

Basic Detail Report



Title Bonnet

Date 1858-1868

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Hand-stitched black braided straw with silk, lace, cotton lining, and wire.

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Description Woman's bonnet made entirely of black materials, suggesting a

mourning bonnet. The bonnet is made of black braided straw, trimmed with

black ribbon, lace and silk faille. The brim is shaped to angle slightly away from

the face, especially at the center top which is 3 3/4 inches wide. The ends of the

brim extend to points slightly below the bottom of the crown at the back. The

brim is lined with a silk faille for 2 - 2 1/4 inches. This faille is carried over the

edge to the top, where it is pleated three times, forming a decorative trim 1 3/8

inches wide. A heavy wire is attached under the faille at the edge of the brim for

shape and support. This wire extends around the bottom of the bonnet, above

the curtain. The crown is approximately 3 1/2 inches wide at the center top, and

a scant 1 inch at the bottom. The oval back is 6 1/4 inches high and 5 inches

wide. A braided straw curtain is attached along the bottom. Lined in the faille,

the material is turned to the front creating an edging 5/8 inch wide. Silk ribbon is

draped over the intersection between brim and crown. Four bow-loops are

folded at the base of the crown, with two ends extending down 9 and 10 inches

over the curtain. These wide strips (2 1/2 inches) are cut at a slight diagonal at

the ends. Ribbon from this bow extends to the front, being folded and attached

to the brim points and made into ties approximately 26 inches in length. Black

lace with a scalloped edge, 2 inches wide, is loosely gathered and stitched under

the ribbon at the brim and crown intersection towards the back. The crown is

entirely lined with a loosely-woven brown cotton. One piece is cut to line the

side; the other is for the back of the bonnet.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width x depth): 8 3/8 x 8 1/4 x 7 1/8in.

(21.3 x 21 x 18.1cm)