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ILLUSTRATED DESIGNS.

Among the designs illustrated in the present number our readers are referred specially to the "Rainsford" costume as a good model for a "tailor" cut cloth dress, which will be found permanently useful and highly desirable for the purposes for which such a dress is required. The important features are the skirt, trimmed with a narrow plaiting and numerous rows of narrow braid, the independent vest, which can be worn with other costumes if required, and the cut-away jacket which completes the suit for the street, unless an additional garment is required for warmth, when a coat may be added. The drapery may be changed or arranged to suit the taste or the modifications of fashion. The essential features will be as good two years hence as now. Such a dress is most useful for between seasons, for voyages, for traveling, and any occasion for which a solid, serviceable costume is required.

The "Militza" is a very stylish costume of more pretensions than the preceding. It consists of a coat with long plaited back and jacket fronts, a vest, and plain skirt with narrow plaiting. The coat and plaited edge are of the plain material, the rest of the skirt and the vest of a "wool velvet," or some other figured fabric. The costume would make up beautifully in velveteen, plain and broche, or the coat might be made of the broche velveteen, and the skirt and vest of plaited surah. One of the merits of the improved velveteen is that with the "velvet finish" it has been lightened in such a way as to make it one of the least burdensome of winter materials. If plain and broche velveteens are used, the drapery should be of plain silk or surah, matching the velveteen in shade. The "Emerine" is a pretty and stylish-looking polonaise for indoor wear, which any young lady may make for herself and trim with ribbon, velvet, or any flat trimming, the tinselled braid being the latest novelty. A decidedly new feature is the princess back united to a bodice and apron front, the trimming upon which gives the effect of a basque. The double-breasted front is effected by a piece put on, and removable at pleasure. The design looks well in shepherd's check, trimmed with black velvet, in smoke-gray trimmed with claret velvet, in beige trimmed with brown braid with gold threads in it, and in wine color trimmed with gold and wine-colored silk braid or canvas ribbon. There is a handsome model of a kilted skirt in wide plaits, which are just now in great vogue, the plaited part attached to a deep yoke which fits the hips exactly and saves the



CALISTRE MANTELET.

The front and back pieces of this stylish wrap are made of plain Radzimir silk, while the shoulder pieces are of brocaded velvet. Black Spanish lace is arranged about the neck, around the sleeves and across the back pieces and tabs, with a handsome effect. The double

fulness at the waist. Made of a warm, all-wool material, kilted skirts need no lining, but it is of the greatest importance that several lines of tapes should be carefully tacked upon the inside to keep the plaits in position. When this is neglected, as it is sometimes, or imperfectly done, the folds open and present a most unfinished and slovenly appearance. Some ladies make this mistake in regard to the accordion skirts, supposing that because they are told the folds cannot "come out," they do not need fastening. The result in wear is deplorable; they swing from side to side instead of lying close, as they should, and the securing of them

illustration showing the back view is given among the separate fashions, with full description of the materials for which it is appropriate, and the quantity of goods required to make it. Patterns in two sizes, medium and large. Price, twenty-five cents each.

later is a much more difficult process. The "Oriana" is an arrangement of flounces with a graceful drapery trimmed with embroidery.

The new basque, the "Ernestine," is very pretty and becoming to a small figure. It is quite short, but very stylish in its cut and has a glove fitting band set on as a spring over the hips, and a fan-shaped plaiting set in to form the fullness of the basque at the back. The sleeves revive a pretty form of puff. The most elegant mantelet of the season is given in the "Callistro." It is a combination of plain or matelasse silk or Ottoman satin, with brocaded velvet upon satin matelasse or Ottoman satin, the shoulder pieces

which form the sleeves being composed of the brocaded material. The trimming consists of handsome Spanish guipure and passementerie ornaments, the lace forming a high, close ruche around the neck. If preferred, it may be made in plain and brocaded velvet. The lining should be in or satin surah.

A new version of an old friend will be found in the "Gabrielle" wrapper, which is close and graceful in cut, well adapted to the embroidered and otherwise enriched materials which are supplied for house wear. Perhaps none of these are more elegant than the soft tapestried or velvet-tufted cashmeres, which appear in new and attractive colorings and are well adapted to simple designs which display the fabric. The "Gabrielle" is also a good design for flannel, or flannel made double for an invalid, only in the latter case it must not be cut too close.

BRIDESMAID'S TRANSPARENT BONNETS.

The bonnets worn by the bridesmaids at a stylish wedding which took place up the Hudson recently were quite transparent, the framework of fine wires showing distinctly through the dotted tulle, which covered without concealing it. The strings were of the same airy tissue and the aigrettes of scarlet popples and bearded wheat were set very high in front. The dresses were of white scilienne, brocaded with small bright flowers and a bit of foliage in silk floss. They were made with long pointed tunics, full draped on one side and held by loops of cream satin ribbon. The pointed bodices were nearly covered with lace trimmings, with a deep flounce of the same going around the flounce of the knife-pleated skirts. Cream Suede gloves, bronze kid sandals, with hose to match; baskets of maiden-hair fern mixed with white roses and carnations, immense fans of white ostrich plume, suspended by loops of white satin ribbon, completed the details of the toilet. — [New York Post.

SHAPELY WOMEN.

Three or four decades ago American men and women were generally lean and bony. Our women especially were lank and thin. Of late years, however, a change in the shape of our people has been noted. The change is not yet very marked in the men, but the women are growing round and fat. At our watering-places, where people from all parts of the country congregate, a bony woman is a rare sight. Most of the women are plump and well-rounded. It is to be observed, however, that sleekness and curved outlines belong to the well-to-do and leisurely classes of society. Among hard-workers and the people on the frontiers the lean and bony type still predominates. — [Atlanta Constitution.

The only thing the electric girls have failed to moved so far is a St. Louis girl's shoe.