

THE WORLD OF FASHION.

+++++++ By MARQUERITE +++++++

Petticoats are a prominent feature of the smart wardrobe, especially those much belaced. The muslin gowns which are to be the rage this coming summer, and are to be trimmed elaborately with lace insertions, necessitate the daintiest of petticoats. Exquisitely made and designed petticoats of lawn, with endless lace insertions, are being shown at all the best houses, and lovely (and expensive) enough for the gown itself. But this is one of fashion's "little ways" just now, to have the underwear and linings quite as expensive as the outer; but we are nothing if we are not extravagant nowadays.

Petticoats and underskirts generally have to be very neatly arranged and fitted so that no unnecessary fullness at the waist will interfere with the correct fit of the dress, and this has, of course, to be particularly observed when a clinging gown is worn. It must not be forgotten, however, that if the material is reduced to as small proportions as feasible with comfort, both immediately above and below the figure at the waist, there must be no lack of flowing folds from the knees downwards. Indeed, the very smartest model French underskirts are so frilled and flounced and decorated with insertions and trimmings of insertion, lace, and narrow rucked ribbon at the hem that the wonder is how any skirt can be worn over them at all. They are dreams of beauty and as expensive as they are lovely, and, therefore, out of reach of most people. Still it is from these and similar lovely garments that one can obtain many a useful hint to reappear in a less extravagant form in our wardrobe.

Coloured petticoats of pink, blue, or cream gingham will be much worn with cotton gowns. These are cut in the same shape as the silk skirts, and are trimmed with very full ruffles of the material, edged with a strong white lace stitched flat to the edge of the flounce.

Holland has lately been discovered as a becoming compromise for khaki, and thereupon been enrolled amongst the washing fabrics of the moment for

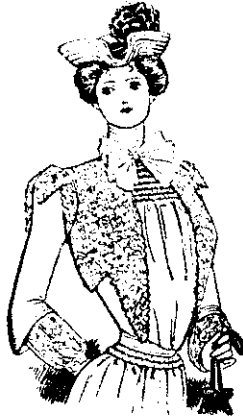
black satin and immense rosettes of the same.

A flounced Princesse chemise which forms a combined chemise and under-petticoat is a useful bit of underwear, and could be worn quite well in conjunction with the combination camisole (or slip bodice) and petticoat. The better to explain my meaning I have given in this illustration a sketch

of course, cambric or lawn, and the lace Valenciennes. Another mode can be obtained in which the darts are omitted and the cloth merely shaped at the sides and left loose in front and at the back, but for my own part I should certainly recommend the other style, as the correct fit is more assured.

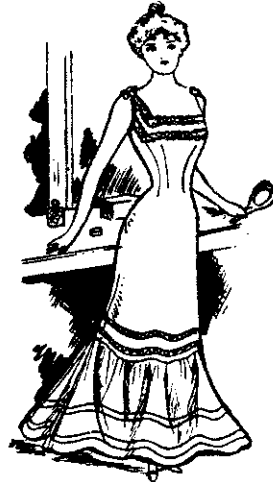
WALKING COSTUME.

This pretty illustration will give to the reader an idea what beautiful effects can be produced by the application of good gimp trimming on cloth, it enhances the beauty of the zouave, and adds additional points of interest to the skirt.



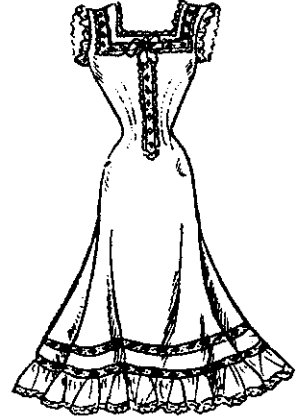
HOLLAND AND IRISH CROCHET.

gowns. In this figure we have a very modish and charming gown of holland. The underbodice has a gauged yoke, and thence is slightly pounced over which is worn a bolero of holland coloured Irish crochet. The sleeves, it will be seen, are cut to the Old World bell shape just below the elbow, stitched, and thence continued in the equally remote lace sleeve gathered into a band at the wrist. The skirt is one of the revived "house-maid's," and is gauged just over the hips and stitched at the hem apropos, all the stitching on the best gowns now is done by hand and not by machine, a Penelope's task indeed for the already over-weighted dressmaker. With this holland gown is worn one of the Tricorne or three-cornered hats, which are just now having a revival. It is of Tuscan straw with a fold of



A PRINCESSE CHEMISE.

of this garment, which, it will be observed, has a couple of deep darts at the waist to make the fit as neat as possible, the skirt being gored to allow of the requisite fullness at the foot, where it can either be simply finished by a deep hem and tucks, or, as in this instance, a couple of rows of lace insertion and a lace edged frill. The material employed in its formation is,



A PRINCESSE PETTICOAT.

A very practical suggestion will be found in my sketch, which depicts a combination camisole and petticoat, and is a piece of underwear almost a necessity when a gown of the Prin-



DAINTY LINGERIE.



WALKING COSTUME.