

Good Blood

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NEW YORK FASHION LETTER

New York, April 21.—The sun shone warm and bright on Palm Sunday, so many of the new styles in dresses and hats began to make what might be termed "trial trips" in preparation for the great Easter parade down Fifth avenue, at which time at the fashionable churches all the dressmakers, less their creations, were there in company with a few others to take notes.

Truly, it was the "Feast of Flowers" to judge from the hats worn on Easter Sunday in "The Avenue," costing anywhere from the two to the three figure total—over to Grand street where a twenty-five cent straw was decorated with a new ten cent red wreath to celebrate the day. Both creations were marvelous, but in different senses. Styles have now taken definite form and Dame Fashion has set her seal upon certain materials, models and accessories. Voiles, a light weight canvas, is a most persistent favorite for first place for spring costumes to be worn without a coat, all of which costumes should be made up over a silk lining, which is often of a contrasting color.

Another favored material is the checked silks; and an attractive example of a dress made up in this material was on exhibition last week. A small self checked dove gray silk was made up over an old rose taffeta lining. The skirt was circular in cut with a front panel of triple inverted plaits on the left side of which was the closing. The waist was of the surplus order, outlined with two bands of mirror velvet. The short puffed sleeves were turned back at the elbow with a cuff of velvet and lace. The gloves worn with this costume were long gray gloves; the parasol was covered with the same material as the gown over pink silk, with a big pink chou on the handle; and the hat was a much twisted plaque of gray crissoline lifted at the left side, showing a long pink plume.

Another material that is again to the front is foulard, especially the variety called radiant foulard, and a more useful material for semi dress occasions has yet to be found. Most of the foulards have small conventional designs, pin dots, shadow spots, and numbers of pin stripes are seen. Odd colors are more frequently seen this spring than I can remember having seen for many seasons back—peculiar blues, old rose, queer old-fashioned browns, lilacs and greens, that take us back to the cedar chests in our grandmother's attic.

Some one has asked me if the elbow sleeve will again be worn all summer. It will. It is universally worn and ne-

cessitates the wearing of long gloves either of silk or lace. A rather novel cuff of the same material to be inserted for morning wear; of course, when these cuffs are worn only a short one button glove is used.

While speaking of gloves I must tell you of a new idea that was shown me the other day in the elbow length; the glove was in two parts and attached by tiny fasteners at the wrist, which allowed the hand portion to be removed while that which covered the arm remained in place.

An odd and pretty sleeve was noted the other day, which would be thankfully received by the stout woman too fleshy to bear much fluffiness near her waist line. It was part of a dark blue costume trimmed in narrow black soutache and crochet buttons. The sleeves were a large puff to the depth of four inches on the top, and below this and covering the whole of the under sleeve portion was a close fitting straight gauntlet sleeve ending at the elbow in a narrow braid band. The waist has a straight plastron front bordering on each side with braid and buttons, the closing being made on the left side. The neck is round, with a shallow turned over collar, bordered with the braid above which was a lace chemisette and standing collar. The skirt was an extremely plain circular mode, having an inverted plait back and front and made of cheviot; linen or mohair is especially suited to the office.

The separate waist is again to be worn; and the shops are showing numbers of beautiful ones for all sorts of wear; hand embroidered linens, lace insertions, and ribbons, Victoria laces, India linens, Persian lawns, batistes and organdies, which all may be made very plain or elaborate by the lack or addition of trimming. In laundering these waists, do not put them through a heavy starch which will give them a laundered unnatural look at once, but put them through a thin starch water, let dry, then slowly dampen; first iron on the wrong side and then on the right; and the China waists should be ironed immediately after putting through the starch water, as this gives them a look of continued newness.

The newest skirt is of the circular five gored variety. It is lacking in any fullness around the hips, as the fullness begins only a little way above the knees, and is thus a boon to the full hipped woman, and by the way, the narrow width cloth is the better material to seek, as it cuts to better advantage. It has a seam at the center front, which is concealed under plaits and is closed at the back gore under an applied box plait.

The new "college blouse" will be liked for warm summer days. It is made with two tucks on each side of the front, stitched to the bust, under the second of which there are darts which take up the unnecessary fullness. The sleeves are of three quarter length, having pointed or rounded cuffs and a low turned over collar with

rounded or pointed fronts to match the cuffs. The waist is closed up at the front with button holes and pearl buttons. A fancy Windsor tie completes the waist. I saw a number of these waists made up of different colored linens, stitched in a contrasting color or white.

But I must tell you of some of the gowns worn at the wedding of Miss Ruth Bacon last week. The bride wore a soft, clinging robe of liberty satin, flounced with filmy lace. The bodice had a round yoke and unlined stock of the lace, and the sleeves were full lace flounces over puffs. With this was worn a draped veil, caught with real orange blossoms, and a new idea was the carrying of a single white tulip blossom slipped between the pages of her prayer book. The gown of the matron of honor was constructed of a dull soft shade of blue cloth decorated with white lace. The skirt trailed slightly and had three flounces laid on flat. The bodice was made with a coat effect, the skirts of which were about 18 inches deep and of the same length all around. The sleeves were of elbow length, finished in flat flounce effect, slightly puffed. The hat worn with this costume was of the narrow rolled brim and pointed front style, trimmed with great flat chous of chiffon tulle and blue plumes. The two little flower girls were dressed in white mull over yellow silk, made in empire style, with lace yokes and berthas, and yellow sashes gave a petty color completion to the simple gowns. The bridesmaids wore light blue gowns of chiffon broadcloth and instead of bouquets carried blue parasols to match the gown.

The gowns had skirts that barely escaped the ground and Eton coats, both skirt and coat being decorated with straps laid on in a key pattern. The skirts had three or four inch plaits, stitched to beneath the hip line. The Etons came to the top of the belt and left little of the blouse to be seen, which latter were made of lace with a jabot of the same showing where the coat opened at the neck. The hats were of a deep shade of cream leghorn, with blue tulle box plaited at the back and trimmed in the front and sides with large blue wings. The bride's mother wore a dress of gray chiffon gauze trimmed in flat flounces of black lace medallions, with which she wore a white hat trimmed with black and white tips.

A gown seen at a late reception was of white batiste cloth with open-work embroidery over pink taffeta. It was cut as a princess robe, fitted to the figure above and at the waist line, with a big pink bow decorating the front of the bust at the center. From this bow streamers were carried round under the arm and up to the center of the back, and there tied with a bow and allowed to fall in great streamers. The elbows were of the puffed variety with capes of embroidery falling over them at the shoulders.

CA瑟INE MANN-PAYZANT.

EFFECTS OF THE ERUPTION.

Desolation Created and Much Property Destroyed by Vesuvius.

In the light of San Francisco's destruction, the following from the Chronicle is interesting:

The latest eruption of Mount Vesuvius has produced results similar to those which accompanied the sudden outburst of Mount Pelee on the island of Martinique, only on a much vaster scale. Populous towns and villages clustering around the base of the famous volcano have been depopulated and destroyed. Many of them have been buried in the ashes which have been emitted for days from the throat of the crater. And streams of lava have poured down the mountain's flanks on all sides, burying vineyards and orchards in their destructive course.

The latest eruption of Vesuvius has been equalled in the recorded history of the mountain only by that which buried Pompeii and Herculaneum. Indeed, it is asserted that its effects, save in the loss of human life, have been more disastrous than the eruption of A. D. 79, which destroyed those two cities. The mortality in the present catastrophe is, in fact, much less than that of 1631, when 18,000 persons are reported to have lost their lives. But the destruction of property is held to be greater than that which followed any previous eruption, because the lava streams and the showers of ashes have spread over a larger area. It is estimated that the property loss will reach \$20,000,000.

It may prove later, however, that the present estimate of actual damage is excessive, as was the case in Martinique and in Central America. Vineyards and orchards in the West Indian island were supposed to have been completely destroyed by the ashes which buried them. And the coffee plantations in Guatemala on another occasion were at first reported to have suffered a similar fate. Subsequently it proved that many properties in both countries survived and that the volcan-

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ic ashes which descended on them fertilized the soil and were, therefore, a genuine benefit. Perhaps it will turn out later that the same results have been obtained along the flanks of Vesuvius where the ground has been covered by ashes only.

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