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## LACE DRESSES.

The lace costumes which have been in vogue for several years past have lost none of their popularity. Thin black dresses are made of black imitation Chantilly lace over surah much more than of grenadine over foulard, as formerly. The lace is not any more expensive than handsome grenadine, and can be utilized for other purposes when no longer used as a dress, while all the trimmings required are clustering loops of satin ribbon or ribbon velvet. The bonnets worn with these dresses are of black tulle and lace,—the crowns figure-lace, the fronts puffed tulle edged with jet or small pendants, and the trimming ribbon velvet and iridescent butterflies. Spanish lace in the fine hand-run styles, is used, either in white or black, for really elegant dresses excepting, still the machine-made qualities would seem to be more suitable for short day costumes than the finer kind.

The white laces used are Oriental and imitation Mechlin, in Edelweiss and maiden-hair fern patterns, the latter being the newest. Oriental laces are not restricted, and are used in patterns of all grades. With white lace dresses white lace bonnets look well, and are often trimmed with narrow velvet ribbon, pale-blue, corn-flower blue, yellow, and poppy-red, with a group of the lovely iris, columbine, or flowers matching in tint. Dresses of *ecru* batiste are fashionable again, and look exceedingly well trimmed with an embroidery which looks like embroidered *ecru* lace, in which there is a little of some dark or vivid color,—dark red, peacock-blue, or brown. The embroidery is turned flat against the throat, and a bow of velvet matching the color is placed at the left side. The bonnet may be *ecru* satin, straw-faced and trimmed with velvet of the same shade and a group of ostrich feathers.

The very newest fashion in dressy toilets consists of lace over flowered instead of plain silk; the lace is black or white, according to color and taste. Black lace is seen over cream, and white over lavender both having lovely flower effects in brocattelle. Black over gold is always admired but perhaps black over black is, after all, the most distinguished looking. The lace is not always draped; it is often gathered into the bodice and allowed to flow over the skirt, one side gathered up under flowing ends and loops of ribbons.

Cream and *ecru* lace are used over shot-silks most effectively, the delicate shading and combination of color shimmering under lace like the reflections of sunlight under water. Black lace over cream, or light-tinted silk, or satin, is revived after many years; of late it has been tone upon tone, color upon color. This season we find many old ideas revived in the new contrasting effects



## HOUSE AND STREET COSTUMES.

Fig. 1.—House costume of plain dark blue surah, combined with printed surah having a blue ground matching the plain goods and the pattern of dark red carnations. The "Fillide" basque and "Aurelia" skirt are combined to form the costume, the figured fabric forming the basque and panels on the skirt, and the plain the front of the skirt and the back drapery. The panels and bottom of the draped apron are trimmed with "Kursheedt's Standard" Oriental lace, beige color, and net to match forms the plastron on the basque. The revers, collar and cuffs are of carnation red velvet secured with faceted steel buttons. The neck and sleeves are finished with frills of beige Oriental lace. The arrangement of the back of the costume can be seen on

Fig. 2. Price of skirt pattern, thirty cents; basque patterns, twenty-five cents each size.

Fig. 2. The same patterns are used for this costume as for the one shown on Fig. 1; but the materials are gray velvet and gray and blue changeable silk, the velvet forming the basque and panels, and the silk the remainder. The panels are bordered with steel passementerie, and the apron is trimmed with a blue silk fringing with netted heading and having steel brands intermixed. The plastron is made of the silk, and steel ornaments secure the revers, collar and cuffs. Hat of grass straw, trimmed with blue velvet, blue tips and a bunch of ragged sailors. For prices of patterns, see previous description.

Fig. 3.—The "Luisella" polonaise is employed for this toilet, made in black embossed grenadine, the geometrical pattern in cut and uncut velvet. This is worn over a skirt all the visible portions of which are covered with flounces of "Kursheedt's Standard" black Spanish guipure lace over pinked flounces of white surah. The polonaise is lined with white surah and has a black velvet vest and cuffs. The fronts are laid in plaits at the neck and fall away in deep points at the sides, and the back is looped in an especially graceful manner. Bonnets of black Spanish lace made over white surah and trimmed with fine white flowers. Black velvet strings; tan-colored Suede gloves. Polonaise patterns, thirty cents each size.