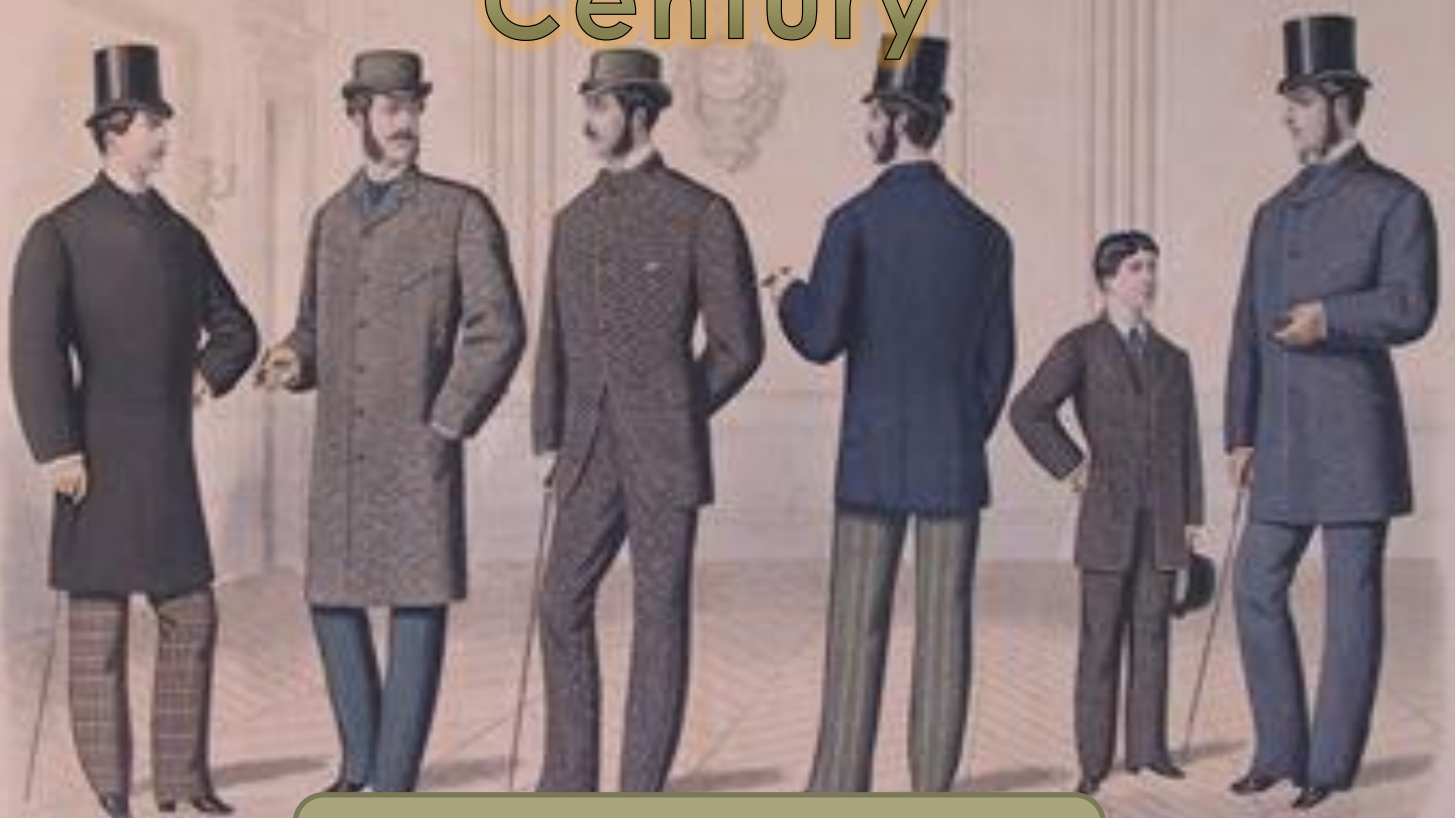




Fashion in the 19th

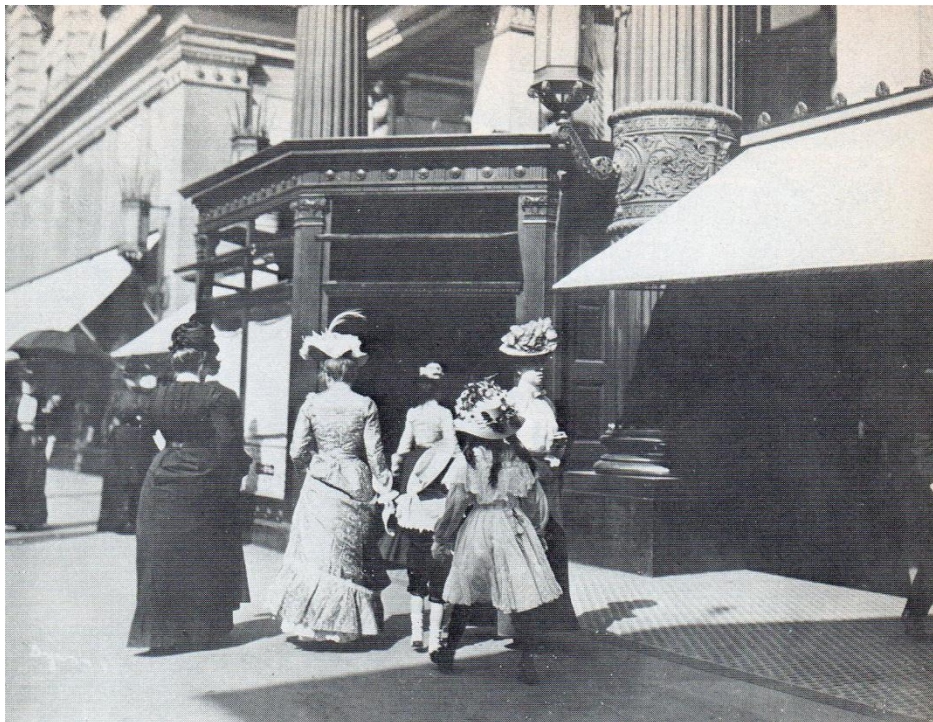
Century



By Emma Bailey

Introduction

In the 19th century fashion was very different to what it is like today. People either made their clothes or had them made for them, or bought them from small clothes shops. Today you can buy clothes and accessories from almost any place, like street markets, large supermarkets and individual clothes shops.



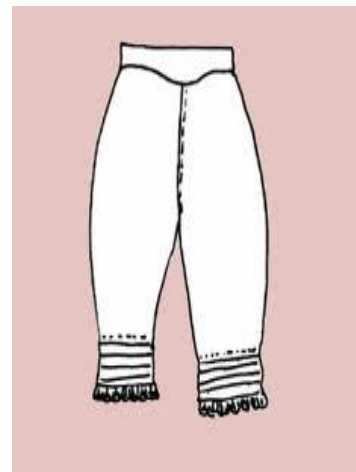
LADIES FASHION



In the 19th Century women always wore long dresses, they never wore trousers or shorts. About 1800 women started to wear underwear for the first time, they called these knickerbockers then just knickers. Their dresses would often have puffed sleeves and would be flat in the front but bulged outwards at the back, this was called a bustle. They also wore a corset to make their waists look small. They also wore many other undergarments



such as petticoats, pantalettes and hoops.



MEN'S FASHION



In the 19th century men wore cotton shirts, long trousers, waistcoats and coats. Wealthy men wore top hats, middle class wore bowler hats and working men wore cloth caps. The shirts would have been white and the suits would have been dark.

Children's Fashion

In the 19th century boys and girls wore dresses till the age of about 4 to 6 years. Boys then started wearing suits such as sailor or knickerbocker suits. Girls would start wearing longer dresses like their mothers.



FASHION IN LOCAL AREA

In rural and remote parts of Wales fashion wasn't as up to date as parts of England. They wore a gown (often called a bedgown) which was T shaped and would have been worn in south-east Wales. With this they had an underskirt (often in a bold colour like red), a cape, a shawl, an apron and the welsh hat. Men and boys in Wales wore clothes similar to those in England, a waistcoat (a



bright colour), a jacket, a pair of trousers and a black felt hat. By the middle of the 19th century most Welsh people only wore their costumes on special occasions. Today children wear the National Costume on St David's Day, which keeps the tradition alive.

Accessories

In the 19th century women had many accessories like shawls, hats, fans and parasols. The parasols were used to keep the sun off rather than rain. Ladies hats would often have real feathers, fruits and flowers on them. In the 19th century fashion became more available to the wider society. In most of the 19th century the square toe shoe was in fashion, then in the 1850's boots became popular.



Embroidered shoe with square toe,
French, 1835 – 1860



Ankle boot,
Italian, 1845 – 1855



Quilted silk Adelaide
ankle boot,
English, 1840 – 1850



Brocade boot for dress wear,
Italian, 1875 – 1885



Leather and silk button boot,
Swedish, circa 1895



ABERGAVENNY MUSEUM



On Saturday I went to Abergavenny Museum with my grandparents. It was really interesting and they had some 19th century fashion on display which I took some photos of.

Here are some of the photos I took:-

