

The DELINEATOR

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Remarks on Current Fashions.

The latest modes are delightfully seasonable and perfectly adapted to the dainty Summer fabrics in which they are to be developed. Artistic color schemes suited to all complexions and ages are a pleasing feature of many of the new gowns and wraps.

A partly worn silk dress may be remodelled by stylish bodice and skirt patterns and worn beneath satin-striped, grosgrain-striped, embroidered, lace-woven or plain grenadine or some other gauze-like fabric of silken or woollen texture. No light color is unfashionable, and black is considered more elegant than ever for both daytime and evening wear.

Several pretty sleeve designs are presented this month and may be used to advantage in changing the expression of a costume, bodice or coat and giving it an air of individuality. The style and figure of the wearer must, of course, be carefully considered in the choice of sleeves.

A new surplice waist will sometimes have sleeves of white *chiffon* or other gauze or, perhaps, of black or colored lace; and the surplice or its inner half may be made of the same thin material. Occasionally one side of the front will differ from the other, an arrangement that admits of utilizing odd pieces of goods in a very satisfactory manner.

A quaint and fashionable evening toilette consists of a closely cut plain skirt, and a basque that is lengthened by long skirts. This toilette may be developed in any seasonable fabric, with scantily gathered lace flouncing of suitable depth for the basque skirts. The hem of the skirt is trimmed with a scanty ruffle of lace four or five inches deep; and the sleeves, which are of fanciful shape and may be of any desired length, are trimmed at the arms'-eyes and, perhaps, at the lower edges with gathered lace. White flouncings are applied on all sorts of light-colored fabrics.

If the collar of such a toilette be undesirable, it may be omitted and the neck filled in with ruffles of lace or some gauze-like texture. White *chiffon* ruffles are popular for this purpose, but they are very frail in warm weather.

Novel shoulder-mantles in two not dissimilar styles, both of which suggest the time of Henri II., are made up in light-weight cloths of any preferred shade, and also in lace flouncings and in grenadines with ornamental edges. Their yokes are sometimes of silk, satin or fancy goods and sometimes of lace; and their high collars are wired to retain the pose that is most becoming to the individual wearer.

When cloths are selected for these elegant capes, or more prop-

erly, mantles, the edges are hemmed, faced and pressed, lining being usually omitted.

The fashionable skirt for travelling and driving in the country is close-fitting and has a full, plaited back. The sides and fronts are cut in panel fashion to overlap each other and are lined with silk of a different shade or color.

With this skirt may be worn a Louis XV. basque, with plaitings matching the panel linings set beneath its slashes and open seams. The vest and high collar may be of similar goods, if becoming.

Sometimes the new dress-coat basque will accompany the panel skirt, its lower edge and collar being piped with the lining silk, and the wrists of the sleeves being extended with similar silk and then partly overlaid with open passementerie. The buttons on the back part of the coat-skirt seams and at the closing match the pipings when they are not of copper, silver or gold.

A handsome visiting toilette in a blonde's *trousseau* consists of the panel skirt and Louis XV. coat developed in fine beige cloth, with accessories of emerald-green velvet. The beige hat is trimmed with green, the gloves are beige *Suède*, and the parasol is of beige silk lined with green Florence.

A graceful jacket, not unlike the blazer of last season, but much more attractive in shape, will be a popular top-garment for walking and tennis wear.

Certain new basques have hip or box pockets that are very becoming to slender women, but are omitted by those whose figures are of generous size.

An improved leg-o'-mutton sleeve will be popular for persons with narrow shoulders. It allows ample room at the elbow, below which it fits closely.

A lately devised wrapper presents a gracefully loose effect in front and a Princess back; and its lining is curved exquisitely to the figure without being in the least tight-fitting. Its side-front pockets, wrist facings, curved front-yoke and high collar may be of velvet with any fabric.

Silk petticoats are almost universally worn beneath dressy costumes, and a perfect pattern for their shaping has just appeared. Taffeta silk is preferred, and next in favor is Surah.

This design will, of course, be used for cambric, alpaca and various other cotton and woollen fabrics for all sorts of uses.

A stylish military shoulder-cape for misses has a small flaring collar that, as a rule, will be gaily lined. If preferred, the cape may be lined or broadly faced with similar material.