

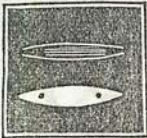
OUR DICTIONARY OF NEEDLEWORK. NO. VI.

BY MRS. JANE WEAVER.



TATTING, OR FRIVOLITE.—The great simplicity of this kind of work, and the easiness with which it can be executed, without straining the eyes, particularly recommend it to invalids and elderly people.

MATERIALS.—Either a shuttle of tortoiseshell or ivory, or a netting-needle, with a purling pin, attached by a small chain to a ring, which slips over the thumb.



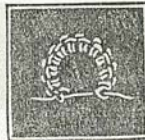
There are only two stitches, and these are generally used alternately. They are the English and the French stitch.

POSITION OF THE HANDS.—The shuttle being filled with cotton, leave about half-a-yard at the end. Hold the shuttle between the thumb and the first and second fingers of the right hand, and the thread, an inch or two from the end, between the thumb and first finger of the left. Pass the thread round the fingers of the left hand, (holding them rather apart,) and bring it up again between the thumb and forefinger, thus making a circle.

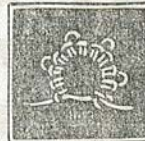
ENGLISH STITCH.—Let the thread between the left hand and the shuttle fall toward you. Slip the shuttle downward under the loop, between the first and second fingers, and draw it out with a slight jerk toward the right, in a horizontal position, when a loop will be formed on it with the thread which was passed round the fingers of the left hand. Hold the shuttle steadily, with the thread stretched out tightly, for if you slacken it, the loop instantly transfers itself to this thread, and becomes a tight instead of a slip knot. While holding it thus stretched out, work up the knot, with the second finger, till it comes close up to the thumb.

FRENCH STITCH.—Instead of letting the thread fall forward, throw it back in a loop over the

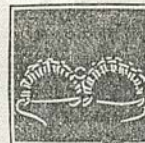
fingers of the left hand, and pass the shuttle up between the thread round the fingers and this loop. Draw it up and complete it as the other.



PICOT.—This is the little loop, or purling, ornamenting the edge. It is made with a gilt purling pin. Lay the point of the pin parallel with, and close to the edge of the stitches. Pass the thread which goes round the fingers over the pin before making the next stitches. All the picots on one loop of tating ought to be made without withdrawing the pin.



DOUBLE STITCH.—These two stitches, worked alternately.



TO JOIN LOOPS.—They are always united by the picots, which should be on the first of any two to be joined. In it draw the cotton which goes round the fingers of the left hand, and slip the shuttle through this loop; tighten the cotton again over the fingers, and continue.

Sometimes a needle and thread are used in joining patterns. In this case leave a longer thread to begin with, and then thread the needle on it.

TO WASH TATTING.—Cover a bottle with flannel, on which tack the tating; rub it with a lather of white soap, and boil it; rinse it out, and pull it very carefully out before ironing. A piece of clean linen should be laid over it, between it and the iron.

CONTRACTIONS IN TATTING.—D. Double stitch; one French and one English.

P. Picot.

J. Join.

Loop. Any number of stitches drawn up.

EDGING.

