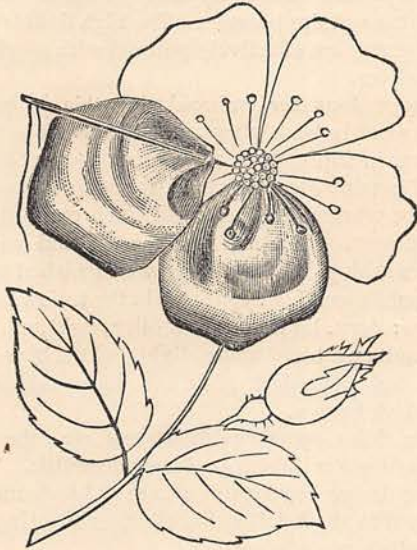


Our third illustration will show the manner of executing this work. The narrow ribbon, which comes especially for the purpose, is cut in equal lengths of two inches, each rose



MANNER OF WORKING IN ROCOCO, OR RIBBON-WORK.

requiring five pieces of the ribbon. Lay one end in fine plaits, or gathers, and cutting a small slit in the material, draw the other end

through and fasten it securely on the wrong side of fabric. This slit is cut at the termination, or outer edge of petal. The plaited edge of ribbon is then drawn through another slit made at the rose center, or circle surrounding the center. Be careful to turn the selvedge edge of ribbon under, which will give the puffy appearance to petal, the distinguishing feature of this work. The flowers can be shaded very artistically by using different shades of ribbon and placing them so as to throw all the light at one side throughout the design.

Fill in the center with French knots of pale yellow-green silk, and work the stamens with long stitches, terminating with a similar knot. The stems may be embroidered with fine chenille of green, shaded with brown, partly in satin, partly in Kensington stitch.

The leaves in Kensington, with light yellow and moss green chenille or arrasene, shading with yellow brown. The veining of leaves may be marked out with red-brown silk. Narrower ribbon, or the same ribbon divided, may be used for the buds, the calyx being worked with chenille or arrasene.

In our next we shall give a pretty design for bees and clover, with the new clover stitch just now so fashionable.

SPOOLS IN DECORATION.

EVEN such an apparently useless thing as an empty "spool," or, as our English cousins name it, a "reel" of cotton, may be made of use in household decoration. Brackets, tables and shelves can be made with them, and the trouble of collecting them is amply repaid by the good effect they produce when properly used. Pretty little book shelves to hang against the wall may be easily made. Get the carpenter to cut two boards from a half-inch pine plank. They must be twenty-two inches long by nine inches wide. Holes should be bored in the four corners about an inch from the edge. Take four pieces of old-fashioned red or blue picture cord, each about twenty-five inches long; make a good knot on the end of each one of these pieces, slip the other end through the holes in one of the boards; string

on the cords about six spools of uniform size, then put on the other shelf; make a tight knot as close to the shelf as possible. The spools may be painted and the shelves painted to match, or the spools left their natural color, brushed with some linseed oil to darken them; the pine shelves treated in the same way, or the shelves may be covered with some handsome material with fringe to finish the edges. If the shelves are to be used for books, an edging of leather, which can be bought already stamped and pinked, may be put on them with brass-headed nails. Two picture screw-eyes must be screwed into the top shelf four inches from each end to hang the shelf by. Three shelves will only require twenty-four spools and are very easily made.

— *Exchange.*