

OUR DICTIONARY OF NEEDLEWORK.

NO. V.—EMBROIDERY ON MUSLIN.

BY MRS. JANE WEAVER.

THE stitches used in this are—two over-cast (satin stitch) or buttonhole stitch, sewing over, and various fancy stitches of which we give diagrams as well as descriptions.

BRODERIE ANGLAISE.—The simplest sort of work on muslin, suitable for children's drawers, petticoats, &c. The design is formed entirely of holes cut out or formed by piercing them with a stiletto; previously to this they are traced, then sewed closely. To make it strong, a stout thread, such as Evans's Boar's Head, No. 10, or 16, ought to be sewed in.

Buttonhole, or over-cast stitch, is the ordinary stitch known by that name. It is sometimes graduated, to form leaves, flowers, or scallops. In this case, each stitch is taken rather longer, or shorter, than that preceding it. This, like satin-stitch, must be raised thus:

TO RAISE WORK.—After tracing the outlines accurately, take long stitches backward and forward, in the space to be afterward covered over, making it thickest in the middle, or widest part. Take care to keep this within the outlines.

SATIN STITCH.—A series of stitches taken across any leaf or petal, closely and regularly.

GUIPURE.—This term is applied now to embroidery on muslin, held together by bars, and all the muslin ground cut away.

SWISS LACE.—Muslin and lace worked together so that the latter forms the ground and the former the pattern, all that which covers the ground being cut away after the work is done.



FANCY STITCHES—POINT D'ECHELLE.—A series of small holes, close together, forming the edge of a design in Swiss lace. Worked with a rather coarse needle, and fine thread,

two or three stitches being taken in every hole formed by the needle. The edge is then sewed over.



HEM-STITCH.—Draw out four threads, and sew over three of those in the opposite direction, to form a bar, from one edge to the other. Sew down the next three. Continue thus. Some-

times hem-stitch is done when it is impossible to draw out threads, not being a straight line. In that case, with a coarse needle work the holes to resemble this. The edges must afterward be sewed over, to keep the holes clear.



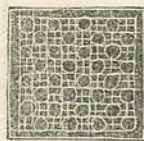
MOURNING HEM-STITCH—FOR HANDKERCHIEFS.—Leaving sufficient cambric for the hem, draw out nine threads, and leave three, alternately, for any depth you wish it to be. Take

a thread longer than the side of the handkerchief, and having fastened it on at the right hand, pass your needle backward under the third and fourth threads from the edge, lifting up on the point the first and second. Thus the two first of every four threads come before the others. Each line must be done with a single needleful of thread, fastened off at the end. Then the bar of three between must be sewed over, on the wrong side, a single stitch being taken between every four threads.



FANCY STITCHES.—No. 1.—

Draw three threads and leave three alternately, in both directions, on the space to be ornamented. Sew over the three threads, on the wrong side, for bars; and draw spots at intervals, as seen in the engraving.



No. 2.—Draw four and leave four each way. Half cover one bar, and then take the thread across the space. Work the half of this bar, and round the corner, and cross the thread already found in the space with another to form the cross. Cover the half of the bar to which you have taken the needle, and proceed to put the cross in another square.



No. 3.—Draw out six threads, and leave twelve, in both directions. Then work round every three of the twelve to form the whole into four bars.



No. 4.—Prepare like last. Make the two outer three into bars, but darn the inner six, backward and forward from the centre, to make a single one. These can be varied by working

spots in the squares.



No. 5.—Draw out three, and leave four both ways. Make the threads into bars, and carry the middle diagonally across, to make the lines seen in the engraving.



No. 6.—In squares formed of Venetian bars, make a cross as for English lace spots, instead of which work a Venetian dot between every two threads.



No. 7.—A space filled with lace on which, instead of English spots, four of Venetian dots united in the centre are worked. The worker's ingenuity may be exercised in producing other stitches from

these.

TAMBOUR WORK.—The instrument is a needle

with a point like that of a crochet hook, screwed into an ivory handle. The small steel screw which secures the needle in its place is kept by the thumb in holding the instrument, as it then forms a sort of guide in twisting the hook. The material to be tamboured must be stretched in a frame. The stitch exactly resembles the ordinary chain-stitch. A pattern may be worked entirely on one fabric. Thus veils are worked and muslin dresses. But generally one material is applique on another, as muslin on lace. Hold the thread under the work with the thumb and first finger of the left hand, close under the place where the pattern begins. Insert the hook with the right, and draw up a loop of the thread. Holding the loop on the hook, again insert it, a little in advance, and draw up a fresh loop through the one already formed. Continue thus until the work is done. Outlines are always the first parts to be done; and this section of any flower or leaf, being completed, fill it up or finish it before proceeding. Where the whole design has to be outlined or edged with a particular material, however, as with gold thread, this must be done last. To fasten off, draw the thread on the wrong side, and work with a common needle.

VARIETIES IN EMBROIDERY.



FOR CHILD'S HANDKERCHIEF.



CHILD'S PETTICOAT.



INSERTION.



FOR AN INFANT'S FLANNEL PETTICOAT.



BOTTOM OF DRAWERS.