

THE WORLD OF FASHION.

(BY MARGUERITE.)

We are on the eve of seeing new fashions—in fact, they are in; but it is full early yet to talk about them, as we have all next month in which to do so, and is rather dull having the choosing of one's spring frocks over before the season begins. Therefore, let us look into our wardrobes and consider the state of our lingerie, tea gowns, and perhaps our evening dresses.

Underwear plays a very important part in the wardrobe of the fashionable woman of to-day. The days of merino and homely flannel are no more, and if we are obliged to contemplate such a practical question as

some sort of anti-rheumatic garment, we will have it as little offensive as possible, while a fine silk and wool mixture is enough protection for the average woman.

She can, of course, have her satin knickers lined with flannel, and the flannel petticoat of to-day may be a very beautiful garment, trimmed with hand embroidery, or tucked and inserted with Valenciennes and real torchon; this is sufficiently warm and undeniably pretty.

Another idea is to have a washing silk underskirt lined with cashmere or nun's veiling, simply made with two or three frills of silk. This forms

a charming petticoat for those who require warmth.

But the petticoat of the moment is the French lingerie petticoat—that is, a petticoat of white muslin profusely adorned with lace, embroidery, and tucks of the fanciest description—is to be more generally adopted than for many years past.

One very deep flounce, with a full frilling under the hem of it, or three or four tiny ruffles placed upon it, is a favoured method of making these skirts. To form the one broad flounce of alternate bands of lace insertion or embroidery, and of the

material for at least one-half of its width, is quite a la mode. Other more elaborate models have a band of coloured muslin or ribbon laid under the inserting, with bows laid under the all around the top of the flounce at intervals. This, however, is not a very popular model, as most women prefer pure white lingerie, only countenancing the tiny bits of colouring given by a bebe ribbon drawing string for waist, neck, or sleeves.

The very latest and smartest touch on this season's petticoats is the use of the fashionable ecru and twine-coloured laces. The effect is pretty and stylish, and it is asserted that it



The Newest Wraps.