



A WINTER CAPE.

arrangement was top-heavy. The brightness and lightness of the hues of this winter's millinery is most remarkable. It is as if we had mistaken our season and come out in spring attire and colours instead of winter ones. The greens used are peculiarly pretty and spring-like; and nothing looks better than a dark green or black hat trimmed with green velvet, and with the inevitable white wings as a pleasant relief.

The unwonted use of flowers, with fur, is a feature of this winter's head coverings. The flowers used seem to be only violets and chrysanthemums. Not much lace is seen, and what is employed is generally white.

Our illustration of "the braiding of today" shows the extremely bold character of the new designs, which are mostly seen on cloth gowns. The gown illustrated is of mauve cloth, and the braid is black. The

second figure has a fur jacket of caracul, edged with ermine. This shows one of the remarkable mixtures which this year has brought forth in fur. The jacket is made in the Russian-blouse style, the band at the waist being of oxydised silver.

These closely-fitting fur jackets are being found so warm by the young people who are wearing them that they cannot manage to wear anything warmer than a silk, or even a cotton blouse, under them. So it is no uncommon sight to see the latter, even though the season be winter and the weather cold.

Another very pretty jacket of the kind is shown in our next illustration of one of the newest skirts, with a plain apron-like front, on which the rest of the skirt in front is gathered. The bodice of this gown, which was of green cloth, is of green velvet, edged with ermine, or with chinchilla; the points of

the *revers* in front being of white lace over white satin. This is a charming winter or early spring gown for a young girl. The bands on the skirt are of green velvet, and the waistband is of green leather with a silver buckle.

I must add a few lines to my information about trimmings in order to say something about the numberless lace bows, fronts and neckties, which are worn by everyone. Fronts for dresses are made of some bright-coloured silk, which is then covered with white lace; and thus finished it looks very well as a brightener of any winter frock. The lace must be repeated with the colour in any toque or hat worn.

Many people add a frill of white lace inside the high storm collar, as it keeps the velvet or cloth from the hair, and also prevents the fur from getting soiled. In the case of dyed furs, the lace is very useful, for the colouring matter nearly always comes off and makes everything black which touches them. Cheap furs that are dyed—not real fur—are always to be avoided, and it is better to arrange for an entire imitation (like the woven astrachan, for example) than to have a fur which will prove so unsatisfactory in wear as a fur which has been dyed to an artificial black.

Long lace scarves are in high favour, and are worn over fur and velvet jackets and fur capes. All the best laces seem to show Brussels patterns, but others may be had. All these small confections add so much to the look of a person, but they are very expensive to buy. They are, fortunately, easy to make, and anyone with a good memory for effects can reproduce the patterns seen at small expense. There are so many things in this way that can be made at home by a clever

person; amongst others, the long evening cloaks that are so much worn. The pattern is easily obtained, and the material also. Velveteens make very handsome cloaks, and there is a long list of all kinds of pretty and serviceable colours from which to choose. Silk and wool materials, such as figured reps and brocades, and even some of those wonderful brocades in wool and cotton, made for upholstery purposes, may be used for cloaks. The satin can be obtained ready quilted; or else there is generally some bargain in brightly-hued materials to be obtained, which is perhaps slightly tumbled or soiled, but which is in nowise spoilt for a cloak lining.

The value of these cloaks is best found in London, where it is possible to save much cab-fare, if we can make our journey by omnibus, well covered-up in a pretty, and not too dressy, cloak.