

CHAPTER II.

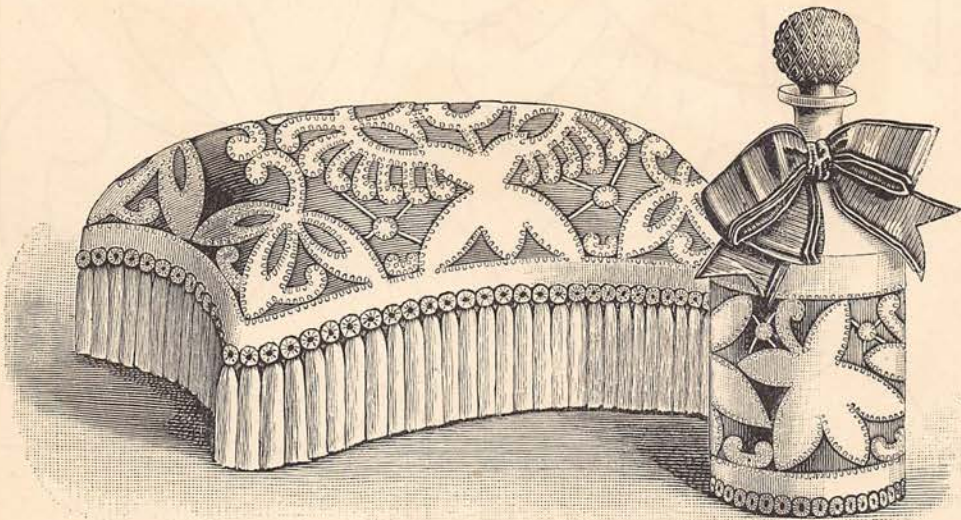
ROMAN EMBROIDERY.



THIS is one of the most beautiful varieties of fancy-work in vogue, and one that, owing to its adaptability to articles of use and adornment, may be truly classed among the most practical

set of toilette articles comprising a cushion, perfume bottle and bureau scarf.

Figures Nos. 1 and 2 show the style of the cushion and bottle. The latter is round in shape, and easily procurable for a small sum. The cushion is oblong in shape and is simply a bag filled very solidly with whatever mate-



FIGURES NOS. 1 AND 2.—CUSHION AND BOTTLE.

with which a lady may employ herself. We have selected to illustrate its development a rial is preferred and provided with an outer covering of satin, which is drawn on very

smoothly. Upon the top is laid a cover of Roman embroidery, wrought upon linen sateen and bordered with a fringe of rings and

inner edge of the engraving show where to begin to increase the size. The dark background shows where the linen is to be cut away, and

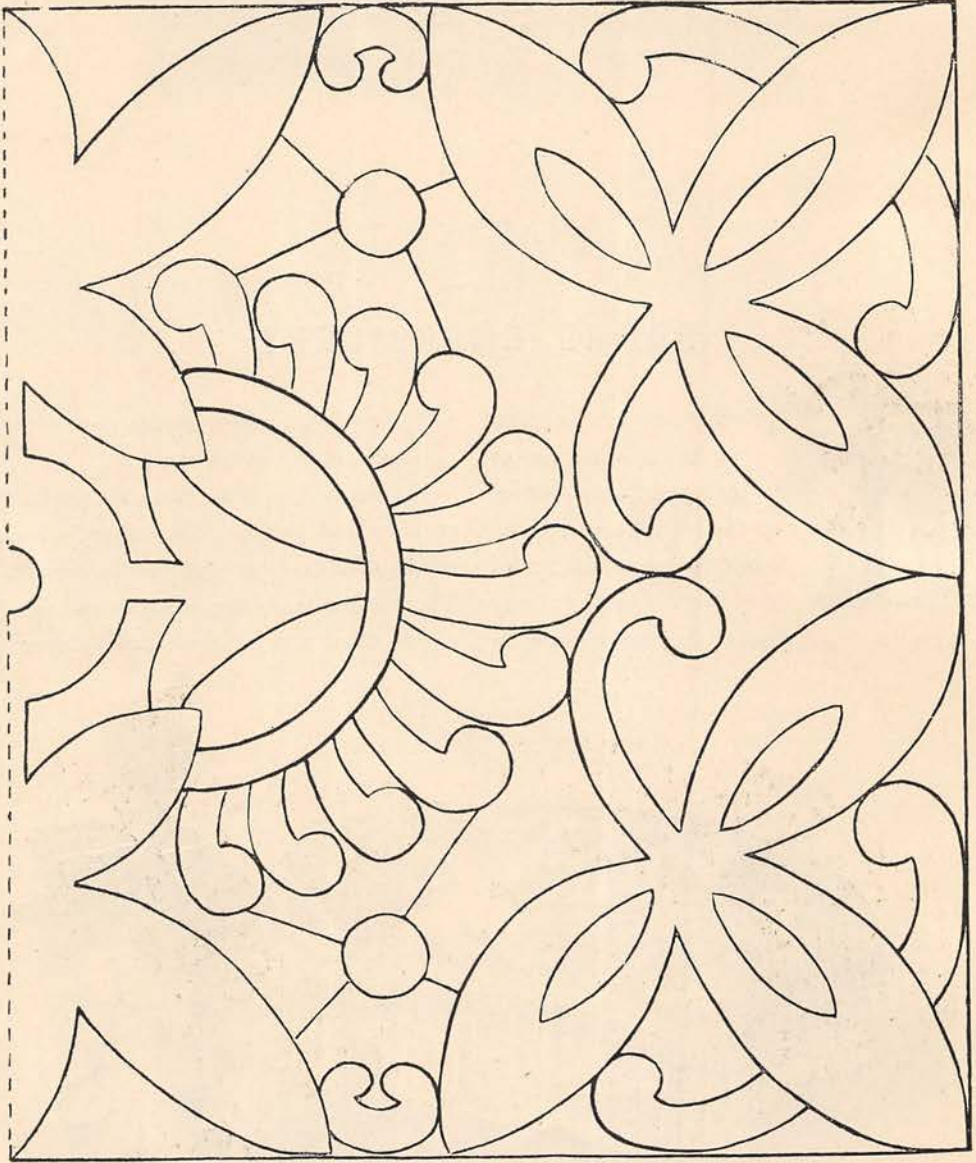


FIGURE NO. 3.—DESIGN FOR CUSHION-COVER.

tassels. The design of the cover is illustrated at Figure No. 3, which is one half of the actual size, the design being duplicated to produce the requisite dimensions. The letters along the

the finish of the edges, which is button-hole stitching done with flax thread, is clearly illustrated at Figure No. 7. Considerable care is required to insure regularity in cutting

away this background, and it is a question of personal skill whether the button-hole stitching be done before or after the background is cut away. For one who is not an expert with the needle it would be easier to do the button-holing first, and this plan is followed by many who do not lack experience, because, they claim, the fraying or stretching of the edges

often called linen drilling and by that name is easily obtained at almost any shop where such articles are kept for sale.

The ring fringe, which is such a handsome finish for the cover, is made of silk crocheted over metal rings, the process being very accurately described and illustrated in "Needle-craft," and a ring partially cov-

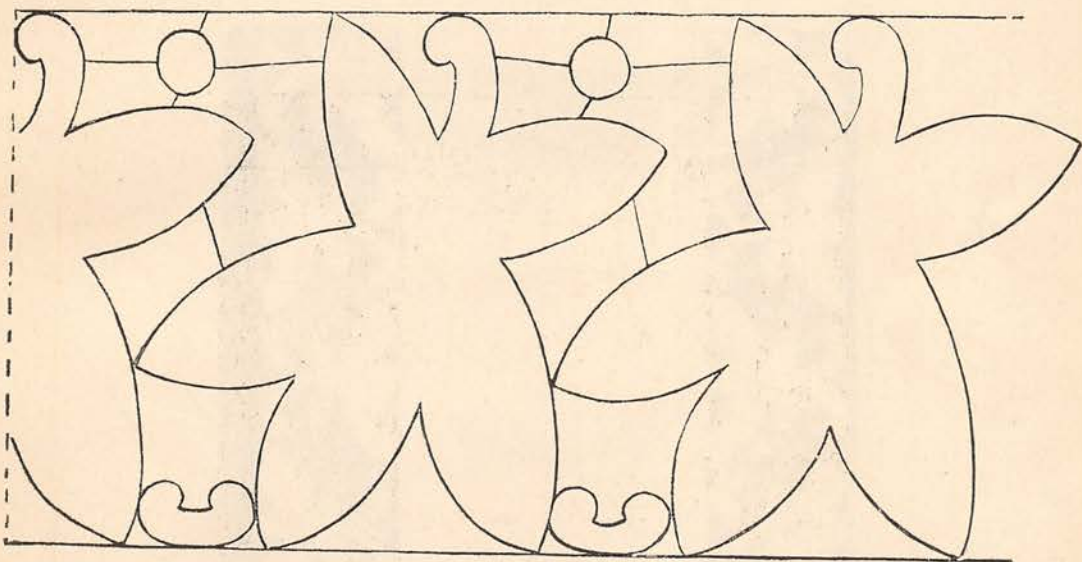


FIGURE NO. 4.—DESIGN FOR BOTTLE-COVER.

is thus avoided. The network or cobweb stitches are likewise done at whichever stage the worker finds most convenient. Such work progresses rapidly in deft hands and is done on silk and bolting cloth, on duck and various other fabrics as well as on the linen sateen used in the present instance. The latter is

ered with the tassel attached being shown at Figure No. 5 of this chapter.

Flax-thread, rope-silk or any material adapted to the making of fringes may be employed for the purpose. In attaching the rings to form the fringe, their adjoining sides are connected by invisible stitches and the

fringe when completed is caught to the cover in the same way. Much of the good effect of Roman embroidery depends on bringing out

cover is shown at Figure No. 4. The pattern is duplicated as many times as is necessary to produce the requisite length, and

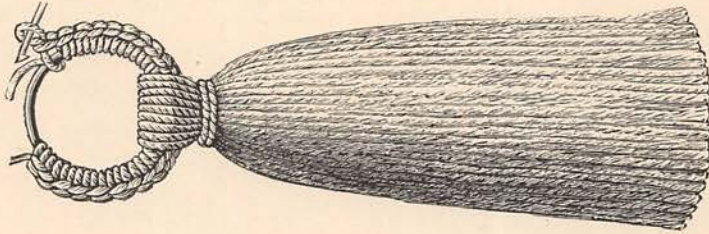


FIGURE NO. 5.—RING AND TASSEL.

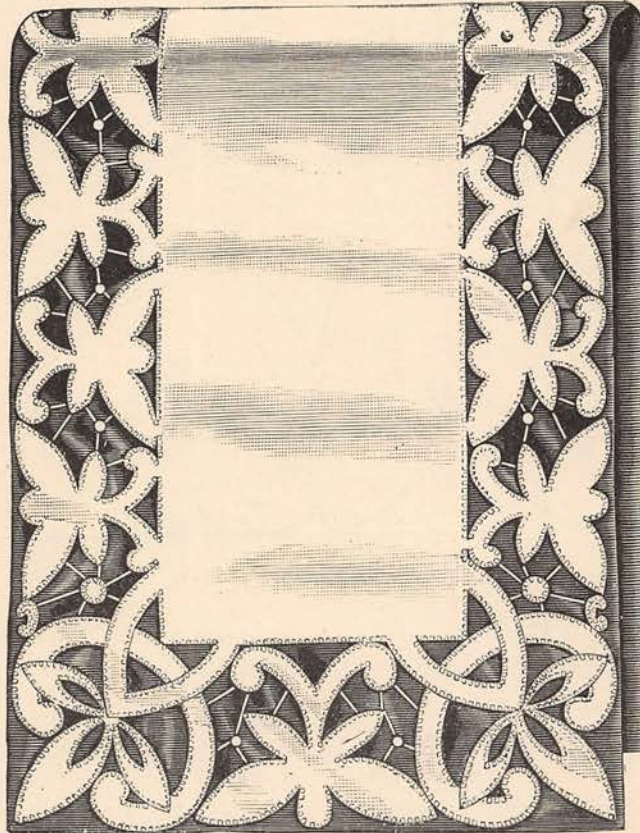


FIGURE NO. 6.—BUREAU SCARF.

the pattern by laying it over a color presenting a decided contrast.

The design which enriches the bottle-

the lower edge of the cover, which extends almost to the bottom of the bottle and has a row of button-hole stitching along the margin,

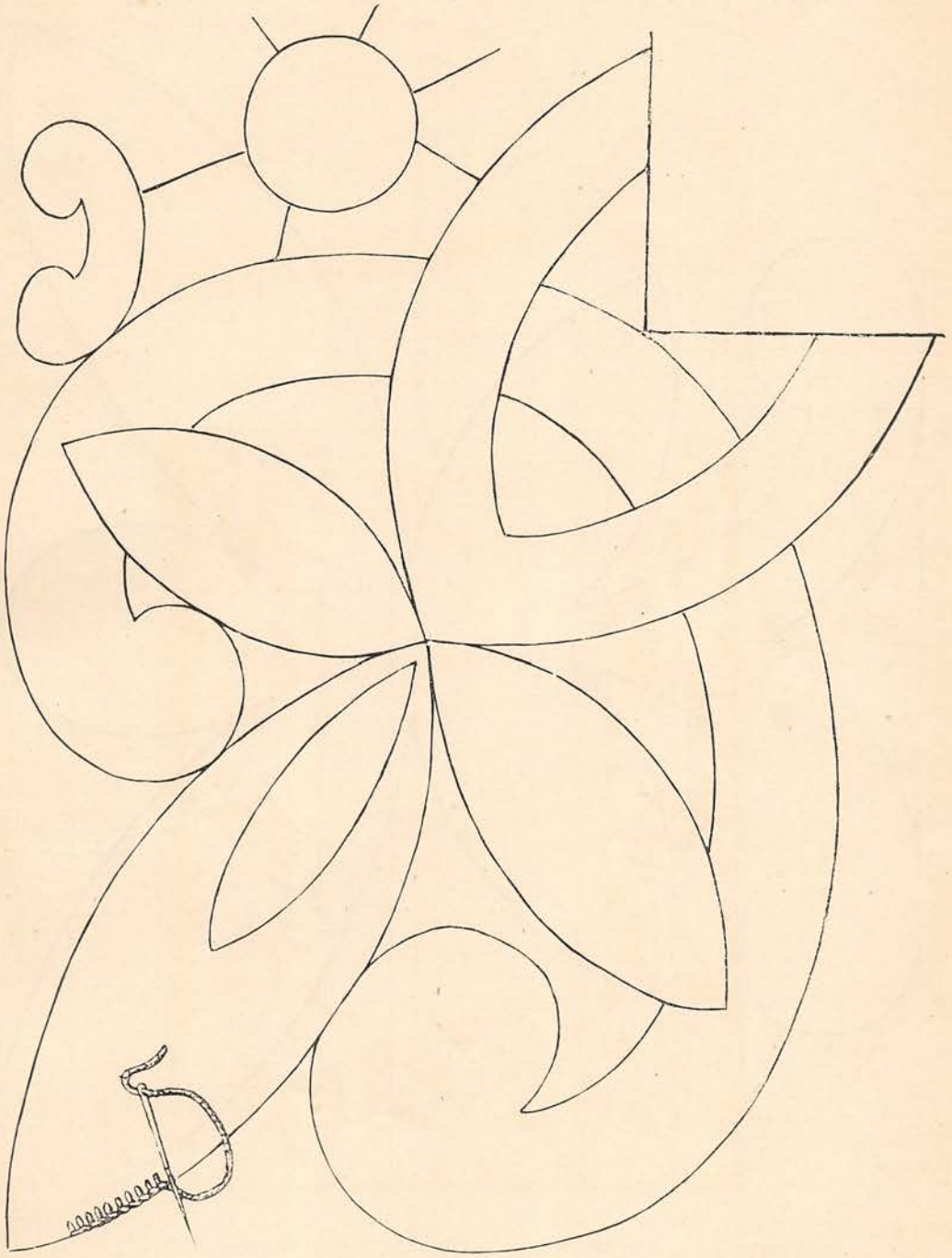


FIGURE NO. 7.—CORNER SECTION OF DESIGN FOR BUREAU SCARF.

is finished with a row of rings, covered with silk. Rings adapted to this purpose may be

The bureau scarf shown at Figure No. 6 is a charming exponent of Roman embroidery,

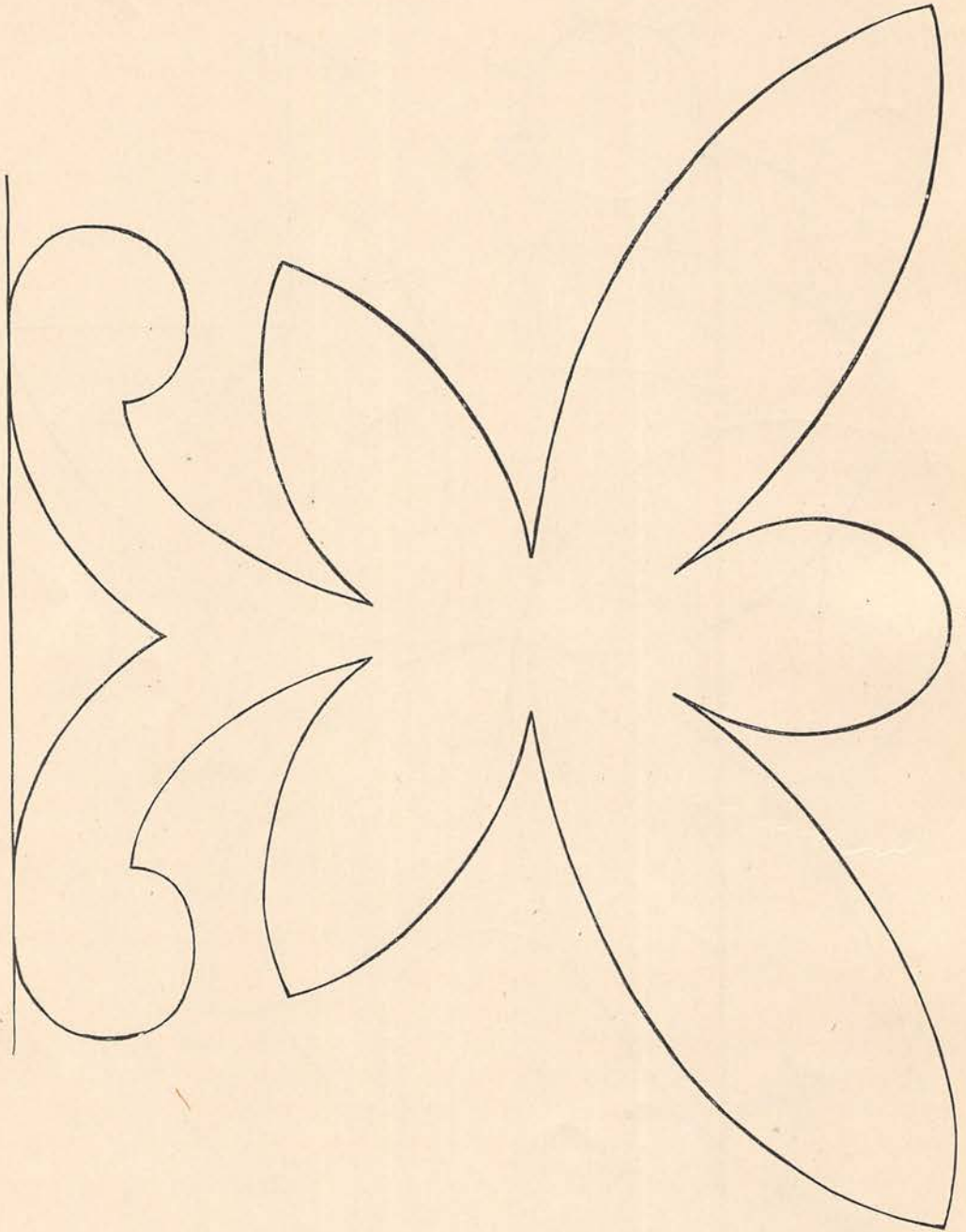


FIGURE NO. 8.—CENTER SECTION OF END OF DESIGN FOR BUREAU SCARF.

purchased ready for use at any fancy-goods shop. A ribbon bowed about the neck of the bottle completes the ornamentation.

and its practical value, joined to its beautiful effect, well repays the time and expense of making it. The embroidery designs shown

at Figures Nos. 7, 8 and 9 are in the full size of the sections they represent. Two corner sections like Figure No. 7 and one like Figure No. 8 comprise the width of the embroidery at each end, and the

color. Brown with *ecru* and red with cream, are effective combinations. When the embroidery is developed upon any article which will require laundering it is of course best to limit the choice to fadeless colors, but when

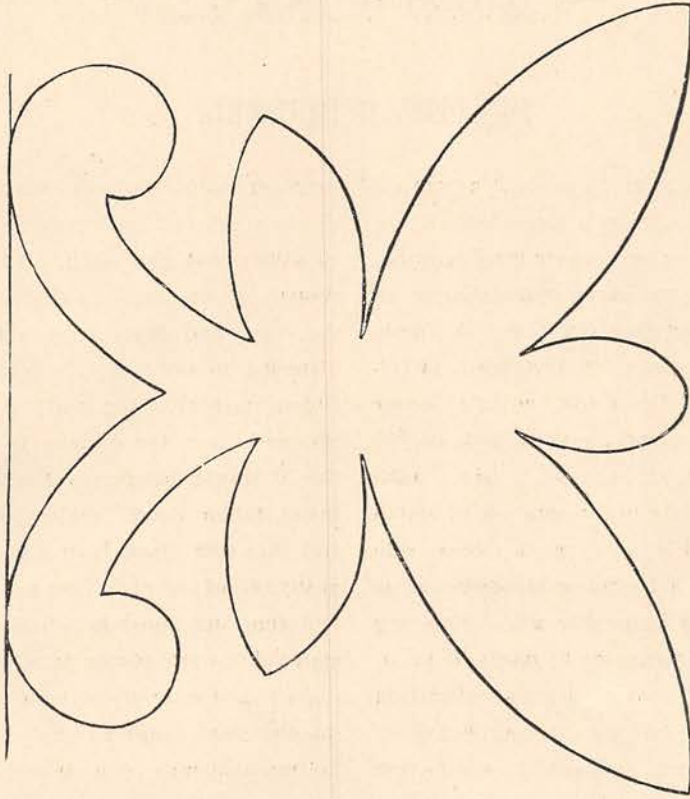


FIGURE NO. 9.—SECTION OF DESIGN FOR SIDES OF BUREAU SCARF.

requisite length for each side is obtained by duplicating the design shown at Figure No. 9. The network may be made as simple or as elaborate as personal taste desires and the needle-work may all be done in the same shade as the material or in a contrasting

done on silk very delicate and effective contrasts may be developed. Very delicate textures are sometimes rendered less liable to fray if they are sized with diluted white glue, white of egg, gum-arabic or some similar mixture before the background is cut away.

