

Lady Duff-Gordon's Prize Hats



"The Thief of Hearts"—Black Satin Brim, Two Holes for Eyes and Chignon Crown.

LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucie" 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.

By Lady Duff-Gordon.

RECENTLY I visited the New York School of Fine and Applied Art and was very much interested in the work of the young women and young men who are its students. I was much impressed by the originality shown in their designs, and it occurred to me that here was a definite refutation of the charge that hats or dresses could not be designed in America by Americans because they lacked fashion ideas. So I invited the young ladies and young gentlemen to make sketches of original hats and headresses, and I would give them a prize for the winner and also make up the hats that I picked out as good, just to show them how their ideas would look in actual practice.

And here are some of them, not changed in a single line from the very interesting and in many cases very beautiful designs that they submitted.

Three of those that are shown here are distinctly oddities. They could not be used everywhere, but their decorative value is so great that I could not help picking them out.

The little hat in the left hand corner is called "The Thief of Hearts." The idea is carried out in the visor, which looks so extraordinarily like a burglar's mask. The hair shows through the little bars. But besides its oddity it is of real practical value. It is an excellent hat for automobiling. The



"Silver Birch"—Gray and Silver Transparent Brim, with a Blue Butterfly



"Pit and Pendulum," a Very Unusual Design.



"Little Miss Muffet"—Headress of Silver Wire Frame, with Silver Spider.

little slits can be covered with transparent material and the hair can be shielded by veiling behind the bars of silk. It serves the purpose of shielding the eyes and at the same time it does not deface as do the goggles. I picked it out, and I show it because this is really an idea, and worked out most excellently with not only the aim of utility, but also of decoration.

The "Little Miss Muffet," with its silver wire frame and spider, is an interesting little headress. That is an idea. And so, too, the "Pit and the Pendulum," which has its obvious inspiration, of course, not from Poe's famous story, but from the rings of Saturn. Here is quite an idea. The top of the head and the hair are left free to sunshine and air, while the circular brim, pink and transparent, shades the eyes. The pendulum effect comes from the broad silver band that runs over the top of the head, and is finished by the curious pendant.

The "Horn of Plenty" is a very useful veil brim, forming a part of the hat which I introduced this Spring. The grapes at the top give it its name. It is all blue and green.

Very charming, indeed, is the "Silver Birch," with its very unusual and interesting shape and its great blue butterfly at the top and its silver leaves scattered down over the chignon. Here is not only a practical but a very beautiful hat. The "Roulette," with its blue and white circular brim and simple blue crown, with the cap coming down over the forehead, is also charming.



"Roulette"—Blue and White Circle Brim Over an Interesting Blue Cap.



"The Horn of Plenty"—An Adaptation of the New Brim Veil.