

LACES IN ENGLAND.

It is long since the prospects for the lace makers have been so good as they are this year. There will be, and indeed already is, a great demand for lace of every description to be used in every way and on every garment. The wheel of fortune gives every one a turn if he waits long enough for it, and the lace makers have had a very long time to wait and have suffered severely, but the reign of the severely plain tailor-made gown with its linen collar and cuffs is over, and lace flounces, lace ruffles, lace frills, wherever frills can be arranged, is now to be the order of the day. The most popular is the guipure and net, which, although showing this year in new designs is not new with the season; some of the designs this year are very lovely and fine, and, when made in silk, it bids fair to be one of the greatest favorites of the year, for both mantles and costumes. The Bourdon guipure is almost exclusively used for the better class of goods, especially on silk or velvet; it is very firmly woven, yet very fine, and, when made in silk, has a lovely gloss upon it—hence its suitability for only finer materials. The ordinary guipure suits best and is used most for cheaper goods, the difference in the price as well as in the texture having perhaps something to do with it. But, although guipure is the favorite, there is a great deal of chantilly being sold, especially for deep flounces. The lace dresses are all made of chantilly, and deep flounces on mantles very often are of the same, and so much is now being used as trimmings for hats, the warehouses are selling it already gofferred, thus saving the milliners both time and trouble and producing a better article—for the manufacturers naturally have better appliances for gofferred than nine out of every ten milliners would have. Another saving of trouble for the milliners are the made-up bonnet caps for the poke-bonnet; they are pleated lisse, with edges of loops of colored braid, looking fluffy and silky, and can be had in a wide range of color.

One of the big city houses is showing a new trimming for under-linen, made of embroidery with a torchon lace edge and insertion, the lace being very finely woven, and with the embroidery makes a much more durable trimming than the lace alone, which is apt to wash thready and out of order. There is no risk of that with this new trimming, which has already been greatly in demand. The same house has invented an embroidery on the Forest longcloth, for underlinen, which suits the garment better than the embroidery on muslin or cambric, and is more durable. Torchon lace is, however, the most popular trimming for lingerie of all descriptions, and may be seen everywhere, ranging from the coarse and common, which won't wear, to the delicately fine and dainty, which wears and washes so beautifully.

It is expected also that the demand for Swiss lace, both as curtains and antimacassars, will be much increased this season, and some very lovely patterns are now showing, far exceeding in delicacy and design anything that has yet appeared in the market.—*Warehouseman and Draper.*

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