MILLINERY
THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL

PART I

BOW-MAKING

Points to remember when making Bows.—In no case should the novice essay bow-making with the material she intends for the ultimate trimming of her hat. She should always master its difficulties by first practising with strips of book muslin or tissue paper, taking as much care when modelling with these materials to ensure an uncrumpled appearance as if the material itself was being manipulated. Economy is not only achieved by this means, but dexterity, the lightness of touch, the finger knack or skill, and the power with it, to handle perishable material without deleterious effect.

The chief characteristics of a well-made bow are—

I. That all loops and ends must be firm at one part, i.e. the root, to which they must be
secured, or some will hang limply and the bow lose the smart effect it ought by right to possess.

II. It should have but one common centre or root, to which all ends and loops must be attached.

III. The fold of loop must be round, not sharp in outline.

IV. The finished bow must retain all the freshness of, and be as free from creases as was the material prior to its manipulation.

Requirements for Bow-making—

2 reels black and white cotton, No. 10.
1 packet needles (straw), No. 5.
Mounting wire.
1 ring fine silk wire, colour of material being used.

Ribbon, silk velvet, etc.

Shape or Form of Bow.—In regard to shape or form of bows, general principles only can be given, and in order to keep up to date the student will need to study the fashion most prevalent at the time of her essays. A description, however, of the salient features of a few standard bows that are never out of date, yet are not always readily recognised when named to the student, may not come amiss. The chief of these are—
Diagram I.
Standard Bows.—The Rosette, Butterfly, Loop Rosette, Alsatian, and the Tied Bow.

The Rosette.—The Rosette (Diagram I., Fig. 3) can be made in its smallest form with either 1 yard of ribbon about 2 in. or 3 in. wide, or with a crossway piece of velvet; if made of the latter material it must measure 4 in. or 6 in. in width to allow for it being used double. The ends are separately joined by doubling down B to A and C to D, as Fig. 3, Diag. I., wrong side uppermost, and back-stitched, so as to take in the whole of coloured selvedge; the seam is then turned inside out and straight ends formed, as shown by Fig. 3, Diag. I. After gathering along the cut edges the thread must be tightly drawn up, one end of the velvet twisted into the centre, and the whole gathered portion secured to a circular-shaped piece of stiff net, the size of a sixpence.

Loop Rosette.—The Loop Rosettes are more generally made of ribbon than velvet, but when of the latter each cut edge must be narrowly roll-hemmed first by turning the edge down twice and slip-hemming (Fig. 5 on left-hand side of Diag. XLIII.); one end of the velvet or ribbon should be pleated or gathered into the smallest compass possible to form a root, then about 3 in. to 3½ in. of the ribbon (for a
medium-sized rosette) is taken over the fore-finger, pleated upwards, and secured to the root by twisting the mounting wire or cotton twice round tightly, this process being continued every succeeding 3 in. or $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. until the rosette requires but one loop to finish it. This one should measure 4 in., as $\frac{1}{2}$ in. is turned in when pleated or gathered and slip-stitched to the first, so that no beginning or end is en évidence. Though but a simple bow, the Loop Rosette requires great care in its manipulation, otherwise, should each loop not have been stitched to the starting-point, but to each other, a gap would be left in the centre, and more stitching would be required in order to draw the loops closely together.

**Butterfly Bow.**—The Butterfly Bow is formed by two equal loops and two equal ends triangular in shape. 1 yd. of ribbon 6 in. wide will be found sufficient to make a proportionate bow of medium size. When the ribbon is reversible it can be divided into five parts, the first of which should be $8\frac{1}{2}$ in., the second 7 in., the third 8 in., the fourth 4 in., the fifth $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. The first division should be gathered along the divisional line to $\frac{1}{2}$ in., and cotton or mounting wire twisted twice around the gathered part very tightly to form the root. The loop is made by gathering at the second divisional
line, beginning at 7 in. at one edge and slanting to 8 in. at the opposite edge (this is done in order to make the lower edge of loop less in size than the top). The loop is then made fast to the root and the ribbon twisted once, so that the short side of the third division comes to the lower edge. After gathering this division, the ribbon is taken to the back of root and made firm. The fourth division is then twisted over the root to form tieover, or body of Butterfly, then taken to the back and fastened, so that the fifth division forms the second end. The ends must then be cut at opposite angles, and the bow is finished.

**The Alsatian Bow.**—The Alsatian Bow is made with uniform loops, the under ones generally reaching from ear to ear round the front of a bonnet (that of a nurse, for example), and usually has a loose tieover.

**Tied Bow.**—The Tied Bow may have as many loops as desired and of any size, but can only have two ends. It is made with an uncut length of ribbon. The best effect is obtained by making the loops very unequal in size. The great point to remember in making this bow is that the ribbon must invariably be taken from left to right or *vice versa*, and the loops made alternately. If this is not strictly adhered to, and two or more loops be made on
the right or on the left side before one on the alternate side, when the bow is completed and the last end knotted—as it must be—around the centre, these loops will not be firm at root, but resolve themselves into one loop, and the bow will lose the form intended.

**Drawn Rosette Bow.**—The Drawn Rosette Bow is made as a rosette with the addition of tucks, in which a cord or wire is sometimes inserted, and occasionally a puff is introduced at centre.

**Bow made of Ends.**—The fourth figure on Diag. I., a bow made of ends, when made of a good ribbon that will stand erect without the aid of a wire, forms a stylish front trimming for a hat. 2½ yds. of ribbon 5 in. or 6 in. wide would be required. This should be cut up in lengths, four 9 in. long, three ½ yd. long; the four 9 in. lengths should be pleated in the centre and tightly bound with cotton or mounting wire, and the three ½ yd. lengths sewn together, first in their centre, then on the centre of the four 9 in. pieces; the remaining ¼ yd. must be passed around the three ½ yd. lengths after their six cut edges have been arranged in the hand perpendicularly, and the two ends of the 9 in. twisted in front of the six upstanding ends, then taken over the root of the four ends forming the horizontal and lower portion of bow in front, and
secured at back of bow at the root, and thus forms a double or twisted tieover.

**Gathered or 'Tucked' Bows.**—Gathered Bows can either be made by running a small tuck to form a casing for wire in the centre of a 7 in. or 8 in. ribbon (as Fig. 5, Diag. I.), or by making narrow hems at the edges of the material used. It is usual when making this variety of bow in chiffon or tulle to double the material and make flat casings. Before manipulating the gathered lengths into bows the running threads are best drawn up to the length required for making the form of bow desired. The loops and ends are then arranged in the ordinary way.

**To stiffen Soft Ribbon.**—When making a bow of soft ribbon, the upstanding loops of which must be stiffened, a fine wire the colour of the material must be requisitioned. This should either be sewn at each edge of the ribbon, by turning the selvedge over the wire and neatly hemming down with fine sewing silk the colour of the ribbon, or by lightly securing the wire up the centre of the ribbon by tying at top and once each side of loops.

**Fan-shaped Bows.**—Fan-shaped Bows may be made in *lace*, chiffon, tulle, silk, or ribbon, by taking \( \frac{3}{4} \) or 1 yd. lengths of material and running tucks to case the wires, as illustrated
by Fig. 1, Diag. II.; Fig. 2, Diag. II., showing fan when finished.

When it is desired to make this style of bow in piece material, as silk, satin, etc., the top cut edge must be neated by either roll or French hemming (Diag. XLIII., Fig. 6). Piece velvet bows should always be made upon a small foundation, so as to avoid overlapping and bulk at centre.

WIRING LACE

**Wiring Lace.**—Whether fans or loops are used in lace bow-making, good wiring is an essential that must have proper attention. In wiring insertion with a straight edge the wire must be sewn on $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from edge with a button-hole stitch. When scalloped or having a pointed edge the wire is sewn below scallop at the straight line. If the scallop or point be very deep and the lace very soft it may be found necessary to wire around scallop with a still finer wire, as, for instance, one strand drawn out of a ribbon wire. When the insertion is more than 3 in. or 4 in. wide a third wire is often sewn along the centre.

**Lace Coquilles.**—When wiring lace for coquilles (Diag. II., Fig. 4) the wire is sewn on widthway (Fig. 3, Diag. II.), and one piece of wire, generally the first length, is cut