

CHAPTER XX.

FANCY FRAMES FOR MIRRORS AND PICTURES.



THE making of pretty frames for mirrors and pictures is not beyond the possibilities of ingenious fingers accustomed to the uses of the needle or brush, and the specimens illustrated in this chapter may be easily reproduced.

Decorative Frame for a Mirror.

FIGURE NO. 1.—The liking for looking at pretty things certainly must be strong when it extends to our mirrors, because we look at them so often! And yet that is the very reason why they should always be in gay attire. The foundation for a mirror frame can be gotten at any of the shops that supply artists' materials, and then the decorative material may be smoothly fastened to it. The one illustrated is covered with dark blue plush, upon which are dogwood blossoms and leaves in white and olive plush, appliquéd with yellow floss. The effect is charming—one wants to look in a mirror that reflects Spring always. This is hung in diamond fashion, bows of satin ribbon of the blue tone being placed just where they seem to hold the pretty flowers in position. While any col-

ored velvet or plush is in taste, still it will be quickly understood by those who have studied decorative effect, why the preference is given to a dark tone—one does not weary of it, as would be the case with a faint tint. White plush is cut in the outlines indicated by Diagram A for the dogwood flowers, the heavy, light and dotted lines showing the three sizes employed. Olive plush is used for the leaves, which are shaped by Diagram B, in which also the outer line follows the largest size, the next the medium one, and the dotted line the smallest, so that each size may be exactly obtained. Care must be taken in cutting them, and a very sharp pair of scissors will be found of use.

Application Stitch for Decoration on Mirror.

FIGURES NOS. 2 AND 3.—The method of applying the decoration on the mirror-frame is here shown. Several strands of yellow silk, which one increases or lessens according to the thickness deemed desirable, are arranged about the margins of the flowers and leaves, and held down by a crossing stitch made in the manner illustrated. Figure No. 2 shows the way the needle is inserted, and Figure No. 3 where it is carried through; the

latter point being directly under the point where the needle is to be next inserted. Great care should be taken that these stitches be made at regular intervals and to extend across without the least slant.

itself. The present illustration depicts a mat of rich sapphire-blue velvet, with graceful vines of American ivy showing their gorgeous Autumn colorings, embroidered in opposite corners. The exact sizes of the vines are

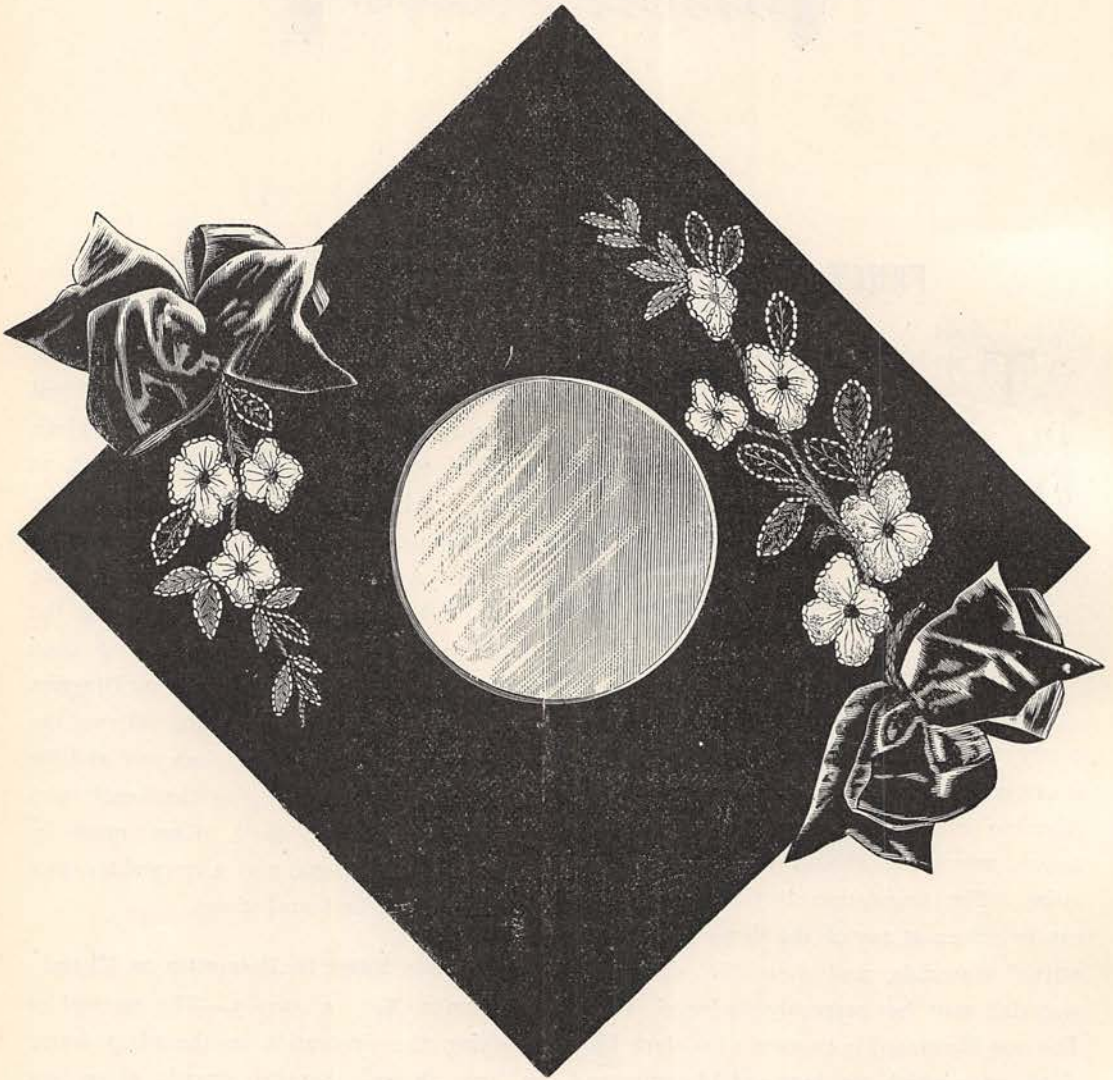


FIGURE NO. 1.—DECORATIVE FRAME FOR A MIRROR.

Decorated Mat for a Picture-Frame.

FIGURE NO. 4.—Mats of velvet or plush, prettily embroidered or painted, are much liked in both square and oval picture-frames, and the color must be decided by the picture

given at Figures Nos. 5 and 6. They may be done in outline stitch, satin stitch or the South-Kensington stitch; and may show the delicate greens of early Spring, the deeper greens of midsummer or the brilliant reds

and yellows of Autumn, as preferred. Any other design may be selected instead of the

American Ivy in Outline Stitch. FIGURES NOS. 5 AND 6.—These engravings

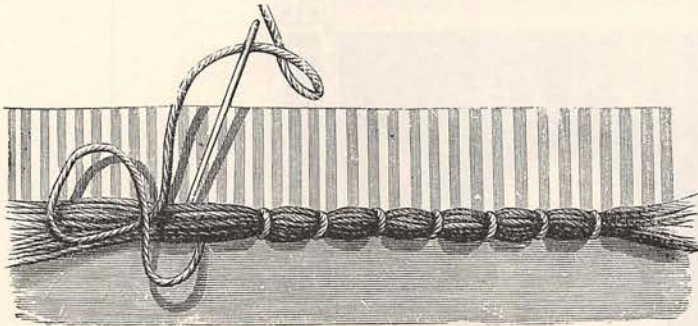


FIGURE NO. 2.—APPLICATION STITCH FOR DECORATION ON MIRROR.

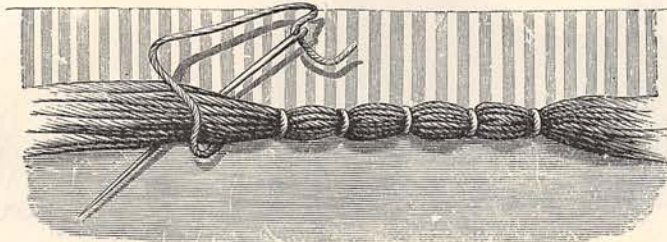
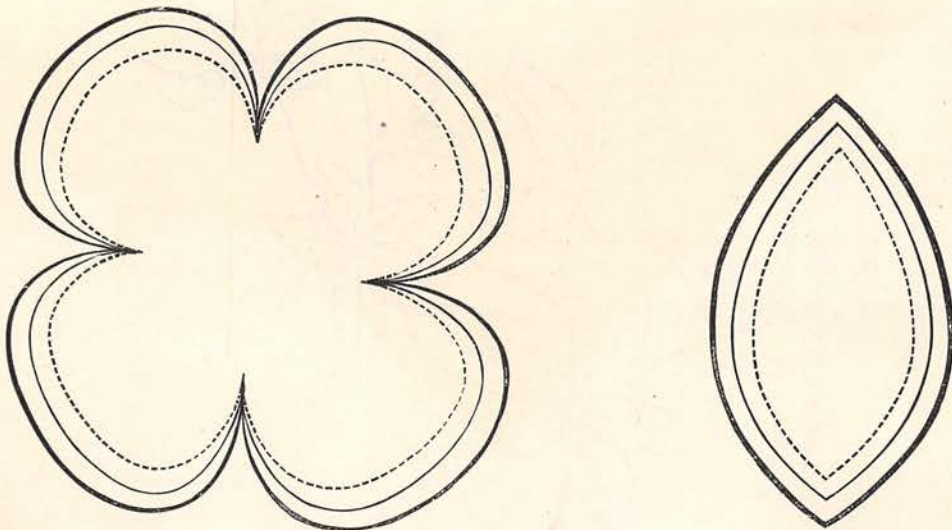


FIGURE NO. 3.—APPLICATION STITCH FOR DECORATION ON MIRROR.



DIAGRAMS A AND B.—OUTLINES OF DOGWOOD FLOWERS AND LEAVES DECORATING MIRROR SHOWN AT FIGURE NO. 1.

ivy vines, with good effect. The foliage of the Virginia Creeper is effective for the purpose.

show two pretty vine designs in American ivy done in outline stitch. The designs may also



FIGURE NO. 4.—DECORATED MAT FOR A PICTURE-FRAME.



FIGURE NO. 5.—AMERICAN IVY IN OUTLINE STITCH.

be heavily embroidered in South-Kensington designs are used in decorating the picture

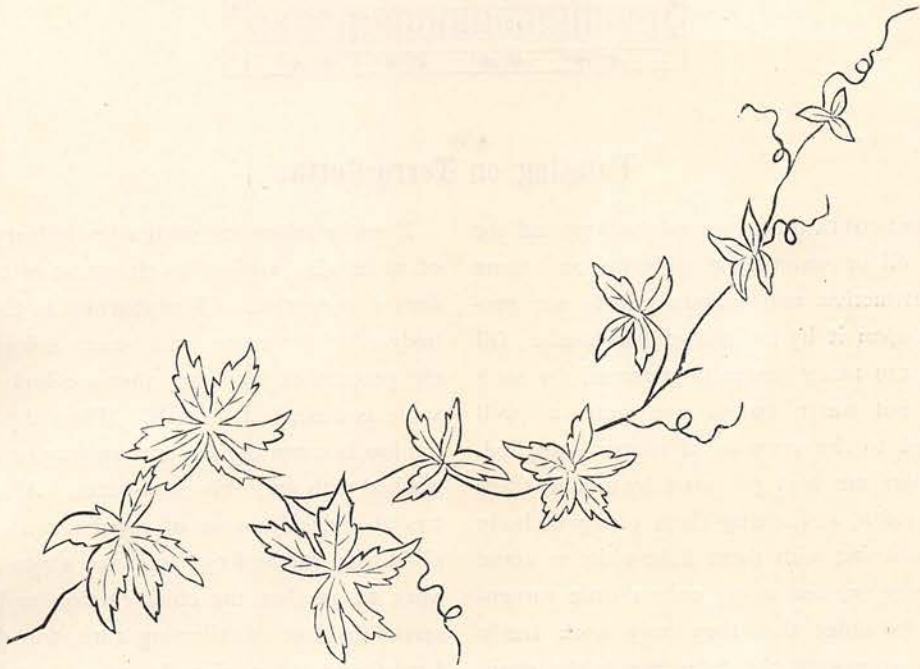


FIGURE NO. 6.

FIGURE NO. 6.—AMERICAN IVY IN OUTLINE STITCH.

stitch, and may be used to embellish any article of fancy work preferred. Both these mat illustrated at Figure No. 4. They may be worked in any preferred colors.

