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GOWNS FOR THE BRIDE

MIRROR SILK AND RICH SATIN HOLD THE LEAD.

No significance in the wedding veil and it can be worn or not—Traveling dresses that do not advertise the bride.

Dame Fashion's Fancies.

New York correspondence.



HE month of roses and weddings is near, and many a prospective bride is now wrestling with her dressmaker over the trousseau dresses. These must be had and of the latest fashions, even if their wearer tires herself so much in the process of their making as not to become them when they are done. The costumes of this depletion should be of great assistance to the over-busy planner, for here are bridal costume, traveling rig, house gown and afternoon dress, with a low-cut get-up beside the initial. This doesn't constitute a very elaborate outfit of dresses, but the purpose of each one is distinct and others that might be added to the wardrobe would be in respect to the uses for which they were intended, duplicates of some of these.

Mirror silk and rich satin hold the lead for wedding gowns. The round skirt with a long train added at the back is the cut, and in the case of an



DRESSED FOR THE CEREMONY.

elaborate wedding where train bearers are part of the pageant this cut is extremely desirable. Usually the foot of the gown is softened by a festooning of lace. A round bodice, very short on the hips and slightly pointed in front is esteemed the most becoming, and all the bodices of this season are softly draped with lace in front, thus rendering the satin and white more becoming. In many cases the neck is cut out a little and filled in with a tiny chemise of delicate tulle through which the flesh tint shows, a soft fullness of tulle setting closely under the chin and about the throat. The veil is "real lace" if possible, and by all means an "heirloom," if one can be had. It is not worn over the face, but arranged on the head to give dignity and becomingness. The ends float down over the train.

If the traveling dress be not the next thing in importance to the wedding rig, it is the next item of the trousseau needed, and the next one pictured here. As it indicates, the patient bride has revolted against the simple gray gown that is such a give-away, and her traveling dress is planned along new lines. Above all it must be stunning, and in hang, fit and style irreproachable. Everything like sentimental romance is avoided, and there must be dash and self-possession in that gown if there isn't any in the rest of the trousseau.



NO LONGER ADVERTISES THE BRIDE.

This is a departure that suits modest purses, for such a traveling gown becomes without change a very accept-

able street dress. Quite the most correct choice of goods is a big soft English tweed plaid. The skirt is made with all lines matched diagonally and not a seam to be traced except with a microscope. A plaid of green, tobacco brown, dark blue, and a lighting up of cream is the best choice. The bodice shown here has a little sleeveless jacket of leather-colored broadcloth, seemingly worn over a plaid under-bodice, but really all in one, for no ordinary jacket could ever get over those sleeves.



TWO GOWNS IN ONE.

Time was when the very nicest brides stopping at a hotel were privileged to appear in the public dining-room in their trousseau wrapper. Of course, it is blood curdling to merely think of this now, yet it seems a pity not to be able to show publicly the lovely notions that are called morning and boudoir gowns. The sorts of these are legion, but the one chosen for illustration is new and ingeniously made in two parts. When the bride wears both parts, she appears, as in the picture, arrayed in a billowing, organ-pipe robe of gray satin, with below-the-shoulder-puff sleeves that are held in place by bands of blue silk ribbon drawn over the round of the shoulder and finishing with soft rosettes. Rich lace follows the rise of each organ-pipe, the gown sweeps the floor at back and sides, fits closely at the back, hangs free at the side, and is open entirely in front. A simple gown of pale gray soft silk, belted simply at the waist shows beneath. A yoke of lace discloses the soft pink skin and a high ribbon collar makes the face seem youthful. The inside of the over-gown is lined with turquoise blue satin, so there is a lovely combination of soft colors.

For the morning or afternoon trousseau gown nothing can be daintier than one of the many accordion-pleated mull confections that are offered. One of the prettiest of these was of smoke-gray mull pleated and worn over turquoise blue, and is portrayed in the ac-



PLEATED AND RE-RIBBONED.

companying picture. Its skirt was full and flared at the foot, and the bodice was of the popular loose blouse pattern, bound in at the waist under the "overhang" with a folded belt of mirror-blue satin. Long ends of ribbon with big bows for finish gave relief to the severity of the skirt, and a pair of folded silk sash pieces crossed the bust, fastening with bows on the shoulders. This accordion-pleated material comes by the yard, and since it sells "pulled out" and it takes three yards plain to make one yard pleated, a woman may feel her financial standing sustained, if she have a couple of these gowns, even if she doesn't wear diamonds. Diamonds she doesn't wear, for the rule now is that a bride must wear no jewels, even on state occasions. Her wedding ring, the solitary engagement ring, and the necessary watch are all that are in strict correctness allowed. Some folks are saying that this permits the young husband to "put up" the whole cargo of wedding gift jewelry to help him keep up his establishment, but that can't be so, because "bride mornings," when the young wife receives her girl friends and shows all her presents, are quite the rage, to make up for the taboo placed on the display of presents at the wedding.

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A really nice girl is not always being "shocked" by the young men.

YANKEE SHOES IN ENGLAND.

Becoming Popular and the English Are Even Taking to Rubbers.

"The suggestion that American boot and shoe manufacturers should take advantage of the present trouble in the English boot trade to establish a market there reminds me of the recent notable influence of American ideas on the British shoe business of which I learned last summer," said a traveler to a New York Sun man. "In this, as in many other matters, there has been in England lately an adoption of American models and American ideas that has brought about some radical changes—in fact, a complete reversal of type."

"English footwear has been for many generations most distinctively peculiar—characteristically English. The shoes of men and women alike have been of the strongest, heaviest pattern, and the standard of excellence was that the thicker the sole the better the boot. Half an inch was about the ordinary thickness for the sole of a man's shoe and few women wore walking shoes with soles less than a quarter of an inch thick.

"Rubbers were practically unknown and this was the principal reason for the thick soles. They were intended to keep out the wet. Many devices were used to attach the tongue to the uppers in such a way as to make the shoe waterproof even if submerged quite to the top. Then the soles and heels were studded thickly with steel nails, and in extra good shoes the welt extended half an inch or so all around the sole. As a consequence, the average winter shoe of the average Englishman or Englishwoman was very much like a heavy hunting-boot. This is largely the case to-day, but a marked change has set in. These shoes are certainly waterproof and proof against almost any kind of weather or wear, but their clumsiness and ugliness when worn in to the office or house, as they of course have to be, is very apparent.

"Two winters ago, when Great Britain was visited by a real old-fashioned winter, with plenty of snow and slush, some genius imported a lot of American 'arctic' over-shoes and put them on sale in London and the chief provincial towns under the name of 'American snow boots.' Their success was marked. The English people, especially the women, were quick to see the advantage and comfort in being able to wear a light, summer-weight shoe for the house and office, with the protection outdoors of the snow boots, and the cumbersome heavy winter shoes fell into disfavor. Then the following summer a lot of American light rubber over-shoes, for ordinary rainy-weather wear, were put on the market, and were an equal success. Previously one only saw rubbers, galoshes the English call them, once in a very great while, and one might walk about London for a month of rainy days and never see a single pair. The people depended on their heavy shoes for protection from wet feet.

"I could not find, however, that the American footholds—the half rubbers so popular with ladies here at home for damp days, and occasions when it is wet under foot without actual rain—were known at all. I have this last winter sent some over to English friends, who admired the footholds my wife wore while there last summer, and they are delighted with them.

"The introduction of the arctic and ordinary rubbers emancipated the English people from the clumsy, tiring, thick-soled shoes so long worn, and as a consequence there has been a notable tendency to reduce the thickness of the soles, to make the uppers of more pliable material, and generally to adopt the American model in shoes. There has also been some effort made in the last two or three years to introduce American shoes in the English market, and they are on sale at some of the best shoe stores in London. The head salesman in one such store told me that the American style of shoe was well liked, too, and that the model was being adopted to a large extent in their own factory.

"A good illustration was afforded to me while I was talking to this salesman. An Englishman came in looking for a pair of heavy shoes. He wanted a pair of the kind he had always worn, strong tops and enormous soles, with a half-inch welt. He expected to pay a good, round price for them—30 or 40 shillings—he said. But there wasn't a pair of shoes in the store that suited him, although he declared he had always bought his shoes there when he came to London every year or so. 'We are not making that kind of shoe now,' the salesman explained. 'We have little call for them. People want a light shoe nowadays, something like this,' and he showed an American shoe. The man ended by taking a light pair for trial.

"Of course the price of shoes will come down as they come to be made of about half the amount of material. A guinea or thirty shillings has been the usual price paid for good shoes of the heavy, thick-soled kind. This is equal to \$5 to \$7—a big price in England. My wife bought an excellent pair of American shoes, of New York make, at a well Regent street store last autumn for \$4. The same shoe would doubtless cost more here in New York, but difference in rents and wages might

account for that. I think there is a good market for American shoes in Great Britain, especially just now."

Lion and Mouse.

A mouse was put in the cage of a lion to test whether, as the old fables asserted, there was a natural affection between them. The experiment demonstrates that each was so afraid of the other that no affection could exist between them. The lion saw the mouse before he was fairly through the bars, and was after him instantly.

Away went the little fellow, scurrying across the floor and squeaking in fright. When he had gone about ten feet the lion sprang, lighting a little in front of him. The mouse turned and the lion sprang again. This was repeated several times, the mouse traversing a shorter distance after each spring of the lion.

Finally the mouse stood still, squealing and trembling. The lion stood over him, studying him with interest. Presently he shot out his big paw and brought it down directly on the mouse, but so gently that the mouse was not injured in the least, though held fast between the claws.

Then the lion played with him, now lifting his paw and letting the mouse run a few inches, and then stopping him again as before. Suddenly the mouse changed his tactics, and instead of running when the lion lifted his paw sprang into the air straight at the lion's head.

The lion, terrified, gave a great leap back, striking the bars with all his might. Then he opened his jaws and roared and roared again, while the little mouse, still squealing, made his escape. Of the two the lion was the more frightened.

Nearly Run Down.

An old French soldier, Colonel De Gonville, in writing the story of his military career, describes one curious adventure, which had nothing warlike about it, but in which for a moment he was in danger of his life. During one of his campaigns he had stopped for the night at a house in which lived a lady and her daughter.

It was early May, and in the evening, after dinner, I went out with the ladies for a walk. We took a road leading out of the village between stone walls about four feet in height. Here, at a place where the road made a sudden turn, so that we could not see what lay before us, I heard all at once a strange noise. It might have been produced by a tempest, but there was not a breath of air stirring.

At that moment my two companions, with signs of extreme terror, clambered over the wall, and I instinctively followed them. We were hardly on the other side before a dense drove of pigs, at least a hundred and fifty feet long, came round the turn with such fury that no obstacle could have stopped them.

If we had not been out of the road we should have been knocked down, and the whole drove would have gone over us. The women told me that we should have been picked up dead, or at least so mutilated as to be good for nothing.

The swine, it appeared, were driven out to a wood in the morning and at night were driven back to the village and fed. The prospect of the trough made them so eager that they entered the village like an avalanche.

Ports vs. Ships.

One of the facts brought into strong prominence in connection with the recent operations at Wei-Hai-Wei is the helplessness of ships against well-constructed forts, admirably located, and armed with disappearing guns. The Chinese ships and mainland forts and artillery, which, after falling into Japanese possession, co-operated with the fleet in bombarding the insular defenses, never succeeded in touching these forts once. They remained to the end absolutely unimpaired by the storm of iron which was directed against them. Similar immunity was enjoyed even by an ordinarily constructed fort on the Lukung. The Japanese ships did no harm whatever, while, on the other hand, the Chinese gunners in the forts, though not conspicuous for their skill, succeeded in hitting no less than seven of the Japanese ships. The fact is, the incomparably greater vulnerability of a ship handicaps it seriously in a fight with a fort. A dozen shells from a ship's guns may exhaust their energy upon the massive parapets of a fort, whereas one shot from the heavy guns of the latter can not fail to inflict cruel injury upon a ship if it strikes her. The question of a moving and stationary target seems to be of secondary importance.

Polite Dismissals.

William Dean Howells' father, who emigrated to Ohio half a century and more ago, used this formula to get rid of an intrusive visitor who had worn out his welcome. He would be called out on some business, and would say to the guest: "I suppose you will not be here when I return, so I wish you good-by!" This was not bad, except in comparison with the superb stratagem ascribed to Gerrit Smith in such emergencies—as that he used to say in his family prayer, after breakfast: "May the Lord also bless Brother Jones, who leaves us on the ten o'clock train this morning."

VINEGAR.

How the Article of Commerce is Made So Quickly.

No farm cellar in the apple region, says the Chicago Record, is quite complete without its vinegar barrel.

Each fall, as soon as the sweet cider comes in from the presses, a part of it is funneled into a dusty barrel that occupies a place in the corner of the room. It is given every opportunity to turn "hard" and then sour—as sour as the sourest vinegar. Sometimes the housewife hurries the operation by adding a little "mother"—the thick, velvety growth, a product of fermentation, which sometimes rises in her cruet and jugs. By the next spring or summer, if conditions have been favorable, the cider has become vinegar and is ready for use with the early lettuce.

But that is a slow process and only small quantities are made at a time. If the city epicurean depended on such a source of supply he would have to take his salads without the acid element. For this reason great manufacturing works have sprung up, and many of them weekly make more vinegar than all the farmers of Michigan or any of the other apple States make in a whole year.

The visitor is warned of his approach to a vinegar factory while yet a long way off. There is a pungent odor not unlike that of long-confined smoke and the atmosphere for blocks in every direction fairly reeks with it. On approaching nearer it grows more and more acid, until inside of the building one has the rather novel sensation of tasting the air. It is almost equal to eating pickles.

Vinegar is of two or three different kinds. The most expensive is made from red wine and is of a deep purple color. It is very strong in acid—so strong, indeed, that it fairly bites the tongue. It costs about 40 cents a gallon. Then there is the cider vinegar of farm fame and it is the most popular of any for general household use. It retails at from 12 to 16 cents a gallon, and it may be said in passing that some disreputable concerns make a variety of "cider" vinegar that is wholly guiltless of apples. Great quantities of white-wine vinegar are also made, usually from corn and rye. It is perfectly colorless, very sharp to the taste and is usually used for making pickles and condiments of various kinds.

The process of manufacturing this white-wine vinegar is most interesting. In the first place the manager starts out just as if he were going to make genuine corn whisky, but when he gets part way through with the work he suddenly switches off and the product is vinegar. The corn and rye come to the side of the factory in cars and are elevated to the top floor, where they go into big bins. In the morning when the superintendent gives the word a workman pulls the slide from a spout that leads down through four stories and into the top of the cooler, a huge iron boiler holding 100 bushels. The corn comes rattling down and it is soon boiling away under a steam pressure of sixty pounds. At the end of two hours it has been reduced to mash—a well-known whisky term—and is quite toothsome enough to tempt any cow home from a June pasture.

It is now blown through a pipe leading upstairs to the great mash-tubs holding 8,000 gallons each. Here about fifty bushels of malt, fresh from the malsters, and ground to a pulp in a little mill on the next floor, is dumped in and two awkward paddles begin to revolve, churning the mass until it looks like the surface of a geyser.

The cooking of the corn separated the starch and the addition of the malt, together with a temperature of 148 degrees, turns the starch into sugar. At this period of the process the mash has a really sugary smell, like molasses candy on the back of the kitchen stove. After being beaten and churned for three or four hours cold water it turned into a coil of pipes in the bottom of the huge tub to cool the mash. In the meantime some workmen have been preparing the yeast in a little room at one side. Malt and rye are boiled together in a copper-lined kettle holding 200 gallons, and a little of the yeast ferment being added, the plant begins to grow. When the process has gone far enough just the right proportion of the yeast is taken and "planted" in the mash-tub, where without more ado it begins to make itself felt.

Now the mash is allowed to slide down through a pipe to the fermenting tanks, where it sizzles and bubbles away for seventy-two hours, hard at work fermenting. The alcoholic spirits are being slowly extracted by the "working" of the sugar. Thus far the process has been almost identical with whisky-making.

A busy chugging link pump now sends the mash upstairs to the still—real whisky stills, except in the use of "worms" or coils of pipe for collecting and condensing the alcoholic spirits. A "worm" would be used in vinegar manufacture, but Uncle Sam is afraid that some day a very well-meaning charge of corn might by some mistake turn to whisky instead of vinegar. Uncle Sam always looks after such things in a prompt and business-like way.

The alcohol is forced out of the mash and into the still by means of steam, which rapidly vaporizes it. The pipe in the still is surrounded by cold water,

which quickly condenses the alcohol and collects it below in a receptacle. All the rest of the mash—"slops," as it is known to the vinegar man and the whisky man—is carried off to one side, where it is stored up ready to sell to the stock-raiser for cattle feed. It contains all the corn except the alcoholic parts, and it therefore makes very rich food.

The spirits are now pumped to the generators, the only distinctive vinegar-making devices in the whole process. These consist of tall, cylindrical tanks made of white wood and bound with iron hoops. They extend from floor to ceiling, with an appliance on top for allowing the alcohol to trickle in and a cock at the bottom through which the vinegar may be drawn off.

Several floors are covered with these generators as thick as they can stand, and the visitor who goes among them is compelled to sneeze in deference to the pronounced acidity of the atmosphere.

The tanks inside are filled from top to bottom with bench shavings, nothing more. When the alcohol drips in at the top it spreads over the shavings where the air has ready access to it. The oxygen poisons upon it and changes it without more ado into acetic acid or vinegar, in which condition it runs out at the cock and into a trough that carries it down to the next floor into a huge storage tank. The shavings in the generators are merely for the purpose of providing a great amount of surface over which the spirits must flow.

After having seasoned for a time in the tanks the vinegar is pumped out into barrels, labeled and sent all over the country to the pickle manufacturers. Every bushel of corn makes about four gallons of white-wine vinegar, which sells all the way from 7 to 10 cents a gallon.

The cider used for vinegar comes almost entirely from Michigan, Ohio and New York, enough being secured every fall to last a whole year. The barrels are corded up in endless rows—a whole, great room filled full, with only little alleyways piercing it—and allowed to stand until the cider is quite hard enough to make an old cider drinker dizzy-headed. When at last it has sufficiently fermented it is run over the shavings in the generator and becomes a light-brown cider vinegar. It is now run into old whisky barrels and allowed to stand as long as possible. The whisky barrels assist greatly in the ripening process, which so much improves vinegar. Only a few firms in the country have this method of making their product more palatable.

Red-wine vinegar is made just like cider vinegar, a shade greater care being taken, perhaps, to keep it clean and pure. The wine used comes largely from California and Ohio, which of late years has been making a good deal of it. The factory can easily turn out eighty barrels a day and where one considers that a teaspoonful at a meal is a very large average for the ordinary adult it will be seen how far such a quantity will go. The prices are now so cheap that the farmer can hardly afford to make vinegar even for home consumption. He can sell the cider to better advantage.

The Riddle of the Cid.

A mediaeval condottier in the service of the Moslem, when he was fighting to fill his own coffers with perfect impartiality against Moor or Christian, banished as a traitor by his Castilian sovereign, and constantly leading the forces of the infidel against Aragon, against Catalonia, and even against Castile, he has become the national hero of Spain.

Warring against the Moslem of Valencia, whom he pitilessly despoiled, with the aid of the Moslem of Saragossa, whose cause he cynically betrayed, while he yet owned a nominal allegiance to Alfonso of Castile, whose territories he was pitilessly ravaging; retaining conquered Valencia for his personal and private advantage, in despite of Moslem and Christian kings, he has become the type of Christian loyalty and Christian chivalry in Europe. Avaricious, faithless, cruel and bold, a true soldier of fortune, the Cid still maintains a reputation which is one of the enigmas of history.—History of Spain.—U. R. Burke.

The First Wills.

Wills were at first oral, as were also gifts of lands, and were only morally binding on the survivors. Origen and other fathers of the early church credited Noah with having made a will, and in the fourth century the Bishop of Brescia declared all those heretics who denied Noah's division of the world to his three sons by will. The oldest known wills are those of Egypt. Both oral and written wills not infrequently contained imprecations on those who should neglect them.

The earliest written will in existence is that of Sennacherib, which was found in the Royal Library of Konynjik. There is a great sameness about our own royal wills. They mainly relate to beds, bedding, clothes, personal ornaments, gold and silver cups, and payments for masses, and are generally as prosaic as one could contrive.—The Westminster Review.

When the electionists get too old to look nice saying the "Goblins Will Get You," they can take the part of Little Eva in an "Uncle Tom" show.