



Ladies' Fashions for Early Spring.

MORE attention than previously for many seasons appears to have been given this winter to ladies' fashions, and some that have come out are remarkably tasteful, while generally in fabric and manufacture they appear to be unusually expensive. We compile this month mainly from the *London World of Fashion*.

Bonnets are remarkable for a novel form, the front of the rims continuing large and open, the crowns round, low, and small. Of an elegant style are those made of Orient gray pearl, half satin, half *velours épinglé*, having a very rich effect, and decorated with *touffes Marquises*, composed of *marabouts*. Then, we see bonnets of green satin, ornamented at the edge, over the front, and upon the crown, with a stamped velvet imitating lace, and decorated upon the left side with a small *plumet* in a weeping feather, the ends of which are tied or knotted with green, of two different shades; this is a very favorite and *recherché* style. Also a bonnet of grayish green velvet, ornamented with a bunch of feathers composed of the *grèbe* and the ostrich. Drooping low feathers of every description are in request for decorating bonnets.

Ball Dresses of light materials are most in vogue, and are generally made of two and three skirts; as white *tulle*, with three skirts, trimmed all round with a broad, open-worked satin ribbon; the third skirt being raised on one side, and attached with a large bouquet of flowers, whilst the ribbon is twisted, and ascends to the side of the waist, where it finishes; the same kind of flowers serves to ornament the sleeves and centre of the corsage, which is also trimmed with a deep drapery of *tulle*. Feather trimmings are in vogue, disposed as fringes of *marabout*, and placed at the edges of the double skirts of *tulle*. Another pretty style, composed also of white *tulle*, and à *double jupes*, the under one having a border of white *marabout* fringe, sprinkled with small golden grains falling over them in a perfect shower; the second *jupe* having attached to the edge of the hem a narrower fringe; the two sides of the

upper skirt being open to the waist, is ornamented upon each side with an embroidery of gold and white silk, caught at regular distances with *neuds* of white and gold gauze ribbon, the floating ends of which are edged with fringe; body à *la Grecque*.

Capotes of velvet are considerably lightened in appearance, by a novelty consisting of a kind of open stamped velvet, which is placed over satin; either a pretty contrast in color, or of the same hue; whilst those of plain velvet are relieved with trimmings of black lace, with *mancinis* formed of the convolvulus, made in green velvet. The form of the present style of *capotes* is very open in front, flat upon the top of the head, and shallow and sloping at the back. Some are of green satin, trimmed with ribbons of an open pattern in black and green. Others are decorated with rows of fancy ribbon-velvet, the interior having loops of narrow ribbon-velvet of two colors charmingly blended.

I. A high dress of green silk, the body opening in front à *la demi cœur*; the waist is long and rounded in front; the sleeves, reaching a little below the elbow, are moderately wide, and finished either by a *râche* or rich *guimpe* trimming; the skirt is plain, long, and full. *Pardessus manteau* of claret velvet, fastening to the throat; it is ornamented with a narrow silk trimming; this *manteau* is lined with white silk, quilted in large squares. Bonnet of green velvet, with feathers of the same color placed low at the left side.

II. *Robe* of blue *brocade*; the high body opens in the front nearly to the waist; the fronts of the skirt are lined with amber satin, and a fulling of the same is placed on the edge of the fronts, graduating in width towards the top; it is carried round the neck of the dress; the sleeves are very wide from the elbow, and lined with amber satin; the edge of the sleeve is left plain, but there is a *riche* of satin round the middle of the sleeve, just above the elbow. Under dress of jaconet muslin, trimmed with lace or embroidery. Cap of *tulle*, with blue trimmings.



III. A dress of pink *tulle*, spotted and *brodè* in silver; the *jupe* composed of three skirts, each waved round the lower part; plain close-fitting body, made very low, and pointed at the waist; the upper part decorated with a narrow cape, descending in a point upon the front of the corsage, and decorated with a splendid bouquet of roses; a second row of frilling forms the loose short sleeve; the whole worn over a dress of pale pink satin; a narrow row of white blonde encircling the neck. The hair is arranged in a similar form to figure I; the only difference being that the *nœud* of ribbon is replaced by a beautiful drooping branch of pink shaded roses and light foliage; a spray of the three green leaves being placed upon the centre of the front, just over the parting of the hair.

IV. A dress of green satin; the skirt, long and full, has four rows of braid up the front; the body is high, open a little in the front, the braid being carried round it; it is plaited from the shoulder to the waist; wide sleeves, with broad cuffs turned back; they have three rows of braid on them. *Mantelet* of grey cachmere, the sleeves *à la Maintenon*; the edges are all scalloped and trimmed with braid. Bonnet of ultra marine velvet; a broad black lace is turned back over the edge; it has a deep curtain.

For a Young Lady's Dress, *Capote* formed of rows of narrow pink fancy ribbon. Frock of dark blue cachmere; the skirt trimmed with two rows of ribbon-velvet; the cape formed of narrow folds, open in the front, continued across with bands of velvet. Pantaloon of embroidered cambric.