Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

American Civil War Period: Circa 1840-1870



'Cinderella' Dress

History

The story of 'Cinderella' and her glass slipper is a much-loved folk tale. Many nations have their own version of this story, but it is thought that the very first 'Cinderella' story originates in ancient Egypt. It was first published in France in 1634. It was published again in the famous 'Tales from Mother Goose' in 1697. The brothers Grimm published a slightly different version of the story in 1812. The 'Cinderella' stories from all countries differ in the telling, but all have the common 'rags-to-riches' theme.

Fashion

What is a 'Bertha'?

A 'Bertha' in the 1850's was a type of collar that stretched around a lady's shoulders. It was acceptable for a lady's shoulders to be exposed in evening dresses, and this collar was a way of accentuating that style. The style of this collar originated in the 1830's.