

FACTS AND FASHIONS—Continued.

puffs with a frill over them, and wired knots of velvet. A black silk and jetted net came with this; the bodice was full, with pointed revers on each side and small black plumes at the shoulders; the sleeves of this gown were long, and finished over the hand in two deep scallops.

All evening bodices are full or in folds except where a cuirass bodice of jet or spangles is worn. Deep revers are worn on many evening bodices and are very suitable for young figures. They are put on both in front and back, trimmed with one deep frill of chiffon edged with baby ribbon, and the centre filled in either with fine ruchings of chiffon or ribbon. These dainty bodices are useful to go with black or colored skirts for dinner toilette, for theatres etc. Panne, the new plush, is much used for trimming, just now, in Paris, London and New York. It is very soft and looks like beaver. Whole house gowns are sometimes made of it. It looks best in plain colors.

A great deal of black net is worn over colored silk skirts, and evening sleeves, when they are not long, are smaller than ever, and often are only a strap.

Bodices are cut very low this season, but it is not absolutely necessary for women to follow this edict of fashion, and the "unknown is life" to more than "love, religion, poetry," in the minds of many.

WOMEN'S WEAR.**STOCKS.**

A great deal of attention is given this season to the variety and elaboration of belts, stocks, and collars. Every style and possible conceit is used. The collar proper is high, as high as it can go, and this allows for endless ornamentation. A great favorite is the narrow tucked effect, with small revers of a deeper or paler shade, or of a contrasting color, laid on either side; the idea of this is to give width to the back of the neck.

In tailor-made gowns, some have the plain neck band of some years ago, simply hooked at the back, and there are many made of a band of silk or velvet, with a frill of lace or chiffon at the back, and running down the hook over seam.

An eighth of a yard of velvet will make a band, and five-eighths a band and tie to cross behind and tie in front. These can be turned out in an endless variety, and are stylish and becoming.

Stocks are made of heavy lace to match the yoke trimming of gowns, and lace or mull scarfs go twice about the neck and are tied in a close, fluffy bow under the chin. Jabots of costly lace trim all silk gowns, and silk shirt waists even have their knot of lace at the neck.

There is no question that all this lace trimming has a most becoming effect, and even faded faces seem freshened up by a judicious treatment of the proper shade of velvet and lace.

The new Windsor tie is made of silk, is hemstitched, and is long enough to go twice round the neck and form a large bow and end on each side.

RIBBON.

Although the wide ribbons are not in great demand, the call for the narrower is so great that no dullness can be said to trouble this branch of the dry goods business. Baby ribbon is more used than ever. It is, first of all, crumpled on the loose crowns of most of the picture hats. Then it is used to outline designs on many of the ball dresses, garlands of flowers, true lover's-knots, this last a favorite in the extreme, and three or four rows edge narrow flounces. To add to the elaboration, the ribbons are often studded

with sequins and spangles, and mixed with silver galloon of the same width.

All underclothing, above the very plain, is lavishly ornamented with baby ribbon, and enormous rosettes of it trim children's hats. A quantity of it is also used for the chiffon neckwear that is having such a run just now.

A narrower width, about half that of baby ribbon, is coming in, and, in spite of its narrow width, it sometimes has three or four shades. One, a great beauty, shades from pale yellow down to jet black. Most of these ribbons are corded, but some come in moire effects and some in satin. A great deal of ribbon is used to trim cloth gowns. Nos. 5, 7, or 9, are the favorites. It is generally ruched on, not too full, but not scant. Thirty yards of No. 7 will trim a gown well. A blue armure trimmed with black satin has two rows set close together and running from the waist down to the hem in front and all round, bolero and sleeves trimmed to match. Pale gray with white ribbon is also very smart and in fashion. The sleeves can have rows of the ruched ribbon running from shoulder to wrist, the frill over the shoulder also edged, and, if the bolero effect is not desired, lines can run up from the waist to a yoke of lace or velvet.

LINGERIE.

There is a constantly growing demand for flannelette undergarments, but not much change in style or weave. The plain colors are quite as much asked for as the striped or checked. It would appear, however, that the narrower stripes and fine checks are greater favorites than the heretofore larger patterns. In low-price goods, such as these, the styles vary very little. The empire and the mother hubbard night dresses, with the full sleeve drawn in at the wrist either to a frill of washing lace, or one of the same material, embroidered in a deeper or corresponding shade of silk, are most worn.

Corset-covers are made entirely of insertion and fine lawn. Some have frills coming well down over the hips and a frill round the shoulders of those that are cut low, which are held down by a runner of baby ribbon.

A new night robe has the yoke made entirely of bands of embroidery and tucked lawn, and just below it a band that is attached to the lower edge of the yoke and runs round the garment. It is also made of tucks and insertion. To the lower line of this band, which comes just below the bust, is gathered the skirt of the robe. The sleeves have bands of insertion at intervals, with the mull in puffs between. Of course, a lavish use of baby ribbon is called for as well.

Another robe is exquisitely pretty with a tucked yoke coming to a point in front and outlined with a band of insertion. A dainty frill of nainsook edged with lace comes half way across the front to meet the points, and is fastened with a pretty bow of ribbon. The sleeves are full, with a simple frill and band of insertion.

A new corset-cover is all in one piece, and comes both in high and low patterns. It is drawn close with a string at the waist, and is prettily trimmed with embroidery or lace.

Taffeta skirts are in as much demand as ever, and are more and more trimmed. Watermelon is a very pretty and harmonizing color. The flounces are vandyked, tucked lengthwise and trimmed with lace and fall over small underneath ruffles. Cording still obtains.

It is announced from Halifax that the old firm of T. & E. Kenny, whose present partnership expires with January, and who were reported to be retiring from business, will continue as Kenny & Co. for the future. The firm is an old one with the highest reputation, and Halifax is well pleased with the announcement that it is not going to lose one of its best known wholesale dry goods establishments.