Miss Hadley's Needlework Lessons

SECOND LESSON: NEEDLE POINT LACE

NEEDLE point is one of the four modern lace arts. The threads used are short and narrow, allowing as many as twenty to be placed in the piece as possible. The best of the lace should be used. As much work is required for the setting of the lace as for the insertion of the laces. The use of thin lace threads will be the end prove unsatisfactory.

In fastening the pattern, make it as far as possible without cutting. Frequent loops will be necessary in any lace lace. These should be done neat. The best way to prevent injuring the texture of the lace is to make them neat and round from the right side. The lace will not be fastened the stitches before the lace is mounted. If the loops are not made in the order of the lace, there will be the danger of the lace getting the finishing from the right side. The lace must not all be knotted before the lace is mounted. One soon tires of fastening alone, and a part of that may be finished later. Many a time the worker has wished she could change the order for making the stitches, while the finishing would be agreeable employment and considerably less fatiguing for the eyes. This little change in work serves to lighten and give variety to the design patters. If the lace is not continuous, it does not lay perfectly smooth on the fabric, and should be washed into place. The threads used are required for fastening the lace. The foundation for working all the point lace stitches is a single row of loops or the back of the lace. The loops are worked from left to right, taking the nearest edge of the lace. The point stitches used in the lace are:

1. Point de remanso—Two-stitch or Double-Thread Stitch. After the first stitch, the second is made to the left right thread is carried back to the left in a straight line, then two loops are made in each single loop, taking in the thread. This is done in every loop. Then another line is crossed from right to left and the working is continued in the same manner. This is repeated until the lace is filled.

2. Point d'Anglette or English Stitch. The threads are carried at regular intervals across the space and worked back or forward. Cross lines are similarly formed at right angles to these. Work a small square every spot where two lines cross for working under and over the two lines six or eight times, or as many times as may be necessary. When one line is complete another row of squares must be formed in the same way.

3. Rose Point Lace-Wheel. Either five or seven or nine lines are made by putting the needle in the middle of the lace and winding the thread or more than one loop on the needle. The needle is then carried over and under several times around, leaving a hole or opening in the center. This stitch is covered over and under several times, leaving a hole or opening in the center. This stitch is very much used in point lace.

4. Point d'Alençon or Double-Point Bar. Pass the thread back and forth in space to keep a footing for the stitches, then come back over the lines, working three or four lathooms in each line, leaving a hole in the center of the stitch. Work three back and forth on top of the lines already formed, making a diagonal pattern. This is a pretty method for filling in narrow spaces. One style of stitch is the same as the other; the other is used for the pattern of the background. A single thread is crossed from left to right of the space. The thread is twisted back, to, the center, and secured with a loop knot. To form the little point, make three single stitches in this order, then another point is made. The thread should then be twisted over the single line to the right. Repeat these lines until the space is filled. Two or more points are made on each thread if its length permits.

The body of the flower is worked entirely with the Dutch stitch. Make four rows of chain loops after the first four chains, pass the needle through the third and second chain loop, and make six chain loops between. Then make a row of every loop as the thread back and forth for another four rows of loops. Secure the thread until finished. To work the edge of the lace, pass a thread through the lace and then a few stitches make a small thread knot at the outer edge. This is worked closely around the outer edge. After the work is repeated from the pattern, to give a raised effect extra braid is gathered up to the outline of the flowers as shown in the illustration. The third braid, which will appear in the next number, will be the Russian lace in rear.