

Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

American Civil War Period: Circa 1840-1870



'Sarah Edmonds' Dress

History

Who is Sarah Edmonds?

Sarah Edmonds was one of the few women to fight in the Civil War. She served as a nurse and a spy for the Union under the name of Franklin Thompson. Her adventures of spying for the Union are recorded in her book, 'Nurse and Spy in the Union Army, 1865'. In her book, she chronicles how she kept her identity a secret until she was wounded and discovered.

Fashion

This dress is an example of what a young woman might have worn during the 1850s and 1860s.

This era is also known as the 'Victorian' era because Queen Victoria of England was queen from the 1830's to the 1900's. In the United States the time is better known as the time when the American Civil War was fought.

What is a 'Pinafore'?

A 'Pinafore' is described as a sleeveless, decorative garment that is worn as an apron. Pinafores vary greatly in design and who wore them.

What is a 'Shirtwaist'?

'Shirtwaist' is what the Victorians called a blouse. It was an unlined shirt tucked into a skirt. Shirtwaists could be of all designs and either plain or fancy.