

# The World of Fashion.

By MARGUERITE.

## Children's Fashions.

### "BETSY" BONNETS FOR LITTLE GIRLS.

**D**ECEMBER is usually the month in which the nursery consignment are spirited off to the enchanted land of spades and buckets. Later on, when the schoolroom party pour into the sand trenches which have been dug by the babies and besiege the street of green and white wooden bathing boxes, the real reign of King Carnival may be said to have begun. So far, however, only the tiny people are in possession, and the daily exodus of perambulators and mailcarts, of gollywogs and Teddy bears, is quite sufficient witness to the fact.

The latest development of baby fashions is the change in the sun-bonnet. Regular "Betsy" bonnets of a quaint, old-fashioned description are seen in this connection, the "crown" of the bonnet being melon-shaped and drawn over cords in close gaugings, while the brim is likewise corded to produce a gathered effect. The quaintest of old sprigged prints are used in this connection, the lilacs and lavenders which delighted the hearts of our grandmothers being the favourites, and the baby faces, with their apple-blossom colouring and golden hair, under the shady brims of these old-world materials make as pretty a picture as one would wish to see.

In the case of hats for full-dress occasions the favourite flower this year is probably the wild rose. Numbers of little mushroom hats with soft caps of Valenciennes lace inside are wreathed with trailing sprays of wild roses with their deep green leaves and pink and white petals and buds, and represent a delightful change from the oft-repeated daisy wreaths which are almost a stereotyped pattern for children. A good deal of fruit is also pressed into service for the hats of the little ones. A pretty little mushroom hat of black and white check with a tiny gathered edging of currant red velvet round the under brim, in addition to the cap of creamy lace, was surrounded

with bunches of red and white currants, the strings of white satin ribbon passing over the crown of the hat and being tied under the dimpled chin.

For the babies, as for the grown-ups, this summer there are big "cherry ripe" hats as well, which hide all but a few

the rational dressers, has become, so far, as our streets are concerned, extinct.

The skirt of the moment is short. This does not mean that it merely "clears the ground," to quote the language of the fitting-room, but that it is frankly short. So much so, in fact,



THREE LITTLE SEASIDE FROCKS FOR SMALL GIRLS.

On the right is a frock of white linen with white soutache trimming. The centre child wears a white serge frock hemmed with China blue washing silk, while that on the left is a quasi-sailor frock of white drill.

golden curls in front, and which are trimmed in exactly the same manner as the bonnet of Millais' little sitter.

### Short Skirts.

SMART AS WELL AS SENSIBLE.

The long trailing skirt, which survived and even flourished through all the fierce condemnation of the doctors and

that fashionable womenkind for the first time for no one knows how long, can take her walks abroad without her right hand being encumbered by a weight of drapery. What this means to women, only women really know, but the medical man knows what a long list of colds and chills can be placed to the account of the long skirt damp with mud and rain, and of the countless headaches caused by the nervous tension of having to hold a dress skirt above the mire for hours at a stretch.



THE NEWEST BATHING COSTUME OF THE SEASON.

Worn with a large bonnet made of Indiarubber silk. The black satin bathing suit is to be very fashionable this summer. The stockings worn are black, and the silken boots are a brilliant scarlet.

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