

IN THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN.

MIDSUMMER FASHIONS.

Suit Water Suits, Tailor Gowns and Youthful Evening Dress.

NEW YORK, May 5.—In spite of war and rumors of wars the dressmakers and milliners are overwhelmed with their spring orders, and firm in the faith that Spanish war ships will not even sight the shores of the traffic in bathing suits is strong and steady. The wholesome policy, with regard to suit water costumes, that grace and charm are most essential to their proper representation is maintained with vigor this season, and from France have been imported some most delectable designs.

At the French watering places a pleasing gaiety of color is characteristic of bathing dresses, and a careful Frenchwoman would never be satisfied to coquette with the ocean in the sober, unbecoming blue flannel tops the average American is content to wear. Perhaps it is the talk of war, or may be just a phase of the infinite variety of feminine taste, but a deal of cheerful red has made its appearance on the bathing dresses. There is a shade of warm cerise flannellette that has caught the popular taste, and in process of making, with a dull sangie tie bouff, black or cream, white braid, for smart and lively bathers.

A close wale, smooth surface serge, recommended as waterproof, is sent out by the manufacturers as a temptation to those who are bound for a summer by the sea. So light and springy is this goods that it does not become water logged, as will the ordinary serge or flannel, and on retreating from the waves the bather, in an instant, is almost as dry as the proverbial duck's back. A clear water green, navy blue and steel blue are some of the colors in which this excellent goods can be bought and what the tailor suits have lost in braiding the bathing dresses have gained.

Covert Coats and Decorations.
The most extensive pearls and frets and floral designs, in broad and narrow braids, of white, black, blue or red, wander ornamentally over the bosomy waists and short petticoats of these water dresses. Occasionally braids of two colors, an red and white for example, are applied to a navy blue serge suit, or a purely white costume will be enhanced by most appropriate wavy lines of narrow turquoise blue woolsen souchette.

There is no exception to the rule of low neck and short sleeves this summer, and yet as the bathing suits have in a way become more elaborate and showy, they are also more sensible of cut. Very few are made with knickerbockers of wool. A fine mohair is used for this purpose, and those who wish to wear a species of skirt when bathing can have their mohair bloomers made a part of the lightly-bound stays.

The majority of good skirts are killed in to the belt so artfully that there is slight bulk about the waist and yet ample fullness at the hem. Nine out of ten skirts are also bifurcated, which adds infinitely to the bather's ease, while the platted folds conceal this arrangement. There are, of course, countless women who along the northern shores persist in wearing in the water the comfortable and dignified mohair dresses. They more than ever, this summer will exercise a fatal attraction since the shops are showing gaudy plaid poplin bathing dresses.

Of course there are charming plaid serges to be had, and passing the vogue of the electric stripes the very water's edge, we see undeniably pretty outfits in all these crisp-cross bands of gaudy color. That is, not only are the skirts and blouses of plaid flannel or mohair, but with these Highland stripes are worn caps of plaid silk and bright stockings. A few of such suits are decorated with fringe, but so bulky a decoration only appeals to the woman who paddles daintily in the salty shallows.

Bathing Hosiery.
Stars and stripes and red and bars, checkerboards and long hose, that, on the counters call for feminine admiration and patronage. Now it has always been an active grievance of the woman bather that unless she wore tight round garters, or a corset with elastic bands, she could not have an approved means of girding on her hose. A stocking all down gyyed, as Hamlets, does not add to one's appearance on the beach, hence many complaints.

Now the manufacturers have graciously fulfilled a mission of great benevolence in offering bathing tights which serve as stockings and bloomers in one, button about the waist and give the limbs great freedom. These are offered in every color and stripe a woman could crave, and surely deserve attention, but many wondering glances are cast at the long lisle thread bathing gloves, that roll up beyond the elbow and are said to be an inspiration of Gallic genius. Excuse me, pretty, however, are the big, red and blue water bonnets of elated silk that come from Paris, and at Trouville and Dieppe, we are told, the smart women will wear stockings having a single digitation. That will be for the great toe, and, through the passage thus opened, delicate threads will be passed and tied about the ankle. These things make fast to the foot after the Japanese fashion, light sandals of cork, and not only will the effect prove coquettish of appearance, but the wearing of such sandals, so they say, is improving to the shape of the foot.

A Long Farewell.
The chief topic of fashionable interest on hand is the extinction of the tailor-made dress. That useful and long-loved costume is no more. Its close, tidy fit, its severe unbroken lines, its dignified and pleasant lack of fussy decoration, all gave it a place in the woman's heart and wardrobe that it occupies no longer. From its noble demise it has fallen, for the mischievous influence of the blouse and ruffle overwhelmed and conquered it.

A brave woman is she who in this day would order a cloth suit, to be trimmed only with stitchings, a few flat, smooth-faced buttons and silk arrow heads at her elbows. Her cloth skirt is half a Spanish flounce, her cloth body has revers faced with rows of woe ruffles, turning back from a breastplate of spangled chiffon; her cuffs are treated with turquoise blue velvet, a circle of jewelry hangs from her waist. As she stands she is fit for an afternoon reception or a ladies' luncheon, and the tailor dress is only a fond recollection.

Styles for Boys.
The eligible age for evening dress with little boys has been lowered to 6 years. Hardly out of kiths, the youngster is allowed to get into white board-bosom shirts, low-cut waistcoat, black unfinished diagonal knee breeches and a satin-faced Tuxedo to match. Until the age of 15 the boy who has a sensible mother wears his knee breeches of an evening and patent leather pumps with black silk hose, a white tie and round white enameled studs and cuff buttons are the adjuncts of this dress, usually seen at children's parties and dancing school. Such an outfit is considered more modest for the little fellows than the elegant Fauntleroy and Louis XV dresses of the blouse of embroidered muslin, with the little braided velvet suits, to which those mothers loving the infantile and picturesque still cling.

For spring wear many boys under 10 are seen in smart hooded military capes, falling over a neck below the waist line, and being with german silver knobs from col-

lar to hem, and faced inside with scarlet. After the first half-score of years have passed the well-dressed boy assumes the dignity of a short box shape covert coat in every detail a miniature copy of the one his father wears, with fly front and four patch pockets on the outside.

Over their first cotton gowns of the season little girls also are wearing short capes that are wonderfully becoming. These are made of cashmere, lined with a gayly colored silk, while their dark blue mixed chevrot reefers are relieved by brilliant coats of arms, embroidered on the sleeves and by dark red cloth cuffs and collars, striped in white braid. Boys and girls alike, for stout play-day suits, wear the invaluable galatea cloth, and in killed skirts and blouse bodices, for an interval at least, the

by a crisp wide taffeta or soft broad-fringed Roman sash. This latter is striped only at the ends, its fringe is full six inches long, and one and all the sashes, after the good old fashion, are tied behind, in big bows with generous loops and ends.

Illustrated Fashions.
A very fair epitome of youthful fashions is given in the accompanying illustration of five little people of both sexes. Of the girls, one wears a charming afternoon dress of pink flowered muslin, showing two narrow ruffles on the foot of the skirt. An oddly shaped yoke of white embroidery fits like a shield over the upper half of the body, and below it a full waist blouses out. Knots of pink taffeta ribbon appear at the point where the ribbon belt hooks and on the shoulders. The sleeves are of embroidered to match the yoke, with small puffs of

serge with a wide blue collar, on which runs a broad banding of white. The sailor collar rolls back to reveal a vest of red, and this in turn is crossed with cords, passing over large white pearl buttons.

A red green flannel, made up with a killed divided skirt and the full waist showing a broad breastplate of white serge, is sketched from a model French bathing dress. On the front of this suit's body run two rows of oyster-shell buttons, being roughly cut and polished from the lining of the very green tinted shells of French oysters.

A symphony in plaids is the third bathing suit given, and this also is a most attractive French pattern. The skirt is simple enough, but the body is the thing. This is made to stimulate two large kerchiefs of plaid mohair tied on the shoulders and at the waist line, thus affording ample blouse and leaving the arms and neck bare.

AN EXAMPLE OF HEROISM.
Valorous Deeds of Women in the
The Bombay Gazette (India) speaks at some length of the heroism displayed by the nurses at the fire which consumed the plague hospitals at Modykhana. Too much credit says the Gazette, cannot be given to the plague staff of all grades, from the ward boys and domestics upward, for the energy and earnestness with which the work of

were leaping around her. A better example could not possibly have been furnished of female heroism than that supplied on that Saturday by these new arrivals from the old country. "We only have what we stand up in," said one of the number when asked whether her property was safe. Their losses include the destruction of their certificates of diploma, but Sir James Campbell has undertaken to write to the authorities at home explaining the circumstances of the loss and asking for duplicate certificates, which will doubtless readily be granted. By direction of the plague committee these women were provided with accommodation at the Esplanade hotel. Several of them were quite unwell yesterday owing to the reaction following on the excitement and danger to which they were exposed on the previous afternoon. The good work performed by Mrs. Roughton—who has for some time past been a volunteer nurse at Modykhana—and by several of the Anglo-Indian nurses also deserve grateful mention.

The war between Greece and Turkey has passed into history and is no more talked of, yet the Greek women have not forgotten the part that American women took in the affair. Their American representative, Solon J. Vlasto, has come recently from Athens to New York, with the commission of conveying the thanks of the Greek women to those who helped them last year. I cannot find language strong enough," Mr. Vlasto says, "to express the feeling of the Greek women for the Americans. During the war the queen publicly expressed her gratitude at the meetings of the union of Greek women; and the president and every one connected with the union begs me to convey their message of thanks to those who so generously helped them.

Since the close of the war the Greek women have continued their organization and are finding plenty to do in caring for widows and orphans and for Thessalian refugees. They recently exported a quantity of Greek goods to London to be sold for the benefit of the refugees at the Greek Bureau of Industries, of which the princess of Wales is patroness. At the suggestion of the king they have also started a fund for the widows and orphans of the war, and his majesty has handed over to them for this purpose \$25,000 from the funds that have been sent to him from different foreign countries for philanthropic uses. Every one, from the king down to his humblest subject, fully recognizes the value of the work the women did during the war, and Mr. Vlasto is of the opinion that it was "more and better" than that of the men.

NURSES FOR THE ARMY.
Women Who Have Been Asked to Enlist by Uncle Sam.
"There are no trained army nurses in this country," said Lieutenant Brown of the surgeon general's staff, when questioned as to the care to be given our wounded soldiers during war with Spain. "It is easy to find two very good reasons for this fact. One is that there has been no inducement to women to enter this branch of the profession. The second reason is that there is no place in this country where women can secure adequate training for army service. The only way in which the government can make sure of a corps of competent nurses on which to rely in time of war is to establish for this purpose a training school, along lines somewhat similar to those followed in the great English hospital at Netley, where for the last forty-five years British army nurses have received their training. This school should be located in the national capital and might be conducted in the same manner as the military academy at West Point. That is to say, the women appointed to the school could be educated at government expense, on condition of giving their services for a term of years. After that if they wished to resign they could do so and would then form a reserve force on which the government could draw in case of war.

"The course in such a school would be divided into hospital and field work—in the hospitals in preparing and applying bandages, treating fevers and other diseases apt to be prevalent in camps, and administering anesthetics; that part of the course devoted to field work to teach the nurses first aid on the battlefield, how to put up a field hospital, etc. For the benefit of the navy a training ship would be provided on which the nurses could become familiar with work on shipboard and with the conditions to be met in sea duty.

"In such a school as is here briefly outlined the nurses must form an integral part of the army and navy, just as the surgeons do now. They would be under military discipline, wear a distinctive army uniform, be eligible to promotion and decoration, and, after a certain length of service, to retirement on pay. After completing their training in the school they could be assigned to the different army posts and hospitals, in order to obtain practical experience.

"As in the case of West Point and Annapolis, such an institution could not but prove of benefit to the army and navy by giving women the most thorough training, a training which many probably would never be able to secure otherwise. The project has been suggested in military circles more than once before, but nothing ever came of it because the lawmaking branch of the government could not see the necessity of such a provision."

While much of the work of caring for the sick and wounded in the field will be left to the Red Cross, the heads of the army are preparing a staff of nurses to accompany the troops when they move south, and to care for the injured in the military hospitals. The way in which these nurses have been obtained is the same as that in which the surgeons of the volunteer corps of the army and navy have been supplied. Through the different hospitals and schools the surgeons general secured the names of a large number of nurses who have recently completed their training. To all of these enlistment blanks are sent, with the request that the nurses who felt so disposed should fill them out, indicating whether the government could call for their services whenever needed. Some of the agreements were for immediate service, others for enlistment after three or six months.

A large number of replies, several hundred in all, have been sent in. Some of the signers say that they will go at once, others

that their services can be had after July 1, and so on. These have all been filed away at Washington, and as fast as a demand for nurses arises they will be acted upon.

The work of the nurses will begin with the actual commencement of hostilities. War under modern conditions is so little known that it is impossible to tell how great inroads sickness and wounds will make in our ranks. But the government proposes to be prepared for any emergency. If our army moves into Cuba, it will be accompanied by a detachment of the Red Cross, and Mrs. Vlasto, who has been sent to West Point, will be left to the members of the Red Cross, who will care for Americans, Cubans or Spaniards, as necessity may require. The trained nurses who have volunteered directly under the command of the surgical department of the army and navy will be sent to Key West, Tampa, or other points where hospitals may be established.

Every woman who served as a nurse during the civil war has been besieged by a host of inquiries from her earnest young sisters, who want to help in the present struggle. After a lecture at one of the schools the other day a lot of the girls gathered about Mrs. Ellen Opp, a pleasant, gray-haired woman, who acted as a nurse in the conflict in 1861.

"I shall never forget my first experience with a wounded man," said Mrs. Opp, with a smile. "It was after the battle of Bull Run and I had just arrived in Washington. I had cared for sick patients, but never seen more blood than when I came from the front. The first man brought into my section was a soldier. His leg had been shot away. His clothing was all bespattered with blood and the sight of that and the terrible sound made me feel more dizzy faint than I ever did before or since. My limbs almost gave way beneath me and I leaned against the wall to keep from falling. In spite of the pain he was suffering the soldier noticed how pale I became. Raising his hand in a half salute he said faintly: "Nurse, could you get me a little water?"

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"That brought me to myself. I could at least carry water and I ran back and forth with a cup, bringing it to the great requirement of the men who were wounded on a battlefield. A drink of water will usually relieve them more than anything else the nurse can do for them. The next thing is to get them into a comfortable position. In the civil war men who were shot often fell forward on their faces and smothered in the grass before anybody could reach them. They should be turned over on their backs or sides and if an arm or leg is broken it should be placed as nearly as possible in a natural position, until the surgeon comes. If there is a bleeding wound it must of course be temporarily bandaged.

"After all, the best thing that a woman can do for the sick and wounded is to bring them hope and courage by her presence and by the attentions that only a woman knows how to give."

WAR TIME FADS OF GIRLS.
National Colors Figure Extensively in the Toilets of the Fashionable. Whereas there is now war, if not immediately in this land itself, yet near at hand, and to be waged, in part at least, by men they know thoroughly and have danced and flirted with, the girls of New York have taken on a martial spirit. They talk battle and campaign, fort and cruiser, torpedo boat and big guns incessantly, and so eager are they that the very fashions and fads, the kick-knacks and novelties of the moment all smack of the army and navy. Hardly a girl of "the sets" is to be found who is not military or naval in some way, reports the New York Herald. The "service" is to be noticed in her costume, in her bedroom and in the parlor of her house. She is seized with the enthusiasm of the hour,



RED, GREEN AND SCARLET COSTUMES.

axes, in the comfort of dress, are on equality. Besides the galatea a great deal of denim is now employed in children's wardrobes by practical mothers, who make up playground pinfours, jumpers and overalls for the little men and women. The overalls, strapped on the shoulders, and cut exactly on the pattern of those worn by housepainters, are made up alike for boys and girls. To wear these the girl merely takes off her top skirt and in bifurcated ease enjoys the same liberty of movement as her brother.

Country Modes.
On beaches and country lawns the majority of well dressed children under the tender age of 14 will wear white or striped sweaters with their short pique petticoats and linen trousers. Some of these smart little knit bodies lace up to one side, with red or blue silk cords, and inside the sailor collars are finished by the bicyclist's turtle neck. There is absolutely no difference in cut or finish to be observed between the golfer or bicycling suit a mother and her 10-year-old daughter wears. A huge puff of china silk crosses over the little maid's chest, a pair of silver dumbbell buttons holds the cuffs of her shirtwaist together, and her tyrolean hat is circled by a coil of straw, with a wing spreading to one side, in exact imitation of the maternal outfit.

Whereas the grown women have pushed sashes aside, as one of the ephemeral superfluities of fashion, the very young generation have taken to them vigorously. Nearly every fashionable small girl counts as many as ten in her wardrobe, for the smartest evening dress she can wear is a white embroidered muslin, girdled through the middle

muslin on the shoulders. Another pretty costume is of porcelain blue and white striped pique, having an open neck and short sleeves. All the amplitude of the full body is caught in by a wide blue taffeta sash that ties behind and a little heavy white embroidery trims the sleeve puffs and pointed collar.

An apron for a boy or girl of 4 years is suggested by the third petticoated figure. The model for this drawing was a dainty pink chambray, touched up successfully by bands of scarlet embroidery circling belt, skirt hem, sleeves and set in yolk squares at the top of the body.

Over a box-kilted skirt of red linen the petticoated 4-year-old girl wears a diagonal blouse that is belted with a stiffened linen band of the same red. Buttons and embroidery set off the little suit adequately. The Russian blouse half of such a dress, by many thrifty mothers, is used as a coat on occasions, and then the skirt is buttoned to a plaited porcelain skirt.

Warm brown wool crash is the time-serving material of the suit the larger boy wears. This a youngster from 6 to 10 can wear with many dignity and the sober tint of the suit is well relieved by a collar band and vest of marine blue cloth. Anchors are embroidered on the sleeve and to a cord a little silver compass and whistle are attached.

Red, white and blue is a popular combination in bathing dresses this season. The colors are most becomingly arranged according to the illustrated fashion. The skirt of navy blue, bearing a deep Spanish border of red and the white touched in by lines of braid. As to the waist, the blouse is blue

saving life was conducted. But credit is especially due to Miss Winscombe, the superintendent, and to the other English nurses, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Wood, Miss Snowden, Miss Campbell, Miss C. Brown, Miss Fry and Miss Buckley. All these, except the first named, arrived from England by the mail steamer Pentacular on the 12th inst., and had only been placed on duty for about two days. With the exception of Miss Fry, they each sustained the entire loss of the dresses, jewelry and other property they had brought with them from England, their trunks and boxes being in the large tent at the time of its destruction. They were so engrossed in the hard and dangerous work of rescuing their patients from being burned to death that they were entirely regardless of their own losses, which in the case of Miss Wood included a valuable diamond ring. They were to be seen carrying the patients in their arms to places of safety, and doing it all with a quiet presence of mind that was beyond praise. One of the number when reminded that her belongings were being destroyed, said: "I cannot leave my patients to die merely because of that."

The example of devotion to duty thus set was followed by other members of the staff and the nurses have the satisfaction of knowing that their labors were so far successful that, although the flames spread with great speed, not one of the 100 patients whose lives were endangered was burned, or even so much as injured by the flames. It is perhaps invidious to mention names where all worked so nobly, but Miss Snowden was particularly noticed carrying one patient under each arm, with a strength that seemed given her for the occasion, while the flames

FOR COUNTRY WEAR.



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