

GET OFF THE WALK, PLEASE

Cataclysmic Changes in Feminine Apparel Threaten the World.

THE CRINOLINE ALREADY IN BLOOM

The Hostile of Tamulous Skirts Heard in the Land—Pretty Frocks for Children—Talk on Things Feminine—Personalities.

This is a period of suspense in dress. Cataclysmic changes are threatened, and everyone is waiting anxiously for the edicts from the parliament of fashion.

Now the law makers are involved in interminable strife. With the French authorities pulling one way and the English authorities pulling the other, a compromise seems probable on the modes of the 1850 period.

Never before, within a year, did the female form divine so appreciably after its outlines as during the last twelvemonth. The idolized waist, that has been the focal point upon which all dress harmonies have been founded, has been deposed and dishonored.

We have sacrificed food, comfort, health, almost life itself, to this waist ideal, says the New York Sun, and now, when its dearly-bought slenderness is not entirely lost beneath the straight draperies of an Empire gown, it is sacrificed to the short, broad outlines of the fashionable bodice, with its folded belt and wrinkled corselet.

The modiste, who has for years ruthlessly fitted down our bodies to the prescribed modish shape, no matter what shape we might be ourselves, has suddenly loosened the torturing steels and bones, and gives us a waist that is two inches above and more than two inches broader than anything we have been allowed to possess in a quarter of a century.

One might fancy that the fashion goddess had repented of her follies and was in tears as she looked down upon the former, were it not that the skirt takes on new extravagances daily in increase ratio to the reasonableness of the bodice, and that the sleeve develops eccentricities galore, the latest being a great fullness about the elbow instead of the shoulder.

It is not quite a year now since the study of evolution in dress prompted the prophecy that the crinoline was imminent. For a time the skirts grew even more scant, and the thoughtless laughed in derision. It was but hastening the day when the petticoat should surge and flow arbitrarily about us, for with the lowest ebb of skimpiness the reaction was at hand.

Now the newest Parisian skirts are four, ten and a half yards around, the edge, from and a half yard to the center, is lined throughout with crinolines, muslin, and stand out stiffly all around, with the bulk of fullness at the back.

It cannot be denied that the new mode has, despite its grotesqueness, certain elegant and delicate features gratifying to the sense of the dress epicure. The woman clad in the close, short skirt lacks the essentially feminine and precious front and rustle. She walks silently, like a man. The woman in the wide petticoat is heard whispering down the staircase, rustling along the passages, murmuring through the mazes of the dance, like a summer forest whose mystic voices are never still.

One might write a poem about this melody of the tumultuous petticoat, which, if it is not natural or classic, is engagingly artificial and symbolic of exceeding daintiness and leisure and idle grace.

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NOTICE TO INVESTORS. The year 1892 was one of unprecedented growth and prosperity in St. Louis. More than 5,400 buildings were erected, as compared with 4,800 in 1891, and 4,200 in 1890. The new buildings erected in 1892 cost upwards of THIRTY MILLION dollars, and the demand for office buildings and residences continues exceptional. No city in America offers such excellent inducements to large and small capitalists with such absolute security.

formed into a ball room, where there will be no danger of upsetting any of the knick-knacks that are to be found in the living rooms of all houses. Such an arrangement as this would require no orchestra that is required. Adhering to these simple rules many a gay little affair, beginning and ending early and affording much pleasure for very little expense, may be given during the winter.

Young girls, who marry against the will of reasonable and loving parents, can make up their minds that disappointment, if not something worse, will be their lot, writes Vera Bernardiere in an article on "American Girls and Titles," in the February Ladies' Home Journal. As far as the foreigner is concerned, he may be dazzled, captivated by the beauty, grace, intellect and independent ideas and manners in the American woman; but this very independence which he seemingly admires in her while she is his friend or his betrothed he will not tolerate in his wife.

And the young girl, who sees but the grandest type of manhood on earth. Here man respects and honors her womanhood, is willing to labor and make sacrifices for her happiness, bids her cheerfully to be a coworker, an honored guest of public life, when occasion demands, and loves her, not for what she has, but for what she is.

When nature has neglected to crown a head with silken tresses, one can, in some measure, remedy the slight by persistently brushing the hair. A good quality of brush should be used. A hair brush should have long, soft bristles that will go through the hair and touch the scalp; then every particle of dust and dirt can be removed. A comb is seldom necessary if the hair is carefully brushed; if used at all the comb should be of a coarse one.

A fine comb irritates the scalp to a hurtful degree, and it is quite apt to break and split the hair. Brush the hair for five minutes before retiring at night, braid it loosely and permit it to hang. Never sleep with hairpins in the hair. The hairpins to use are made of bone, amber or tortoise shell. Coarse, sharp pins cut and tear the hair and should never be used. It is an old-time saying and well worth trying that "100 strokes of the hairbrush every night will make one's hair like silk."

Every bride knows her power; every wife comes to know her weakness, writes Octave Thanaet in a delightful article on "That Man: Your Husband" in the February Ladies' Home Journal. A good proportion of the heartbreak of early married life is due to the ferment of this knowledge. The poor child whose lover gave up his cigars and his club with such angelic meekness, finds that her husband can smoke like a chimney, and leave her alone nights in order to spend the evening with his men friends. She imagines that he cares less for her than he did, which is a mistake, in most cases; seven out of ten men love their wives better than their sweethearts. It is simply that her presence is not the absorbing excitement that it was when love was new. The chances are that the wife is become a dozen times more necessary to the man than ever the sweet heart could have been. He would feel her death far more keenly, but he does not need to adjust his heart to "sit still" whenever his fancy summons her image. In short, she is become the bread of existence in place of the elixir, but there is no question that more fuss is made over the elixir.

The scrupulous regard for truth of the Chicago newspapers has long been well known, but none of them has hitherto gone so far as the Evening Mail when it declares that Chicago women have the smallest and prettiest feet in all America. The Mail prints alleged diagrams of the feet of Mrs. P. D. Arnour, Mrs. Daniel Goodwin, Mrs. Reginald de Koven and several other women to prove its statements. It says that Boston women get pigeon-toed turning so many corners and that New York women sport their feet by climbing elevated railroad stairs and that Philadelphia women go to sleep standing and flatten out their feet, but only on the shores of Lake Michigan do women have beautiful and symmetrical under pinning.

Mrs. Carlisle, wife of the man who, it is now conceded, is to be Mr. Cleveland's secretary of the treasury, has for years been her husband's chief counselor and helper. "Few men," says a Washington correspondent, "ever lived who owed more to a woman than he to Mrs. Carlisle, and she has always been intensely ambitious for him. It is likely that she had great weight in deciding the question of his going into the cabinet of Mr. Cleveland, as she has had in most others in Mr. Carlisle's political career. Mrs. Carlisle knows public men and affairs as well as Mrs. Hetty Green understands railway matters. She is neither young nor handsome, but she is very agreeable and always knows what is best for John Griffin Carlisle."

Notes of the Fashions. The poke bonnet's return is a certainty. Silk bed sheets are a caprice of fashion. Veils of rich purple hue are very fashionable and are worn with black toilettes. Goldenrod and primrose shades are considered modish as the color schemes in tea robes. After the crinoline comes the man who is in a hurry to get down town and will probably have to walk in the streets. Tufts of bright scarlet feathers with a black satin butterfly in the center are worn in the hair at fashionable entertainments. What use is it for a woman to try to enter a play when she is wearing a pair of kid boots that she has just bought that afternoon? Shaded velvet sleeves with contrasting costumes, and plaid velvet sleeves with blue or green cloth gowns, seem to be particularly popular.

The girl who wears a high hat in the front seats at the theater will never get anywhere near the front seats in her life. At least that's what the man behind her thinks. Hat pins have become so elaborate that thieves court them. Numerous instances have occurred of women's hats being rifled while they were on their heads. One very marked feature of the season's fashions is the fancy for wearing dark gowns, with coats or capes of velvet in rich, bright shades, and very ornate and brilliant in decoration. Double-faced shot ribbons in velvet and satin are new, but one of the handiest of Virot's recent hats has the shape stretched tightly with satin in a pale tint and adorned with black lace, fur and ribbon of this sort.

The old bell skirt may be ruffled or cut off and enlarged with a Spanish bounce, and the sleeves can be easily changed. In the matter of bodices we can be in the height of fashion by wearing a contrasting velvet waist with the old skirt. Collarettes of bright ribbon plaited or two ruffles of silk scolloped on the edges and buttonholed, with colored silk or water to brighten dark-colored dresses, and long bows of chiffon, shirred and tucked into shape, come in all bright tints for indoor wear. A very elegant and stylish new shoe is a walking boot of patent leather without the least adornment in the way of ornaments, but one of long elegant shape, with a thick English heel and heel. It has a cloth top, with a strap or buckle under the instep to simulate the nearest fitting garter.

New costumes in any shade have velvet bodices of the same color, either the same shade or a tone darker. This is a particularly happy combination in biscuit color or beige. The skirt is of cloth, which, by the way, promises to continue its popularity all the spring, and may have folds of the bodice in velvet or the seams piped up and down with velvet cords. The corsage is a velvet, a shade or two darker, and no matter how simply draped and arranged it makes a very pretty costume. The majority of the bodices and gowns now being fashioned by leading

modistes are made with a round bias, seamless back, with very wide fichu-like revers going over the shoulders. The revers deeply notched in front like a man's coat-collar. The skirts are shorter, with either a corner back or the more familiar shape with a bias seam, this seam, however, being hidden by large plaits, and not revealed as it was on the original bell model. There are made some exceedingly dainty bodices for evening wear which are most becoming and useful when the high bodice of the silk dress is removed for the purpose of making a smartening change. The bodices of cream and ivory white lace are a fascinating feature of present fashions. They are made high as well as low, square and half high, but always with high airy puffs for sleeves, these reaching from the shoulder to above the elbow.

The new "shadow" velvets are the admiration of all, since their folds in their alternations of light and shade are a vision of splendor with their superb rainbow hues. They find a foil in the subdued shadings of autumn leaves—rich amber brown, garnet, iris purple, greens in all shades of foliage, cyclamen, petunia, the yellow of the goldenrod, damask rose, etc.—many of the beautiful colors when in velvet being accentuated by a still brighter background, glimpses of which are obtained through the rich black or dark brown pile.

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Two House Dresses. The figure at the left in the accompanying engraving wears a princess costume of olive brown cloth with velvet sleeves. The puffed sleeves and the narrow vest are of dark green velvet and the plastron is of cream colored surah. The trimming used, both the passementerie and the marabout, is black. The plastron is slightly plaited and is bordered by a narrow band of velvet, which clasps at



the waist and lends the appearance of a vest. The standing collar is of cream colored surah and is partly covered by the feather trimming. There are tight fitting undersleeves. The costume at the right is of navy blue chevrot, set off with black silk passementerie, and having a vest of salmon colored silk. The bottom of the skirt has a balayage, and is trimmed with a double gathered ruche of the material. The braid girdle is knotted at the left as in the picture, and hangs in

exercise, and takes a long "constitutional" before breakfast every morning. The empress of Austria has begun the study of the modern Greek language and literature. She has already made considerable progress, as she is clever and learns easily. A young lady in Newark, whose ankle was injured during a walk by her partner accidentally kicking her, wants \$5,000 damages from him. The way of the world. Mrs. Sarah Kipple of Scranton, Pa., still persists in smoking, after seventy-nine years' experience of the noxious and deadly weed. As she is only 99 years old, there is, however, time for her to reform. Miss Nellie Ahern will be the next state librarian at Indianapolis. This was decided at a caucus of the two houses, in which sixty-four votes were cast for Miss Ahern and only eight for the horrid male candidate. The "No. 9" Wheeler, with its perfected tensions, upper and lower, is the only lock-stitch machine that makes an elastic seam. It is the dressmaker's favorite on that account. Sold by Geo. W. Lancaster & Co., 514 South Sixteenth street.