

a material to be used thus! Cloth jackets trimmed with fur follow much the same rules. There are the high storm collars of last year, and a rather narrower roll of fur to decorate the front. There are cuffs and bands of fur, and in many cases braiding is used with excellent effect. Large cape collars, with ends cut in narrow points to the waist, are seen, but I fancy that the feather ruff will be much worn by those who do not feel the

English weather cold enough for fur; and there are many to whom the small fur collar-ette is quite the extreme of fur wearing to them. These useful little things are fully as much in evidence as ever, and will be just as popular, to all appearance. I have seen but few dresses as yet trimmed with fur, but no doubt many will be produced later on in the winter season.

Skirts are being cut rather narrower for the

winter season, and there seems to be a tendency to get rid of superfluous fulness, which is most reasonable when it comes to wearing gowns of heavier material. The front breadths are narrower, and many dressmakers find that they can fit their customers far better with the narrow front. Braid is very popular, many of the new skirts being braided, apparently after they were made up, for the braiding covers the seams. All kinds of this trimming are used, from fine silk to a very wide black silk one, which is edged on each side with a very fine looped one. Trimmings are carried all round the skirts in some cases, but considering the efforts made to introduce trimmed skirts, one is rather surprised to find their use so much restricted. The materials are beautiful, especially those with a black ground and a design in colour on them; while the new patterned velvets are exceedingly pretty, and will certainly be much used for bodices, blouses, and mantles.

Plaids seem to be everywhere, in all the Continental shops, and will, undoubtedly, be most popular amongst ourselves for fronts, blouses, and trimmings of all kinds. Gowns of Indian-red trimmed with black seem to have a renewed popularity; and golden brown petunia and a new shade of green appear to be the most fashionable colours. Black is certainly the most favoured trimming for every colour. Bands of black satin ribbon, an inch wide on the skirt, form a very pretty decoration; five or six rows of which are sometimes seen, and there is nearly always a black vest or a black *moiré* waistband to every cloth gown of a brighter hue.

The gown of grey cloth with a short bolero jacket which we illustrate is trimmed with white braid and picot embroidery, the sleeves being of grey poplin to match in colour, and the waistband and sash of the same. The popularity of this short bolero has continued through the summer, and is still very great. It is becoming and youthful-looking to so many figures.

The gown of woollen and silk material has a pouched bodice with a band of white leather and braid bands. It is a very simple afternoon dress for a girl, and is inexpensive and pretty. The pouched bodice needs careful cutting, especially if one be selected which drops over all round the waist; only very slight people can wear this style of thing.

The jackets for the winter season are fair examples of what I have already written about them. They are all short, generally with basques, storm collars, and some with fur bands. A variety of hats are shown, amongst which the Tyrolean hat with its erect cock's feathers is quite conspicuous. Small toques of fur, and hats of felt, with one side turned up and trimmed with velvet, and ostrich feathers are next in favour to the Tyrolean. Velvet trimmings are more liked than any others, and the cock's feather and the ostrich plume carry all before them; and we feel thankful that the bird of paradise and the heron's feathers are less in favour than they were.

I quite forget whether I said, in any of my recent articles, anything about the revival of the liking for ear-rings. The jubilee year has probably done this for us, for Her Majesty has always liked and worn them, and the Duchess of York follows her lead, and is not in the least degree troubled if they be out of or in the fashion. It seems strange that earrings should have gone out of fashion, and when we think of their ancient popularity, we are astonished. The Roman ladies wore them of great weight and value. Poppaea's earrings were worth £150,000, and the wife of Julius Cæsar had a pair worth twice that sum. These weights often tore through the lobes of the ears, and there was a class of women in Rome who employed themselves in healing the torn ears of these victims of fashion.



GOWN OF SILK AND WOOL MATERIAL.