



A MATRON'S SUMMER BLOUSE.

The accompanying sketch shows you a plain tucked blouse, or bodice rather, as it is intended to be worn outside the skirt, the belt being shaped to allow of this, so that it would do for out-of-door wear, if wished.

It is, moreover, made on a lining foundation, as so many prefer this, and for stout figures it certainly is a great improvement, preventing the untidiness about the waist—often degenerating into sloppiness with some people—which is the disadvantage of the ordinary style.

The front is arranged with three deep tucks on each side, extending from the shoulder, these being folded and then stitched down, thus keeping them flatter than when tucked in the ordinary way. The back has one on each side of neck, but brought together at the waist, a style which will be found rather becoming to broad backs.

The sleeves are of the bishop order, finished off with deep-pointed cuffs, whilst the little turn-down clergyman collar may be of embroidered cambric or the material as preferred.

LOVELY LITTLE LACE

jackets, boleros, and over-bodices are now being shown in the leading shop windows, and these dainty trifles are more than a little effective in wear, while donned over but an ordinary blouse-bodice of Japanese silk or Oriental satin they give their wearer an air of smartness and chic that is peculiarly attractive. Now why should we not all own a coatee of the kind? Many of you, my readers, doubtless own old lengths of lace of varying worth. Some, perhaps, have an oddment of piece lace that can be immediately and satisfactorily pressed into the service. Others again own maybe, a lace shawl, cape, blouse, or even a skirt length, any of which can be readily evolved into the up-to-date lace overcoat, which is so very, very pretty and so easy to arrange. To make such a lace dainty see that the back is cut quite clear of the waist—some three or four inches above, in fact—then the fronts may be as elaborate, openwork, and altogether irresponsible as we will. For instance, the actual centre of the front must, of

course, be open to show the blouse beneath, which, by the bye, should be as full as possible. Then on either side of this open front see that the lace coat descends in stole-like ends below the waist some three or more inches. Either side of the front of the bodice may be openwork if we will—merely medallions of the lace cut away to show the under-bodice, in which case the sleeve may also be openworked slightly to repeat the idea. In any case, the lace sleeve will scarcely reach below the elbow, but the under-sleeve is of much importance, and must be deeply frilled or tucked and then fashioned into the largest size "bishop." From this description I think you can all arrange the kind of lace coat I advise; while if you go out to buy lace for its evolution I advise the coarsest make and the largest possible pattern.



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Right-Hand Figure.—Muslin, lace and gauzings.

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