

Stylish Petticoats Hod Sway in Fashion's Realm

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Stylish petticoats of the elaborate type grow more and more extravagant and merchants now find ready sale for many of these petticoats, though, of course, the ordinary petticoat of commerce is a very different thing.

Plain one-tone dark taffeta, black and white plaid taffeta, tartan plaid taffeta and changeable taffeta are the accepted things for the serviceable silk petticoat and there is comparatively little that is new in models for walking petticoats. The new in models for walking petticoats. The new in models for walking petticoats. The new in models for walking petticoats.

Handsome one-tone petticoats with deep flounces of English openwork embroidery on the silk is made in both light and dark colorings and are considered exceedingly smart, yet not so ornamental than any other skirts equally handsome. These skirts are made up, in pongee, and while neither so handsome nor so good a support to the dress skirt as the taffeta petticoats, they have the advantage of being washable and are practical for summer use.

In the realm of the very elaborate petticoat, fancy runs riot. Our artist has sketched a few from the many models in this class, but one must see the materials and colorings to judge of the beauty of the petticoats.

One in shell pink brocade has a deep flounce of beautiful lace, bordered by several narrow frills of the silk and trimmed in tiny frills of the silk set on the lace in scroll designs, with tiny choix of silk here and there in the design. Another model, somewhat like this in general idea, was of brocade satin in white, with floral design of delicate colors, and the flounce was of net trimmed in many narrow frills of white satin ribbon set on in fastenings and caught by tiny clusters of little silk flowers in all the delicate tints entering into the brocade.

The soft satin brocades are much liked for these handsome petticoats, both because of their beauty and of their wearing qualities, but the flounce, reaching at least to the knees, is most often of sheer stuff trimmed in silk or is so inset and elaborated with lace that but little of the silk surface shows.

Moire in the new soft chiffon varieties is being taken up by the petticoat makers, and while not so durable as an satin brocade, wears well and is extremely pretty.

A white moire petticoat, flounced deeply in lace, the lace fastened slightly at the top and caught by fluttering knots of pale blue velvet ribbon, is shown in one Broadway shop, and in the same shop is a delicate pink moire petticoat with deep flounce in set for almost half its depth with narrow fringe, alternately of silk and of lace, the silk frills being pinked.



ELABORATE PETTICOATS OF PINK AND BLUE BROCADES AND WHITE SATIN TRIMMED WITH LACE.

God seteth the solitary in families, and that up and out from that setting he sprang all nobility of character that the world has ever known!

Taxing Old Maids.

Kate Upon Clark gallantly rushes to the defense of old maids and roundly castigates the editors who insist they should be classed with incorrigible bachelors for tax purposes. Efforts of various legislators to penalize bachelors for neglect of duty to the home and the state provoked a sharp protest against discrimination from editorial admirers of the square deal, who insist with logical force that if bachelors must pay for unrestricted liberty so also should spinster, who are presumed to be responsible for the bachelors' forlorn state. Miss Clark holds that the case of bachelors and old maids is different and argues her point in this way:

Now, the case of this old bachelor is utterly different from that of the old maid. For instance, if a girl sets her heart upon any particular person (a foolish thing, by the way, until she is sure of him), and he does not reciprocate the attachment, or dies, she usually ceases to think of love and marriage. She sets to work in some direction which interests her, and becomes, as the phrase goes, "wedded to her art." If she sees another man whom she thinks she might love, she might, under other circumstances, devote herself to the business of being agreeable to him, but the remembrance of the past and her natural modesty make her choke down any such thought.

The bachelor, on the other hand, has no such excuse. The remembrance of the influence of the home is its spirit, and the spirit is determined by quite other things than material resources, or intellectual or social privileges and opportunities. A young man and woman may begin married life with a tolerably clear ideal of such a life, however hazy may be their notions as to particular features of it. And the tragedy of the modern home consists in this, that the primary aim seems to be to make a place for having a "good time."

"The movement for what is called 'co-

Opportunity for the very elaborate petticoat, fancy runs riot. Our artist has sketched a few from the many models in this class, but one must see the materials and colorings to judge of the beauty of the petticoats.

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A founce, is wonderfully pretty, or it may be fashioned into straight little bows, to indicate scallops in a straight ruffle.

Gray, which has not been seen much of late years for evening wear, is rapidly coming in vogue, and some delightful shades in silk voile, marquisette crepe-de-chinoise and other dainty fabrics are being cordially received by smartly dressed women. Usually, the shades are trimmed with silver or pastel-colored embroideries, which give the touch of life invariably required to render gray becoming.

The note of yellow is sounded very distinctly even at present, and striking developments from these indications are appearing for spring fashions. The new shades include many brilliant tones, which, however, will clearly be adopted only by the ultra-fashionables, and many more softer and more beautiful tones, such as buff and copper, leather and daffiny. Tans and champagne are always popular, but, of course, are bound under these considerations to take in particular favor.

Household Utilities.

Hot milk is much more effective than hot water to take out stains.

A soft, neat, cotton and part woolen blanket, when worn thin, may be fashioned into warm underclothes for the walking baby in winter weather.

Handpaper will clean suede leather, undressed or "oiled" calfskin bags. Rubbing the sand paper lightly against the leather makes the article equal to new.

Flush goods and all articles dyed with aniline dyes which have faded from exposure to the light will look as bright as new after sponging with chloroform.

A recipe for paste that never dries or soaps is to add one tablespoonful of powdered alum and ten drops of oil of cloves to a pint of very smooth, thin flour paste. If threaded through a pipe and applied when preparing a piece of fancy work, a little white soap rubbed on the wrong side of the linen will make it more easily applied with a brush is often convenient and does not harm the linen.

As a carpet cleaner and floor restorer, a mixture of white sugar and turpentine, thrown on the carpet and then thoroughly swept out is unexcelled. It removes all dust and being damp prevents the dust from flying. For sponging matting use bran water.

The soiling caused by people leaning their hands against a papered wall may be greatly lessened, if not entirely obliterated, by laying a sheet of blotting paper upon the spot and passing over it a moderately hot iron.

Oldcloth and linoleum may be washed with a damp cloth and then rubbed with a little linseed oil. This will give a slight gloss which will be found to be highly useful when, for the sake of old people or children, it is not wise to use such excellent material, leucoline and turpentine.

Makers of fancy work may not know the possibilities of plain black or white oilcloth, the kind known as table oilcloth. It takes paints as well as oilcolor, and calendars, photo frames, spashers, etc. may be made from it. Where it is necessary to bind with ribbon this can be sewed on with the machine.

To whiten kitchen tables and floors mix together one-half pound of sand, one-half pound of soft soap and four ounces of lime. Work all into a paste with a stick. When scrubbing lay a little on the brush and scour as usual. Afterward wash with plenty of clean water. Wood thus treated can be kept spotlessly clean.

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A woman who keeps an efficient refrigerator accomplishes it by wrapping all left-over, such as fish, cabbage, etc., that have a strong flavor, with cloths wrung out of cold water. She keeps a set of cloths for the purpose. Women with plenty of room never put snow cabbage or cheese into the refrigerator, because the milk and butter and other absorbent foods keep there as long as a border around one of the long, full skirts, or forming a heading for very narrow fluted frills in white or color finishing the edges are popular.

The light weight chiffon fallies are being used for directoire coats, to be worn over skirts of chiffon, silk, mousseline, etc.

Embroidery insertions and bands, extensively embroidered by hand, may be bought by the yard, and often motifs to match are provided for coats of brown or green of the almond, lettuce and reoseda shades, and in various light yellowish tones more modish than becoming, are prominent in the French color lists.

Belts of heavy satin finished elastic, with plain gold buckles, are made in almost all of the modish hues and are especially good in the dark blue—colors never attractive in leather.

A majority of the new hats appear to be of modified mushroom or cloche shape and many of the French models have loops and ends of ribbon falling to the shoulders or below the back.

Beautiful new mohairs in brown, greens or grays mixed with white are shown in expensive qualities of remarkable softness and will make most desirable costumes for traveling and other hard wear.

Cuff and collar sets of natural hued linen hand embroidered with a five-inch border of exquisite Persian design and colorings on each edge, the border being separated from the body of the silk by a heavy line of black satin.

Exquisite wistaria arranged in plume fashions some of the new French hats most effectively. Many sprays are used to carry out the idea, and as the flowers come out in spray, the flower plumes attain a coat quite equal to that of ostrich plumes.

Pine-needle embroideries, soutaches, insertions, etc., into which touches of delicate color are introduced, will be used to a considerable extent and are being embroidered in pale pink, blue and lavender, are well liked, as are also white ballistic embroideries in delicate color.

Lingerie stripes for shirt waist fronts, made with fine platings on each side of a central band, may now be bought by the yard, but such blouse accessories should be carefully fine if they are to be effective. Both in this ready-made trimming and in the separate blouse platings a narrow hem of colored material often borders the platings.

The French challis are unusually lovely this season, repeating as they do the designs and coloring of higher grade goods. One of the best of the new designs has a thin red stripe, which is carried down the One-half inch stripes of color. Down the white stripes are set tiny embroidered silk dots of the kind known as table oilcloth. It takes paints as well as oilcolor, and calendars, photo frames, spashers, etc. may be made from it. Where it is necessary to bind with ribbon this can be sewed on with the machine.

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