

INTRODUCTION.

TWENTY years of experience at dress making has taught me all the difficulties and drawbacks encountered by every woman in the cutting and making of garments the confection of which is often a mental and physical strain. Many systems have been devised to assist them, among them the series of paper patterns that are published every season to follow fashion's whims. These are some help but they do not give entire satisfaction, despite the different systems introduced, including a series of drawings divided and graduated to measure an approximative fit for all sizes of garments, from the child's to the matrons. These also have proved unsatisfactory to the dressmaker and to the amateur, whose aim should be perfection.

At last I have found a method, the explanation of which will form the subject of this simple treatise. By giving to this modest work all the attention it requires any woman can obtain astonishing results. At the outset I do not claim authorship, it is the work of a French woman, Madame ALICE GUERRE, who stands at the head of all the technical schools of France. To convince the public of this, let it be said that the author oversees, personally, all the work done in the following schools: "Des pupiles de la Seine," de la ville de Paris and at the school "Elisa Lemonier." She is also principal of the sewing and cutting academy under control of the seventh ward municipality in the city of Paris. Amongst the competitors at the Paris exhibition of 1900 Madame Guerre had the honor of carrying off the only gold