land, that which so law is stronger, for women to appear upon the streets or in their caiques on the Bosphorus, or in the queer bullock wagons that take them for Friday afternoon picnics to the hills of Scutari, in a garment called the yasmak, the former a sort of cape with sleeves under it, the latter an arrangement of gauze veiling that covers everything of the face except the eyes.

Thus clad the ladies went about freely in the streets of Stamboul, driving sharp bargains at the bazaars with men of their own race, or crossing the Galata bridge, made their way to Pera, the European quarter, and went shopping on the European plan at the Bon Marche. Sometimes they went on foot, they were always accompanied by a discreet female slave, for already the old days of jealous guardianship by ferocious eunuchs with scimitars were in the past.

It is to be presumed that this greater freedom accorded to Turkish ladies stirred in their breasts that desire for admiration which is strong in all daughters of Eve. Now that European influences had permitted a woman to step from behind the heavy yalls and latticed windows that used to guard them, why should they not get that thrill of pleasure which comes from the homage of men, even strangers. Why should they not, those of them who were fair, let the world see, as they passed by, not only the languorous glow of their dark eyes, but the red of their lips and their perfect teeth? Plainly, there was only the yasmak with its white folds to prevent such a revelation, and this obstacle might be done away with by making the gauze thin enough, so thin as to be almost transparent. And the new fashion spread from one harem to another until it came to pass, a few years ago, that the real beauties of Constantinople were offering their faces to the practically unobstructed gaze of

phorus ferry boat; each one looks exactly like the other, and each one is as well disguised as if she were at a masquerade ball.

A VIRTUE OF NECESSITY.

And it was exactly here that the sultan overreached himself. True, he made the ladies put away the alluring yasmak and hide their faces, but he could not make them (indeed what sovereign could) abandon the ways of coquetry. The lessons from the west had been taken all too well to heart, and the fashion of conjugating the verb "to flirt" had become too general understood. So, with oriental finesse the Constantinople ladies proceeded to make a virtue of necessity, and put to use the very weapon that had been used against them—that is, made the charchaff further their little affairs of the heart far better than the yasmak ever done. For now nothing was easier to elude the vigilance of any prying eye, thanks to an outer garment which made Fatima different in no respect from Negdar or Zahara or Soghair, or any other charming lady who might be going about the city for purposes of her own.

If a black shrouded figure passed through some little door and into a particular house, who could know or say whether it belonged there or in some other house? And at the holiday gatherings on the Sweet Waters of Asia, when the whole winding stream, with its shading cypress trees swarmed with caiques in which sat laughing women, who were to decide whether the amiable Turk in the stern beside the woman or that woman was there by right of proprietorship, or by no right at all save that which lovers take to themselves? For it must be borne in mind that no one in Turkey, not the soldier nor officer of the law, would think of laying hands upon a woman or bidding her show her face, since a woman's person is sacred throughout the sultan's realm, except to her husband.

No doubt the harem beauty who flirted thus ran a certain risk. She might wake up some morning and find herself neatly sewed in a bag at the bottom of the Bosphorus, for Turkish husbands do not trifle with these matters. But when, pray, did woman let the thought of danger quell the promptings of her heart?

After about a year of the charchaff regime, the pashas and men of influence decided that things were going badly in their harems; that the women were no longer content to sit there all day, putting henna on their finger-nails and stuffing themselves with sweetmeats, and was quietly working for their lord and master to favor one of them with word or look. Rebellion was brewing among them, and the heresy of European notions was working sad havoc. They did not even believe any longer that they were born to be men's slaves, and created to serve men's pleasure. And the charchaff was offering them practical immunity for very different purposes.

EMANCIPATION.

So, from one side and another, appeal was made to the sultan that the women might be allowed or compelled to do as they pleased. The sultan, charchaff and go back to the yasmak, which at least made it possible to left who was who and was now regarded as by far the lesser of two evils. What course, that even in Turkey women were beginning to get their own way.

About this time I made the acquaintance in Constantinople of an American dentist, who has spent hours in various parts after the sultan's teeth, and in consequence has many patients, both men and women, among the highest classes. He has spent hours in various parts of the city, and has been able to make the acquaintance of many Turkish women, and study their characters and pecu-



THE CHARCHAFF.

Some of them are very, and no doubt many would develop into fine women if they had half a chance—that is, if they had better instruction and a decent religion. It is my opinion that they are getting pretty sick of being treated as animals without souls.

I have no doubt the American dentist is correct in this opinion, and these recent, revolutionary happenings with the yasmak and the charchaff are significant of other things to come—they show the way the wind is blowing.

Never Knew It.

Yonkers Statesman: Bill—Did you read about that fellow writing a poem on a \$30 bill.

Jill—No; the editor kept it, of course.

Yonkers Statesman: No; he returned it.

Jill—What an editor return a \$30 bill?

Yonkers Statesman: Yes; he didn't know what it was.

The Count.

Philadelphia North American: "I am much flattered by your proposal, count," said the girl from Chicago.

And to beautiful Americans wear not say me nay.

"Oh, no; simply not!"

Great Sea Captain.

Philadelphia Bulletin: "Who was the best advertised sea captain?"

"Why, Noah. His method of advertising flooded the country."

Quiet.

London Sporting Times: "Pat," "Oh, be quiet!"

"Well, what is it?"

"What did the Dead Sea die off?"

All Good.

Boston Traveller: Ethel—I have had fully a dozen offers of marriage lately.

Maud—Sweet me! Good ones?

Ethel—Yes. All from George.