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## Remarks on Current Fashions.



FIGURES NOS. 416 T AND 417 T.—LADIES' COSTUME.—(Other Views of this Costume are given on Page 304.)

The most fashionable basques are dainty evolutions from masculine business and evening coats.

The basque which resembles a man's dress-coat in shape will be appropriately worn at all hours both in the house and on the street.

A handsome vest will, of course, be a necessary feature of the prevailing coat-basque, and also of the basque showing jacket fronts. The vest may be single or double breasted or may be made of some soft fabric, daintily gathered.

Rich brocaded and printed goods, cotton and linen chevrons and white, gray and buff marseilles will be largely used for vests.

Cavalier or highwayman's cuffs are more popular than ever with

leg-o'-mutton sleeves. They will frequently match the vest fabric in bodices for late Spring and Summer wear.

Rolling collars and lapels are again in extended vogue, although the tall, flowing collar has by no means disappeared.

It is said that skirts and vests will be stylishly made up in the same material, whether figured, striped, changeable, checked or damassée; and with them will be assumed moderately long-tailed coats or deep basques of plain goods in harmonious tints. These coats and basques will show linings that accord with the prevailing hues of the vest materials.

As pointed girdles are just now counted the height of good style, the shirt-b blouse will be very generally chosen instead of the vest for travelling, for outdoor sports and for more or less ceremonious indoor wear. A new blouse of this kind is presented and is very effective, whether seen beneath a coat-basque or with an open or partly open top-garment.

Gathered waists and blouses will be plentifully decorated with ruffles of lace, mull, Hamburg edging or the material; and they will be favored throughout the Spring and Summer by ladies and misses whose figures are not too stout.

Flounces of graduated widths and tiny overlapping bias ruffles will trim many of the new skirts, if one may judge from the character of the latest modes.

Dignified gowns for promenade, driving, visiting and church wear are developed by a late Princess design in wool goods, Bengaline, poplin, brocaded and plain silk, satin, velvet and cotton Bedford or velveteen. The diagonal closing from the right shoulder to the left side at the lower edge provides an admirable opportunity for the application of ravelled or pinked silk ruchings, double plaitings in two colors, feather bands, moss galloons, chenilles, etc.; and similar trimming may be used on the high collar, and on the wrists of the sleeves when the cavalier cuffs are omitted.

A handsome new skirt, that needs no foundation but may have a light lining, is known as the "Watteau," the name being derived from a graceful arrangement of the fulness at the back. It has a pointed demi-train, but the pattern is also arranged to shape a skirt of round length. The gores of this skirt render it particularly suitable for narrow-width goods.

Jabots that reach either to the bust or to the waist-line are very stylish for both ladies and misses and are made of silk or wool goods matching the bodice fabric, or of lawn, China silk or *crêpe de Chine* in white or fancy shades.

Bishop sleeves with cuffs or wristbands of the depth to suit the length of the wearer's arms will be universally admired for Spring house gowns and for Summer outdoor costumes.

Full bibs of Irish-point lace attached to standing collars formed of overlapping folds of mull or *crêpe de Chine* are worn by many fashionable women. They usually fall a little below the bust, but sometimes they reach several inches below the waist-line and are caught to position, the fulness being bunched under a narrow girdle, a long metal clasp or a section of handsome passementerie.