

HOME DRESSMAKING.

Thin white or colored dress goods, cashmere, India silk, albatross, surah, lace, etc., may be stylishly arranged after Figure No. 79, which has a half low round neck and shirtings in several rows around the



FIG. 77.

wast of the round bodice, which is cut in one with the straight skirt, and thus confined at the waist line, a cluster of ribbon loops and ends ornamenting the right side. The neck is finished with a knife-pleating of the material or of lace, sewed on the wrong side and turned over on the right, with bows of ribbon on each shoulder. The sleeves are tiny puffs gathered into the arm sizes and narrow bands. A velvet dog-collar is a pretty finish to such girlish toilettes, with a small pendant or fancy buckle in front. Round waists promise to be greatly worn, whether of silk, woolen or cotton fabrics. Belts and buckles, a ribbon tied on one side, or the wide soft Empire sash so often described, are worn with the above waists, which set better if cut long enough to slip beneath the skirt band. The neck is finish-



FIG. 75.

ed with a turned over, or standing, frill, a high collar, or may be left slightly V-shaped in front. The sleeves are usually full at the top even if plain at the wrists. Figure No. 81 shows a fashionable model for striped or plain woolen gowns, that are so simple in arrangement that the veriest novice in dressmaking need not fear attempting one. The back and sides are full and straight, while the front is cut a trifle longer and draped in a few pleats at the top to break the otherwise straight outline. The pointed basque is very short, with a velvet vest in Breton style, sewed down on one side, and hooked under the dress front on the other, with a high collar and pointed cuffs to correspond. At the front point is a rosette of ribbon like the long ends and loops on the right side.



FIG. 81.

The sleeves have the new effect of a draped scarf at the top, though the fullness is cut in one with the coat sleeve, gathered over the shoulder, and pleated on the sides. When skirts are of woolen goods, there is the usual lining beneath, fitted with two very short reeds, and finished on the edge with a facing and narrow protective pleating, which are entirely concealed. If made of cotton fabrics a skirt lining is not necessary, and the velvet collar, cuffs and vest may be replaced by embroidery with ribbon decorations as illustrated. A change could be made in the skirt back



FIG. 84.



FIG. 79.

by hooking it up, over the point of the basque. A full straight skirt, having a

draped or flat front, should be from 3 1/2 to 3 3/4 yards wide. Figure No. 82 illustrates one of the handsomest cashmere embroidered "robe" dresses which is entirely self-trimmed. The round waist is shirred on a yoke (see Pattern No. 4178, this issue), of the embroidery and is slipped beneath the skirt belt, which in turn is hidden by a ribbon tied on the left. The sleeves are full at the top, with cuffs of the silk and tinsel embroidery, as is the collar. The skirt has a full back and right side with the left side showing an embroidered design outlined by two tapering revers of the narrow embroidery. The front laps over this side and sets quite flatly to the figure, though arranged with a few gathers as at the top. A pretty "baby" waist is represented in



FIG. 80.

Figure No. 82, which is appropriate for any of the materials usually selected for young ladies' evening dresses. The low neck is slightly V shaped, with the fullness gathered to a narrow band and belt. Folds of the material are then draped around the neck and caught with bows on the shoulders and in the centre, back and front. The sleeves are puffed, and tied around with ribbons corresponding with the belt, and cluster of loops and ends hanging on the right side. Slightly V-shaped dress necks are quaintly finished with a lace frill or a ruffle of the dress material edged with lace, which stands erect against the neck, and is caught to-



FIG. 83.

gether at the end of the opening with a lingerie pin or dainty flower. Another round waist is shown in Figure at the belt over a tight lining having darts as usual. The high collar and tab down the front No. 83, which is made with a close-fitting back, having side forms and a loose front laid in pleats on the shoulders and gathered are of velvet, cord passementerie, or embroidery, according to the material selected. The belt is also a matter of taste and fancy, and the sleeves are gathered top and bottom, with wrist-bands of the trimming. Sew tapes in basques to hang them up by in the arm-sizes just at the point of the side



FIG. 82.



FIG. 70.

form seam. Basques, wraps, and jackets keep their shape better if hung up on wire shoulder forms, that are about fifteen cents, and of several sizes. Our readers will remember that there are no paper patterns of the designs contained in this department, which are given as a guide to the home dressmaker, and are large enough to copy from when wished. Figure No. 75 illustrates a stylishly simple skirt design that will look well in silk



FIG. 78.

or woolen materials for the street or house wear. The front is draped in a few pleats at the belt in order to give a careless fullness, and has a box pleated ruche on the lower edge. The back hangs full, with broken folds on each side, formed by clusters of pleats at the top. The lining skirt is of the usual shape, with a small pad bustle and two short reeds. Full, straight backs should be certainly sixty inches in width. A few new dresses are showing the hems turned up on the right side when the material is the same on both sides. Soft sash belts in Empire style from one side seam to the other are sewed in the seam on one side and hooked over on the other, covering from the bottom of the waist line to the bust in soft folds that are lightly tucked here and there to a fitted piece of canvas beneath, which has darts and V's curving it to the form, is well boned, and sewed in with the silk part.

Figure No. 84 is a handsome model for plain material trimmed with rows of ribbon, braid, or the bordered goods now so popular. The material is taken crosswise for the box-pleated front and long, rounding apron that is pleated in the belt and draped high on the hips. The straight, full back has the border or trimming on each side and is hooked up over the basque. The short basque has the trimming for the collar, cuffs, and pointed vest, which is laid in small pleats and buttoned up on each side. A ribbon follows the outline of the basque edge and ties in front. Light cashmere, trimmed with No. 9 ribbon, are attractively fashioned into home dresses after this idea, and a full front may be substituted on the basque if the wearer is of a slender figure.

White or light colored woolen fabrics, challie, India silk, etc., are dressy enough for small entertainments not strictly full dress when fashioned after Figure No. 76. The skirt is hemmed and tucked, or bands of ribbon could replace the tucks, while the long apron is cut in one with the low "baby" waist finished with a ribbon binding. The apron is draped high on the left side, and falls straight on the right side, where it is nearly as long as the skirt. The back of the waist is arranged like the front, and is worn over a gumpie having a folded collar, and elbow sleeves, tucked crosswise of the dress material, if of silk, or of China crepe, lace, or silk with woolen or silk fabrics. A ribbon tied around the arm, and bowed to the top finishes each sleeve, and a similar bow should decorate the side of the collar. The sash of five-inch ribbon encircles the waist, and ties on the left of the front; if of a slender figure, the wearer might prefer an Empire sash.

Figure No. 78 illustrates a jacket basque suitable for general house wear with half-worn skirts, that always last longer than basques. The material is old-rose cashmere, with collar, cuffs, and belt of green, light shade, velvet matching the dots in the white India silk or veiling plastron, which is gathered at the top, laid in uncaught pleats over the usual lining, and held at the waist line by the belt. The outer fronts are fitted with one dart, a little extra fullness cut on each front edge, and then shirred at the neck and waist line; the back is fitted like a round basque, and the full sleeves are gathered into straight cuffs and at the top. The Directoire style of custom illustrated in Figure No. 77 has the usual coat, which, in this case, is cut off at the waist in front, lapped, and held by two large buttons; the revers forming a turned-down collar; gaudy cuffs are on the coat sleeves, and the fast V-shaped vest is trimmed with a diagonal band of the bordering, which forms the only trimming. The skirt front preserves the long effect desired, with narrow kilt pleats in the centre and flat panels crossed at the top a little toward the left. So many skirts are trimmed with a slightly one-sided effect that it is important to wear it just as it should be. The centre front must be exactly in the middle, and the surest manner of placing it is to put a few white stitches in the middle of the belt, and guide the eyes by this when putting it on the dress. Skirt fronts trimmed with a Spanish flounce are pleated in the belt sufficiently full to give a graceful fullness. If sleeves are not made after some of the regularly full designs they are coat-shaped, with an extra inch out on each side of the top, and two inches at the top, so that the additional material is gathered in loose, easy folds, but not the lining, which is of the ordinary shape, around the top of the arm. Redingote revers of the wide Directoire fashion are handsomer if made by turning the fronts back and facing them, instead of adding extra ones, that so often look stiff. Amateurs often find the hemming of draperies a difficult task, as the stitches must be invisible. Baste the hem twice, once for each turning, and measure the second turning with a piece of card the correct width as you move along. Then use slip-stitches half an inch apart, taking up a thread only of the garment and more of the hem. Slip the work along between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, so as to keep separating the hem and drapery as you sew, and thus assist in the task, of catching up but one thread, and that not through to the right side. With a little patience and time it becomes swift work. Do not press the hems of any drapery. White silk or crepe plastrons on handsome suits are in high folds on the shoulders, lapped at the waist line, and finished with a soft belt, V, and collar, of a contrasting material. Gantlet cuffs are new for Directoire coats and jackets. They are large at the top, open at the back, usually held by a large button at each corner, and are as much like the cuff of a gantlet glove as can be imagined. Half-worn skirts may be used with a belted blouse of striped, printed, or plain flannel, that has a round, close-fitting lining of French cambric beneath the blouse, which has side forms and full fronts, the latter having narrow tucks on each side, ending at the bust, with a silk feather-stitching around the collar, belt, on the tucks and sleeves that are puffed at the top, tucked to the elbows, and then gathered into bands. Satin surah is recommended as a lining skirt for lace costumes. Accordion-pleated fronts and sides are worn with a full, straight back or one arranged in three double box-pleats, pressed, not caught in shape.

"Shall women smoke?" is the latest question which is troubling the British nation. We say no, decidedly. You can't prevent her from firing up occasionally, but we can never permit her to smoke.

Give the Children a Chance.

In planning and laying out flower and vegetable gardens this spring do not forget the boys and girls.

Remember that all children love flowers and like to dig in the dirt, and many of them may have an undeveloped taste for horticulture.

Give each a piece of ground for a garden if you can possibly do so. Let it be in a good situation, exposed to the sunlight, and the soil good. Do not think a shaded or stray plot, where nothing will grow good enough for them, for if you do they will become discouraged.

Allow them to exercise their own judgments a little and examine catalogues and select a few well known varieties for themselves, and do not snub them when they ask questions. Teach them the use of fertilizers and show them how to plant the seed. If they find insects injurious to vegetation help them to search for the picture and description in some good work on the subject or in some good agricultural paper.

In this way they will become happy and interested and you will be surprised at their aptitude and enthusiasm. It will require perhaps some patience and extra exertion. But how great will be the return—for if you do not desire them to follow it as an avocation it will give them a love of nature and out-of-door life that will make men and women of them. Many people sigh because their children as they grow older will not stay on the home farm, but they do not make them love it when young.

Do not for one moment think because your children happen to be girls that they can't become good farmers or horticulturists, for there are many very successful women florists and gardeners, as well as those who carry on extensive farms. Nowhere is a woman's well-known talent for planning and executing, as well as her good taste, so well applied as in these pursuits. Well do I remember the many happy hours spent in the garden I was ever allowed to call my own. It was prepared for me because I ruined the beet and radish bed by planting therein hollyhocks and morning glories. I visited it the first thing in the morning and the last at night, and when the tiny green plants first appeared I was supremely happy. I watched and guarded it with jealous care lest any stray dog, cat or mischievous elder brother should disturb it. My dolls had been made to weep sawdust. Old Tabby's beautiful new kittens had disappeared, and I was told they had started on a voyage to China. And I had seen Major, our staid old dog, rush down the road wearing my doll's best hat and cloak. All this had borne in silence and choked down my rising anger. But when an attempt was made to enter the sacred precincts of my garden, well, I do not like to state what happened. The attempt was never repeated, lest, as my brother wisely remarked, "A tierris might unexpectedly swoop down on him and mar his beauty." So I was left in peaceful possession and kept well out of mischief all summer.

And all among my flowers I walked, Like a miser, mid his treasure; For that pleasant plot of garden ground Was a world of endless pleasure.

The Fashion.

There are at least twenty five different and distinct shades of green visible in the great emporia of fashion this year, ranging from the palest water tints to the deep moss and myrtle shades, all the varying tones displayed in nature being perfectly reproduced in art. Some of the "reeds" or "gray-green" tints are very lovely, and in soft China silks, crepe-lines, veilings, and silk muslins, present a charming appearance. There is a growing taste and liking for these once crude but now beautified shades, which certainly for cool/summer wear have much to commend them.

The price by the yard of good strong surah, or washing silk, is now so very reasonable that the purchase of enough for a number of silk petticoats is a really useful, economical, as well as elegant investment. These are light, cool, dainty, and save innumerable washing bills during the summer. These skirts are not expensive, considering the future expenditure they save, even when bought on tright at the drapers' shops; but they can be easily made at home for less cost, with the aid of a graceful, well fitting gored skirt pattern. These simple, unstarched petticoats are far better suited to wear beneath the straight, undraped gowns of the present mode than the lace trimmed and heavily embroidered styles in muslin and lace. Every lady should be the owner of at least four of these skirts—one in black silk, devoid of fripperies of any sort, this for street wear; two in white, to put on alternately with the pretty summer afternoon and evening home dresses, and a fourth one, also white or delicately tinted, this demurely for dressy use, to accompany the Princess, Greek, or other evening toilet. White muslin skirts that bear the weekly crucible of the laundry are, of course, the only choice for morning wear.

There is a radical and sudden change in headgear, a collapse which produces a feeling of a tornado having passed, sweeping all towering objects before devastating fury. This entirely upsets preconceived notions fostered by familiarity with a style wholly dissimilar to that now presented to us. There is a Quaker-like, rigid simplicity, a genuineness, about the depressed set-down-upon looking shapes, which, in contrast to what has become so familiar to our eyes, look dowdy and unfinished in the extreme. As one views the magnificent and marvellous creatures of fashion as they rapidly present themselves both in shop and salon, the most casual observer can but note that the taste for novelty is a growing one, and that competition in production is already so excessive that human ingenuity is taxed to its utmost to provide novelty which will have the power to distance all previous attractions; for as people become satiated they become more and more difficult to please, and what in very many instances satisfies them is not so much that which really suits their individual taste or fancy, as something absolutely different from that which they or their friends have admired and adopted before. Consequently there is an unending search and reaching out for something new under the sun, which is a state and spirit to be deplored and fought against, if one did not reflect that this very demand for change, and the incessant "give, give" from the idle and the bored is just what inspires the inventor, and puts bread into the mouth and a roof over the head of the employe and the laborer.—[N. Y. Evening Post.]

Good Things to Come.

"Christ an High Priest of good things to come," Heb. 9, 11.

Good things to come! My dear Lord, this is cheering!

My Soul is in joy since I heard this sweet word;

Midst earthly mutations I long have been fearing

That Ede would never to earth be restored,—

That Sin had dominion, with power increasing,—

That darkness, and doubt, and deception had sway,—

That Evil's domain o'er the earth was unceasing.

And Mortals would never their Maker obey.

But O! the delight! That at last 'twill be better

Than even the best that the human hath known.—

That Eden was only the type and the letter Of Glory to come, when the light of Thy Throne

Shall illumine th' darkness, and banish the error,

And cancel the evil, and rectify wrong,—

When earth shall be pure, and the Heavens shall mirror

The rapturous gladness, and ring out the Song

Of the sanctified millions, brought in by thy merit,—

To more than Edenic condition restored,—

Who, then, all the fulness of Heaven inherit,—

Redeemed by the Passion and grace of the Lord.

L. A. MORRISON.

A Fringe of Ribbons.

If our girls have a superfluous amount of time and strength which they wish to put to good use let them turn their attention to the charming fringe composed of ribbons, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. The loveliness of a costume can be greatly enhanced by the addition of this graceful and effective trimming. For this purpose a band of galloon in the very narrowest width is selected, upon which is sewed in length to suit the fancy, narrow ribbons, close enough to give a full rich effect.

The beauty of this novel fringe is much enhanced by using several rows, one above the other, and finishing the upper rows with tiny rosettes. Velvet ribbons will play an important part in summer toilettes; encircling the skirt in numerous rows, they give a very rich finish. Right here in the countenance of the to clever girl in the countenance of the bewitching bow, which is to be found in so many odd nooks and corners of a charming gown. The laminated ribbons in tinsel embroidery are exquisite and are one of the striking features in millinery. As insertions they can be used with delightful effect upon gauze-like material.

Heroism at Home.

How useless our lives seem to us sometimes. How we long for an opportunity to perform some great action. We become tired of the routine of home life, and imagine we would be far happier in other scenes. We forget that the world bestows no titles as noble as father, mother, sister or brother. In the sacred precincts of home we have many chances for heroism. The daily acts of self-denial for the good of a loved one, the gentle word of soothing for another's trouble, the care for sick, may all seem as nothing; yet who can tell the good they may accomplish? Our slightest word may have an influence over another for good or evil. We are daily sowing the seed, which will bring forth some sort of harvest. "Well will it be for us if the harvest will be one we will be proud to garner. If some one in that dear home can look back in after years, and as he tenderly utters our name, say, "Her words and example prepared me for a life of usefulness, to her I owe my present happiness," we may well say, "I have not lived in vain."—National Presbyterian.

Awful Fate of Two Children.

A wagon with loading has arrived at East Darr Station, Queensland, from Barcolaine, and the driver reports the following terrible tragedy: "A man accompanied by his wife and two children, aged 3 years and 11 year, had pitched a tent on the river bank. The first night the father was awakened by hearing one of the children moaning. He lit a candle and found the girl apparently in a fit, and she died in a few minutes. She was buried on the spot next day. The infant child was placed in the bed previously occupied by the deceased the next night, when the parents were again awakened by the child moaning. The father immediately struck a light and saw a large brown snake gliding off the infant's breast. The child also died in great agony in a few minutes. Some carriers came and discovered the snake's hole under the tent. Digging down they quickly unearthed and killed the reptile."

Late Advice.

A middle-aged colored woman, who occasionally worked for a lady in an Eastern city, one day informed her employer that she could not do any more work for her, as she intended "gettin' mah'ied." "Indeed!" exclaimed the lady. "So you are going to be married?" "Yes'm, I is, fo' sartain." "Well, I hope, Rosa, that you have given the matter careful consideration?" "Yes'm." Finding her in a receptive mood, the lady thought it an excellent time to give some advice on the subject of matrimony, and she improved the occasion. Rosa listened patiently, and then said: "Dat's so, lady; dat's so! I tell yo' dis gettin' mah'ied ain't no triflin' business. I see been mah'ied fo' times already myself, lady, en I knows dat w'at you done say is a solemn fact."

Anglomaniac.

Algy—"Cholly, what makes you so sad this mawning, me boy?" "Haven't you weally heard the howble news, Algy?" "Algy—" "Naw." "Cholly—" "Our darling Pwince is sick. He has a boll on his neck." "Algy—" "A boll? Be jawwe—d'ye know how to make one. We positively must not go out till we have at least put a poultice on to keep up appearances, anyhow."