

## Mid-Summer Walking Dresses

Lady Duff-Gordon Describes  
the Newest Fashions for  
the Dog Days

LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women. Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.



Back View of a Midsummer Walking Dress of Biscuit Tussore and Net. ("Lucile" Model)

By Lady Duff-Gordon  
("LUCILE")

WHAT to wear in the dog days is a problem that sometimes makes us sigh for the days of the early Greeks. One can be cool, however, if one keeps a few simple rules. Wear whites and cool soft greens and tans and also light pinks and blues. These are midsummer colors.

Here on this page I show a couple of very practical Summer walking dresses—one of tussore and net and one of serge. The evening dress is also adapted for the warm nights.

The little serge reminds me of another typical and smart blue one that has a short sacque coat bound with braid and an array of braided buttons fastening its loose straight waistcoat fronts of black satin. The skirt hangs in very full pleats, which are also bound with braid, the same finish being given to the side-pockets which are a feature of quite a number of the new skirts. The accessories consist of boots made in the same serge suiting with just a vamp of patent leather, and a sailor hat with a soft crown of black straw, joined together in the bonds of modish matrimony by means of an encircling array of flatly-laid black wings, whose overhanging points break, and therefore soften the severe line of the brim.

Then beige covert coating is another much favored fabric for the making of these simple coat and skirt costumes, black and white headgear and footwear being frequent and smart accompaniments, though sometimes you will see—and then certainly admire—boots all of bronze glaze, or others of brown kid with beige cloth uppers, and then to crown all, a long, narrow and much tip-tilted toque, perhaps of brown satin bordered with a wreath of flatly laid and softly shaded leaves and draped with a brown lace veil.

As to the aforementioned "coat-dress" of navy blue serge suiting, it is one of the many things for which women may—and, indeed, must—be truly thankful this season. For it is always most convenient, comfortable, and smart, though it is, perhaps, at its best when its style is most militant, with broad silky black braid closely banded across the straight somewhat loosely hanging front, edging the little upstanding collar, and banding the hem of the skirt, whose fulness all comes from the closely pleated folds at the sides.

The obviously most suitable and smart headgear for such a costume is



Front and Side View of the Tussore and Net Dress.

On the Side a New Summer Evening Gown, and Below a Smart Little Serge. ("Lucile" Models)



the new "sword handle" hat, which wins its name by its trimming of soft plumage, two long quill feathers introduced at the left side into the soft bandings and loops, helping to secure the desired, and very decorative, effect.

The sailor shape on which this sword of peace—and piquancy—is laid, is carried out in navy blue silk, and it is also being made in all black.

Of course, there are any number of other coat-dresses of navy serge which will, perhaps, introduce a device of fine braiding at the sides, to mark the change from the straight loose lines of the corsage to the outward flaring fulness of the skirt, while others again will be arranged with a very wide and quite loose belt effect, or, perhaps, a broad sash of the same serge, bound with braid, and crossed low down and loosely about the hips. Sometimes, too, a telling touch of contrasting color will be introduced—as, for instance, when the military color is of cerise linen embroidered in white and gold, and when the buttons which figure in front, and at the hips, are of a brighter blue, set in the centre of a square of gold, a somewhat elaborate design of black braid and soutache being then carried down either side.

So that, really, there should be a coat-dress to suit every woman, which is fortunate, seeing that every woman certainly needs one of these particular and well-nigh perfect garments, which are probably going to do more than anything else to decide the battle of the skirts, and to win the victory for the new full models.

For this style is infinitely more becoming and easy to wear when thus allied to a long straight corsage, than when made separately and more closely fitting about the waist.