

EMININE FADS AND FANCIES

Woman's Forever Changing Dress Discussed in the Drawing Room.

WISKERS VERSUS CAPS DISCUSSED

Women with Imaginary Ills, the Truth About Fashions, and Other Notes of Interest to the Fair Sex.

"I heard a discussion between two men and three women in a drawing room the other afternoon which amused me," writes "Deb" for the Brooklyn Chronicle. "The subject was women's dress, and the gist of it was the old, old argument, why such constant changes were necessary to the well dressed woman. One of the men was reasonable—or we thought him so—and attributed the continued changes to the machinations of the trader, who would find but a comparatively poor sale for his goods were pressed out on one pattern and made of just a few materials.

"But the other declared with much vehemence that the whole reason was woman's own changeableness, her objection to wear the same garment more than a certain number of times, and so on and so on. And so we wrangled on the women having the best of it in vehemence and volubility, though I fear their logic was a trifle shaky. As to the beauty of women's dress, we were told by one of our male critics that between the fourteenth century and last year there had been no single period when women's costumes were really graceful; 1892 was, however, this authority declared, a remarkable exception.

"Dresses were really admirable, and he was only surprised that, having by some wonderful piece of good luck arrived at so desirable an epoch in the history of costume, we could not be content to remain there, but must rush off at a tangent to the hideous and ungainly fashions of the '30's. In this direction I found myself warmly supporting the speaker, for I have inveighed over and over again against the powers that had determined to again introduce the garb worn by our grandmothers in their youthful days.

"Whether there really have been no beautiful and artistic dresses between the fourteenth and the latter part of the nineteenth centuries I really have not sufficient knowledge of the subject to make a sweeping assertion."

The question of whiskers or no whiskers which is just now agitating the minds of the striking waiters finds a parallel in the all-important topic of the hair of waitresses and upper housemaids in a private family.

It is really surprising the number of girls who cannot be coaxed into wearing a cap. They regard it as a badge of servitude and no matter how becoming the said bit of muslin may be they see no colors, but generally white—the queerest, prettiest clothes—all just touching the ground. It is easy to see where Kate Greenaway got her models for her quaint pictures. They are exactly here. Then the baby carriages—nothing approaching our elegant perambulators. They are all of either bent wood or good wickerwork, yellowish white, like bamboo, and open work all around, on perfect springs, and most of them rock up and down when being wheeled, and have fixed, large parasols overhead in all colors and pretty devices. Half lying under this bright shade is a round-faced, pale, very pretty, piquant baby with unusually dark eyes, with an expression in them as if there was nothing they didn't know; a tiny white silk cap on its tiny head; rings secured to its wrists by a ribbon on its fat fingers; the faintest white pillows, white fancy coverlets over its little body and an air of cushions and coziness about it. Such is the American baby."

English walking-gloves to wear with spring and early summer promenade costumes are produced in all the cloth shades for matching the toilet.

Rival factions in Paris are contending for the supremacy of flowers or ribbons as millinery trimming, with odds for the flowers.

Gold sequins are used in evening dress trimming as fringes or spangles.

Bands of narrow velvet, with rosette bows, trim the skirts of semi-dress and evening costumes.

The newest skirts, made with three bias ungathered flounces, lapping one above the other, are far more fashionable than they are pretty.

Butterfly bows made of finely plaited ribbon are shown on hats, and are from five to nine inches across.

Jasper gingham are cool looking and pretty. They are in mixed grays or cold blues, often lined with white.

Very useful to take the place of wash dresses for the summer are those of tussore, these being excellent for wear in all climates—cool, not easily soiled and most enduring.

The new silk canvas is one of the most beautiful materials. It is quite simple, but rich at the same time. It can be had without figures.

Dressing the hair high always makes a woman look older, but lowering it to the neck the head brings her five or ten years, according to different authorities, nearer to girlhood.

Various fancy names for fabrics prevail, the venetienne online, duchesse fantaisie, velour Indian pique, damas glace, crystalline traves and chintz china being among the spring nomenclature.

torted the admiration of every member of the guild. The young woman, who is now 20 years old, thinks Chicago will be the best place for her to make a living in and thither she will start in the course of a week or two.

Have you ever heard of a friendship bookcase? One recently seen had pure white enamel shelves. They were fitted into a corner of the owner's pet room. From the top shelf hung a pale blue silk curtain, which was shirred on a brass rod. Across the curtain embroidered in gilt thread was the quotation: "I love my books. They are companions dear. Stealing in worth, in friendship most sincere. The shelves contained only books given to the owner by her friends. There was a little book called "Daily Strength," bound in white and gold. "Dreamlife" and "Reveries of a Bachelor," dressed in white with heart-rose sprayed on their covers, stood side by side. A volume of "Best Tales" stories was in close association with a book by Mark Twain, Langfellow's "Evangeline" and Whit-tier's "Snow Bound" wore twin attire.

Each book had its marked passages and doleful each one had its tender memorials.

Some of the oldest needlework extant was found in Egyptian and Egyptian-Roman tombs—a rough sort of flaxen cloth, like the bath toweling of our own day; it has loops of wool, worked with some kind of needle, raised on one side of the stuff only, and a kind of tapestry partly woven and partly outlined in needlework. The mummies, which an insatiable modern curiosity have disturbed, are wrapped in linen, as less liable than woolen cloth to the ravages of moth, and the art of weaving the flax that grew on the banks of the Nile was probably learned by the Israelites during their sojourn in Egypt. Ezekiel speaks of "fine linen with bordered work from Egypt." Linen seems the natural ground and foundation of all embroidery; it often lasts longer than the work itself, can be cleaned and will not fray or wear out as do more costly silks and satins.

How many mothers, we wonder, realize what an amount of pleasure and health a child can derive from a wee patch of ground that is all his own in which to plant a few seeds and carry on the gardening until some old-fashioned flowers bloom forth as the result of their childish labor? The brown earth becomes a source of never-ending delight to them. The first green points help them to watch with feverish impatience and in the digging, watering and waiting they learn patience and endurance, besides gaining much from healthy contact with the soil. Remember this, now that the spring time is at hand, present the little folks with a garden, help them in the selection of the seeds and see if there was ever anything that produced greater results from so small an outlay.

It is now American babies who are commending themselves to foreign eyes. An Englishwoman visiting this country writes home for publication: "You could not imagine anything more quaintly delightful than American small children and babies. They, up to 4, wear the dearest little blue caps of all colors, but generally white—the queerest, prettiest clothes—all just touching the ground. It is easy to see where Kate Greenaway got her models for her quaint pictures. They are exactly here. Then the baby carriages—nothing approaching our elegant perambulators. They are all of either bent wood or good wickerwork, yellowish white, like bamboo, and open work all around, on perfect springs, and most of them rock up and down when being wheeled, and have fixed, large parasols overhead in all colors and pretty devices. Half lying under this bright shade is a round-faced, pale, very pretty, piquant baby with unusually dark eyes, with an expression in them as if there was nothing they didn't know; a tiny white silk cap on its tiny head; rings secured to its wrists by a ribbon on its fat fingers; the faintest white pillows, white fancy coverlets over its little body and an air of cushions and coziness about it. Such is the American baby."

Fashion Notes.

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In making the new dress skirts tailors and dressmakers appear to perform a bit of magic, for while fitting the hips without gore or plait they suddenly expand and flare outward at the feet, where they measure many yards in circumference.

Black kid gloves have buttons and stitching of purple, and the newest are in purple kid, stitched with white or black. Black suede is fashionable with white stitching, and all light tans and grays have black.

Flowers which have no counterparts in nature are seen among new artificial blossoms, and conspicuously noticeable are those which present the many tones of redish purple observable in the cineraria species.

The new hop sacking is admirably adapted for summer wear as it is loosely woven and cool. The woollens of the season are light and at the same time durable, many of them being almost as cool as the summer silks.

Pale gray tube linen is now used for walking flannels. This is rendered charming when pink floral decorations are employed, and an added touch of beauty may be given by the introduction of pink china.

There are two occasions in a girl's life when white is the most appropriate thing she can wear. There are many times when it is the most becoming thing for her, but nearly every girl who has even the tiniest shade of sentiment in

her disposition wants to wear white when she graduates and white—all white—when she marries.

The latest thing in mutton-leg sleeve is larger, wider and fuller than it has been. It is not only plaited at the arm size but also at the elbow, on the outside and inside of the arm, to give it the desired draped effect.

Rod denim, which verges on a rich shade of "old rose," is the latest for sofa, couch, pillows and drapery. A divan fitted up in this goods, with the pillows embroidered in white, presents a peculiarly pretty effect.

In millinery, black hats for the moment dominate the mode. Some attractive black hats are trimmed with a fine imitation of old point lace variously arranged on brim and crown. Yellow flowers, also petunia-color blooms, are effective additions to such hats.

The prettiest blouses now shown at the importing houses are those made of the new tinted silks worn in puffs, with insertions of dainty striped satin. They are finished with great spreading wing-like revers or bretelles of lace or chiffon, and they cost as much as an entire costume of summer work.

In making up skirts of all sorts, except those of rigid materials, it must not be forgotten that only a bias stay fabric should be used. It is out of the question to keep a skirt in perfect shape if the seams are staid with tapes. In spite of all care they will sag on either side of the tape, thus making the skirt into a series of scallops. If worn on a damp day the tape shrinks and increases this annoyance. Some of the most expensive skirts have been entirely remodeled after one or two wearings by following out the mistaken and foolish notion of rigid tapestay pieces.

Feminine Notes.

The grand vizier of Turkey, Djavad Pasha, who has only one wife, is the most envied man in the empire.

When putting away saucers, pots and boilers do not put the lids on closely or they will retain the heavy odor of cookery.

Miss Alice Corbin, daughter of Austin Corbin, is a stylish girl, but not a brilliant beauty. A bright red is a favorite color of hers.

Mrs. Langtry and the duchess of Montrose have joined John Strange Winter's No Crinoline League. The league now numbers over 11,000 members.

The new duchess of Sutherland, one of the youngest women to wear the ducal coronet, is a member of the Writers club and a contributor to literature.

A Seneca, Kan., woman refused to register upon the plea that if her husband had not enough servants to wait for the family she doesn't want to live with him.

Among the incidents attending the session of the Wyoming legislature was the defeat of a republican named Bartlett for the clerkship of the house by Mrs. Bartlett, his wife.

Miss Nellie Peffer, daughter of United States Senator Peffer of Kansas, has been appointed secretary of her father's committee, formed to investigate certain branches of the civil service.

"Good morning, gentle gossip," used to be the greeting in the days of the divine William. But in those days gossip had a different significance. It meant "God-shy" or "God's neighbor."

Maud Banks, the daughter of General N. P. Banks, is not only a conscientious and painstaking actress, but she is likewise one of the most widely educated and best read young women of the day.

A curious caprice is that of a woman who has made a collection of penny toys, and has scored over 600 trophies. As the penny toys are certainly not made to use, it is possible they are made to be collected.

The chief amusement of Mrs. Hetty Green, the richest woman in America, reminds one of the nursery rhyme of "The King of Hearts"—counting out her money. She spends hours sitting in the vault which holds her securities.

The idea of wearing a waistband so as to promote warmth in the stomach is an old southern idea, sworn by and proved to be good by thousands of people. Keeping the digestive organs at a uniformly warm temperature makes digestion easy and provides against half the ills of humanity.

Miss Frances E. Willard is in a state of health which occasions anxiety to her friends. Her physician says she must have absolute rest for six months; that, if she appears on any public platform before October, the consequences may be serious. All Miss Willard's engagements, therefore, are of necessity canceled.

When you see a woman going along the street with her chin well up and her gaze above that of her fellow mortals don't think she is haughty or exclusive. She is merely practicing the proper walking pose, which dictates that the chin must be "raised above a horizontal line, as if looking at the top of a carriage."

A great amount of ornamentation spoils the effect of the prettiest of children's frocks, and great care should be taken in this respect, for when the girls themselves are much annoyed by the too much befrilled frock, as they feel a constant dread of catching on hooks and nails, always to be found where little ones are playing.

It is a science in itself to pack the waists of a frock, particularly when they are adorned as now, with brilliant bretelles and immense sleeves lined with ermine. If ninety is more of an object than room in the trunk it is well to take tissue paper, crumbling it around these troublesome trimmings, which it will greatly serve to protect.

A Nice Flavoring.—It is known that mixing the extracts of lemon and vanilla makes the nicest of flavoring. To a teaspoonful of the former add a few drops or one-third as much of the latter. The next whipped cream cake you would try it. If you did not know you would call it a new flavoring. It had not tasted, much superior to either alone.

"Take a supply of American rubbers for European use," is the advice of a woman who has suffered through not following it. The gooshies of England are unwearable for feet accustomed to the featherweights of New York shops, and the German thick boots are just as objectionable. Your German friends will exclaim with horror because you wear rubbers, warning you that a list of dreadful diseases will result, but don't be frightened; the list has not resulted, though rubbers are much worn, and the tangible result of well-protected and neatly clad feet on stormy days is more

satisfactory than a lot of chimerical fears.

"That woman," said another as the person to whom she referred passed out of hearing, "is the victim of careless admiration. Some one told her years ago that she had fine teeth, and since then she has cultivated a smile which shall keep them well in evidence. I sometimes wonder if it is not my part as a friend to tell her how wholly the effect of her good teeth is lost in the set grin into which her smile has degenerated to show them."

A young woman suffering from acute inflammation of the eyes complains that visiting friends, through the mistaken notion of sowing contentment by comparison, keep her mentally on the rack with cases of ocular troubles worse than her own. They seem to excite her imagination promptly fix each to her own case, she has become affrighted at the thought of a visitor and exclaims every time the door bell rings: "What new eye horror is in store for me?"

Some people are well known as "pleasant visitors, agreeable to have in the house." They seem to know instinctively just where lies the line which divides a graceful "making one's self at home" from unwarrantable familiarity and freedom in the house of another. Everybody unfortunately does not possess the quick intuition that brings about this happy result. Many a person will avoid many social stumbling blocks when once they have been brought plainly to view.

Speaking of stationary romances one that from Berlin came the command that a new fashion in visiting cards be adopted. When "my lady" now calls at the home of a friend who happens to be absent from her home, she leaves a card of iron, which is now considered more elegant and more chic than the usual ones. This metallic card is of a dead black, on which the name is written in silver. The card is placed in a box which is packed into the card case in double the numbers of ordinary cards.

The aroma of the strawberry is largely lost in cooking, and it should be used fresh wherever it is possible to do so. In preserving it is essential to success to can the fruit when luscious and fresh from the garden. Use a variety of berry that is rich flavor—the Wiesbaden preserves, who are more successful with strawberries than any one else, do not allow their berries to cook more than a moment. They fill the cans with fresh fruit and set them in a large kettle containing water just hot enough to bear the hand. There should be a wooden rack in the bottom of the boiler and cloth should be packed around the jars to prevent their touching each other. When they begin to boil the German preservers watch them and as soon as the berries rise to the mouth of the jar they take them out and cover them with a rich, cold sirup. By this means the plump appearance of the berry as well as its flavor is preserved.

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I FELT MEAN.

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I TOOK SALTS.

I GOT LEAN.

Handsome Women Can Lose Weight Fast. Homely Men Look Better if Thin. Try Dr. Edison's System. No Dieting.

Band worth Twice the Money.

Office of H. M. Burton, Hardware, Cary Station, Ill., Jan. 14, 1893.

Dr. Edison—Dear Sir: I am well pleased with your treatment of obesity. The band is worth twice the money it cost for comfort. I have reduced my weight ten pounds. I weigh 235 now, and I did weigh 345.

H. M. BURTON

They Are Doing Me Good.

Carville, Ill., May 18, 1892.

Loring & Co. Inclosed find \$2.00 for which please send me the other two bottles of the obesity pills. As taking the fourth bottle and feel very better and weigh 13 pounds less than when I began taking them. I will continue your treatment.

MRS. J. C. MCCOY

South Sixth Street.

Feel Better and Weigh 13 Pounds Less

Goshen, Ind., Sept. 16, 1892.

Gentlemen: Inclosed I send you \$1. for which you will please send me three bottles of the obesity pills. As taking the fourth bottle and feel very better and weigh 13 pounds less than when I began taking them. I will continue your treatment.

MRS. J. C. MCCOY

South Sixth Street.

An individual whose height is

5 feet 1 inch should weigh 155 pounds

5 feet 2 inches " " " 160 "

5 feet 3 inches " " " 165 "

5 feet 4 inches " " " 170 "

5 feet 5 inches " " " 175 "

5 feet 6 inches " " " 180 "

5 feet 7 inches " " " 185 "

5 feet 8 inches " " " 190 "

5 feet 9 inches " " " 195 "

5 feet 10 inches " " " 200 "

5 feet 11 inches " " " 205 "

5 feet 12 inches " " " 210 "

5 feet 13 inches " " " 215 "

5 feet 14 inches " " " 220 "

5 feet 15 inches " " " 225 "

5 feet 16 inches " " " 230 "

5 feet 17 inches " " " 235 "

5 feet 18 inches " " " 240 "

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