

DAINTY TEA GOWNS.

THEY ARE STILL POPULAR AND PRETTIER THAN EVER.

Olive Harper Gives the Gentle Reader Some Pointers About Prevailing Modes. Gowns for Garden Fetes—Opportunities for the Home Dressmakers.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, June 30.—While tea gowns have not quite such a furor as they had two seasons since, and even last season, they are still in good demand, and they make up in daintiness whatever they may have lost in numbers.



One I came across today, just imported from a famous French dressmaker, was so very graceful and novel that I obtained permission to show it to my gentle readers. It was of cream challie, figured in soft, indistinct flowers of pink, mauve and green. The back was belted in with a moss green velvet belt. The front was of shrimp pink china crape, quite plainly draped. The sleeves were of challie in the upper part, with a band of velvet between. Down the front, starting from the shoulder line, was a cascade of Spanish lace which marked the line between the challie and the crape. A prettier gown could scarcely be imagined.

I think it would be very pretty made of chambray and zephyr gingham, with one of the stouter wash laces for garniture. It could hardly fail to be pretty no matter what it was made of, so that the colors were judiciously assorted.

Two other lovely gowns were shown which will grace the garden fetes at Newport soon, and as I always think we all have a right to share in pretty things I present them. One consolation in dressmaking this season is that the home dressmaker can so easily reproduce the most ornate of them.

One of these was of maize China silk, with very pale but large pink roses and their leaves. The sleeves were modified leg-o'-mutton; the waist a simple Spencer, with the poke of lace over pale pink China silk. Around the bottom is a band of the lace bordered with narrow moss-green velvet ribbon, which also is arranged in a series of bowknots as trimming, both on skirt and across the bust. The hat is of pearl gray Milan straw, with trimming of pink and green velvet and two black prince's feathers.

The other is of gray printed cashmere, cut princess back and front, with vest of pink crape, and with simulated jacket of white lace, which also forms part of the sleeve. Garnet velvet ribbon adds a finishing touch in the way of rosettes and borderings. The hat is of yellow straw—Alpine crown—with garnet feathers and gold stickpin ornaments.

Among the many ephemeral fancies of the season is that of the blouse waist. This is a most comfortable garment, particularly adapted to youth, though not debarred from those who have passed their girlhood. It is made of calico, muslin, silk or outing cloth. It is a simple loose waist with a turndown collar and a jabot or frill down the front made of plaiting of the same.

Made of navy blue surah or China silk with a white frill it is very pretty and modest. With a red frill it is more striking. With one of the same material it is quieter and more refined. Made of calico it looks clean and fresh, and in any kind of goods it is loose, cool and comfortable; but no material or trimming can make it dressy. It is for ordinary occasions, when comfort and the free use of one's arms are the prime considerations.

These blouse waists can be worn with skirts of serge or cloth, and a short reefer jacket can be slipped on if the day turns cool. They are very handy for morning wear for young persons.



PRETTY SUMMER GOWNS. The silk, and the edge of this has all the way from one to ten narrow ruffles, pinked or scalloped with floss silk, and herringbone on in silk of contrasting color. Part of the ruffles are sewn on the outside and part on the under-side of the skirt, and some of them have alternate ruffles of lace.

under side. The severely plain biscuit colored cheviot dress skirt was lifted carefully in the back by a daintily gloved hand, just enough to show this lovely silken petticoat.

Many others are made of wash surah in light colors, with narrow ruffles of pink or blue, pinked, but the trouble with pinked ruffles is that they fray out so soon and then look very untidy.

We are likely to have a very brilliant line of hosiery for fall, and the most delicate color will be a royal purple, with white or cream colored tops.

Gold embroidery will be a feature of autumn styles in the close oriental manner, and the Turkish and Figaro jackets, stiffly worked in gold on velvet, cloth or satin, will be worn with most indoor and some outdoor costumes. The pointed belts, cuffs and vest fronts in silver and gold will also be very popular. They are very expensive to buy, but most ladies can beguile their leisure hours by doing them.

OLIVE HARPER.

THE GLORIOUS FOURTH.

When the Song of the Firecracker is Heard in the Land.

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THE Fourth of July is a purely American institution as well as a purely American invention, and the annual celebration of this holiday is as dear to the heart of Young America as it is to the heart of old and middle-aged America. It is to the small boy the Christmas of the summer season, and at the booming of the earliest gun he jumps out of bed with the same alacrity that the house dog displays while flying into the cellar to be out of the danger that he fancies is about to consume him like the third that follows a feast of codfish balls.

The noise of this day is a grand epic of melody, and it is a music that strikes a responsive chord in the soul of every true American and makes him feel proud and happy from his boot heels to his straw hat. It is a melody that sets the American spirit dancing, and is sufficiently subtle in its wild howling gladness to make stuffed eagle scream for joy, and to cause a crop of rippling ringlets to suddenly spring into blossom on the cranial apex of the bald eagle.

Ever dear to the smallboy who lives in Toledo
Ever dear to the smallboy who lives in Po-
dunk.
Is the clappety bang of the Union torpedo,
And the odor of the slow burning
punk.

The small boy has been making ready for the occasion with the same anxiety and care that a country manifests in preparing for war with a foreign power. He has been dreaming of it fondly since that auspicious season of the year when the blood-



HE HAS BEEN DISPOSING OF CLARET BOTTLES root trembles by the wayside and the circus poster and the gold lettered legend setting forth the manifold virtues of the blood purifier divide the honors on the carnival fence. He has been saying his penicils as religiously as has the school teacher who would go to Europe during the halcyon days of vacation, that he may properly celebrate the anniversary of the biggest and reddest red letter day in the history of his country. He has been disposing of claret bottles and old iron to the itinerant peddler. He would have been perfectly willing, through the spirit of his enthusiastic patriotism, to have sold the chandeliers and andirons to the same strolling dealers.

A statement of the condition of his little savings bank before the Fourth of July in vestments are made would show it to be in a very sound, prosperous condition. But on the fifth day of the month it is as empty as the monologue of a book agent or the smiling welcome of a summer hotel keeper.

The small boy is not always aware of the fact that the firecracker with which he celebrates the Fourth of July is a Chinese institution. The man who was once a boy himself, and still has the feelings of a boy and remembers all the pleasant sensations of the Fourth of July of his boyhood, can generally make a fair approximation to the pecuniary standing of the youthful celebrant.

If he fires off a firecracker every three or four minutes it means that he possesses not more than three packages. The boy who sets off a package at a time under a barrel generally has so many packages that he couldn't set them off one firecracker at a time inside of two weeks. This boy is the envy of all the other boys who are not so fortunate as he, especially if, besides his numerous bunches of firecrackers, he has an assortment of fireworks with which to



THE ONLY CREATURES WHO FEEL RELIEVED WHEN THE FOURTH IS OVER illuminate the ebony vault of night. It makes the boy sad to feel that the Fourth is slipping away from him. Even if there is to be a baseball match in the afternoon at which he may discharge firecrackers, he doesn't want the time of the game to arrive too soon. But when the game is over the small boy feels that he still has the fireworks to live for. And he is on the scene before the twilight has faded, sadly faded like a twenty five cent sky-blue bathing suit—

And he smiles a sweet smile full of sunshine. From the pinwheel to see the stars fly. And he sighs at the big bonanza carole. Pops a purple ball into the sky. He's as glad when the hissing skyrocket Goes a-scouring aloft o'er the land. As he is when he enters the circus At the very first foot of the band.

There is one individual whom the small boy cannot understand, and that individual is the man whose chief desire is to get off into some remote, quiet, sleepy place upon that festive day upon which the song of the firecracker is heard in the land. Such a man will always remain an unsolved enigma to the small boy, who will also continue to regard him as something supernatural, as flying from the glorious Fourth strikes his youthful fancy as being only worthy of an Englishman. As a rule the Irishman is very fond of the Fourth of July, as it gives him an ample opportunity to express his sentiments relative to everything English, from loud checked clothing to mutton pies. The only creatures who experience feelings of relief when the Fourth is over are the insurance man, the house dog, and the cat. It is difficult to say which is the most worried of these on the Fourth—the insurance man in the bosom of his family, the dog in the bosom of the cellar, or the cat in the bosom of the garret.

R. K. MURKITTUCK.
Breaking It Gently. Foreman (quarry gang)—It's sad news (U) boy fur yez. Mrs. McGaharraghty. Y'r husband's new waist is broken. It was a fine watch, an it's smashed to pieces. Mrs. McG.—Dearie me! How did that happen? Foreman—A 10-ton rock fell on 'im.—Exchange.

Noah Outdone. Jenny—Isn't it nasty to have such frequent rains? Belle—Yes, but then it's much nicer here than in England. May—Why so? Belle—Because they have had a steady reign there for sixty years.—Exchange.

Law and Lawyers. Richmann—I have decided to make no will. Lawyer—Then the law will divide your estate. Richmann—Well, that is better than letting the lawyers divide it.—New York Weekly.

A Real Good Thing. Upset Member—Look here, you fellows, I've got a complaint to make, and one of which I trust the committee will take notice. It seems some five or six fellows have clubbed together and offered me \$100 to resign my membership. Little Smarty Peggot—Don't you take it, old cock, you'll get a better offer. [Screams.]—July.



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