

MIDSUMMER GOWNS.

THE SEASON'S NEW AND ARTISTIC WASHING MATERIALS.

Dresses Especially Designed For Safety Days—How the Dress Skirts Are Lined. Fancy Blouse Waists—Pretty Items in the Adjuncts of Dress.

The summer fabrics known as "washing materials" have rarely been more tempting or artistic. All the beautiful designs in foulards have been reproduced in lawns, muslins and other translucent stuffs. Zephyras are a fashionable material again and show handsome checks. Silk checks, by the way, are



GRASS LAWN GOWN. WASHING SILK. thrown out on many of the thin fabrics. There is a wide field for selection in washing materials hand embroidered in silks and in cottons.

Grass lawns, so popular last year, are again to the front. There are embroidered robes in this dainty material which are intended to be worn over silk and form the very smartest of gowns for garden parties and similar functions.

Some embroidered in white, and with the larger designs perforated, or semi-transparent, will make up delightfully with white or cream moire ribbon, and the sleeves of the plain lawn ruffed from shoulder to wrist, and supplemented by frilled epaulettes of the narrow embroidery put on very full. There are some excellent white muslins worked all over, and without doubt some of the smartest dresses will be made of bold red and white checks. There are many black muslins, with bloused bouquets printed in natural colorings. Some of the designs in crepe de chine stand out in bold relief, and broche and chine effects are both dominant. Some most expensive cotton piques, which look as well as corded velvets, will be much more, as also a similar and much less expensive kind.

In this connection it may be wise to explain that wise women having gowns in washing material, when at all elaborate, send them to the professional cleaner when soiled, and not to the laundry. The cleaner's price for a smart blouse or gown compares favorably with that charged by the laundress, and there is absolutely no comparison as to effect of the dry cleaning process of the professional and the soap and water of the washerwoman. Even if eventually destined for the laundry, a pretty washing gown should be cleaned the first time by the chemical process.

Dress skirts of the thicker type of washing materials are lined throughout, outside and lining being made up together at the edge. Thin silex, jacquard or small muslin may be used as a lining, both for lawn muslin and grass lawn. All semitransparent textures are mounted on a separate slip, with the edges separate, the skirt being either finished with a deep hem and tucks or with frills or bands of trimming. Plain skirts are still worn, and skirts left plain at the edges have lines of trimming below the hips.

A useful as well as stylish design seen was made up in grass lawn over green silk, with bands of insertion, applique lawn and guipure. The deep belt was trimmed with the insertion, and there were boudoirs of ribbon, ruffled sleeves and tucked yoke, back and front. A smart gown in washing silk had three guipure insertions and a frieze of silk trimming the skirt.

Fancy waists and blouses are made in many charming styles. Chiffons, fancy gauze, silk and lace are used in their construction. A poached blouse in blue chiffon has the front striped with tucks and chiffon ruffles. There are accordions, frills and satin ribbons down one side. A zouave blouse in white chiffon is

with this in view. Space forbids a detailed account of the various schemes of decoration employed in blouses.

A brief description of an Elizabethan hall will give an idea, however, of the magnitude and stateliness expressed in artistic house decoration. The staircase at the far end is rendered an object of interest, with Ionic columns at intervals, in the spandrels of which is some fine arabesque work. The doorway at the back is set between fluted pilasters, and the handsome chimney-piece of oak is surmounted by two panels adorned with heraldic devices.

PIANO PRACTICE.

How Long May a Student Practice Instrumental Music With Safety?

Many earnest thinkers are at present querying whether the thousands of hours devoted to this practice are wisely expended. Moreover, it is repeatedly asked how far the demands of the piano are in accord with the requirements of health, and to what degree the nervousness, defective sight and stoop shoulders of the day are due to piano practice.

In view of gaining light on the subject, the management of a prominent western newspaper recently addressed a circular to a number of noted medical men, inquiring how long a student, in average good health, might practice instrumental music with safety. The piano and our girls were doubtless the chief objects of consideration with the circular's author. They were evidently uppermost in the minds of the authorities who responded. A consensus of the opinions expressed in the replies is, therefore, fully in accord with the present theme.

The length of time to be employed with safety, it was stated, depended largely on the age, individual temperament and other occupations of a student. Girls were thought to have less endurance than boys. In commenting on the foregoing, The Etude says: It might well have been added that they are less likely to have other balancing occupations and are more frequently tempted to undue exertions through ambition for social display. One of the main difficulties was considered to arise from the fact that the piano frequently stands in the dark corner of a room filled with dead air, and either under or overheated. Bending forward and straining the eyes to read the notes, in an improper light and atmosphere, is almost sure to cause defective vision and other physical injuries. Another danger attracting attention was the continuous use of the same position, causing headache and permanent spinal exhaustion.

The danger was thought to be especially great to a young spine when the feet are without support, and it was advised that children under 10 should not be permitted to practice more than two hours daily, broken into several periods, with plenty of outdoor exercise intervening. An adult might be allowed from three to six hours, interrupted in the same way. All our organs and faculties are improved and strengthened by habitual use, not overstepping the limits of endurance, but harm must inevitably result from excessive weariness. In ability to lay aside thoughts of work in real periods wakefulness at night and lassitude in the morning should be promptly heeded.

The Entrance Hall.

The hall in modern houses is a thing of importance. In many instances it is sufficiently spacious to serve as a reception room and is sometimes furnished



AN ELIZABETHAN HALL.

with this in view. Space forbids a detailed account of the various schemes of decoration employed in halls. A brief description of an Elizabethan hall will give an idea, however, of the magnitude and stateliness expressed in artistic house decoration. The staircase at the far end is rendered an object of interest, with Ionic columns at intervals, in the spandrels of which is some fine arabesque work. The doorway at the back is set between fluted pilasters, and the handsome chimney-piece of oak is surmounted by two panels adorned with heraldic devices.

Quaint Bedroom Furniture.

Ahateurs of enameling will be glad to hear that attempts are being made to introduce quaint bedroom furniture, bedstead included, in dark green lacquered wood, forming a striking contrast in its stern rusticity to the glittering brass bedsteads and exquisite Louis XVI suits in vogue.

Another feature of this innovation is the flat and dented unconventional railings conspicuous on the chairs, bedsteads, washstands and music cabinets. A little dash of red or pink would, it seems, happily relieve this somewhat somber style of decoration in preference to the pale green tint chosen for the embroidery of the white quilts, duchess slips and toilet mats en suite.

Points About Dressing Lettuce.

The dressing for lettuce may be very simple or it may consist of many things mixed and mingled together, but it should invariably be added at table. Some people like lettuce dressed with sugar and vinegar. Others prefer it dressed with sugar and cream. But the most approved dressing for lettuce is French dressing, with or without mustard, according to taste. Cresses, onions and radishes make a pretty garnish for a dish of lettuce, and either one of them may be mixed with the lettuce when dressed, or they may all be served together, forming a compound salad, says Mrs. Ewing.

Biscuit Cakes.

Among other recipes for rice griddle cakes is the following: Stir a cupful of cold boiled rice into a quart of sweet milk and allow it to stand undisturbed for half an hour. Then add a teaspoonful of salt, half a cupful of melted butter, a cupful of flour and a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little water. Stir thoroughly together and test on the griddle. If the cakes show a disposition to break, add a little more flour.

ALICE EWING.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc un commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$8 00; Edition du Dimanche, \$2 00.

A BIT OF FANCY WORK.

A Pretty and Convenient Device For Keeping Letters In Order.

The butterfly letter holder is a useful little trifle which any one with the least dexterity can make at home for a trifling cost, and it is sure to be a satisfaction when made with neatness and good taste.

The letter holder is of four circular pieces of very stiff cardboard measuring about 6 or 7 inches across. Do not make it much smaller than this, or it will not be of much service. These circular pieces are covered each with a different color of silk, satin, brocade or velvet. The lower one is covered with pale green cored silk, the one above with rose colored silk feta with a cerise dot over it, the one above that with pale blue and brown brocade and the top one with deep yellow velvet.

HOLDER. The ribbon by

which it hangs is of the same shade of green as the first circle. The butterflies are made of prettily contrasting pieces of velvet and silk neatly pasted in place and the edges caught down and the markings made with embroidery silk.

The backs of the circular pieces are covered with satinet of the same shade of green as is used for the first circular piece and the ribbon. The pieces are connected with each other by strong, small stitches so as to make a little pocket into which the letters are slipped. Made in this way, this holder is extremely pretty, and if one has the scraps of silk, etc., in the house it costs comparatively nothing, but it can also be made of cardboard and tissue paper and still present a very effective appearance.

The circles should be covered with different colors of the crinkled or crepe paper, and the butterflies made of the smooth enamel paper or of lined writing paper tinted with water colors. When made in this way, the fastening of the circles one to another can be done with patent fasteners, or the lower edge of each can be glued to the one above it, and the right side where the outer edge of one circle touches the other can be held with small bows of ribbon.

The Standard Designer, which originally described and illustrated this little device, further says that when it is made of the tissue paper a pretty effect can be obtained by making the holder of one color throughout, but each circle of a different shade, the lowest one the deepest and gradually lightening toward the top.

Asperges With Sauce Hollandaise.

Tie the stalks in bundles, keeping the heads one way and cut off the stalks so they may be of equal length. Put them into well salted, boiling water and cook until they are tender—no longer, about 18 minutes. While boiling prepare some thin slices of toast, arrange the asperges when well drained neatly upon it and pour over a white sauce.

Hollandaise or Dutch sauce is the best ever made for this purpose, according to Mrs. Henderson, whose method of preparing asperges is here quoted. For this sauce put a piece of butter the size of a pigeon's egg into a saucenpan, and when it bubbles stir in with an egg about an even tablespoonful of flour. Let it continue to bubble until the flour is thoroughly cooked, when stir in half a pint of boiling water or veal stock. When it boils, take it from the fire and stir in gradually the beaten yolks of 4 eggs; return the sauce to the fire for a minute, to set the eggs, without allowing it to boil; again remove the sauce, stir in the juice of half a small lemon and fresh butter the size of a walnut, cut into small pieces, and stir all well with the whisk.

For Woman's Convenience.

The packing of one's hats and bonnets for traveling is always a matter of some anxiety, particularly for traveling abroad, when the amount of each passenger's luggage is so rigorously curtailed. It will therefore be good news to many of our readers to hear of the fairest and most comfortable way to pack hats and bonnets, which is some fine arabesque work. The doorway at the back is set between fluted pilasters, and the handsome chimney-piece of oak is surmounted by two panels adorned with heraldic devices.

Succession of James Washington.

No. 53,090—Court Civil de District—Div.

PAR BAUMGARDEN & STERN.

L'ABEILLE, Encanteur—Bureau No. 622 Rue Commune—Le JEUDI, 24 juin 1897, à midi, à la Bourse des Encanteurs, Nos. 629 et 631 Rue Commune, à vendre au nom de l'honoré N. H. Rightor, juge de la Cour, Division D, dans la paroisse d'Orléans, Division A, pour le compte de son épouse, Mme. J. H. Mengé et Fils.

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