

Fashion and Gossip.

SPRING COSTUMES.—We learn from Madame Demorest's fashions that the various shades of steel-color and steel effects generally, seem to be the great rage for spring and early summer wear. Steel-colored *chene* silks and steel-colored *chene* poplins are certainly not new, but they are always clean, fresh-looking and attractive. Besides these there are fine-striped changeable silks, "chameleons," which look as if composed only of two colors, but in reality contain four, and are, from a necessity of their manufacture, always admirable in quality, the most durable, as well as the prettiest of silk dress goods. And, higher still in the range, we come to the "Pompadours," thick, black rep silks, with a satin surface braided thickly with small, old-fashioned designs in chintz colors, or the plain *failles*, in the loveliest shades of lemon and tea-rose, the last being the latest, most distinguished, and most desirable of colors, at the present moment. For suits, there is nothing so much admired as the fine *chene* silks, and other less expensive goods in the same style. The best quality of *chene* silks can be obtained for \$2 50 per yard, and a large quantity is not required for a gored dress, and cape *a la Marie Antoinette*; so that the most elegant suit need not be expensive. The fashionable method of trimming them is with narrow frills, cross-cut bound with the same, and headed with satin *rouleaux* of the same shade. *Chene* poplins and other less expensive materials may be made up with capes, but are generally accompanied by *sacs* or *paletots*, as being less fanciful and better suited to solid or simple material. Narrow folds of silk or satin are still in vogue for trimming, but they are used less in contrasting colors than in the color of the material they are used to ornament, or in the prevailing tint which a *chene* or speckled groundwork represents. Costumes in two colors are, however, very fashionably worn, the underskirt or dress being, frequently, of some striped material, and the upper dress of the contrasting color. A charming costume, for example, is composed of an underskirt striped in lavender and white, with an upper dress of lavender silk. Another has a skirt striped in black and white, with an upper dress of blue silk, trimmed with leaves bound with white. The bonnet is made to harmonize exactly with the costume. There is very little difference in the shape, only a general tendency to frontal elevation. Late styles of spring and summer chips are speckled in black and white, and trimmed with gray satin, gray leaves frosted with crystal, and "*mantilles*" of frosted tulle. Frosted tulle is quite a novelty, and must not be confounded with dotted tulle; it is much more effective. Tulle and lace are now made in all colors, and their beauty is greatly heightened by this charming crystallization. Pale buff and lemon-color are the fashionable shades for gloves, finished upon the long wrists with a narrow welting of black or white kid, and ornamented with eight fine gold studs and crimped tassels. Veils are cut with rounded ends, which tie behind under the chignon. Very fine striped linens, at a dollar per yard, are the newest and prettiest goods for summer morning wear. *Piques*, percales and cambrics are, of course, worn as much as ever.

WALKING DRESSES.—Walking dresses consisting of suits of light speckled French poplin, trimmed with bands of silk uniform in color, and stitched on with a heavy ornamental stitch, are much worn. Agate buttons. Upper skirt festooned with bands of silk, over the underskirt. Short, half-fitting *paletot* has a hood lined with silk, but no sash. A walking-dress composed of Polonoise of black silk, over a blue silk skirt, trimmed with three narrow frills, headed with blue satin, is handsome. Instead of loops, the sash has a rosette of real lace at the back, and the ends are trimmed with lace. The sleeves and the small *revers* at the throat are only finished with a thick cord.

BONNETS.—Nearly all the bonnets of the season have lace falls, or a scarf of lace attached, which is carried to the front, and forms second strings, the first consisting merely of narrow ties. This has been done to a great extent during the past winter, and forms a graceful addition to the small bonnets, which require some sort of drapery to shorten the apparent length between the chin and the top of the head. The "baby" bonnet, which is simply composed of a "cap," or, as it is sometimes called, "soft" crown, and small brim, turned back a little from the sides, has had a great success, and is really a very pretty design. The crown is always composed of thin material, and is sometimes raised into a sort of puff, which is very stylish, and from which a fall of lace, open in the centre, descends upon the sides of the *chignon*, and is carried to the front, where the ends form wide lace strings. The brim is generally made of silk, although it may very properly be composed of the same material as the crown.

GLOVES AND JEWELRY.—We learn, from the Home Journal, that gloves are still worn gauntlet fashion, the latest style being ornamented with a wide lacing on the back, or a double row of gilt or steel buttons, with hanging cord and tassel. Some are made very long at the wrist, with only a single button at the top, but they are not apt to fit well. Lace collars, with small tabs, are very much worn. The Shakspeare points are not worn as long as they were last winter, and are now slightly rounded, and trimmed with fluted ruffles of lace. Linen collars, with deep points on the shoulders, or plain bands of linen, trimmed with lace, are now worn. A new style of jewelry has made its appearance, which is called "woodlawn jewelry," consisting of brooch, earrings, bracelets and necklace made of wood, to imitate flowers. This new style is both pretty and cheap, and will be found extremely useful for summer and country wear. The Indian necklace, consisting of numerous strings of beads, either of jet or filagree, the strings increasing in length, and reaching to the waist, is the latest novelty. There are also necklaces of colored silk or satin balls in a gilt cup, with pendant tassels to match. Gilt lockets tied on blue or black velvet, are much in vogue.

HOME AND FOREIGN GOSSIP.—A Detroit lady escaped burial alive by waking from a trance after she had been placed in her coffin.—A couple who have been divorced twenty years have just been remarried in New Orleans, and an old-fashioned divorce was not at all like such affairs at the present day.—Gossip again marries Maggie Mitchell.—An Illinois lady gave birth to three daughters last week, and her appreciative townspeople immediately made up a purse for her.—Monograms in the place of door-plates are the latest style.—A Jerseyman has gone insane of marrying a widow.—English circles are somewhat startled to hear that "a dashing young baronet" is about to marry the daughter of a journeyman baker in Glasgow, who is now waiting on the tables in a restaurant of that city.—Mme. de Metternich was very lovely at her first reception in a robe of black tulle trimmed with satin and moire, no jewels, gray Josephine gloves, a velvet ribbon round her neck and a jet cross. Her nut-brown hair, which is very glossy, was simply divided into two raised *bandeaux*, with black velvet bands, and her chignon confined behind with a cut jet comb.—A fast young Chicagoan in Paris, a favorite of the ladies, one of the best dancers in the city, and profusely extravagant of his money, ended his career the other day by drowning himself in the Seine, leaving a pile of debts behind him.—A citizen of Frankfort-on-the-Main is prosecuting the Prince of Wales for leading his daughter in the way she should not go.—The Princess of Wales does not go to Ireland, but the Dublin ladies are to send her an address.—One thousand dollars a year for gloves is allowed the dancing attache of an embassy at Paris.—The Viennese are jubilant over marriage made easy.