

**LONDON AND PARIS FASHIONS.**



H! Hats! Hats! Hats! and the cry is, 'atill they come,' bursting on our vision in their bewildering array of bright sun-burnt straw, variegates of green and yellow, subdued harmonies of fancifully twisted straw work in dead rose and green deftly blended together. Large rosettes of chiffon, wide, outstanding bows of striped gauze, wired lace, squashed pink roses on erect green foliage, paste buckles, shot silk ribbon; granted a sufficiency of these things, a nice taste to put them together, and you have the most fashionable hat that the mode of the moment can desire. Never were trimmings so sentimental—I use the term advisedly—no sooner does one buckle make its appearance on a hat than its fellow is sure to be seen in its neighbourhood, no bow is deemed sufficient unless there is another to match on the other side of the crown, and the bunch of pink roses, if a smaller bunch did not combine to make a match of it in an opposite direction. Hats no longer attempt to match our costumes, nevertheless they have a subtle way of expressing a kind of courteous sympathy with the other colours donned by the wearer.

As an artist recently remarked, it is really unfair to nature that flowers can now and are so beautifully imitated. To some degree in consequence of this rivalry between art and reality, the *bona fide* blossoms are not so lovingly cherished as of yore. At all swell functions, theatres, races, and flower shows the eye, is quite overcome by the wealth of flowers on the ladies' millinery. In my opinion the capote, which distinguishes itself as being one of those supremely ladylike confections, is a charming little bonnet from which only a couple of blossoms—but perfect of their



THE MAYFAIR BONNET.

kind—spring up with undeniable Mayfair *chic*. The rather flat foundation is composed of a species of wicker work in gold embroidery, and from each side of this compact shape burst forth a couple of so called bat's wings, of the *broderie d'or*, deftly associated with fine seed jet. In front of the black satin Alsatian bow are perched two deep pink camellias, with just a suggestion of their own dark, glossy foliage. These rather conventional-looking flowers are the *dernier cri* in Paris, where they are employed by the *haute voite* of the Rue de la Paix.

There is always so much to be said *apropos* of clothes for the grown up portion of the community that one is apt to forget the dainty toilettes of the little girl. But she refuses to be utterly ignored; and really there are such pretty novelties just now for children, and more especially in the way of hats and bonnets, that our artist has not been able to resist the temptation of sketching the very newest and



A PRETTY GIRLISH HAT.

sweetest thing in juvenile 'pokes.' After the rather lengthy reign of the Tam o' Shanter, which certainly imparts a *petit disablerie* to youthful features, this quaint style of bonnet is very refreshing to the gaze. Some popular painter has declared that a pretty face counts for nothing without a frame in some shape or form. This *capote* en-

frames the girlish features in a most delightful manner and has decided advantages over the square-tight fitting Parisian *capotes* of which one is beginning to weary. This particular shape is in ripe corn-colored Leghorn, and is decked with true Cambridge blue satin ribbons and plumes. The strings tied under the chin add the final touch of sweet quaintness to a bonnet which is sure to make a hit as the season advances.

Little Tomboy's frocks are undergoing various modifications. Madam Modus now decrees that they should be rather shorter and not quite so baggy as the Kate Greenway blouses that have been with us so long. However, it is doubtful whether the very abbreviated petticoats revealing the black silk stockings, knee and a multitude of starched embroidered white petticoats, in which nurse used to take so much pride, will ever return to gladden the heart of the little girl, who, of course, loves to be able to skip and run unhampered by over-long skirts.

The third sketch is a lovely fancy delaine in a delicate mauve overlaid with fine silk stripes and dotted with tiny sprigs. Beautiful silk embroidery forms revers on the shoulders and braces, the neck being finished with two



FETE TOILETTE.

exquisite violet-colored tips. Lace and mauve silk bows on fancy straw forms the hat.

Just at this time of year, when one generally longs for a



A USEFUL CAPE.

complete outfit of summer clothes, but has oftener than not to put up for some little time longer with winter frocks, a little inexpensive cape comes in very handy to replace our heavier coats and mantles. Here is a specimen of a neat confection, not at all difficult to turn out at home. It is composed of stone-grey habit cloth with a plated shoulder cape, headed by a puffing. To smarten the effect of this otherwise demure garment some copper-colored metallic braiding rather loosely woven is used for trimming, and a surah lining, in which the brown and grey are bleeded, gives the necessary heaviness to the cape. The Elizabethan ruffles in lace and chiffon intermingled with flowers still hold good. A dingy gown is often redeemed by one of these dainty items.

A pretty blue *épon* gown is fastened down in various places with tiny little gold buttons, which look almost like nails. This has a waistcoat of white chiffon outlined with two narrow pieces of orange-colored velvet, fastened with little gold buttons, and a waistband of chiné silk. A yachting coat of pleasing detail is of dark blue cloth with a bright blue velvet collar, and cuffs outlined with a single line of gold braid, and this is worn over a cream front draped with pale yellow lace.

Some lovely fronts are made of the finest lawn appliquéd with lace, and these are invariably finished at the neck with some quaint conceit of different hued velvet, or diamond buttons, or odd pieces of chiffon. Everything here is invested with a touch of originality quite invaluable. And this originality is not only noticeable in the dress department; it creeps into the millinery. What think you of a hat with a crown of cornflower blue, trimmed with heliotrope shot ribbon, pasties, and polyanthus leaves, or of a green shot straw, with half-dead crimson roses tied with mauve, purple, and cream ribbons, and large bunches of violets at the back?

HELOISE.



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