

WAIST DECORATIONS.

IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO MAKE-OVER EVERY GOWN OF LAST YEAR.

It Requires Rare Art to Defy Detection. Cat-stitching is again in style—Taffeta, Blouses, Especially in Pink Lace on Cloth Gowns.

Cat-stitching—plain, old-fashioned cat-stitching—is the latest cry as a finish for dressy silk waists. This style of stitching is doubly desirable being useful and ornamental. The prettiest employment for cat-stitching, done with heavy embroidery silk, is in uniting ribbon or silk lengths to form the front and back of the blouses. On some of the most expensive French silk waists cat-stitching takes the place of lace entredeux or inserting. The method of trimming, which at the same time is a fastening, gives an opportunity for another introduction of color in the lining. A delicate pink silk waist, mentally taken to pieces, shows inch-wide box plaits of rose-pink silk, cat-stitched over a fitted white silk lining. The French dress-makers, conversely, themselves, upon this having thought out another way to bring in the indispensable dash of black. Narrow velvet ribbon still is introduced in many ways to supply black, the imperative soupçon. One



new and popular fashion for using velvet ribbon in eighth-inch width is as a plump tassel four or five inches long at the corsage. One modiste's interpretation of the black-tassel effect on a silk waist shows two of them attached to knots of inch-wide ribbon. The bow with ends then is secured jauntily to the waist; at the neck, with jeweled pins. Liberty satin is the only rival of taffeta in the making of "corsages fantasie," as they call them in Paris. Brocade satin might be looked for in theatre waists, but it has not appeared to any extent, and shades of pink, especially deep rose tones, are in fullest favor, though a woman may wear any hue of blue, green, yellow or pansy which suits her complexion and fancy.

About the only effect forbidden by the modes is that of fussiness. A waist may have a half dozen sorts of trimming—lace, spangles, ribbon, velvet, embroidery, jewels, if the effect be complete. A novel way of introducing white gullure lace upon a primrose yellow taffeta blouse is as a spread V just above the belt. More of the lace forms the yoke. A dash of black liberty satin fringed and fastened with jeweled buckle makes a stylish occasional effect when the blouse is worn with black skirt and black hat. There is a fad having the two sides of the front of a silk waist unlike. A pretty example in this style is done from coral taffeta, trimmed with gimp in Oriental colors, and further decorated with a half corsage band of coral taffeta finely plaited.

Belts from ribbon or gimp in Oriental hues, by the way, are among pretty fall novelties. The bolero, with an uncut corsage, fastening under the arm is an engaging variation of the yoke. We have one in Nile green satin, embroidered with jet, and worn over silver-white gauze plaited. Such are a few hints of the attractive new things in separate theatre blouses.

The gown, which may be ornamented with the turn of a hand, never ceases to be one of interest to the woman of limited income. A really possible advantage may come from the use of a peculiarly shaped bertha; one which is a combination of fichu and shoulder circle. The design is brought out by a tailor of prominence. With a trained gown of petunia-colored broadcloth is now the shaped lace fichu-bertha done from renaisance lace. The waist of the gown is piped, and there is a tiny yoke of white taffeta, trimmed with narrow black velvet ribbon, put on at such distances. The toque worn with this exceptional dress is of white taffeta, decorated like the yoke. Lace-thrust tinted buttons keep the lace piece in place. This method of using beautiful lace should suggest many others to women who have meliorations of the sort. A narrow applique on the skirt of a lace resembling the waist decoration carries out the idea at the hem.

The modiste collar makes annual attempts to establish itself as a portion of the tailor-made gown. Generally, it is not liked in this country. If a fanciful collar even is permissible upon a dress trimmed with stitched straps of the same fabric, the coatee is fastened by linked buttons of brass. Shades of castor, light and dark, form the modish small hat, which has the almost inevitable pigeon's breast for trimming.

For the woman who can wear to advantage plain house frocks a design made up from purple velvet in picturesque. The neck is cut out and framed with a collar of white gullure lace. A folded length of white china crape makes the chemisette. A scarf of it knotted under the collar gives graceful ends. Velvet is an ideal fabric for dressy house use when it may be afforded. I have heard of a woman of Florence who was famous for seasons in and out on account of a garnet-velvet house gown much like this of which we have a drawing.

One comforting thing about this year's styles is that in spite of the distinctive note given by the princess gown it is possible to "do over" gowns of last year and even those of year before last, so that they will be perfectly "possible." There is a wide range of choice in the material shown in the shops for evening gowns as well as in the colors that are pronounced fashionable. To begin with—and to end with—there are exquisite white lace gowns, the price of which is more than a king's ransom, and yet with an air of studied simplicity that makes the uninitiated imagine that the gown is wonderfully cheap. There is not a marked difference in the skirts from those that were seen last spring. Mrs. Clarence Kennedy, it may be remembered, appeared in one of these costumes early last spring, and her costume was the admiration of every one who saw it.

The sheath-like effect is considered necessary in all these gowns. The lace, a net, is drawn so closely about the figure as to be without any fullness whatever, but it does not reach below the knees, where begins a succession of full and elaborately trimmed accordion-pleated flounces and a ruffle of mousseline de soie. If the waist is cut low it is low indeed, and the front is trimmed with soft draped folds of the lace. There is absolutely no trimming on the gown excepting a bow of gauze ribbon on the left shoulder or a spray of artificial flowers. This excessive simplicity is apparently not marred by the wearing of diamond ornaments.

Chiffon is still necessary as a trimming on evening gowns, and it must be confessed the soft, dainty material adds greatly to the beauty of any gown. One of the fads at present is to have the waist cut exceedingly low and then filled in with chiffon the exact color of the material of the gown. A superb gown just imported is of pink net heavily embroidered in silk and chenille and with an outline of black chenille. The waist is cut low in front and back, but is filled in so with shirred pink chiffon that the line around the shoulders is becoming and modest. The skirt of the gown fits so close over its fitted underskirt of pink satin that one wonders if the wearer can sit down without damage to so delicate a fabric. It is finished in deep points edged with narrow pink chiffon ruche, and below the points are triple flounces of pink chiffon, with entredeux of pink silk lace. There is no lace on this gown save in the entredeux of the flounces.

Little boys and girls, who, as a rule, have well defined objections to the "artistic" in clothes, rejoice in the fact that Autumn styles do not include Greenaway or Peantleroy effects. Well-cut box coats, and simple well-made clothing are the order of the day.

Black is always a satisfactory evening gown, and this year there is to be no new rule against it. All the black gowns are made with the evident intention of making the figure of the wearer look as slender as possible, and the skirts are long and close fitting. Few of the waists are made with sleeves—none of those intended for ball gowns has sleeves. Bright bows of velvet are used to remove the dull mourning look of some of the net gowns made with the conventionalized designs of ribbons, and also on the jetted net gowns that were fashionable last season. Brocades are not among the new fabrics, but they will be used for dinner gowns, as will also the plain satins. Combining both of these



materials is in favor, and also using two shades of the same color. For instance, a gown of pink brocade has the underskirt and the front of the waist of plain satin. Across the bottom of the front breadth is a band of jeweled passementerie, and on the vest of plain pink satin is more of the jeweled passementerie. The sleeves are small caps and there are black velvet straps over the shoulders that are tied in a bowknot on top of the shoulders and fastened with a jeweled pin.

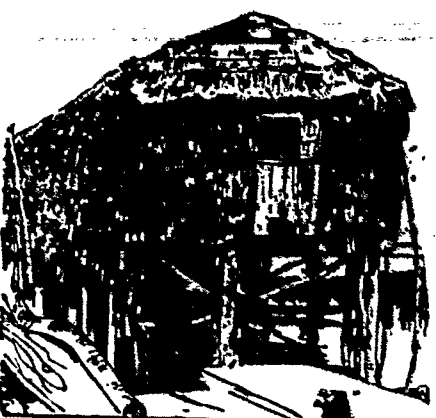
Velvet dinner gowns for married women are to be extremely fashionable. Expensive, of course, but beautiful they are. The Princess style for slender women is especially effective, and the trimming of rich point lace, with diamond ornaments, makes a combination that is highly artistic as well as becoming. The sleeves are small, either in bands or flat puffs, but some height is given by a bow of light-colored velvet or a spray of flowers. One of the handsomest of all the imported dinner gowns—also suitable for a ball gown—was made of white velvet, with the front breadth embroidered in white lace applique, outlined with steel beads. The waist is unusually tight, with a soft drapery in front, embroidered to match the skirt. The sleeves are narrow bands of the velvet, with the lace and steel embroidery.

FILIPINO VILLAGES.

THEY ARE TO BE FOUND IN LOWER LOUISIANA.

They Have Existed There for Many Years—Few Geographers or Historians Know This Fact—A Silent People With Peculiar Ways.

Perhaps there is not a score of geographers or historians in all the United States who even know that Louisiana contains a Filipino colony. But nevertheless there are several of them. All about the mouth of the Mississippi river there are hundreds of tiny islands covered with tall marsh grass, some of which are only a few feet out of the ocean. On the west side of the delta, in a little bay called Barataria, and to the north of the famous Grand Isle, are numerous little islands on which are settled the colonies of Filipinos, which just now are being visited by many Southern people anxious to learn for themselves just what sort of people our soldiers are fighting with in the far away Orient. Besides these



A Typical Home.

colonies there are other smaller ones in Lake Borgne, on the other side of the delta, and in the many contiguous islands of the Barataria group.

The principal island in the latter group is Clarkchene, and on this island is the main Filipino settlement. These little blue men are called along the Gulf "Manillamen." These sons of the far away Philippines are natural born fishermen and sailors. There are all told in this one colony, or rather series of colonies, perhaps as many as fifteen hundred persons.

Three Many Years.

The colony seems to have originated more than fifty years ago. In fact, some of the oldest of the colonists say that they have been in this country for fully seventy-five years. But about a half century ago "Manillamen" first settled on Grand Isle, the last in the group in Barataria Bay. It was on this island that the famous pirate, Lafitte, made his headquarters for many years. In 1856 a great storm swept over that region, completely submerging Last Isle. Its four hundred souls being washed into the sea. The next morning not a trace remained of that Strange wild spot in the Mexican Sea. Where wind and wave and wild bird wandered free.

This storm created fear in the hearts of the "Manillamen," and by degrees they moved a little nearer to the mainland, and again settled on an island called Cheniere Caminade. This island being somewhat higher than the others was covered with large oak trees. Here these quiet people built up a flourishing colony. They had a little church, a schoolhouse, and had made more or less attempt at an organized government.

Then came another fearful hurricane. In 1880, during which eight hundred persons—one-half of the population of Cheniere Caminade—were swept into eternity in one single night. Other storms of more or less severity followed, the last occurring in 1893, carrying with it terrible loss of life and property.

These sad experiences have inspired a sort of superstitious dread of the outlying islands in the hearts of those who escaped from the fury of the terrible hurricanes, and they gradually gave up their old homes and went further in shore, where they built new ones.

It is for this reason that now the greater number of these peculiar people inhabit the low, marshy islands in the sheltered bay of Barataria, and the little strips of land along the banks of the sluggish bayous, on whose bosoms are myriads of water lilies in peaceful repose.

Scattered here and there all through the tall marsh grasses, nestled among the scrub willows, half hidden at times under the dense growth of tropical vegetation, are rudely and curiously constructed houses of palmetto and straw, presenting a half civilized appearance, the homes of these wanderers from the islands of the South Sea. A Silent People.

They are a silent people, never mingling with strangers, and taking little interest in the doings of the outside world. Their lives are devoted to the peaceful career of the fisherman. Their wants are few. With little sail boats and outfits for fishing, this colony has lived for more than half a century, content with a good fish catch which would furnish a good dinner, in blissful ignorance of what has been going on in the great world.

They are inclined to be suspicious of strangers, and when one goes among them he is very likely to be received with coolness and indifference, but when by the use of tact and diplomacy their suspicions are once allayed they will talk without restraint and even open their homes with most cordial hospitality and place before a stranger the best that they contain.

The Filipinos are hopelessly ignorant so far as book learning and knowledge of the world goes, but the great majority seem to be endowed with a natural intelligence which marks them as vastly superior to many classes of foreigners who make this country their home. They are interested in the war in the Philippines, and are proud to talk about their native land.

They have heard of Dewey, too, although it is with great reluctance that they can be induced to talk about the war with strangers. They have heard

in a vague sort of way something of the recent history of their native country, and some few express the desire that it should be free.

"Do you like the Spaniards?" was asked of a group of old men. "Me like a Spaniard? Me like a snake! The Spaniards steal our money. Take all we have. No one in Manila like a Spaniard. Dewey good man; he give Manila people friendship," were the replies which came from many sources all at once.

No Manila Women.

The writer landed a few days ago from a little steamer on the island of Clarkchene, armed with a camera, and was greeted with very bad grace at first, but the colonists were soon won over to amiability. Soon it became known abroad that a white stranger had landed in the colony to take pictures. Little brown eyes and shining black heads were visible everywhere peeping out from behind window shutters and half closed doors. Their suspicions were at length overcome by curiosity, and before I had been among them three hours the crowd of curious spectators, men, women and children, had assumed enormous proportions. Mothers washed their babies' faces, dressed them in their best and paraded them up and down, hoping their darlings would favorably attract the artist's eye.

"What you charge to draw my baby?"

"I will pay you money if you will draw me a picture of my house."

These were the entreating remarks which came from all sides when they found they were not to be "drawn." The most remarkable fact noticed about this Filipino colony was that there are no Manila women in it. Never yet, so they said, has a native Filipino woman been seen in the colony. One old man of superior intelligence explained that it was a characteristic of Manila women that they never left their homes. A very few, he said, had gone to Spain, but these were the only known instances of Manila women having left their native land. These "Manillamen" took wives from among the Spanish and French creoles, and in a very few instances, from among the negroes. They seem well contented in their matrimonial alliances.

A great many of these Filipinos are very old men. "We live to be much old," said one. They have one vice, that of gambling. In the centre of the colony stands a gambling hall. At night, when the day's work is done, the men congregate in large numbers around the gaming tables and play until their last nickel is gone. Crowds of women enter and stand around as spectators of the game, but seeming to take as much interest as the men.

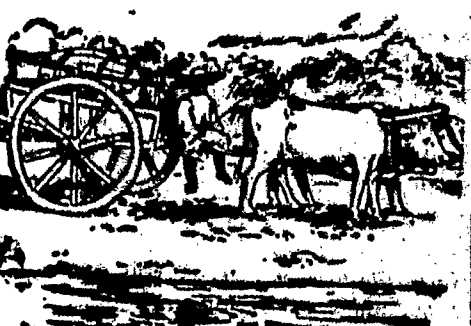
Liquor is used to a very limited extent. There is a small bar in one corner of the gambling room, but during a two days' stay on the island not one case of intoxication was observed.

Few Crimes Committed.

The quiet, peaceful habits of these people are most remarkable, living as they do without police authority, and with absolutely nothing to fear from the law. There is an utter absence of lawlessness and crime.

The principal street in the village of Clarkchene has within the past year been christened Dewey avenue. It extends along the water front, where the most modern, as well as the most substantial, buildings on the island are to be seen.

The island is owned by a white man, who lived in New Orleans, and exacts from the colonists a nominal rent of from \$1.50 to \$2 and even \$5 per year. There is not a church or schoolhouse in the settlement or in that entire coast country. The swarms of little swarthy faced Filipinos, the rising generation, are thus entirely without training, except such as their ignorant



A Filipino Farmer and Team.

parents are able to give them. As they are within the limits of the State of Louisiana, they are entitled to school facilities, and about a year ago a kind hearted, well meaning Southern gentleman went among them and urged them to make application for a school, but they did not take kindly to the idea, and his efforts were not crowned with success.

These old fishermen have not seen their native land for many, many years. Most of them left it as sailors on Spanish vessels, and upon arriving in this country ran away and joined the colony of their countrymen.

Bobby and the Matches.

Bobby was unhappy—most unhappy. He knew that in the afternoon visitors were coming and that his very dirty little face would have to be washed. This worried Bobby to such an extent that he became quite sad at the prospect.

"Do you know, Bobby?" said the nurse, "you remind me very much of some matches I have seen? The mere sight of soap makes them run away."

Bobby was interested and begged to see them. So a shallow pan was filled with water and the matches—about a dozen of them—placed in the middle points to the centre. Then nurse poked the corner of a cake of soap among them and they all floated as far away as they could.

Bobby was delighted, and perhaps (let us whisper it) a little ashamed. "But they love sugar," said nurse, and, sure enough, to Bobby's astonishment, he saw the matches coming back again as nurse held a piece of sugar in the centre of the pan.

Bobby's face is being washed now. So while he is away auntie will tell you the secret. The matches were ordinary ones, and you can do the same thing yourself as nurse did, but I think it would be well to cut off the ends of the matches before you experiment.

WOMEN TALK THE MOST.

In 1,000 Couples Observed. Fleets 750 Miles. Read the Chart.

"There it is again. Just what I had made up my mind to long ago," exclaimed the wag as they were standing upon the street corner, slanting the elastic substance in their necks at the passing female population. "What's that?" replied the other, inquiringly.

"See that couple—that fellow and girl? Notice anything about them?" "Nothing in particular. Don't see but that they conduct themselves about as any other couple does. Don't see that they differ from the general run of 'em."

"That's just the point; they're doing just as the general run of 'em do—retorted the wag with apparent satisfaction. "Yet people don't notice anything peculiar regarding it."

"What are you driving at, anyway, old man? Explain yourself," demanded his companion. "Well, it's just this. For several weeks past I've been taking observations to determine the relative amount of time a woman talks to the number of times a man is permitted to speak when they are alone in each other's company. At last I have discovered a safe ratio, and what it is you can easily determine for yourself when I give you the figures."

With this he drew forth a notebook, and continued: "I've taken 1,000 couples, and, as they passed me, noted which one whether the man or woman was doing the talking. The snatches of conversation I caught while they might have been interesting as a subject for further thought did not interest me. I've been dealing in mathematics only. These figures are accurate and taken with great care. The couple who just passed us was the one thousandth I have observed. The others have been young and old native and foreign born and altogether it established a general rule which I am positive can be safely relied upon.

"Out of 1,000, I have noted, just as they came, mark you, the man was talking 139 times. In those instances, I expect, there must have been something the matter with the vocal chords of his female companion, but, however, I won't attempt to explain it away. 47 cases both were making an effort to be heard. The woman was doubtless successful in the end, but I never followed them up to see. Eighty-three times I observed that silence reigned, another phenomenon for which I am unable to offer any explanation. But listen—may, hearken—here is the record of the fair ones. Before the appearance of this last couple I had 750 times charged against them, 750 times out of 1,000 where their sweet voices have been heard while a man was the only auditor. This last instance completes the 1,000, and makes the grand total 751. Try and see if your figures do not come about the same."

Reasonable Desserts.

Cherry Dumplings.—Cover the bottom of a tumbler with seeded cherries, and sprinkle with sugar; add a couple of pinches of good baking-powder dough then more cherries and dough until the tumbler is three-fourths full. Stand the tumbler in a steamer, cover tightly, and steam forty-five minutes. Serve with hard sauce flavored with nutmeg.

Cherry Pudding.—Beat two eggs until light, add one scant pint of milk, one level teaspoonful of salt and enough flour to make a stiff batter, mixing two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder in the first cupful put in. Now add as many cherries as can be stirred in. Steam two hours or bake an hour. Serve with fruit sauce.

Cherry Roly-poly.—Of course, it is understood that one of the best uses to make of cherries is to put them in the over-popular roly-poly. The biscuit dough should not be very short, and should be rolled as thin as it can be handled. Spread the fruit on thickly, and sprinkle heavily with sugar. Dip the pudding-cloth in hot water, wring dry and flour well. Arrange the cloth at the end of the dough so that when it is rolled another turn or two will carry it into place, where it may be tied up loosely enough to admit of swelling. Hard sauce flavored with nutmeg is best for roly-poly.

Sunshine Dessert.—Bake sunshine cake in small, straight-sided individual pans. With a cutter cut almost to the bottom, taking out the inside, leaving a shell. Fill with fine strawberries over which some pineapple has been grated, sweetened, and just a few drops (three or four) of brandy, and cover the whole with whipped cream. There must not be enough pineapple to be distinguishable. It gives the strawberries an indescribable flavor.

Tipsey Pudding.—Molten the little rounds cut from the small cakes mentioned above with either, Madeira, sherry or rum; cover with whipped cream or rich custard.

Best Fat for Puddings.

Marrow is an excellent fat for puddings; its expense, however, prevents its being largely used. The best use to which it is put is for salting in to make a marrow pudding, using the marrow instead of butter. This is most nutritious food for invalids.

A Steady Gait.

"I haven't a word to say about it," he exclaimed, as he sank into a chair and fanned himself. "I have suffered hour after hour and waited for a cold wave. But I haven't a word to say about the weather."

"Thanked?" "No. I'm positive I'm the man who used to complain about the quality of the climate."

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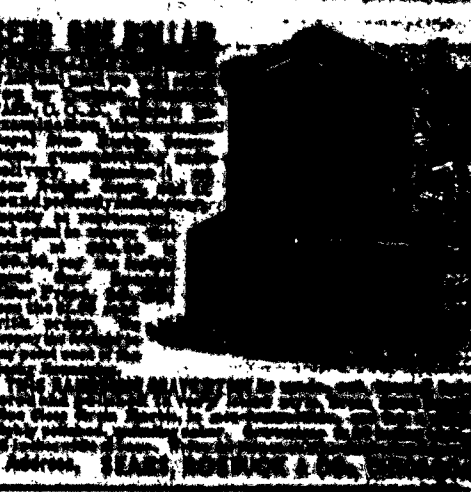
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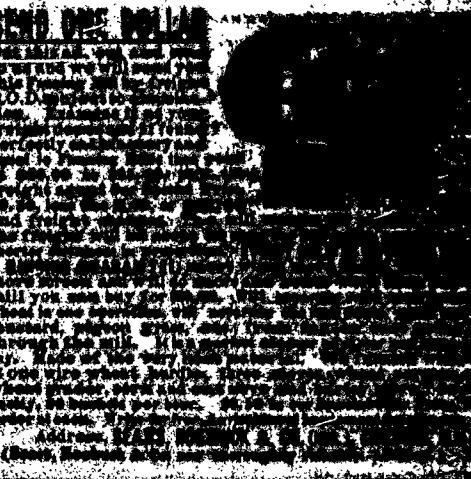
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