

## Lady Duff-Gordon's New Winter Designs

### New Tendencies of Fashion. *By Lady Duff-Gordon*

WHAT are the newest tendencies in the winter fashions? Never have there been so few changes in the general trend of the fashions as at this season. The gowns themselves remain practically the same; the newest tendencies are shown in the little touches—the way a girl's is draped, the way a neck is finished, the way a scarf is adjusted.

In very truth, this year it is the little touches that count. I can see very little change in the hats. The shapes are practically the same as last year, but the trimming is decidedly different.

For instance, I have created a butterfly hat that is absolutely novel. The hat is a wide-brimmed, low-

crowned affair of brown silk plush. On the very tip of the brim, just as though resting for a moment, is a golden brown butterfly, with its large wings opened just a trifle.

This typifies the new hat decoration. The top of the hat is left unadorned—all the trimming is either on the tip edge of the brim or underneath it.

It is no unusual thing to see a hat with a whole bird of paradise underneath the brim or a spreading osprey feather. Then I have used plastrons of roses in this way. When feathers are put under the brim in this way the ends either stand out beyond the edge or curl down backward over the ear.

The smart women of Paris have adopted the small velour hat that was introduced last winter for the masculine sex and for small children. This winter the mondaines have seized upon it and invariably wear it with their morning tailored costumes.

And the newest skirts? Skirts, like the hats, show few changes. They are narrower than ever, and that is the most that can be said. In tailored costumes, where the skirts are short, they are not more than a yard and a half around the hem. They are no longer sored. Gored skirts are absolutely out.

The newest skirts are cut in two pieces. A narrow circular front and a back of the same width. These two pieces are joined on the hips over an inset of the same material or of some different fabric. For instance, a blue serge skirt will have side insets of blue brocade, blue velvet or blue corded silk, matching exactly the serge, of course.

A new idea that has captivated many of the mondaines who are devoted to short skirts is the bunched fullness just above the ankles at the back. This fullness does not make the skirt any fuller at the hem, as it is laid in two pleats or folds on the side.

Coats are longer, slightly fuller below the hips and very plain. Buttons of cloth rather than the fancy buttons of last year are the smartest this season.

The one bit of decoration that can be used with impunity this winter is a touch of brocade. Brocade collars and cuffs have displaced the elaborate braiding.

Never before has severity been so absolutely vital in tailored costumes. Parisians of the smart world have practically adopted a morning uniform, so plain are their clothes.

But what a contrast is presented in their evening gowns and "at home" costumes! Over-elaboration is the tendency in these costumes, and the one-color costume is absolutely out. Eight or ten color tones are frequently used in one evening gown.

Every age is represented in these smart costumes for formal affairs. We have robbed the Orient, we have taken ideas from the days of Pharaoh, of Cleopatra and even of Eve.

With the over-elaboration of decoration has come a craze for transparency that is startling, even in Paris. But the Parisian woman of fashion and social standing wears her transparencies only in her own home. She never wears them when she is herself a guest, and she never wears them in public places.

Girdles were never so elaborate, and scarves are a necessary part of every formal costume. The present scarf does double duty. It frequently forms the girdle, or perhaps, draped over the left shoulder, forms a sleeve.

Muffs are larger and very elaborate. They are made of brocade, of velvet and of chiffon, with bands of fur, and when brocade is used the hat must match. The velvet and brocade muffs are shirred in five or six sections. The muffs are new in shape. They are practically pipe shape. The pipe that is used for the carrying of water and gas! They are long and round. The draped muff and the muff that is wider than it is long no more find favor with the mondaines.

The keynote of beauty is absolute simplicity. Whether in house decoration or feminine fashions, I believe that absolute simplicity should rule. Personally, I think that it is within every woman's power to make herself beautiful. And not by means of paint and powder, but by her clothes. To be chic, to be exquisitely gowned and groomed is to be beautiful.

Manners may make the man, but dress makes the woman. The woman of plain features can make herself beautiful if she chooses her gowns with an eye to her defects as well as to her good points.

No woman who does not know her defects can dress herself as I think she should. The woman who does not realize that her left shoulder is a bit higher than her right is hopeless. The woman who does not realize that her pale blue eyes can be darkened by the colors she wears is equally hopeless.

I do wish that I could impress on all women that clothes mean more than anything else to them. Women of acknowledged beauty have been called "homely" when it was their clothes that were homely and not their faces. Beauty and smartness are twin sisters.

### The Latest Creations.

IN the fashions that I am discussing this week are many and varied models. In the picture at the extreme left corner is my ideal street costume, the "Curate." The Curate is my exclusive creation; it is suitable for all ages of women—the debutante, the bride and the matron. This model is built of blue serge. The skirt is one of the two-piece affairs that are fastened over on side pieces on each hip. In the Curate the hip pieces must be of the material that the skirt is made of.

The long semi-close coat is absolutely plain, the only true feminine touch is given by the high collar and lace tie. The many buttons are covered with the cloth. The hat is one of those small velour affairs that Paris is just wild about this season.

In the next picture is the gown I call the "Adorer of Beauty." The skirt is one of my new one-piece models, and the coat, as you will notice, is longer than those we wore last winter. Skunk fur is used on the coat and also on the small hat. The bunch of tiny roses on the tip of the brim is one of the new ideas in trimming.

Next, I am showing you two afternoon gowns that are very chic. The gray velvet and fox costume shows to great advantage the newest draped effect. A gray and silver brocade waistcoat is a distinctive feature of the bodice. The gray and white fox muff is the latest shape and size. A contrast is given by the gown on the seated figure. This I call an "All-Together" costume. I call it by this name because it is a costume that is all together. The gown is of white satin charmeuse and the cutaway coat of black velvet has a waistcoat of the satin.

The large figure on the right of the page is wearing the "Wine of Love" evening gown. This is an elaborate costume of gold chiffons and spangled green net. It is very transparent, for there is no lining underneath the net skirt. The wrap of the gold chiffon is unlined and is trimmed with skunk fur. Notice the novel arrangement of the scarf. It hangs from the left shoulder in a manner especially Turkish.

My "Mascot" is suitable for a debutante, but a woman of any age

The New "Curate" Street Dress, the "Wine of Love" Evening Costume; the "Adorer of Beauty," and the "Mascot" Are Among Fashion's Latest Novelties Created by Lady Duff-Gordon



"THE ADORER OF BEAUTY," an Afternoon Costume of Green Velvet Trimmed with Skunk Fur to Match the "Pipe" Muff. This Costume Shows the New Length Coat and One of My New Small Hats.



"THE CURATE" Costume of Blue Serge in Which I Think That Every Woman Can Be Beautiful. The Small Hat of Gold Velour Is the Rage in Paris.

GRAY VELVET RECEPTION GOWN (on the left), Exemplifying the Newest Draped Effect. Gray Fox Fur Used on Hem and as Cuffs to Match the Large Muff. Small Hat with Cockade in Two Shades of Gray. THE "ALL-TOGETHER" COSTUME (on the right), of White Satin Charmeuse, with Extremely Long Skirt and the Latest Cutaway Coat of Black Satin.



"THE WINE OF LOVE" Evening Costume Distinctly Oriental in its Suggestions. The Novel Draped Girdle and Fringed Scarf Are the Insignia of the Turkish Women of High Rank. The Unlined Wrap of Gold Chiffon Is One of My Latest Models.

My "Mascot" Costume

