

velvet. A handsome *passenterie* would look better to my mind. For the ordinary blouse of the morning, viyella, flannelette, and figured flannels are much used, and for those people who cycle, nothing could be more comfortable.

When walking down a well-known street the other day I noticed in the windows of a large shop any amount of flannel and flannelette blouses, seemingly very nicely made, and priced at one shilling, or one and sixpence. Of course, one knows that the material is a cheap one, but what can the poor worker have received?

One cannot help being delighted to see that the small basques for the blouse have gained in favour; for we are spared the sight of much inelegance and some untidiness in the modes of attaching bodice and skirt. It is better now than formerly, when nearly every one exhibited the effect of "coming unscrewed at the waist," as a well-known writer once phrased it. And there is no doubt that the basque is more becoming. Of some of the new blouses the sleeves are braided all over, as well as the collars and *revers*. In a general way these are made of Venetian cloth. Wide waistbands are also braided to match, and also bands for the decoration of the skirt.

Before I finish with the subject of gowns, and their trimmings, I must mention how much fur has been used at the last fashionable weddings, for the trimming of both the brides' and the bridesmaids' dresses. White satin for the bride has been the almost invariable material, and this has been trimmed during the last ten days with three different kinds of fur, chinchilla, sable, and a lovely golden otter.

Even those who never have tried their hands at millinery might endeavour to make something of it now. The popular mode of the hour is the toque, and the folds of velvet used on it are so heavy and massive, with bands of fur, and even whole birds, as well as wings, that but small

artistic skill is needed to arrange it. The folds of velvet are like turbans, they are so heavy, and this mode obtains both on hats and bonnets as well. The other day I saw a young lady with such a heavy piece of velvet arranged in

fold on the brim of her hat, that it almost looked as if it would over-balance it. The hat was black, and the velvet of a lovely rose-colour, and there were white wings at the side; the colouring was beautiful, though the



GOWN WITH PLAIN FRONT AND FULL BACK AND SIDES.