

# Fashions for December.

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VOIGT, from actual articles of Costume.*



FIGURES 1 AND 2.—DINNER DRESS AND PROMENADE COSTUME.

WINTER is now upon us, and Fashion, ever obedient of the varying demands of climate and season, produces forms and materials specially adapted for the period of the year. Silks of various fabrics form the favorite material for dresses. Although not a few plain materials are worn, plaids form no inconsiderable portion of the patterns to be met with. These, in many cases, display very large figures, and every combination of color. Dresses for the promenade have generally three, four, or even five flounces. These are placed usually *à disposition*. In the form of the corsage great latitude is allowed; the waists being made high, *à la Eugenie*, or low, *à la Raphael*, according to the fancy or taste of the wearer. Basquine and jacket bodies are both worn. Revers, forming a collar at the back, and narrowing to the waist in front, are much in favor. Sleeves are made very wide below the elbow, and are rather short. Many are rounded to the bend of the arm in front, while others are left open at the back. Among those which have met with the most favorable reception for the promenade, we may particularly mention the large bouillon undersleeve (termed *Siciliennes*) with deep ruffs falling quite over the hand.

The DINNER COSTUME, which forms the first figure in our illustration for the present month, is specially designed to be worn at home. It consists of a high jacket body, of a rich claret color, fitting closely to the figure. It is fastened up in front with fancy silk buttons and loops. The fronts are trimmed with rows of narrow black velvet ribbon, which are also continued upon the jacket. The sleeves are wide, of the pagoda form, turned back at the cuffs, and laced at the front with cords. The skirt is of Irish poplin, in very large plaids. It is made long and exceedingly full. The cap and collar are both of lace, with white silk cord and tassels.

Another favorite variety of jacket body, which the limited space at our disposal in this department forbids our illustrating, is extremely elegant. It is made high at the back, and open at the waist, with revers, forming a pointed collar at the back. This revers is of *moire antique*, edged with narrow velvet. The corners of the jacket are square in front, and at the back are laid two double plaits, each of which is finished by a small bow at the wrist. A broad band of *moire antique* is laid round the jacket. The sleeves are of three-quarter length, having a deep cuff *à mousquetaire* of *moire antique*. The under-sleeves and collar are of Maltese lace.

In no one department of costume has there been during the present season so great a variety of charming styles produced, as in that of CLOAKS and Mantillas. They are of every possible diversity of form, color, material, and ornament. Among so great a multiplicity the chief embarrassment to the purchaser has been to select from the assortment, all equally charming, presented by the caterers to the taste of the fashionable world. We have already, in our monthly illustrations presented some which have been received with great approbation. Not less worthy of attention is the one which forms the second figure of our present illustration. It is of light brown cloth, with a very full cape, which falls upon the shoulders,

but does not extend beyond their tips. This cape is continued all the way down the front to the bottom of the skirt. It is graduated in width, being narrower at the waist and growing gradually broader as it descends toward the bottom of the skirt. The back is made full, with a decided droop. The arm-holes are merely slits in the cloth behind the tabs of the cape. The ornaments of this cloak, as will be seen from the illustration, are very unique. They are composed of fringe disposed in tassels, headed by a fleur-de-lis wrought in chain-stitch.



FIGURE 3.—BONNET.

BONNETS present every variety of material, and every possible shade of color. Velvets, satins, and silks, especially those which are spotted, are decided favorites. For ornaments, flowers, feathers, and lace are profusely employed. The inside of the hat, in particular, is most lavishly decorated. One beautiful mode is to let the lighter and more delicate twigs, sprays, and vines form a wreath over the head, while the full-blown flowers are disposed at the ears. As to the choice of color, it is left wholly to the wearer, furnishing full opportunity for her to adapt the color to her own complexion. Tulle and blond are not unfrequently mixed together in the fabrication of bonnets. The one which we delineate above, is one of the most elegant that has made its appearance during the season. It is composed of green terry velvet, and satin of royal purple. The body of the hat is of velvet, while the crown and the trimming of the front are of satin, as is also the cape. It is trimmed with black lace, and ostrich feathers, gracefully arranged. The ornaments inside are of blonde and fuschia flowers. The lining is of the same satin of which a portion of the exterior is composed. It is worn, as is shown in the illustration, very far back upon the head.