

series of crescents, and in each of the corners is embroidered a crescent resting on an anchor. Another, called the *mouchoir oriental*, has a pattern consisting of various flowers and foliage, which adorn the gardens of the East, admirably executed in needle-work. In the corners are escutcheons formed of warlike weapons, intermingled with initial letters, or a crest. The edge of the handkerchief is slightly waved and finished by a row of lace, about an inch or an inch and a half in width.

LE BASQUE

The most graceful style ever adopted by woman, for dressing her charms corporate, is that of the basque and skirt. Deny it as ancient maiden ladies may, there is a point, defined every day by affectionate husbands, loving brothers and accepted lovers, with an encircling arm, which forms a natural division of the dress of woman. No angle should ever deform a waist—no point behind, or point before. The round outline above and below the natural point of cincture, should be fully preserved, and no contrivance has ever done it so well as the basque. Besides it gives an opportunity for any required contrast or harmony in the skirt, stopping stripes at the point they ought to stop, and breaking up, economising, distributing, and individualising charms that were else contained within the folds of a uniform—a broad, long, monotonous waist, of silk, merino, muslin, or calico.

HINTS TO LADIES.

Dresses of pale pink are very becoming to ladies with dark hair, and a fresh or clear complexion.

Dark complexioned persons always look well in pink, unless the countenance be very sallow.

The skin becomes dyed and hardened by exposure to the sun, or to a high wind. Sitting near the fire is also injurious to the complexion.

To beautify the skin and to give transparency to the complexion, moderate daily exercise in open air is necessary, keep the pores open by cleanliness, and give it tone by bathing and gentle friction.

An ounce of scraped horse radish, infused four hours in a pint of cold milk, is a safe cosmetic in cases where the skin requires a gentle stimulant.

All cosmetics sooner or later ruin the freshness and brilliancy of the complexion.

PARLOR WORK.—Collars and undersleeves

being so expensive once more, many ladies prefer to embroider for themselves, as the style is by no means difficult. The pattern, principally of eyelets, and with deep points of button-hole stitch, is traced on the muslin or cambric. Instead of the old-fashioned hoops, or tambour-frames, a piece of dark morocco or kid is basted beneath, to keep the strip quite straight and even, then worked over the finger. The same is used for scalloping or pointing skirts, or, in fact, for any style of cambric or muslin embroidery.

Slippers are principally in *applique*. That is, a pattern of velvet, be it a scroll, leaves, or flowers, is applied to black broadcloth by braiding or chain-stitching. It takes much less time than canvass-work, and, though it will not last so long, has a much richer effect. This style of work is much used in smoking-caps, also in silk and velvet for mantillas, short Talmas, etc. For canvass patterns, some of the latest styles introduce the heads of animals, as the fox, or the whole figure of a tiny kitten—on the toe, looking out from a wreath of leaves or flowers, with a groundwork of some plain colour. Scrolls, octagons, diamonds, etc. shaded from black to the palest colours, are also much used.

TO MAKE WASH-BALLS.—Take two pounds of new white soap, and shave thin into a tea-cupful of rose-water, pouring in as much boiling water as will soften it. Put into a pipkin a pint of sweet oil, fourpennyworth of oil of almonds, half a pound of spermaceti, and set all over the fire till dissolved; then add the soap, and a half a pound of camphor that has been first reduced to powder by rubbing it in a mortar with a few drops of spirit of wine or lavender-water. Boil ten minutes; then pour it into a basin, and stir it till it is quite thick enough to roll up into hard balls.

CELEBRATED HONEY ALMOND PASTE.—Take honey, one pound; white bitter paste, one pound; expressed oil of bitter almonds, two pounds; yolks of eggs, five. Heat the honey, strain, then add the bitter paste, knead well together, and, lastly, add the eggs and oil in alternate portions.

INVALUABLE OINTMENT.—Obtain a pint of real cream, let it simmer over the fire, or on the side, till it resembles butter, and forms a thick oily substance, which may be used as ointment for fresh or old wounds, cracked lips or hands.