



CHAPTER V.

TABLES AND TABLE-COVERS.



THE fancy recently displayed for putting ornamental covers upon our tables has resulted very happily; for the designer, in showing of what he is capable, also shows people how to work artistically themselves. Provided with a good design the worker need only "go ahead," for she is right. Fine felt, flannel, cloth, Canton-flannel and Turkish towelling are all called into service for the cover proper, while all these materials, with silk, plush, fancy stitches, *filoselle* and crewels, add to the ornamental part. Very simple tables of pine wood, with ebonized legs, become works of art, and dainty rattan ones gain new beauties. There are few houses without unsightly tables that are absolute necessities, and these a mantle of beauty should cover, so that use and beauty may form the proper partnership.

Table, with Fancy Cover.

FIGURE NO. 1.—The table illustrated is of rattan, the size being such that it commends itself to people who have all sorts of little things seeking for a resting place. The cloth

is of the proper size to hang over the edges gracefully. It is of dark red felt, with its edges cut out in large points that round slightly, each one being ornamented with an appliqué design and tipped with an olive tassel of silk. At each corner, near the lower shelf, the slender legs are ornamented with a bow of satin ribbon. The appliqué pieces are securely button-holed to the cloth with bright yellow *filoselle*. They are of fine felt, which is found the best material for such purposes, as it does not fray. Even when the cloth is of the other materials suggested, the pieces are usually of felt. Following are descriptions of the pieces, which are pleasingly varied in design.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 2.—A dark shade of blue is used for this fan, while the embroidery is wrought out in bright yellow and dull brown. On one side the effect is Chinese and cabalistic enough to delight the soul of her who is most eager for all that comes from Celestial lands.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 3.—This broadly shaped fan is of light olive felt, with the embroidery upon

it done in light and dark cardinal *floselle*. are all familiar ones, being the outline stitches

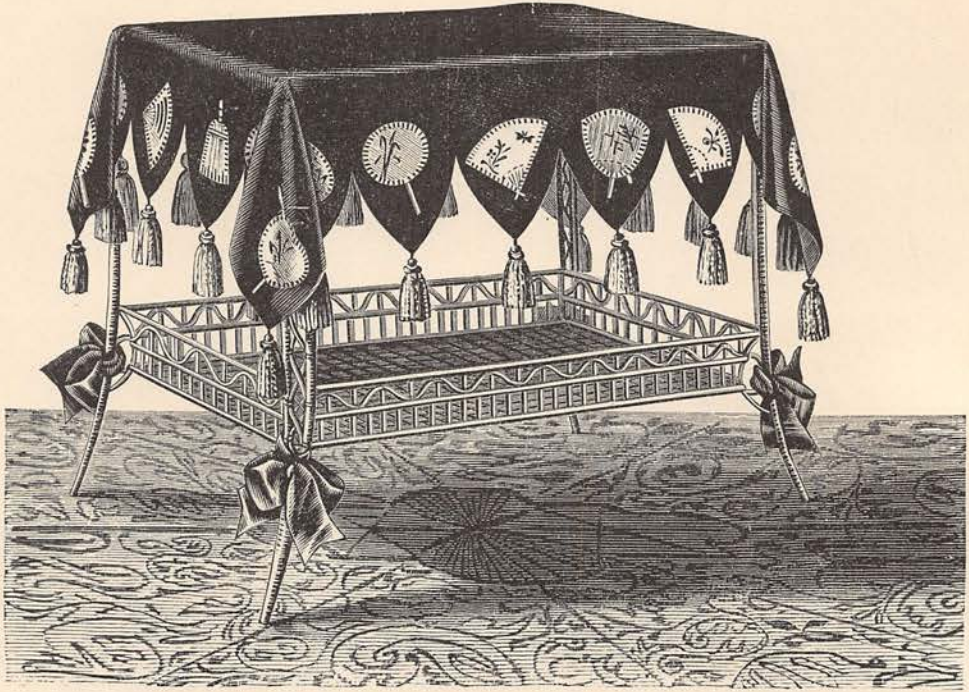


FIGURE NO. 1.—TABLE, WITH FANCY COVER.

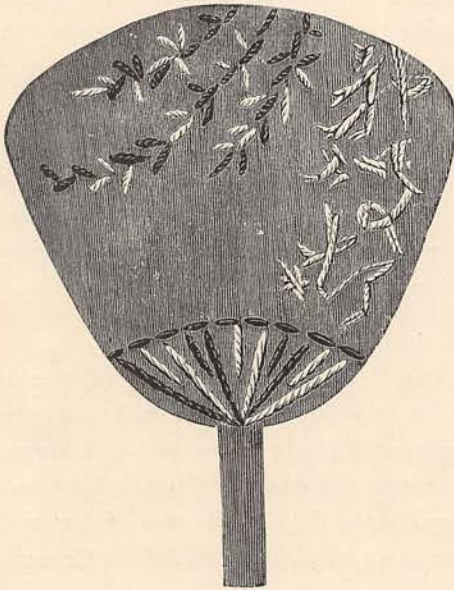


FIGURE NO. 2.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

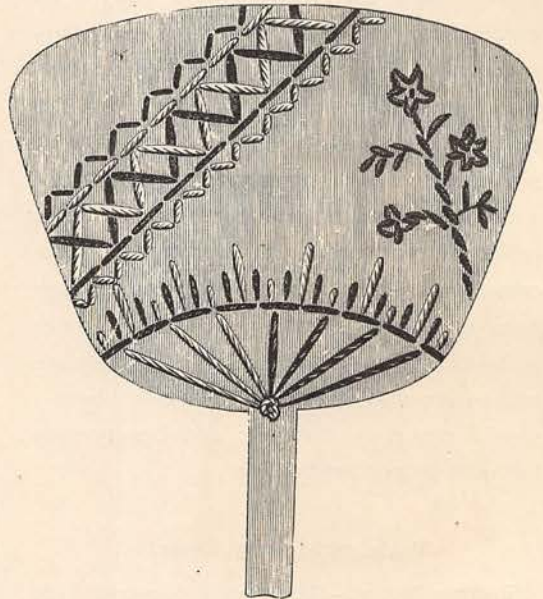


FIGURE NO. 3.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

The stitches employed in performing the work generally known as the South-Kensington.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 4.—This slender fan design is of the light red shade so often seen on

brown, cream and very light blue. In cutting out these appliques, it would be well to remember that very sharp scissors should

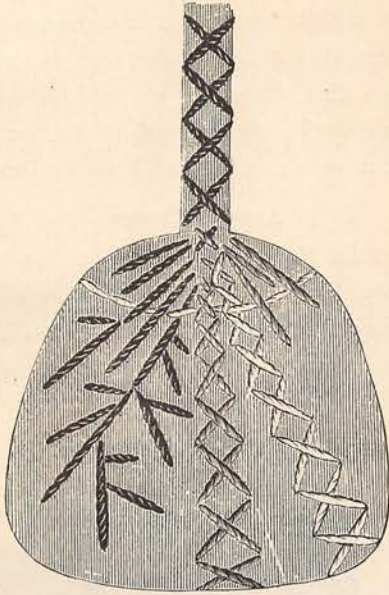


FIGURE NO. 4.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

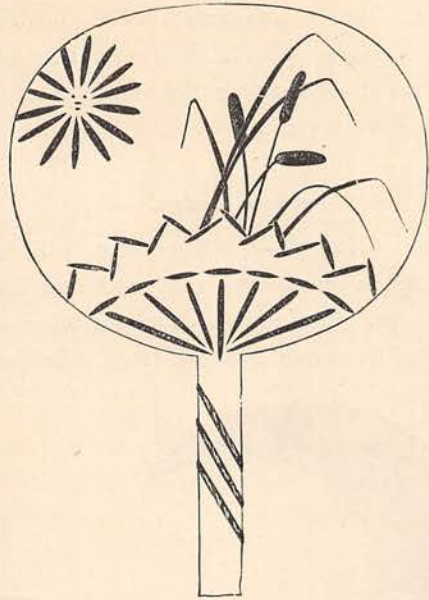


FIGURE NO. 5.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

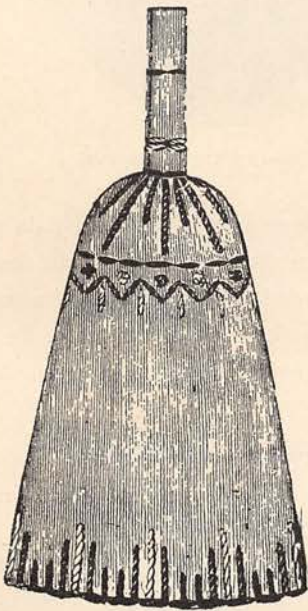


FIGURE NO. 6.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

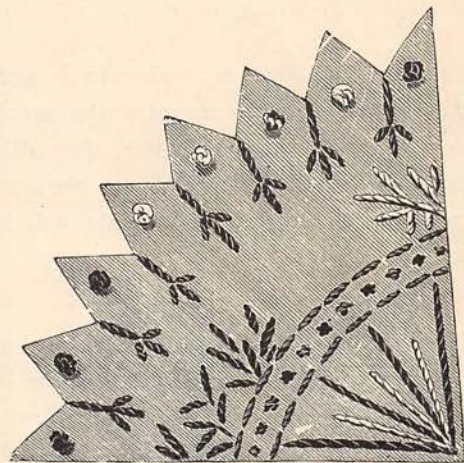


FIGURE NO. 7.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

Turkish embroidery and to which it owes its present popularity. The work is done in

be used, so that the edges will be perfectly smooth.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 5.—A fan of cream-white, embroidered in dark brown, forms a decided and pleasant contrast when compared with the others illustrated. The favorite cat-tail is blooming, while with several strokes of the needle a beaming Sol is represented, shining down upon it.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 6.—A shape that will be decidedly suggestive to the good and bad housekeeper alike, and which to one brings a smile and the other a frown, is of pale blue,

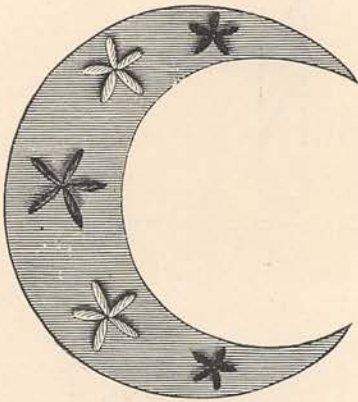


FIGURE NO. 8.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

scarlet and light yellow, giving to it more ornamentation than is accorded the article it so well represents, though it is, after all, a queer shaped Indian fan and not the more homely broom for which it might well be taken.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 7.—A folding fan, opened to its extreme dimensions, is of *seru* in its deepest shade, properly embroidered with bright cardinal and pale cream. The tiny flower at the top of each point tends to give the fan a wonderfully realistic effect, but does not prevent it from being fashionably æsthetic.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 8.—The seeker after Orientalism will be delighted with the crescent, which is of dull yellow and has dark and bright blue stars worked upon it, fully embodying the Eastern idea of the star and the crescent. Although this design is not visible upon the table cover it may be used for the embellishment of such an article with good effect.

Appliqué Design.

FIGURE NO. 9.—The palm leaf fan is more exactly shown by having its miniature handle wrapped to look like the wood itself. Dull plum color is chosen, and the somewhat

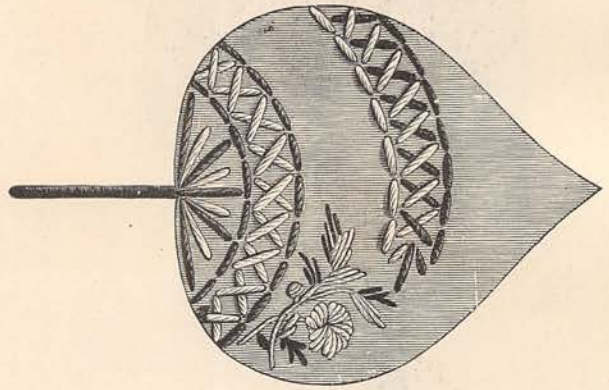


FIGURE NO. 9.—APPLIQUÉ DESIGN.

elaborate work on it is in blue and pale pink. If an entirely realistic effect should be desired, pale straw-colored felt may be used instead of the darker shade. In such a case, the silk would correspond in tone, the result being very pretty.

Embroidered Table-Cover.

FIGURE NO. 10.—This engraving portrays a table-cover that is novel in shape and very beautifully decorated with an embroidered border and a fringe of pompons. The cover is of plush, and is intended for an oblong or square table. It is cut in a large scollop at each side, the scollops falling at the sides in simulation of drop leaves. The scollops

may be lined with the material or with satin, Surah, silk, etc. ; and any kind of fringe or ornaments may be added to the edges. The

course, any other design preferred by the worker may be embroidered instead, or the decoration may be *en appliqué*.

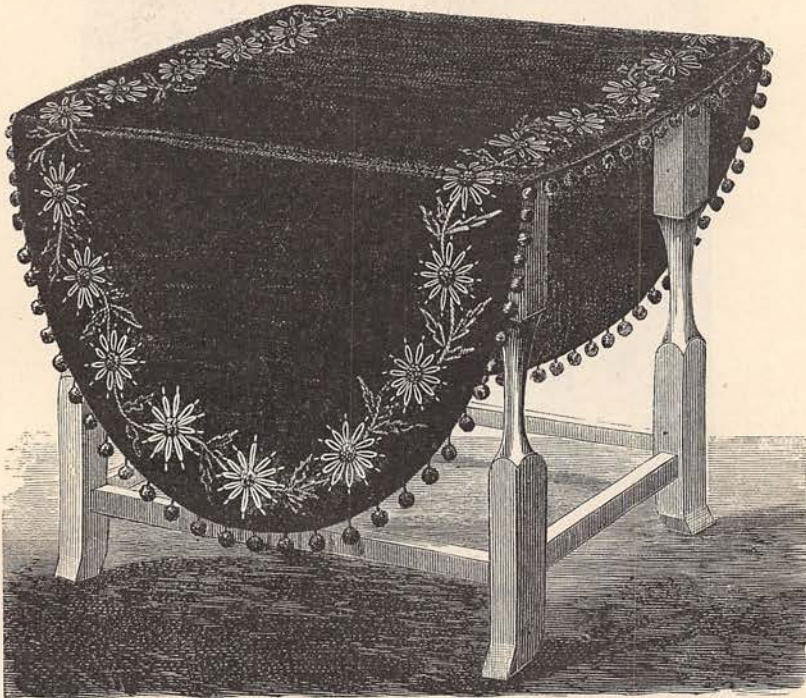
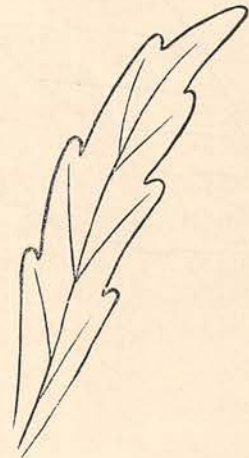
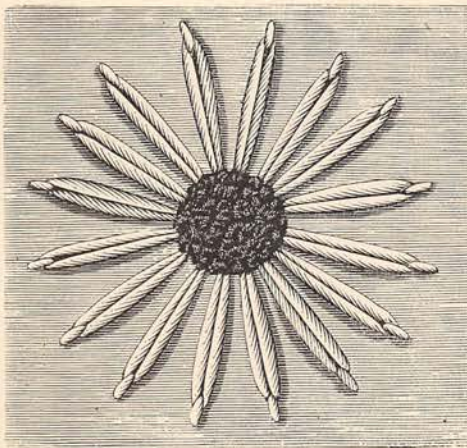


FIGURE NO. 10.—EMBROIDERED TABLE-COVER.



FIGURES NOS. 11 AND 12.—DESIGNS FOR EMBROIDERY ON TABLE-COVER.

correct sizes of the flowers and leaves forming the embroidery design used in this instance are given at Figures Nos. 11 and 12 ; but, of

Designs for Embroidery on Table-Cover.

FIGURES NOS. 11 AND 12.—The flower and leaf designs decorating the table-cover

pictured at Figure No. 10 are here shown in plain stitch, as illustrated, for the petals, and full size. The leaf may be worked in Ken- the knot stitch for the center. The leaves

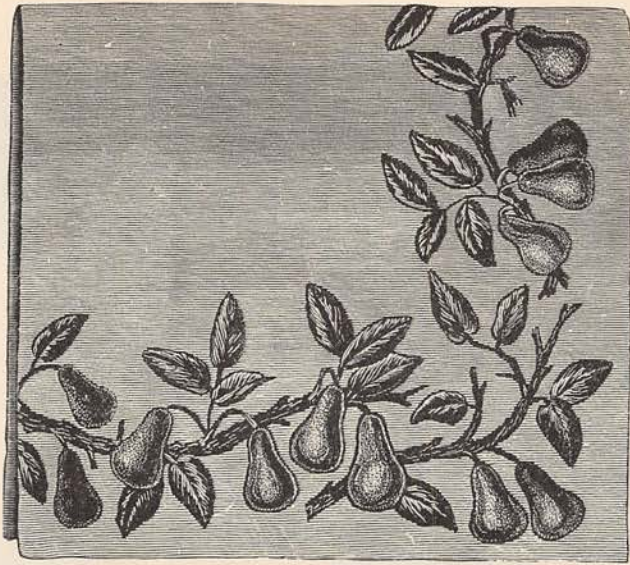
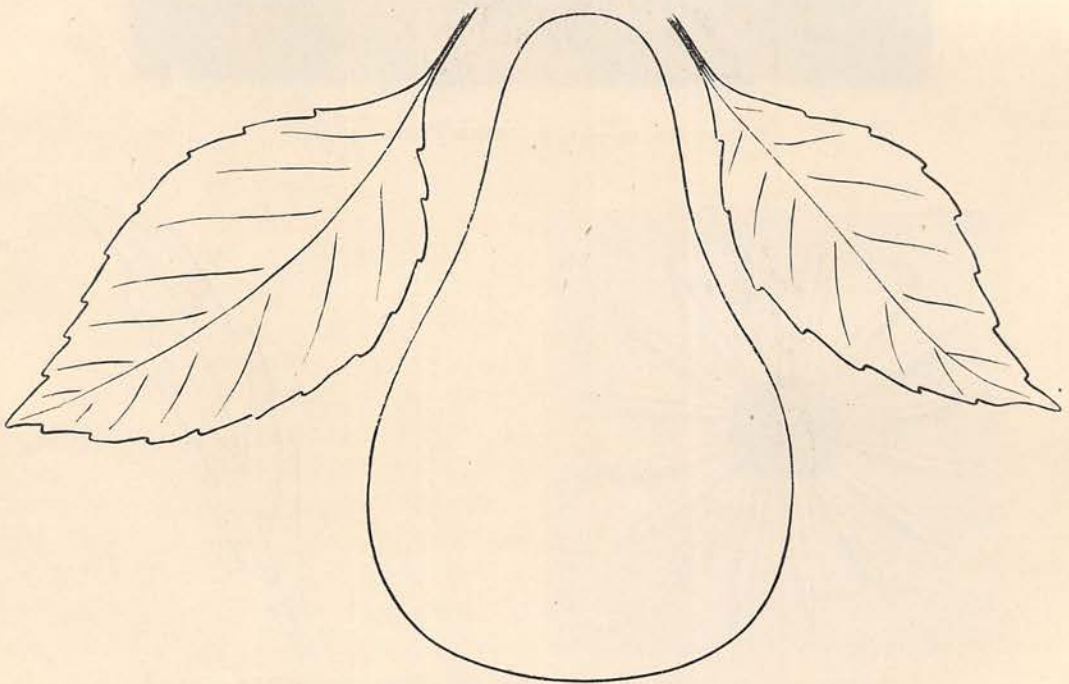


FIGURE NO. 13.—COVER FOR DINING-ROOM TABLE.



DIAGRAMS A, B AND C.—SECTIONS FOR DESIGN ON TABLE-COVER.

sington or other embroidery stitch, but the may be cut from velvet, plush or cloth and flowers are done with a long loop and short applied, if preferred to embroidery. The

stitches referred to are very clearly illustrated in the present flower design, and are easy to accomplish.

Appliqués do not require extreme care in their attachment, and it is not so difficult to

Cover for Dining-Room Table.

FIGURE NO. 13.—This handsome cover is for the table when the dishes and other remnants of a repast have been removed. It is made of billiard cloth, and its border deco-



FIGURE NO. 14.—TABLE-COVER.

achieve a good result with them as with embroidery; consequently the novice who is doubtful of success with the more elaborate varieties of needle-work will do well to begin her efforts by learning how to apply them.

ration is produced by a vine-like arrangement of branches laden with pears and leafages all *en appliqué*. The branches and stems are done in Kensington stitch, and the pears and leaves are cut from velvet or plush and

applied in a gracefully natural manner. The shape and size of the pears and the leaves required are shown by diagrams A, B and C. The veining of the leaves may be done with *filoselle*, crewels or silk. If desired, the leaves may be embroidered. The simplest way to produce a graceful effect is to outline the pattern on the cloth and then baste on the leaves and fruit. Some of the pears may be green and some golden-yellow, or any combination of colors natural to the pear may be achieved. Felt-cloth, momie cloth or any preferred materials may be used for the cover. The edges may be pinked, fringe-trimmed or left plain, as preferred.

Sections for Design on Table-Cover.

DIAGRAMS A, B AND C.—The correct size and shape of the pears and leaves for decorating the table-cover shown at Figure No. 13 are furnished by these diagrams, and the lines for veining are also shown. Tissue or tracing paper may be used to duplicate their outlines, and these designs will be found quite as valuable as guides in doing all varieties of outline work as for the purpose illustrated, and very much more novel than stereotyped patterns.

Table-Cover.

FIGURE NO. 14.—For a square or oblong table this is a handsome and elaborate-looking cover. The material is cloth of dimensions to hang gracefully deep at all sides of the table. A wide band of velvet is arranged a little above the edges and fastened down at its edges with fancy stitches done with contrasting silks. It is also richly embroidered near the top and bottom with simple stitches, which only require care in producing a very elaborate and pretty effect. The stitches used are illustrated at Figures Nos. 15 and 16. The cloth may be of any pre-

ferred color, and the band may be in very striking contrast and of ribbon, plush, velvet or any preferred material. Sometimes a contrasting shade in the same material will be used, with very pretty effect. The stitches may be done with one or many colors.

Fancy Stitches.

FIGURES NOS. 15 AND 16.—These engravings illustrate the stitches used in decorating the table-cover shown at Figure No. 14. They can be very easily copied and may also be classed among the stitches used for crazy work.

Table, with Cover.

FIGURE NO. 17.—A small table, with elaborately carved ebony legs will be found much more decorative when its cover is also ornamental. The one illustrated is formed of alternate pieces of cardinal plush and pale-blue satin, embroidered and trimmed with chenille fringe, tassels and cord. The arrangement of the pieces may be perfectly seen in the engraving, the fitting-in and finishing of each one being perfectly perceptible. A lining of Silesia is used to mount them upon, and each one has a chenille cord between it and the next. Appliqué designs may be used with as good a result as if the sections were hand-embroidered.

Section of Cover.

FIGURE NO. 18.—This section is of the plush, embroidered in yellow silk to simulate miniature sunflowers. It is the shape of that portion of the cloth that fits in each corner, four being cut after this shape.

Section of Cover.

FIGURE NO. 19.—This section is part of the lambrequin-like portion of the cover, it being the one that falls immediately over the front. Similar sections are at each side and

in the back. It is of the satin, and is worked in yellow silk to simulate young leaves.

here illustrated. The material is satin, and the design a glowing red liliaceous plant, with



FIGURE NO. 18.

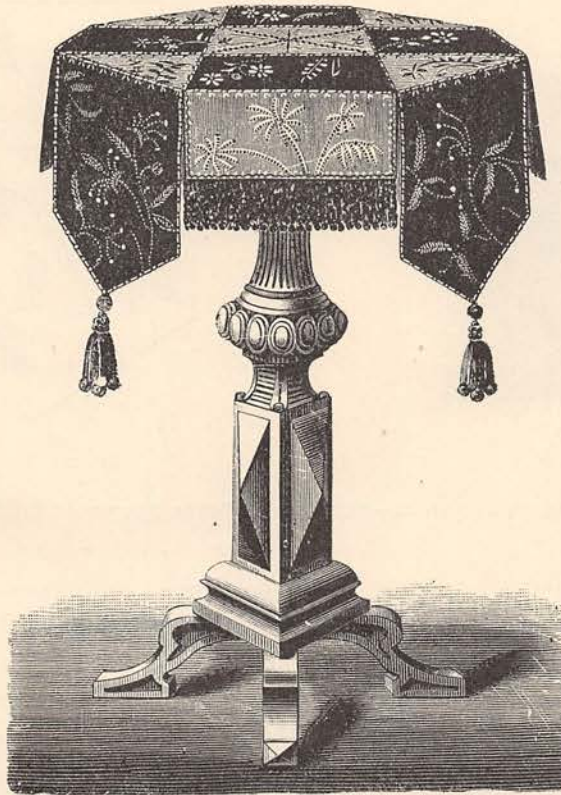


FIGURE NO. 17.—TABLE, WITH COVER.



FIGURE NO. 19.

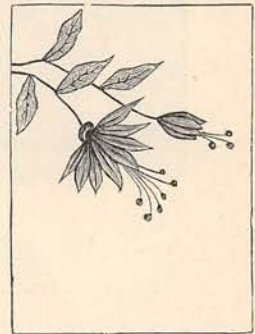


FIGURE NO. 20.

Section of Cover.

FIGURE NO. 20.—The center section is

its attendant leaves. Any preferred selection of colors for the embroidery may be made.

Section of Cover.

FIGURE NO. 21.—One of the square sections is here shown, being of the plush embroidered in purple grapes and green leaves. Much taste may be shown in shading the fruit.

Section of Cover.

FIGURE NO. 22.—This pointed section is of the plush wrought in dark green and scarlet, the work bringing forth bright berries and leaves. Four such sections are used, and they constitute the side pieces of the drooping portion of the cover.

silk with felt or plush, may be combined in a table cover of this kind, and the center portion may be embellished with hand-painting, embroidery or appliqué, if a very elaborate effect be desired. Knot stitches done with tinsel thread may be substituted for the spangles.

Grecian Border.

FIGURE NO. 24.—This engraving represents a Greek key pattern, traced by two lines of gilt braid. The pattern is either traced on tissue paper, which is basted over the portions



FIGURE NO. 21.

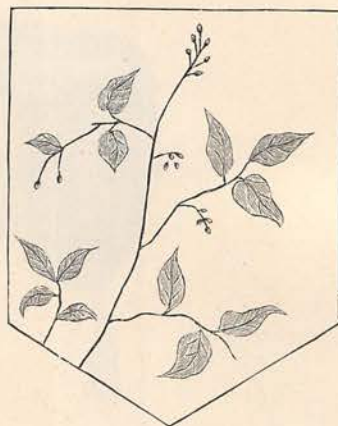


FIGURE NO. 22.

FIGURES NOS. 18, 19, 20, 21 AND 22.—SECTIONS OF COVER SHOWN AT FIGURE NO. 17.

Table-Cover.

FIGURE NO. 23.—Two shades of felt-cloth are combined in this handsome table-cover; the center portion being cut with undulating edges and decorated with small gilt spangles arranged in groups of three. Strips of velvet ribbon of varied lengths are applied and decorated with fancy stitches done with tinsel thread. Spangles are sewed below the long stitches applying the strips at the ends and the nearest two strips at each side. The edges of the cover are finished plain. Two shades of plush, felt and plush, or satin or

to be adorned, or it is stamped on the goods. The braid is then carefully stitched by machine or hand to the article, the strictest precision being observed in turning the corners. The paper, if used, is now torn away, and gilt beads or spangles are sewed between the lines of braid with sewing silk, so coarse that a single stitch will suffice to hold them to place. After fastening one bead, pass the needle to the place where the next one is to be sewn, long needlefuls of silk being preferable for the purpose, as the less frequently a new thread is started the smoother will appear the surface.

This pattern is easily and very rapidly done, and is adapted to table and piano covers or scarfs.

Table-Cover.

FIGURE NO. 25.—This beautiful cover is made of olive-green cloth and is oblong in shape. It is edged all around with a row of

used for elegant coverings of this style; and the fringe may be of worsted chenille tipped with acorns, or of ball, tassel, fly, finger or any other variety preferred. A very elegant cover of this style is of olive felt-cloth with a deep border of water-lilies and cat-tails embroidered in their natural colors with crewels, and a row of pretty worsted-chenille

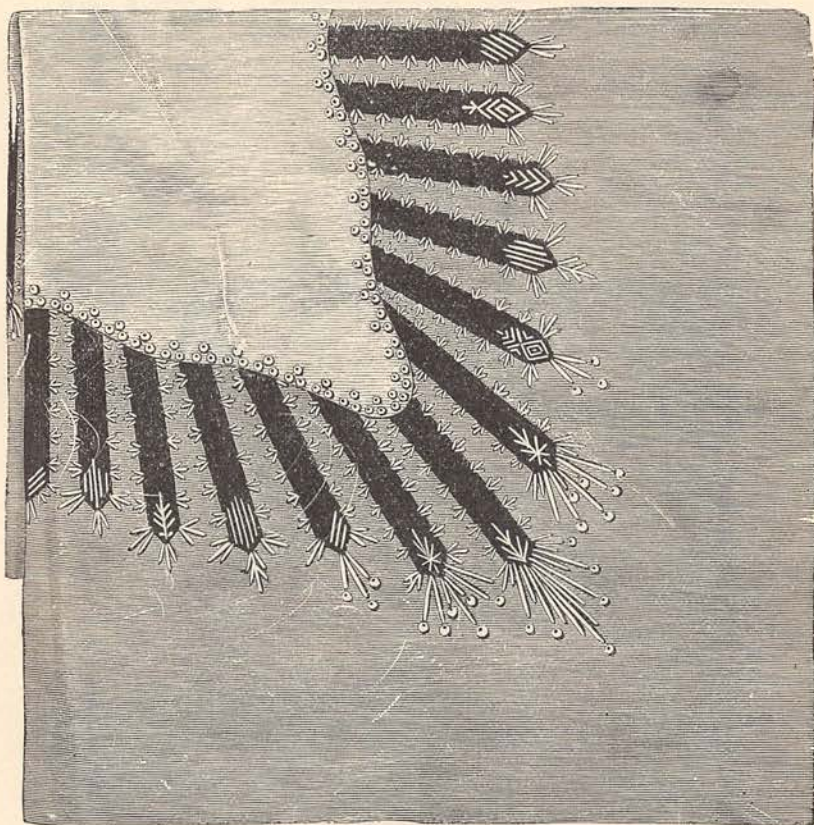


FIGURE NO. 23.—TABLE-COVER.

handsome ball fringe, and has an appliquéed border consisting of daisies, cat-tails and bitter-sweet berries arranged in artistic order and in their natural colors. For square or oval tables, the cover is very handsome; the former style of table requiring a perfect square of cloth. Plush, Turkish towelling, momie-cloth, felt-cloth, satin, velvet and silk are all

fringe tipped with golden acorns. The lilies and cat-tails may be appliquéed, if preferred; or they may be formed of bead-embroidery. A great many illustrations of designs adapted to the decoration of such covers are given in this book and personal taste may be made umpire in deciding which is best adapted to the color and purpose of any special cover.

The Grecian border illustrated is adapted to the decoration of any variety of table-cover cord upon velvet or plush, and it possesses the advantage of being rapidly executed.

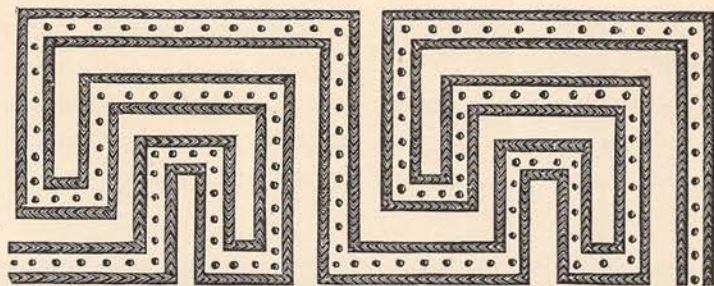


FIGURE NO. 24.—GRECIAN BORDER.



FIGURE NO. 25.—TABLE-COVER.

large enough to form a background for it. When done with outline-stitching between two rows of metal cord, it is quite unique. It is very effective when developed in metallic

