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 VIENNA MEDICAL JOURNAL.

The World of Fashion.

By MARGUERITE.

When attired in silks, satins and laces of evening toilette chivalry and romance awake, and the dream of fair women is far nearer being realised than seems possible during morning hours. There is now a crispness in the evening air that warms us westward on the threshold of winter, and that balls, and dances of less pretension, at homes, cabare parties, and all sorts of frivolities, dear to the heart of women, are on the eve of realisation. At such time I suspect that I should obtain but indifferent attention did I worthily discourse of sober, useful garments for everyday wear and ordinary occasion. In anticipation of the Northern Club Ball, which is to be given this month in honour of the Governor, who is at present in Auckland, our inclinations turn with the tide of festivity to fascinating chiffons galore for evening wear. The capricious Madame Fashion will be busy, of course, with evening frocks, the calls for such at this period of festivities making no small demands on her creative powers; and that she will be perfectly equal to the strain one is assured. If the scenes of revelry by night this season are not exceptionally brilliant it will certainly not be for want of lovely fabrics, designs or decorations in the feminine toilette. The ball gowns of this season promise to be glittering fairy garments. Light-tinted silks will be as much in favour for dance gowns, as those composed of muslin and lace. The bodices are to be cut square or else round shape off the shoulders.

I give this week a few suggestions for evening toilettes.

costumes, while fur, velvet, and cloth were in demand for theatre, ball and evening reception wear.

And as it was with textiles, so it was in the methods of combining and making them up. The low corsage was strictly confined to festivities by gaslight and the entertainments that belong to the wee sma' hours. Even this most conspicuous fashion has been the subject of more or less discussion, because of the efforts of extremists to revive for day use the low bodice that has been the rule for dressy wear in the evening only.

THE DEBUTANTE.

Aside from her wedding robes the dainty dress of the debutante is probably the most interesting toilet of her entire society career. The ideal model for the debutante is made of some white diaphanous tissue, and is made up over white silk or satin. It must be simple, but the simplicity is a work of art. It must be plain and almost without ornament, depending for its effectiveness on the exquisite quality of the materials which enter into its composition.

I give to-day an illustration of a perfect ball dress for a debutante. The foundation is a glove-fitting princess gown of white satin, thick and lustrous. The skirt is dancing length, and finished at the hem with a very full ruching of white silk muslin. An accordion-pleated skirt of the finest crepe de chine is draped over the ruching, the lower edge spreading over the thick ruching. The top of the bodice is cut out in square yoke



THE DEBUTANTE.

During the last season in London and Paris there were no distinctively evening fabrics. The most filmy tissues were seen in dresses for day time use. The richest brocades formed a part of street attire and afternoon

gowns, while fur, velvet, and cloth were in demand for theatre, ball and evening reception wear. The remainder of the bodice is covered with the pleated crepe drawn down as smoothly as possible beneath a white satin ribbon belt.

The sleeves are full puffs of the crepe, with frills of pleating falling to the elbows, where they are met by the long gloves. The collar is of satin ribbon and pleatings.

Less expensive gowns and exceedingly pretty ones are made of white chiffon over white taffeta. If there are reasons why the cost of an outfit should be considered, any of the simpler thin textiles may be utilised with excellent effect by taking a little time and pains. A charming costume is made of net lace over taffeta. The lace skirt is finished at the lower edge with a hem and a band of narrow tucks run in with white floss silk. The band is ten inches wide, and the tucks are about a quarter of an inch wide. The waist and sleeve caps are made entirely of tucks in vertical lines. The sleeve flounces have round and round rows of tucks. The collar and belt are of white taffeta ribbon.

There is quite a new notion shown in the dress that is worn by the standing figure depicted below. With a spotted mousseline or grenadine slip banded at the edge with two rows of satin ribbon, comes a short tablier fashioned entirely of large tucks or folds of glace silk.

These and the folds on the bodice should be of the same silk that forms the slip veiled by the net. A very soft



A DEBUTANTE AND HER CHAPERON.

green might be chosen; a cerise would be a la mode, or the new corn-yellow, which is at once a full colour, and yet by no means nearly so garish as orange. The other toilet has a shawl drapery, and would be useful for the mother or chaperone of the young lady. Supposing this gown were carried out in turquoise blue poplin or the ever-useful bengaline silk, it would be trimmed with insertions and a full flounce of ficelle lace, the same making the pretty little epaulette sleeves and trimming the back of the bodice in a V shaped fichu form.

A drapery on the front of this dress of cream, white or coloured mousseline de soie would trim it nicely, and there might be a corsage bouquet of forget-me-nots and pink roses to give a finish to the picture.

Tall slender wings, such as the ones shown, are to be worn very much in the hair, but young girls will resort to ribbon fillets rather than to plumes, which they will leave to matrons of mature years.

The evening dress of black velvet shown below is made with a train, low corsage and short sleeves. The dress is lined throughout with blue peau de soie. The train is finished at the edge with a twisted cord of velvet and satin ribbons. From the low-cut neck falls a veil of banded lace so fine as to be little thicker than ordinary net. The beads are scarcely more than specks, so tiny are they. This drapery is caught on one either shoulder by diamond clasps, and falls almost to the waist line on either side of the front. Just over the bust it is again drawn up and secured with a diamond stir about four inches across. The back of the waist is without other trimming than a flat band of passementerie in fine jet with a