

Women's Main.

FRENCH FASHIONS.

Dazzling Parisian Hats and Charming Novelties in Fur.

"Hats have grown wide to preserve the tunities," said oracularly M. Carlier, the well known modiste of the Avenue de l'Opera, Paris. "The movement was inevitable to keep pace with the sleeves. Measured by past seasons, today's hats, you may say, are enormous, but not over today's gowns they are perfect and they are moderate. All is by comparison. Do I make myself clear?"

It was a pretty illustration of how dress, as well as pictures, follow the laws of art. If one part of the composition, as the sleeve top, reaches out beyond the old outline, the straightaway a new outline must be imagined, and this new imaginary outline must be touched from point to point by other members reaching out, as the skirt edge, the hair, the hat, to form to the eye an agreeable continuity. The dress artist works like the landscape artist. Unity, harmony, simplicity are his laws and beauty is his end.

"But I will tell you of something immoderate," pursued the milliner. "It would be to get over these wide sleeves a hat tall and narrow. The result would be a frightful discord. A woman would be turned into a Latin cross. No, the hats of today are not enormous, they are only large," he said, and indicated a superb creation on whose ample crown a bird reared with wings deployed some twenty inches from tip to tip, and another whose knot of ribbons would not be spanned by a two-foot rule. The white I tried to understand all that and is not in an adjective. The extremes at least lie close together, for if the crown of the hat is broad too small the hats worn in Paris

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BODICES AND WRAPS.

Some Exquisite Flower-Like House Waists Worn by Smart Women.

As winter festivities continue to unfold themselves and afternoon tea and other modest home functions become more and more patronized the fancy waist grows in favor and loveliness.

It is always so much less difficult to successfully accomplish half a costume than a whole toilet. Now that the new hybrid art of growing half a dozen materials and as many colors into the same garment has come in, the woman of wit and a well supplied scrap bag sees before her possibilities for a combination of economy and splendor never known before.

Velvet, silk, lace, chiffon, fur and jet or pamestomere are often seen piled together on a single slight body, and yet the result is not the hopeless jumble it would seem.

Far from it, indeed, for judiciously composed, with a proper blending of tone and stuffs, this late freak of fashion is a thing of pure and becoming loveliness.

At a late afternoon tea given in a tiny but very elegant uptown apartment a bodice was seen that many quoted as a faithful exponent of this strange flower millinery. It began with a short round trim of dim art red Liberty velvet—a charming and lux-

Likewise French women start in the season with an attempt at jackets, but after a few tentatives the jacket disappears; the carriers make them, but nobody wears them. French women do not like jackets, which have too much a look of utility; French style does not assimilate them. This season's bolting is different, however, very quickly bobbed off short at the waist line, leaving a sleekish bodice or a figaro, as you please, or a vest, as the French say. This is a close-fitted, single or double breasted, with a vest perhaps of astrakhan hooked up close to the throat with a collar band and decorated with large tortoise shell buttons. A silk blouse may possibly be worn under it, but not a bodice; it is too close. This garment suits exactly the French idea; it has no long, sedate lines in it; it is a plump look to the figure; there is something staccato in it; it is, in fine, chic. Also it is a garment perfectly formed for active sports, for skating, bicycling and so on, which recommends it to fit de siecle women in general. Add to it a velvet skirt, a muff to match and a big hat, and there is formed out of the most charming costumes of the season, worth half a dozen long jackets in effect of vivacity and style.

For ceremonious dress, long jackets are made, but they are a frequent of velvet, matching in color a silk, or satin, or cloth skirt with revers and collar fur-faced. These have the effect of being magnificent occasions which is another matter, and not the everyday affair of the coquette.

Fur capes are very fashionable and expensive, also. They are nearly half-length and very full and have a shawl collar of silver or black fox. Victorines of sable are one of the greatest elegances, cut not wide and droopingly sedate, as in our grandmother's day, but abridged and full of frivolous go-fits, with ends that reach the foot. Let over balloon sleeves trimmed round at the wrist and wear at a distance somewhat the look of a pair of scissors. This scissors effect is the quintessence of style.

Quantities of small animal skins entire are used for trimmings. Apparently the slaughter of beasts to furnish forth the gown rivals that of birds to decorate the hat, but it is explained that these innumerable little animals are manufactured, so far towards creation have the furrers gone. Certain gowns look like the skins of a tiger or a leopard after the day's hunt; heads and tails follow each other in procession round the skirt, are knotted up into rosettes and occupy every point of view as an ornament. For a boy, one beast does not suffice, two are fastened together, the tails hanging down the back and the heads crossed in front. But these things pass the boundaries of taste and are only mentioned to show the blow of the wind. Little beasts are fashionable, but to be effective they must be used judiciously. As in the following costume made for the Princess C—sky. It is a gown of violet cloth, deep violet velvet and sable. The skirt has the front breadth trimmed round at the hem with fur and a band of chenille passementerie, and is buttoned from the belt down on each side with three iridescent smoked pearl buttons. A triangular plait of the velvet is set in between the front and side gores. The back breadth is bordered round and up the sides like the front. High-necked bodice of the velvet and over it a low-necked bodice of the cloth, slightly bouffant in front over a velvet belt. The neck rounds up toward the shoulders and is edged with a head of a little beast, the fur of a strap over the shoulder. A tippet round the neck furnishes a third head and the muff is ornamented with heads and tails.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Some of the Holiday Novelties Now Appearing in the Shops.

The shops are filled with Christmas wares and gifts for the Yule tide. Naturally the rush is not as great as it will be later on, for most women love to procrastinate about these things, looking and deliberating to their heart's content before buying. Where the purse is slim and friends are many, and presents must be given, this matter of selection is a very serious question. It is rather a growing tendency to run over some of the many novelties that are brought out two weeks beforehand.

Books there are in abundance. The latest works in the newest bindings, barring, of course, sensational literature, it being an unwritten law of the etiquette of giving that volumes easily obtainable in paper cover for 17 or 20 cents are not suitable for presents. And books should be selected with more care than a silver set.

Silver, it seems, remains the favorite metal in which to make up into dozens of charming articles. The well known devices for toilet articles are all there, with the addition of a brush cleaner. This little affair is constructed of silver, with a curly comb, with repoussé handle; it serves to scratch out dust which lodges in the bristles and should be so speedily dislodged in a brush. It obviates the necessity for frequent washing, a process that does not tend to strengthen the hold of the metal back to the bristles.

Ink bottles are made after a new device this year. The receptacle proper is smaller, if anything, but mounted in a bottle of cut glass as large as a small carafe, with immense silver stoppers, the whole setting on a round silver of the same metal.

But there are a host of smaller and less expensive articles. For men, there are silver-mounted corks, invaluable when traveling, for preserving the bouquet of wines. Still, silver bouquet holders that remain invisible on the outside of a coat lapel, superb pipes heavily encased with filigree, or inlaid with coral, new creations applied to silver, many cases with admirable copies of famous pictures in bas-relief.

For the domestic girl novelties in the way of spoon rests, of silver or tortoise shell, fashioned. Matching these are emerys in fruit patterns, mounted on metal and accompanied by long, silver bodkin holders. These are decorated with the most beautiful pictures in bas-relief.

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diamonds and rubies, and the effect on a dark gown, was very pleasing.

The jewelers are adopting this fancy of a faceted crown, and the preference of those who desire to have their time piece, an evidence.

The crown is fashioned of slender gold wire, holding in place a double circle of base is a sapphire, from which depends the tiny watch, and bear in mind that all time pieces should be just as insignificant as the watch itself. The crown is of course these increase from \$5 to \$10 in price for every hair breadth taken off their circumference, but it is always a more laborious feat to make a miniature than a large portrait.

One of these small affairs has been fashioned by a leading jeweler to wear as a ring. The face is a measuring piece, and the hands some sapphire. Its price is double that of an ordinary watch.

A dead gold crab, who seems to have infiltrated with his cousin—the oyster—and sent to the surface, his claws dripping with pearls, is another of the unique designs. A gaudy woman who has succeeded in him a grand general idea, about about about he has artfully wound his "feelers," will be used to clutch the watch of a fashionable woman after Christmas, and an Etrescan gold dragon, whose eyes are diamonds and whose scales are emeralds, will form another gift to ornament the lapel of a woman's coat.

Not so expensive as these, but exquisite in detail, are the very new month's chainettes. These are shield shaped and enameled. The body is usually of Pompeian red with the zodiac signs of her birth month raised in dull gold or jewels on its surface. These come from \$10 to \$15, and are considered the very correctest chainettes to wear.

However, should one wish to be distinctly smart, after the fashion of these Fifth avenue women, who use for their jewelry money in a quiet way, one will fasten to their smart tailor gown, not a jeweled pin, but a small black silk bow, not over two inches long, which will have a perfect catch at the top by a gold safety pin. These cost only \$7, but their neatness is their great charm.

Buckles remain the favorite ornament. For every conceivable part of feminine apparel are they constructed. A round dozen is not considered superfluous worn by a well-dressed woman. They nestle in the hat, do the collar, confine the cuffs, outline the belt, until very no knight of old possessed more when in the field than a dozen buckles. They are in the form of miniatures surrounded by jewels and half moons of rhine stones. For simple use some new ones of conventional shapes are being made. These will be placed especially on the broad necker belts which are used as girdles for house bodices.

Some young girls who are fond of mementoes are getting brass sword belts from military admirers and wearing them in a polished condition, heavily monogrammed. They are decidedly the mode for the moment. The round buckles has disappeared with the double bow knot chainette. Diamond shaped or square shaped buckles are being made. Every one is being superseded by the old-fashioned long side buckle. It is in this make one sees the elaborate, expensive stone work.

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DECORATIVE BODICES.

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der and was of flame red—that wicked, glittering, affected by Mr. Irving's philosophy. The third, seated in sedate dignity was of bouffant brocade with revers, collar and cuffs of belt of most green antique velvet.

The opulent blacks that follow have none of the inexpensive elements that mark the two first waists, but they might serve as comforters—also Indian models for less costly materials. The long one is of heavy coral pink cloth, with a magnificent sable lining and border—edge. The shorter one, which made its appearance at a dance a pair of nights ago, is of maize satin, embroidered with gold and jet, with a border of black fur and a heavy muffling scarf of white chiffon.

As to the plain black skirt of silk or satin, the inevitable accompaniment of the fancy bodice, it is a thing to be left entirely to skilled fingers. Otherwise, though cut on the same prescribed lines of the most modish confections, like Ophelia's rose, alas, it is "worn with a difference." Unexpected sagging and floundering bulging will mar it somewhere; and so it is with gratitude that one turns to a certain little silk skirt in black and color now being adopted.

These skirts are found in the shops in hemmed and sewed up patterns, and need only a band and waist shaping to make them over haircloth petticoats the perfection of comfort for semi-dress wear.

NINA FITCH.

CHATELAINES AND BUCKLES.

New Fashions in Jewels that Will Be Much in Evidence.

At the recent horse show, where the first fashions of the season are displayed, it was observed that the newest watch chateaines were elaborately jeweled crowns. Mrs. John Jacob Astor wore one such studded with

diamonds and rubies, and the effect on a dark gown, was very pleasing.

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The crown is fashioned of slender gold wire, holding in place a double circle of base is a sapphire, from which depends the tiny watch, and bear in mind that all time pieces should be just as insignificant as the watch itself. The crown is of course these increase from \$5 to \$10 in price for every hair breadth taken off their circumference, but it is always a more laborious feat to make a miniature than a large portrait.

One of these small affairs has been fashioned by a leading jeweler to wear as a ring. The face is a measuring piece, and the hands some sapphire. Its price is double that of an ordinary watch.

A dead gold crab, who seems to have infiltrated with his cousin—the oyster—and sent to the surface, his claws dripping with pearls, is another of the unique designs. A gaudy woman who has succeeded in him a grand general idea, about about about he has artfully wound his "feelers," will be used to clutch the watch of a fashionable woman after Christmas, and an Etrescan gold dragon, whose eyes are diamonds and whose scales are emeralds, will form another gift to ornament the lapel of a woman's coat.

Not so expensive as these, but exquisite in detail, are the very new month's chainettes. These are shield shaped and enameled. The body is usually of Pompeian red with the zodiac signs of her birth month raised in dull gold or jewels on its surface. These come from \$10 to \$15, and are considered the very correctest chainettes to wear.

However, should one wish to be distinctly smart, after the fashion of these Fifth avenue women, who use for their jewelry money in a quiet way, one will fasten to their smart tailor gown, not a jeweled pin, but a small black silk bow, not over two inches long, which will have a perfect catch at the top by a gold safety pin. These cost only \$7, but their neatness is their great charm.

Buckles remain the favorite ornament. For every conceivable part of feminine apparel are they constructed. A round dozen is not considered superfluous worn by a well-dressed woman. They nestle in the hat, do the collar, confine the cuffs, outline the belt, until very no knight of old possessed more when in the field than a dozen buckles. They are in the form of miniatures surrounded by jewels and half moons of rhine stones. For simple use some new ones of conventional shapes are being made. These will be placed especially on the broad necker belts which are used as girdles for house bodices.

Some young girls who are fond of mementoes are getting brass sword belts from military admirers and wearing them in a polished condition, heavily monogrammed. They are decidedly the mode for the moment. The round buckles has disappeared with the double bow knot chainette. Diamond shaped or square shaped buckles are being made. Every one is being superseded by the old-fashioned long side buckle. It is in this make one sees the elaborate, expensive stone work.

In the case of the watch, one sees a new colored display of "crystalins." The material of velvet chiffon satin, is gathered into full ends, to show off the exquisite ornamentation of the watch. Every one is being jeweled buckle is devised and of every price. Some of the particularly "dressy" ones have bars of rhine stones buckled into the velvet and are fastened to the wrist. They are going to be worn about the throat with decollete gowns after the most approved French fashion.

Of rings there is little new to say.

The yellow diamond mounted with the white, the \$10,000 ruby for the one who can afford it, are all precisely as last season. A pretty bracelet of three inches. These are set in three diamonds form the base of a fleur-de-lis, the stone flower supplied by a large-cut stone, usually a sapphire. The setting extends nearly to the knuckles.

three other bodices that are certainly worthy mention. Two were of Italian crepe, which is crinkled like a mourning veil, and is a late bargain in diaphanous stuffs.

In our mothers' time these crisp, sparkling wares were expensive luxuries, but today, in tones that rival the rainbow itself, they can be bought and don't despise them in consequence, for they are exceedingly effective—as low as 25 cents a yard! The bodice pouring tea with the huge sleeves wrinkled on the forearms and dotted midway by a sugar-brown velvet bow of Indian meal yellow.

The one standing next it shone in the shaded candle light with an almost liquid charm. It was made entirely of its own material, with double puff sleeves and suspender-like pieces dragged over the shoulders.

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