

THINGS OF WILLOW.

Whole Rooms Fitted Nowadays With Furniture of This Material.

"Surely," said a willow worker, "you are quite right in considering articles of willow as among the beautiful things. They are graceful and light, and at the same time substantial and durable.

"Things made of willow finished in the natural color of the wood look cool and charming and they have an appearance of delightful freshness that is found in no other material that I know of. Of course the willow is delicate in its whiteness, and in this state it would in a season lose its first velvety sort of freshness.

"But willow takes stains beautifully, the tans and greens and other colors that are most appropriate to it, and willow furniture finished in these tints is scarcely less pleasing to the eye than that made of the material in its original purity.

"Reeds, growing, as you know, of uniform dimensions, can be prepared for use in basket work largely by machinery, but this would not be true as to willow. Machinery is used to some extent in preparing willow for use, as for instance, in cutting the surface strips that are plaited into table tops and that sort of things, but willow rods, round willow, cannot be handled in that manner. The rods are not uniform in dimensions from end to end—they taper; nor are the rods absolutely uniform in size one with another. These must all be worked by hand. As a matter of fact many strips, too, are still cut in that way. With the materials for them thus prepared, and carefully hand-wrought as they are throughout, it would seem reasonable to describe these beautiful things of willow as productions of art.

"Many baskets of one sort and another in the almost endless variety of forms and manner of ornamentation in which basket work is put come from Germany, but France is yet, nevertheless, as it has always been, the home of the artistic in basket work. We make, however, now, beautiful things in basket work in this country, and in articles of utility and things of more or less practical character, combining use with decoration or ornamental effects, we make here things quite as fine as produced anywhere, as in all manner of willow furniture and fittings and so on.

"All these things we produce in the most graceful style, and the most comfortable shapes. Of course willow and rattan chairs and that sort of thing are old, time-honored, but we make them all now in greater variety than formerly; we make a greater variety of things than we did and people go in for these things more than ever, more particularly, of course, in country houses. "Rattan has been more used for some of these purposes, but now, again, we use more willow, and there is nothing but what can be made of this material. It is easily possible to furnish a room with it. We make bedsteads of willow and, of course, an endless variety of chairs and lounges, and that sort of thing, including tables. We make willow bureaus and chiffoniers and willow wall panels and picture frames and willow chandeliers and gas fixtures and so on. In fact, in all but the floor coverings for which mattings are used, we can furnish rooms complete.

"And," said the willow man in conclusion, "while this might not be the cheapest outfit you could buy, I don't suppose you could find anything cooler, more comfortable or more pleasing to the eye."

A Most Astonished Woman.

"I thought I should drop dead," said Mrs. William Black, the other morning, as she explained to the Detroit Journal how she had seen a picture of her long lost brother, Allen McCaskill, in a biograph view at Wonderland Saturday afternoon.

"I haven't seen Allen for eight years," she continued, "and no letter has come from him for more than a year. We all thought that he had been killed. Just by chance, or the workings of Providence, I dropped into Wonderland, where my husband is stage manager. I didn't care much about the biograph, and was watching a child next to me. Something made me look up when the picture of the Fourteenth regiment evacuated Pekin was shown.

"There before my very eyes, was my brother, walking along and smiling. It is a very clear picture, and the figures stand out in bold relief against the white background of the Chinese wall. My brother is a tall man, six feet two, so that I couldn't mistake him.

"It almost made me have hysterics. I waited until the second performance and saw the view again. There was no doubt about it. Allen was alive and walking before me.

"Over a year ago he had yellow fever and was in the hospital for a long time. He sent me a picture from Manila and a box of handkerchiefs. Since then I haven't heard from him, nor has any of the family. He enlisted as a volunteer at the time of the Spanish war and all through the campaign in Cuba. After that he joined the regulars and went to the Philippines and then to China. His roving disposition made the army just the thing for him."—Exchange.

WALKER'S STORE

The Once a Year Silk and Dress Goods Event Offers Hundreds of Bargains.



OF GREATER Magnitude than ever before is this year's offering of the Entire Stocks of SILKS, DRESS GOODS, TRIMMINGS, ALLOVER LACES, AND LININGS, because the quantities of each are far and away beyond what the Walker Store ever imported. Every yard of the fabrics is

NEW, CHOICE AND HANDSOME,

and in freshest designs and colorings handed down for this season from first fashion makers of the world, but once each year we forego all profits to turn these stocks and leave us free to plan for later fall operations. The reductions are almost startling—even after the offerings made here during the past two months—and varieties are enormous. A whole twelve-month—not until next May—before a like opportunity to choose from entire Silk and Dress Goods stocks will come again. The following gives definite idea of goods and prices

For Monday May 20th and the Week.

Entire Collection

Of Black Silks—Taffetas, Duchesse, Peau de Soie, Loislins, Water-Proof Indias, also the very choice Bonnet & Guinet pure dye, finest of Taffeta Silks and the L. D. Brown high grade black silks—

15 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Foulard Silks—a vast variety to select from of the \$1.00, \$1.15, \$1.25, \$1.35 and \$1.40. For clearance, net price—

60 CTS. A YARD.

Entire Collection

Of handsome Foulard Silks, Liberty Satin, Panne and Twilled, in choicest designs and colorings—broad variety. The \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00 qualities at net price

85 CTS. A YARD.

Entire Collection

Of Colored Silks—Crape de Chines, Indias, Satin Duchesse, Peau de Lavant, Peau de Soie, and Taffetas. Includes the famous Forte Taffeta, a renowned wear-resister—

15 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of plain weave Dress Goods—Prunellas, Venetians, Broadcloths, Drap de Paris, Cheviots, Serges, Henriettas, Albatrosses, Veilings, Granites and Golfings—

20 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Waistings—Striped Albatross, silk stripe Tamises, Embroidered Albatross, dotted Cashmeres, metallic dot Batistes—

25 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of French Challis—silk striped, dotted, figured and Oriental designs. Challis will be worn the coming winter through, the latest dictate of fashion—

15 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Linings, Lustral, Like-Satin, Nearsilk, Silver Sheen, Spun Glass, Scientilla, Beetled Percale, Selicias all mercerized goods and Canvas and Haircloth—

20 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Wash Silks—the best made in newest cameo effects. In all the large cities of the East these qualities sell at 65c a yard, and we certainly expected to get as much, but in order to compete with interior kinds here, they were reduced to 50c, and now this week a further underpricing of—

10 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of finest Crape de Chines and silk and wool Crapes. Exquisite fabrics—

25 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of All-Over Laces, Yokings, Appliques, Spangled Effects and velvets—

25 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Chiffons, Liberty Silks, Mouslin de Soies and Tosca Nets—

20 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of soft, clinging Crapes, Eolians, Vailles, etc., most exclusive fabrics in latest tints—

20 PER CENT OFF.

90c and \$1.00 a Yard Taffeta Silk—65c.

In time to be auxiliary to this great once a year Silk and Dress Goods Sale, and a chance to save dollars on linings for those taking advantage of the week's low prices on Grenadines or other filmy, airy stuffs. We have been taking in all the Taffeta Silk offerings to come our way lately, for the reason that they are most staple goods and besides there's a prospect of advance in silk prices by the makers. 2,000 yards of Black Taffeta silk, excellent in quality—kinds selling in all good stores at 90c and \$1.00 a yard—and probably will continue to throughout the year—here this week

65 cents

Entire Collection

Of Waist Silks, Brocades, Warp Prints, Fancy Louisines and all others—

20 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of Black Veilings, Batistes, Crapes, Silk Mohairs, Lusters, Sublimes, Tamises and Twine Cloth—

20 PER CENT OFF.

Entire Collection

Of beautiful Grenadines in stripes, checks, floral, geometrical designs and the Iron Frame—

25 PER CENT OFF.

No Samples. No Approvals. No Exchanges.
This is a rule established by the store during sale times. Do not ask an infringement.

Store closes promptly at 6 p. m., except Saturday. It will greatly expediate selling and delivery if purchasing can be done early in the day.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.



This becoming little taffeta coat with all-over tuoks has a sailor collar and revers edged with shirred taffeta frills. Over this is worn a Russian lace collar.