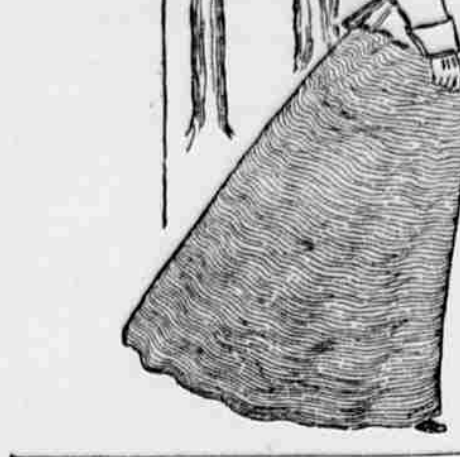


CHRISTMAS 1895 WOMAN'S PAGE



HOLIDAY FASHION.

Some Novel and Adorable Follies of the Toilet.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—In the pictures here shown are demonstrated some of fashion's latest wrinkles in details of the toilet. The one in headgear, as can be seen, runs to pure folly. As far as utility goes there is neither rhyme nor reason in big hats for winter use; but even the most hardened dress reformer could scarcely deny the adorable becomingness of some of the big chapeaux now worn.



FRONT OF SATIN WITH SPANGLED EMBROIDERIES.

and breadth of brim. Large oval heads, with paste gems forming the big ringed eyes, are also seen, and combine effectively with green and brown. STYLES ILLUSTRATED. The hat in the background of the cut is realized in these colors and decorated with owl heads.

FOR THE CARRIAGE AND COLLS. A stunning carriage hat just imported for a Virginia belle is most worthy of a place in the memory. It is not illustrated, but a clever woman who has any notion of millinery, can easily reproduce it from description, and at one-fifth the cost of the gorgeous original.



A NEW STOCK.

of black Brussels net of a tulle-like fineness and with a two-inch hem outlined all around with a jet thread. This, in wearing, wrapped around the throat until the chin was almost hidden, and the hat raised low on the head with the effect of a very big crown and was tilted slightly forward.

considered desirable. It is made tiny gilt spangles, with a green of white satin sewn all over with velvet stock, and a green satin band down the front. This band, which is thickly set with Rhinestones and emeralds, is outlined with a narrow row of paillettes in shaded green and blue.

In the most effective cases the fronts narrow V-shape to the waist. There they are gathered evenly into the waistband, but without the old pouch look so long in favor. A petunia cloth coat lately seen had chinchilla revers and a jeweled front of especial magnificence.

The foundation was the white satin, which is always used, and over this hung a second of white net, closely embroidered with pearls, amethysts and purple paillettes. A round yoke, that had a low neck effect on the satin foundation, and ending in sharp points that fastened into the waistband, was the shape of the net covering.

To show the full effect of these the front was wider at the neck than common. A white satin choker completed the throat; and around this was wound three times a long rope of pearl beads—a real pearl necklace—that fastened into the waistband, and in the little neck fixing given is shown a new thing in stocks worn by very up-to-date matrons.

For this purpose one of the chameleon or Persian ribbons is generally chosen, in a three-inch width, and a yard and half length. The ribbon is divided evenly in half, the middle pinned at the throat in front, the ends carried around to the back, then crossed and brought to the front again. At this point there is a second pinning, and the ends are doubled like a man's tie and made into a small bow; a handsome stick-pin holds this steady, and a smaller one, with a jeweled tip, connects by a tiny chain and thrust in the stock at the left.

The whole effect of such that it can be accomplished at the small expense is certainly in its favor. In the way of foot gear society devotees have had a stroke of sense due to the fashionable favor bestowed upon golf. All the boots now worn by elegant women are distinguished by a thickness of leather and comfort of size very Scotch in tendency and seem to promise much in the way of health.

Indeed, so solidly sensible are the boots the best people are wearing, that the proverbial feminine of French heels and pasieboard soles is almost a person to be looked at askance. The new walking boots are of calfskin with projecting soles, and a last on the pliability principle.

The toes are either pointed or round and trimmed with perforated tip. The edges of the foxing is also perforated, and though flat heels are in vogue, where height is desired a pitched military heel is admissible. These boots are both buttoned and laced.

and long laced one, made in the same way, for cycling, has uppers of soft elastic kid and the shank shaved down to be as flexible in movement as a glove. These are commonly made to order and cost \$7 the pair up. NINA FITCH.

CHRISTMAS DELICACIES.

Things that Lead an Air of Novelty to the Holiday Dinner. The Christmas dinner specialty supplied this year by confectioners comes in the form of illuminated leas. Electricity and tiny crystal lamps are employed when a caterer arranges the holiday feast, but any hostess can contrive to serve illuminated leas at her Christmas dinner by using bid room tapers.

turn the tomato jelly, when cold, into a salad bowl, head round it shredded celery and pour over jelly and celery a liberal supply of either rich mayonnaise or cream salad dressing, and serve with small salt crackers.

Fruit is the awkwardest of courses to serve unless taken in the right way. In place of passing an unstable tower of grapes, etc., from timid guest to guest, who fears to bring down the whole structure by taking one piece, a single fruit, as grapes for example, can be prepared after a most tempting and comfortable fashion. Heap finger glasses or deep, old-fashioned dessert saucers with ice pushed as fine as snow, pick off some fifteen or twenty grapes for each saucer, imbued them a few moments before serving in the ice and set the saucer at every individual's plate.



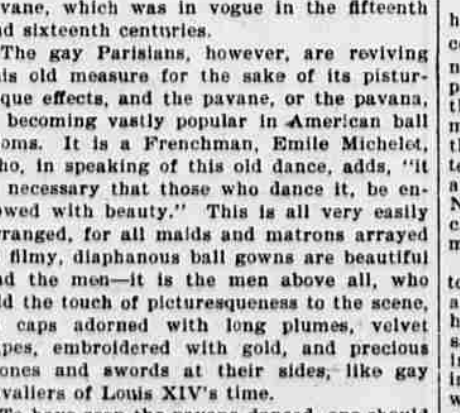
EFFECTS OF THE NEW HATS.

wonderfully savory dish. A large, fat haunch of this meat should be stuffed with a rich compound of rice, sage, spices, etc. It must then be basted as it roasts. When cut the round slices will prove as tender as turkey, and rich with streaks of the spicy dressing. When nuts arrive plouffe may be given the coffee on this holiday occasion by passing a small bottle of sweet cream d'yaquette cordial to the guests, with instructions to try a half teaspoonful in their cups.

Liquid violets could not lend a more fairy-like flavor to the coffee, while to toast the day and its sentiments let the hostess mix the simplest of punches right at the table, calling it champagne cup. She will need only the contents of one quart bottle of champagne in a bowl with two of seltzer, a glass of sherry, a strip of two of cucumber peel, a few drops of green mint, a bowl of crushed ice and a dash of lemon juice. This is mild enough for the very young folks, but of sufficient flavor for older palates and cheerful enough in which to drink old Father Christmas down with a roasting good will.

GAY CHRISTMAS DANCES.

French Figures that are Popular at Smart Parties. The rage in smart Parisian salons, at present, is the old and graceful dance called la



GOLFING, CALLING AND WALKING SHOES.

favane, which was in vogue in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The gay Parisians, however, are reviving the old measure for the sake of its picturesque effects, and the pavane, or the pavane, is becoming vastly popular in American ball rooms. It is a Frenchman, Emile Michelet, who, in speaking of this old dance, adds, "It is necessary that those who dance it, be endowed with beauty." This is all very easily arranged, for all maids and matrons arrayed in filmy, diaphanous ball gowns are beautiful and the man—the man above all, who add the touch of picturesqueness to the scene, in caps adorned with long plumes, velvet crests, embroidered with gold, and precious stones and swords at their sides, like gay cavaliers of Louis XIV's time.

usual height, meanwhile giving a turn to his partner to whirl her around to his left side. In the third figure—glissade—both cross hands and perform backward glissades, or sliding steps, the hand guiding to the left to describe half a circle, and the lady to the left, to also make a half circle.

The sixth figure is a gay basque step—one foot to the partner, the other to the left to describe half a circle, and the lady to the left, to also make a half circle. The grand circle forms the next figure, when all the couples make a circle, with faces turned outward and balance forward and backward.

For the eighth or last figure the men join hands, while their partners turn round, each man starting from the right side. This ends the dance. It is very gay and very charming, and one who has seen the dance cannot wonder that all Paris is taken captive by the graceful pousse-pied de la Reine, which is in evidence at every smart dance. At the end of the evening all the company join hands in the jolly farandole, which the artist has pictured

so cleverly; and it is a rollicking, merry ending to a happy evening. FAIR-SAMARITANS. Good Work of Famously Rich and Beautiful Women. With scarcely an exception the girls whose coming-out teas and frocks and daily doings are faithfully chronicled are women who devote almost as much time and attention to their charities as they do to their gowns.

For instance, Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt celebrates her birthdays in most charming fashion. She invites a party of girls belonging to the Friendly society to spend the afternoon with her. Luncheon is provided, spread forth as daintily with flowers and fruits as though the supervision of this unique account book, but within the last year or two it has passed into Miss Gertrude's keeping and the task that she has set herself is no sinecure.

One can fancy how large these charitable donations must be from the fact, in connection with one item alone, that the number of servants is never less than thirty. Every Monday morning for the last year or two Miss Alice Shepard, now Mrs. David Hennen Morris, has spent the hours from 9 till 12 at the librarian's desk at the Young Woman's Christian association. Her duties for the time are to relieve the librarian from the monotonous task of charging the books of members who call. Mrs. Morris is on the library committee, and she not only gives her money but her time to the association.

Mrs. Morris is also interested in tenement house work and in conjunction with her cousin, Miss Lila Sloane, employs a trained nurse to look after the babies of a thickly populated district in the slums. The report that Mrs. Morris sends each week to the Y. W. C. A., and which she makes personally during the winter, Miss Sloane declares is more interesting to her than a novel, and often when a modest lady gives much of her time to good work in the most unobtrusive way, and all the poor with whom she comes in contact have reason to bless her. She does not satisfy herself by merely giving money to institutions nor does she simply give alms to individuals. She makes herself acquainted with families in distress for the purpose of assisting them in the best possible way.

Pretty Mrs. Leonard Spencer is also much interested in the noble work carried on at St. George's, and once a month during the winter she presides at a mother's meeting and gives words of cheer and comfort to the members. Mrs. Jack Astor has a particular weakness for bookmaking, so she says, and upon all holiday occasions, Christmas, Easter and birthdays in her family, they are remembered and feasted at her expense. Mrs. Astor has also done much at Francife, her country

place on the Hudson, in establishing sewing schools for girls. FASHIONABLE DRESSMAKERS. Some Facts About Those Who Cater to the Latest Fashions. West Thirty-fifth street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, is one of the greatest resorts of society women in New York, owing to the fact that here reside no less than twenty-five fashionable dressmakers. To the uninitiated, says a writer in the New York Ledger, there would seem to be merely a great number of afternoon and morning calls going on, as the "swell" to patronize and the dressmaker to describe half a circle, and the lady to the left, to also make a half circle.

Some of these establishments are furnished with signs, but the majority, who pride themselves on the exclusiveness of their trade, disdain this method of attracting attention, and there is nothing to distinguish their establishments from private residences. These are the dressmakers who cater to the wealthy and fashion of New York City, the "Four Hundred" so-called. The Astor family alone employ two or three for it is quite the correct thing for a society woman to distribute her patronage, so as not to be known by the cut of her gowns, and in order to avail herself of several styles of novelties.

In order to obtain entrance into one of these establishments a letter of introduction, if perhaps not absolutely necessary, is expected to be presented, and this is merely something more than frigid attention and a well-bred stare as you make your way known. You must have evidence to show that you expect to patronize, and that to an unlimited extent, else you are not wanted. "Transients" are not desired. Neither is a customer supposed to "haggle" or even to question the price of the garment she is there to select. The dressmaker is supposed to have carte blanche. If she has not she loses interest. For a true artist in the line cannot be expected to do herself down to a mere matter of dollars and cents. Find fault afterward if you like, when it is too late, but never before. You will lose by it, and the artist will suffer. It is said that the wife of one of New York's best millionaires invariably chops \$2 or \$3 on every bill rendered her, and the dressmaker knowing it, invariably adds \$2 or \$3 in order to make up her economy.

In many of these dressmaking establishments there is nothing to indicate that dressmaking is the chief business. There is merely a reception room, where customers are received and their wishes made known. The work is done in a different part of the house, to which the customer is conducted when the time for trying on arrives. Many of the best establishments, however, use a part of the reception room for a saleroom, where samples of beautiful dresses are shown to the would-be customer. It is not generally known, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that these dressmakers receive from abroad, Paris or Berlin or elsewhere, particular dress patterns for which they pay the most fabulous prices. These patterns cannot be bought in any store nor can they be duplicated by the dressmakers. Each dressmaker has her own separate and distinct patterns and there is an agreement entered into by the manufacturers that there shall be no similar designs manufactured for sale in the open market until two years after the sale to the original purchaser. The goods having been ordered from France or Germany, as the case may be, are shipped and duties paid by the consignee, who makes a charge for the same in his bill. In the Easter season of 1891, great havoc was created among the dressmakers by the fact that the goods which were sent them by their foreign houses to be made up for the spring trade were held up by the customs officers. The dressmakers, in consequence, were unable to get their goods until two years after the date of their purchase. The dressmakers and representatives of the manufacturers are now endeavoring to have the goods released until late in May—too late to be of any use for the season.

Some of the dressmakers and representatives of the manufacturers are now endeavoring to have the goods released until late in May—too late to be of any use for the season. A fluffy fur collar makes the outlines of the face look softer. Big buttons and enormous plaids make a little woman look smaller. The latest caprice in a pin for a chateaine which is a jeweled comb.

Silver mounted suspenders make admirable Christmas gifts for men. Dresden powder puff boxes are dainty. Boudoir sets in this ware are pretty. Slender crescents of diamonds or pearls are daintily finished in brooches, rings or pendants.

Stole accents in bear, mink and sable are stylish and make fine adjuncts to cloth jackets. Figured stuffs, brocades, arabesques, stamped velvet and their like are very popular. Costumes for women with tastes for outdoor pastimes are trimmed with chamois skin and leather.

The short cape is a universal favorite on account of the ease with which it goes on over big sleeves. There is a revival of guipure lace this season. In the finer laces the various members of the point family are in evidence.

Silver receptacles for vases, bottles or pretty additions to toilet table appointments and are useful as well as ornamental. High standing collars of velvet trimmed with applique lace or jeweled trimming, which have been popular in shape, are a feature of many of the new gowns.

The Empire fan has captured popular favor and is classed among the especially desirable gifts for debutantes in particular and women in general. Wide, gauntlet cuffs, deeply slashed and heavily buttoned, are common. They have a military aspect wholly at variance with what has been supplied by the foot ball man. It is not a question of beauty in either case, but a mere being off with the old love and on with the new.

The little accessories of dress are more tempting and varied than ever before, and small caps, large collars, ruffs and fichus of every imaginable description are displayed in great profusion. Then there are innumerable little under bodies of silk and chiffon, satin and lace, which can be worn with open-fronted coats.

Waists, so cut as to run diagonally, are not a fad, but they hold their respectable own as they have always done. When used they are big with showy lines of red and blue and green with white, and they generally have a relief of darker cloth and garniture of fur or velvet. The osprey again waves over the bonnets of the fair, and the wimple appears to be leaving its place to the comb. One of the new scop shawl shapes is a "combine" of osprey and ostrich, ribbon of felt, edged with wide velvet or with narrower ribbons, emphasized at intervals by big silver buckles. The newest thing in veils is distinctly bizarre. It is of black net, close meshed with flower sprays of white applique lace, the lower part of the veil in cascade fashion, and a border of the same lace. It is new and modish, but most unbecoming. The white aprons have the most unbecoming trick of invariably coming in the most undesirable places. A very pretty novelty for tea-gowns is velvet, printed with a cashmere pattern in blue. It is to be had with various colored make, it is being used in quantities by the Paris dressmakers. Fur borders are the only trimming for bodices, though play velvet or satin may be put with it for contrast. Skirts with exaggerated fullness are fast going out of fashion, and those with seven gored and not more than five yards around the bottom are the popular cut with women who dress well. The superfluous amount of cloth which adds the extra one or two yards more gives a clumsy rather than a graceful effect, and it is not considered artistic, and many of the new skirts measure only four and a half yards.

but it is varied in so many ways by the trimming that there seems to be unusual diversity in the cut of sleeves. The close coat sleeve with a short, full puff at the top prevails in many of the latest gowns, but the present style of sleeve is so comfortable that it will require time and persistent effort to cast it from favor. FEMININE NOTES. The Princess Beatrice is now engaged in publishing a volume of her own musical compositions. The woman's department of the Atlanta exposition is visited daily by 15,000 people who attend the women's congresses. Queen Amelia of Portugal attended the company her son, the young King Carlos, when he attends the national sport, bull fighting. Miss Marie Tempest is an adept at chafing dish cooking. Her repertoire in the oyster line includes serving with the bivalve in twenty-one different styles. Miss Shie, which means Mary Stone, and Ping Yung Cheng are two bright Chinese girls who are studying medicine at the University of Michigan. Sarah Bernhardt's latest fad is ceramics, and she has mastered the art from the famous pottery of the island of Capri, in the oven with the enthusiasm of a girl of 15. The empress of China has a passion for jewels. It was formerly illegal for Chinese women to wear jewels, but the present empress, who is said to have used her influence with Li Hung Chang in regard to the matter. Lady Mary Hamilton-Douglas is only 11 years old, but she is one of the greatest actresses in the world. She is the daughter of the late duke of Hamilton and received from him her large fortune, amounting to an income of about \$900,000 a year. The mother of the king of the Ashantees has been enthroned as queen of that great and powerful African nation. The war party having deposed King Premput, placed his mother upon the throne with all heathenish pomp and festivity. The dowager empress of China has shown herself favorable toward the building by an American syndicate of a railway from tide-water to Peking, China, a distance of 200 miles, and is said to have used her influence with Li Hung Chang in regard to the matter. Mrs. Harry K. Tetsuka, who was the first Chicago girl to marry a Japanese, has her drawing rooms adorned with portraits of over 200 years old, brought from old temples in Japan. Mrs. Tetsuka uses the chopsticks like a native, and is especially fond of Japanese cooking. Rachel Elam, who lately died in Chicago, had lived in that city for over sixty years. Fifty years ago she had advocated the flying of flags over school houses; though long after her patriotic efforts first suggested it, yet she lived to see the stars and stripes floating over every school in her adopted city. Miss Grace Sheldon, who was the only American woman representative of the press at the international convention in Bordeaux, France, states that lady journalists who expect to attend the convention at Buda-Pest next year should review their French, as that is the accepted language of these meetings. Queen Charlotte of Wurtemberg recently had a thrilling experience. While she was going to the theater the horses ran away, throwing the coachman and groom off the box. The queen mounted the box, bent over the dashboard, secured the trailing lines and pulled the horses back upon their haunches until help arrived.

Frau Anna Souron, who was for many years a governess in the family of Count Tolstol, has now written a book contradicting ideas of the celebrated novelist and philosopher. She states that his brotherhood of mankind was all on paper. When a serf appealed to him it was his haughty master and the dependent peasant. The organization of the national council of Jewish women is spreading and its president, Hannah G. Solomon of Chicago, has been invited to address the Illinois Federation of Women. If ever there was any doubt of the success of the "new woman" movement the co-operation of Jewish women removes it. It is the Hebrew instinct to make things go. In Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, the

case of Miss Pearl Barton is attracting a great deal of attention. Miss Barton was fallen into a sleep which, while otherwise normal, has lasted for so many days as to be unusual. When Miss Barton awakes to find herself famous, she will probably conclude that renown was never more easily purchased.

In New York City Mrs. Eva MacDonell Valech has furnished the citizens with an example of the manifold activities of the modern woman. Mrs. Valech is a delegate to a labor congress, a member of a labor union, a convincing speaker, a suffragist, a dress reformer and a good housekeeper. And yet she tells her hearers, in her speeches, that she has had no time in which to educate herself, being the product of the factories.

Miss Sara Bernhardt has broken the record for extravagance in stage dresses. Her latest addition to her theatrical wardrobe cost the most little sum of \$7,500. It is of ivory satin, decorated with diamonds and turquoise, the train being lined with ermine. The skirts of 200 yards were required to line the train, and the turquoise band of the skirt contains 1,800 stones, so it will be seen that Mrs. Bernhardt got her ivory satin gown at a comparative bargain. Queen Victoria is a great admirer of Calve, and has had a bust of the singer executed in marble by Countess Feodora Gleichen for the royal private apartments at Windsor.

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