DESIGNS IN VENETIAN POINT LACE

By Sara Hadley

Illustrations from original designs

The designs of Venetian point given in the accompanying illustrations are of a style of lace now so universal. Of the modern varieties it may be said to be one of the handiest. It is especially suitable for use upon polished tables, for rich coloring of the void showing to the best advantage the massiveness of the lace. The void is made use of by the work being used for outlining the pattern. For the corall work or butt-hole lace the medium thread is worked, while the lightest of the threads is used for the fine stitches. Pointless needles are used in making the lace.

Linens of the best quality are essential, as otherwise the material would not, considering the time and care involved in the work, serve the purpose. Venetian point is excellently fitted for the development of church laces because of its firmness, the detail of its designs, and its general symmetrical effect. Collars, stoles, and other portions of vestments are seen in this beautiful lace.

THE table-cover shown in illustration is not only an exquisite specimen of needlework but in making it an habiliment may be created; for, upon each square of the deep green tinted, hand-spun linen used in alternation with the lace squares, may be embroidered the initials or monograms of a member of the family, together with the date. A crest or coat-of-arms may also be added or substituted. In this way, several members of different branches of the family contributing, a cover to be prized by each succeeding generation may be created.

The squares of lace are in two designs, each of ancient idea, and, if desired, a border introducing the same designs may be arranged. It will be observed that in arranging the squares the tritons squares are five in number and all arranged at the centre, where they alternate with four squares of the lines. The griffins or dragon squares, also alternated with the linen blocks, coincide with the tritons, thus providing a symmetry and harmony of design.

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