WOMAN and HER WORK.

I am afraid we women really do a great many foolish things, and bring upon ourselves, to a very large extent, the ridicule we so often protest against! For instance, could any practice be more utterly without sense, more simply idio'ic than the habit which seems ingrained in feminine nature of putting the key under the mat when she goes out, and then going forth serenely feeling perfectly satisfied that the

Snall paniers are seen on some of the but, so far, without success, though it is easy. For instance, a woman sees one of confidently predicted by those who should know, that in another year, both the bustle and panier will be generally accepted facts.

When the coat basque first appeared, brocade was the generally acc pted material, but later models show a decided house, and all its contents will be quite safe | tendency towards making the coat of some solid dark color, and leaving a'l the elabor-I watched an otherwise sensible woman ation and brilliancy to the waist coat, or hiding the key of her front door securely full front. This is a vast improvement as under its time honored shield, the other the entire suit takes its dressy effect from



PERCALE AND DIMITY SHIRT WALSTS

day, and wondered if she had the least | the waistcoat, and it is much better style whether she merely did it because her mother used to, and her grandmother had followed the same intelligent custom from her earliest yonth. It really seemed to me that she would make a capital study for a sculptor who wanted a thoroughly original inspiration for a statue of faith.

Is th re a tramp in the world so stupid that he would not look under the mat for the key before taking any more active step towards breaking into a house, when he found the inmates absent? It so, I am sure his fellow "knights of the road" would hold a court martial and turn him out of their ranks, the moment they found him

Do try and break free from the bonds of habit, in this case, my dear sisters, and find a more secure place for the family

I think I spoke some time ago of the pretty effect of slashed sleeves showing a narrow underpuff of some bright contrasting material? If not, I know I intended doing so; and really they are most picturesque, and distinguished looking; worn with the deeply pointed bodices which are sometimes trimmed in a fashion which suggests the stomacher of Elizabethan days, and the full neck ruffs, they carry us back to very old times indeed, especially if their wearer can afford a jewelled girdle, of the kind the fashion writers allude to so airily, as if they could be purchased at the shop around the corner, for fifty cents. O' course the "jewels" are seldom real, and the girdles not nearly so costly as they look, but still they are sufficiently expensive to be out of reach for many of us.

While the width of tailor made, and all heavy wool skirts has perceptibly decreased, the light gauzy summer fabrics are made up with fully as wide if not wider skirts than ever; and the fully gathered epaulette, and wide flaring shoulder pieces which are joined to the broad pompadour yokes and collars so much worn, prevent the scantiness of the new sleeve puffs, from being too conspicuous, after the enormous width of shoulder to which of the edging falling over them.

idea of the absurdity of the thing, or as well as more economical, since a small quanti'y of the expensive brocade of which vest, collar and cuffs are made, gors a long way, while a whole coat would be very expensive. Lace is a most prominent feature of all the summer gowns, and some of the heavy cloth dresses made for spring show yokes of heavy cream lace laid over sa'in of either a contrasting or harmonizing

> The very newest Louis XV. coats have very long basque w istcoats, high standing collars, and deep gauntlet cuffs of the style known as "cavalier" last season. The Louis XIV. mode's have revees, wide hip pockets on the vest, and no cuffs, so one may take her choice, and yet feel sure of being in the van of fashion.

The blouse, or "bag" front seems to die hard, as it is seen on several of the newest



STRIPPED SILK AND DOTTED SWISS. spring models! It probably owes its we have become accustomed. These ad- | popularity to the fact that while the round justable yokes and plastrons are nearly al- waist and belt at the back are becoming to ways made separate from the dress, and nearly everyone, it takes an almost are seen in many fanciful shapes. Some perfect form to look really well, have the edges cut in deep Vandyke points | with a closely belted front, hence the droop- | that bishop sleeves take the place of the others are cut straight across and some are | ing blouse which half conceals the waist | old gigots, the new shirt bodies differ in no round. They are made of alternate bands line is a most welcome addition to a round great degree from those of last season. of lace insertion and ribbon, in all-over | waist. Cuffs of all kinds and shapes are | They have the same pointed yokes at the embroidery on grass linen, chambray, fine very much in fashion. The Marie Antoi- back, and the fronts slightly gathered or lawn, or batiste, and edged all a ound with nette cuff is almost four inches deep and laid in three narrow, pressed down plaits a frill of either lace, or embroidery edging | flares decidely, while the Louis XV. cuff | each side of the button hem. to match the all-over, and finished with is nearly five inches deep. Some dainty high collars of the embroidery, stiffened little cuffs are scarcely more than an inch | material as the waist, and the white turnwith interlining, and sometimes with a frill wide when finished, and others reach over collars are no longer sewed on. They

room for variety between these two ex-

It is really quite an interesting problem to solve, the manner in which the thin summer materials should be made up! There is no difficulty whatever in deciding how a silk, or cloth dress is to be made; spring dresses, and the bustle is making but when it comes to a dainty and expensive its semi annual demand for public favor, washing material the decision is far from



A TUCKED SWISS BODICE.

the delightful zephyrs crepons which are being shown now, and she is naturally pleased with the dainty puffs of pale pink, yellow or heliotrope separated by clusters of narrowstripes in black, which form the material. It looks exactly like silk and is quite as light, and besides that it has the advantage of washing when it is soiled; so she buys it, and then her troubles are only just begun. In the first place the fabric is so thin that it requires a lining, but if it Tis lined, it can never be washed with any satisfaction, and here the thought suddenly presents itself that though the pretty puffed material may be washed, it can certainly never be either stretched or ironea. If it is merely pulled out carefully while it is drying it will never look really fresh, but will always have a "rough dried" appearance which is most unsatisfactory; and to get it cleaned by a professional cleaner would cost almost as much as the dress itself. To the only alternative seems to be to make it up as much like a summer silk as possible and resign oneself to the annoyance of trying to keep it clean, and knowing that once it s soiled, it is practically done for. There s however, one rule to go by which is a reliable guide for making all thin summer waists; no matter how they may be cut, and that is that they are all gathered at the belt, after that, the variety consists in the trimming. Dresses that are not to be washed are cut with gored skirts, and those which are intended to pay frequent visits to the tub are either made entirely plain, or only sloped off at the front and sides. A very easy model, and one which was recently shown in New York, had a perfectly plain skirt which was gathered to the belt and then had a second row of shirring all around, each gather being carefully laid. The waist was in simple French shape, and only gathered at the belt, which was of guipure insertion. A row of the same inertion was sewed flat down the centre of the back and a similar row went down the front from throat to belt. The neck was finished with a band of ribbon overlaid with a band of the insertion and a double bow of the ribbon finished the back, above, was a frill of lace. The sleeves were balloon puffs with a jabot of the lace down the

Another pretty model was of dotted canvas cloth, and the sleeves were in bishop shape with a frill of the material edged with narrow lace at the wrists. The waist was V shaped in front and back, folds of the material being drawn across in surplice style, the belt was of wide ribbon folded, and there were two bows of ribbon on the waist one near each shoulder, a frill of lace was gathered at the neck and fell back, leaving the throat bare. The skirt was quite plain.

SUMMER SHIRTS.

Smart new Bodices of Cool Airy Fabrics.

New York, April 30 .- Direct descendant of the spencer body, the shirt waist has for six seasons or more made all womankind happy. Nothing so cool and neat for summer wear has been found since the spencer was laid on the grave of dead grandmothers, and it is really to this estimable old garment that we owe the later invention.

Its great granddaughter, the shirt waist, was originally intended for plain user, but some of the later ones are taking on such fine airs that shirt waist seems a misnomer.

In general outline, with the exception

The cuffs, however, are now of the same nearly to the elbow, so there is ample are made detachable to admit of several Still let it be added that there are ging-

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Waterbury & Rising.

PANS

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

narrow mannish bow tie.

stiff stock and little bow tie made of the and yachting waists. waist material. This last detail, however, the shirt makers.



A FIGURED SILK JACKET and by skilful manipulation may be as

easily laundered. The cuffs of all of the sleeves are less deep than formerly, and are held together by link fastenings, and a trim sort in these are round pearl buttons to imitate those

The prettiest and most smart shirt waist of the season, though, is the one made of some fragile textile.

Batistes, dimities and lawns, striped, plain and figured all over, make some of the most useful of these, and a becoming point with many of them is to have the collar and cuffs in a solid color.

For the smarter affairs white Swiss, figured, dotted, plain or ribbon striped, is an effective and elegant material. Again the Swiss may be in large checks or small ones, or, perhaps, be self-siripod with a dainty embroidery of dots or figures in colored silk between.

One of the novelty textures used for these dressy waists is a curious linen batiste, showing big rough figures, like Turkish towelling.

The background of this is a pale mahogany-brown, in a web as thin as gren-

The figures, huge leaves or strange flowers, are white and are raised up with all the thready loops of the familiar bath

Then it goes without saying that all the plain and fancy linens and batistes of the season are seen among the new shirtwaists, and so elegant are some of these with their lace insertions and open work yokes and collars that they seem fine enough for almost any occasion.

Many of the Swiss waists have the necks figished with the usual stiff collar. But others and the colored novelty textures as well, will have ribbon stocks or else made ones of white, black or tinted satin, showing white satin pipings at the edges and the proper narrow tie.

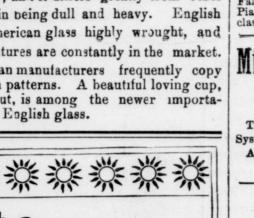
Here endeth the chapter of shirt waists!

changes, the waist outlasting, of course, hams left, and the daintiest coolest affair s the collar in freshness, and worn with a in swivel silk, and some plain black or white satin blouses that are the very new-With shirt waists strictly for morning est things from London town. Then there use, those of percale, cambric and cheviot, is a dashing new material called "saila stylish variation of the white collar is a cloth" that will be much used for country

With a proper supply of all these neat is not a frequent accompaniment to a ready- washable articles one may with three made article, but is fashioned to order by skirts alone—a black peau de soie, a brown linen homespun, and a white duck-effect A parasol to match the wash waist, what- | many changes of costume, and go through ever its material, is also in bigh feather, a summer outing with peace and health.

And since both the skirts and waists may be bought ready made, it is never too late to learn and buy.

Don't Polish Cut Glass to , Much. Great care should be taken with articles of cut glass, whether for table service or toilet use. The greatest mistake is made in attempting too high a polish, which, as a rule, many persons consider one of the chief beauties of this ware. Constant polishing reduces the exquisite finish which makes it appear so bright when new. In order to retain this brilliancy, let the article, when quickly cleaned, be [allowed to dry alone after being properly, rinsed. A soft linen towel should be used but little in the care of cut glass, and it will be always bright and sparkling. There is almost no Russian cut glass brought to this country, and it differs greatly from other makes in being dull and heavy. English and American glass highly wrought, and new features are constantly in the market. American manufacturers frequently copy Russian patterns. A beautiful loving cup, richly cut, is among the newer importations of English glass.



At a Glance

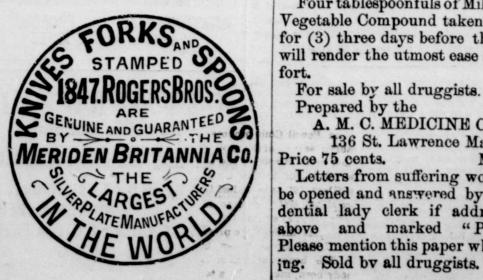
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