FASHION'S FADS AND FANCIES

Still the social ball is kept gayly rolling, and now that the debutantes have all been formally introduced, numerous are the dinners, luncheons, and theater parties of which we hear daily, but some predict that the approaching holidays will, in a measure, put a stop to the large affairs. However, such would not be a regrettable fast, as those in the smart set are beginning to feel the strain of constant late hours. But the debutantes are as fresh and lovely as though dancing until morning was the most healthful exercise known and late suppers productive of bright eyes and cheeks like damask roses. However, with the red berries come thoughts of Christmas and already not a few are laying in a goodly stock of remembrances, and who can wonder, for how the shops do tempt us, not only with dear delightful trifles, but also with artistic gems that one fairly longs for. Useful gifts are not overlooked by our merchants, who impart a festive air to even a simple serge frock by the judicious application of the bright ribbons that tie it together. I have been asked for more holiday suggestions and next week I shall have something to say on this subject, and I will also tell you what can be done with a small sum if you desire either a street or evening gown, but now let us discuss

The Law of Change.

In his new play Mr. Carton remarks that the law of change is the only law that does not change; and as far as fashions are concerned this is assuredly true. Among the many modifications and alterations in current modes I must notify you that, according to a London correspondent, the latest necktie is made like a man's stock silk of a very superior quality. This is crossed over, and just fastened with a jeweled pin, and extends to the belt, where it vanishes. I thought such ties had been worn here for a considerable time; but doubtless her description is different, although I do not see exactly in what way.

Every stylish matron owns at least one black silk and one white satin gown. Black admits of such numerous alterations that it will never lose its hold on the favor of the majority of women, but this winter it will be most in vogue when combined with white or cream-white, although green and turquoise blue are very fashionable.

Much velvet is being employed not only for entire gowns, but likewise in combination. However only the really good qualities are worthy of consideration, for a cheap velvet is a thing to be most carefully avoided. Far better to put all you have to spend in a good cloth than to have a poor velvet for trimming.

Also cheap qualities of lace should be employed with great discretion, as I have seen a yoke of cotton lace completely ruin the appearance of an otherwise satisfactory cashmere frock. It's all very well to use the narrow laces on little lawns, muslins and organdies, but that is another story.

Since the appearance of "The First Born" there has been quite a fad East for Chinese and Japanese dressing gowns and Chinese embroideries figure on many rich satin center pieces and doylies that are principally seen at swell luncheons. One center piece I recently admired on such an occasion had doylies that perfectly matched and had been especially ordered from China. They were of white satin, exquisitely wrought in gold, crimson and a rarely lovely shade of blue. A great bowl of cut glass, filled with crimson carnations, and candles with crimson silk shades covered with silver filagree, gave an artistic finish to a charming table.

Lingerie.

In a trousseau lately ordered the lingerie was very beautiful. In the first place the numerous sets of underwear were each and every one sent home tied up with white satin ribbons, on each of which were silver labels. These were placed in white moire boxes.

The petticoats were of every known kind from silk to cambric. Many had much fine hand embroidery. The pale pink, blue and white batiste garments were masses of Valenciennes lace and insertion, but point de Paris lace is extensively introduced on many sets, as it is considered the thing this winter.

The petticoat which will be worn at the wedding is of white chine silk. A wide flounce trimmed with fine real laces encircles it, headed by a lace ruche. The deep balayeuse is accordion-pleated and pinked at the edges. The woven silk combinations have lace yokes or edgings. On the silk stockings the bride's monogram is worked in silks to match the color of the clocks.

The nightgowns are, most of them, embroidered and tucked by hand.

Chemises and nightgowns are being drawn into a band at the waist, and whether silk or muslin is used it is frequently gathered into slight puffings between open insertions.

The latest Valenciennes lace is of so firm and wiry a quality that even after it has been washed or cleaned it is almost impossible for any but an expert to tell it from the real lace.

Very comfortable as well as dainty are the flannel petticoats that have deep white silk flounces trimmed with lace.

Several fascinating dressing-gowns and bed-jackets that I fancy are made of plisse silk, cashmere or nun's veiling. However now that the temperature is rather low and not all of our homes have furnaces, eiderdown dressing-gowns and jackets will be found acceptable, and when of dainty colors and adorned with ribbons and lace they may be quite ornamental.

The Children.

What shall they wear? Especially at this season of the year do anxious mothers ask this question, for warmer clothing is imperative, and the little people want holiday frocks for their dances, and trees are to be considered gravely. Dainty raiment will be required for such festive affairs, so I must hasten to tell you about a diminutive gown of fine navy serge or cloth. The waist and hem are trimmed with either narrow ornamented black braid, black ribbon or velvet.

The neck, wrists and yoke border are of red velvet, while the yoke itself is of ecru guipure over the velvet. The bodice is full and fastens down the back, and is tucked on the shoulders. Navy blue stockings look well, and when at home, or indoors, red morocco slippers delightfully complete a satisfactory toilet.

Lovely is a dress of Liberty wool crepon in palest green, flowered with wee pink roses. The seams and edges are piped with a darker shade of green velvet and the loose blouse worn under the smart Eton jacket is of a fine wash silk that goes perfectly with the green of the rest.

How lovely would an auburn-haired lassie look in a fine wool crepon in a bright shade of tabac brown, with insertion of yellow lace, and the frills boasting a narrow edge of the same. The skirt should be inclined and under it should be worn a petticoat flounced with yellow lace. Brown silk stockings and bronze shoes form a pretty finish.

For a very small boy most fetching is a tunic of pale, fawn-colored box-cloth and invisible knickers of the same. White silk gimp is the sole trimming. The tunic is lined with light blue silk and a tie of the same is tied in a graceful bow under the throat.

Dancing dresses of accordion-pleated nun's veiling, chiffon, mousseline de soie or India silk made to hang from a yoke bordered with two lace edged frills are simple but most lovely, when the accordion pleating is as full as possible.

A dear little suit, made of pale blue rep, has buttonholes of white satin. The jacket is worn over a white satin shirt, the round collar of which is frilled with white satin. The skirt is kilted.

Frocks of sheer organdy run with lace and narrow ribbons or velvet are airy and fairy like—quite appropriate for the darlings—as are also the tiny confections evolved from organdies and mulls. Many a mother delights in making such garments by hand, and I have seen some that are truly exquisite in every detail.

Small remnants picked up on our shopping tours will make the sweetest of dresses for the wee girlie at home at small expense, and of all things mothers should not make the tiny maids wear dull colors or model their frocks after their own. However, everywhere it is an acknowledged fact that American mothers understand better how to dress their children than any others in the world. Not a mean compliment. I am sure all appreciate it.

Mackintoshes.

They are more stylish and satisfactory this year than ever before. All purses and tastes seem to have been taken seriously into consideration. The waterproofs that look like fine twilled woolen fabrics or serges are to be had in dark gray, blue or black, with either a somber or a dark plaid lining. These are extremely reasonable in price, but of course not so light, comfortable and stylish as those that are as light and soft as silk and fit perfectly. But these are luxuries in which all cannot indulge.

The intermediate raincoats—that is to say, those that are not very cheap or very expensive—have the appearance of being comfortable Scotch tweed ulsters, with gay plaid linings. The newest ulster coat has a pleated back and is a manly looking garment. In much the same principle is a three-quarter length one, which I do not advocate warmly.

Many prefer a long cape as it is so easily slipped down and off. One of the novelties consists in long, loose, single-breasted jackets that may be had in London in white, red, green and other good colors. They have silky surfaces and are reported to be most becoming. However, as yet I have not inspected any.

Princess Said Tousson's Trousseau.

Her gowns have been made in Paris and London by the greatest and most artistic designers of the day. All should read these descriptions as from the most gorgeous gowns we may obtain ideas for many a gown that will be charming, owing to its air of chic simplicity.

One evening gown was of the richest ivory satin; the bodice embroidered in a design of wood violets of natural coloring, each flower having in its center a diamond dewdrop; pearl and diamante work was also introduced, and the neck is softened with a touch of rare old lace. The sleeves were composed of folds of satin, with a fall of lace, and from the left shoulder at the back from a bow of rich pale orchid ribbon long ends fell to the hem. The skirt was embroidered up the front side seams and in each fold all round with violets, the design in every case being varied; and round the hem and slightly up the seams a Louis XV design was wrought in pearls, diamonds and crystal.

Very stylish was an afternoon dress of foulard, in which were blended white, green and black. Ribbon velvet of the same colors edged the ruffles on the skirt, ecru being introduced here and there with good results. The bodice had a slightly pouched vest of white lisse, which was tucked on the shoulder and trimmed like the skirt with insertion and ribbons, which formed a sort of loose yoke cut up the front. Large green enameled shamrock buttons fastened it. The sleeves were ruched as well as tucked and the bodice was completed with a white satin belt and collar.

Most artistic was a light gray poplin lined with chartreuse-hued satin. Gray velvet embroidered with diamonds formed the bodice. It was joined with gray silk guipure showing the green satin lining. The yoke was V-shaped, wrought with the smallest tucks. Lace fell over the collar in the back. A draped belt of green satin finished the waist with a graceful bow at the left side. The epaulettes were of the embroidered velvet and insertion and the sleeves, tucked about the shoulders, had lace ruffles inside medieval cuffs.

A beautiful turquoise-blue glace taffeta gown was completely covered with creamy old Honiton lace. It had a chiffon bodice with Honiton lace applique incrusted with minute crystal and sequins. The sash and collar were of the silk, but the ruched sleeves were of chiffon and the epaulettes of jewel-incrusted lace.

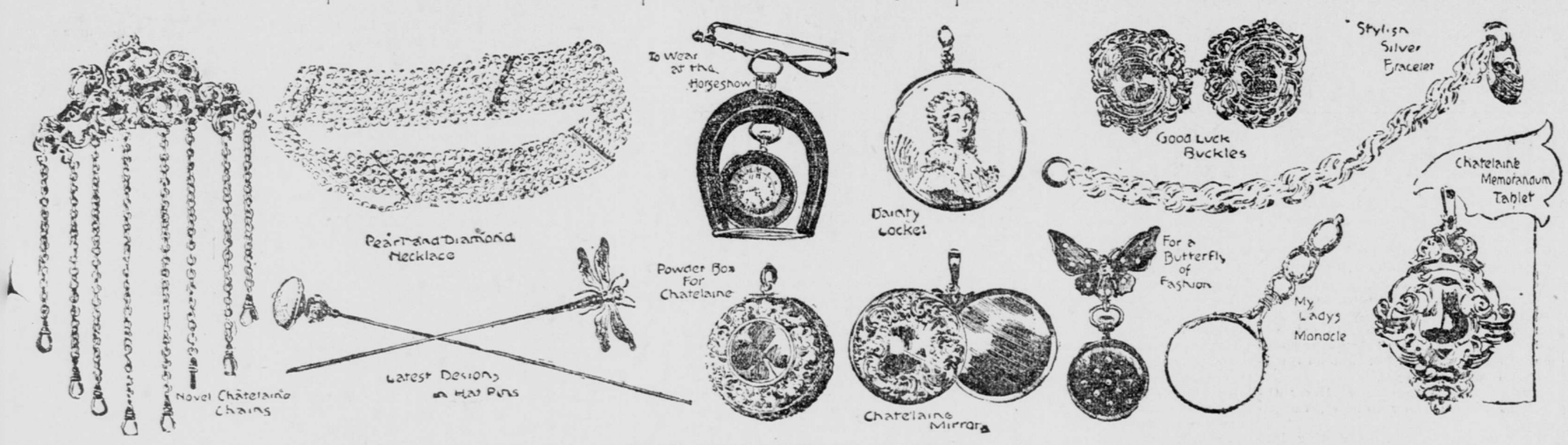
Evening dresses are now being ordered so generally that I feel called upon to describe two more beautiful conceptions.

This Season's Skirts.

For evening wear one that hangs perfectly is alluded to as the new round skirt and is cut all in one piece and frequently has radiating rows of laces.

A beautiful tulle skirt has an upper skirt over it in points, after the peplum order, embroidered with green iridiscent sequins.

Almost all of Paquin's skirts open across the front, showing an under petticoat. One of these models I saw here about a month ago, but at that time but a few seemed inclined to order this mode, in spite of the fact that it hung so perfectly. Hundreds of just such skirts are being worn at the present moment in New York. From one of the best houses comes an evening frock that has a straight, distinctive panel down the center. Many panels are of velvet or tulle, but contrasting silks are also employed.



LATE NOVELTIES IN JEWELRY.

NEW HOUSE GOWN.

Skirts for day wear out of doors must be ground all round and closely fit the hips. A skirt I like belongs to a tailor dress. It has numerous pipings extending from the waist to the hips. These are graduated downward in the front and at the back.

All women should avail themselves of the sensible fiat that has gone forth concerning short skirts for street wear, as nothing looks worse than to see a skirt dragging through puddles and over muddy, dirty sidewalks, even if germs were left quite out of the question.

Chit-Chat.

Flounces are being so well received that soon all gowns will be trimmed with them. At present they are chiefly applied in narrow widths at the foot of the skirt. "Some are waved half way down, introduced in order to hide the addition which the necessary fullness about the feet necessitates. Some again are carried to the knee, while some are graduated; many cover the entire skirt from waist to hem; while some merely come over the front breadth. By all which it will appear that there is a great diversity in fashion. Some skirts are lined, some detached from the lining; there is no hard and fast rule. Cloth gowns are mostly lined with silk. Many flounces are bound with a contrasting color or edged with very narrow ribbon."

White fleur de velour is coming very much into fashion, as is also the old crystal silk. White poplin is still being worn by brides.

For the moment in Paris navy blue, tabac brown and pearl gray are the favorite colors, gray being of the exact shade that tones in with chinchilla.

Flat rouleaux and stitched bands are the best liked forms of trimming, and the satin rouleaux are often arranged in open trelliswork to show the contrasting coloring.

The muffs this season are very ornamental. One of black satin was recently admired. It was made with two or three frills at each end, bordered with narrow sable. Also one of black velvet, gathered so as to finish with a flounce at each end, to come well over the wrists. A crimson bow was at one side and a fresh and perfect rose in the center.

A stylish tea gown lately noted is made in one of the new shades of fraise satin duchesse trimmed with revers of a rich velvet of a darker shade, which is relieved by cascades of lace. The sleeves are quite novel and are formed of loops of velvet with lace in between.

Crepe de chine ties with elaborately hemstitched ends may be had in every possible color. I liked one beneath a fine muslin collar, which had little motifs of ecru lace let into the corners.

Decorations for the Hair.

Some ornamentation is now regarded as absolutely imperative when the hair is dressed. At a large reception recently two pretty women wore merely a twist of white tulle fastened at one side with an erect bow of bright-colored ribbon velvet; the bows were of the variety known as "spider bows." However, this particular style I do not admire.

Steel of the handsomest well cut is much worn for hair ornaments and a bow of steel, from which springs a large white aigrette, is a fashionable ornament.

Mrs. Potter is credited with having started this fad of adorning our heads. Be sure to wear a jeweled pin, a comb, an aigrette or a flower in your hair every evening this winter. A pretty Christmas gift would be an aigrette with tiny diamond drops on it.

A most fashionable evening coiffure is frizzed in front, slightly waved at the sides and carelessly coiled up at the back under a jeweled comb. On the top of the head rests a soft roll, secured both with an ostrich feather and another jeweled comb. Aigrette of white diamante filaments.

MARCELLA.

When it comes to pedagogical enterprise, San Francisco boasts of a young man who teaches on both sides of the bay and practices law on Saturday. As yet he does not preach anywhere on Sunday.

EVENING.

THE village bell was ringing
With a sad, sweet silvery sound,
And the golden globe of heaven
Was shining great and round.
The woodland dove was cooing
In a breeze so cool and strong;
The streamlet in the valley
Sang, too, its evening song.
The little yellow buttercaps
Were folding one by one,
All nodding were their heads,
For the long day was done.
Along the little village road
Were footprints on the sod,
Ah! blessings on them every one—
There little children trod.

VERA CHISHOLM.

The man who hates all who are above him usually has an infinite hatred.

Dignity in a rich man becomes laziness in a poor man.

Newest Hat Out.

"Russian Turban," companion to Russian blouse, may be had at The Wonder, 1026 Market street.