

The Connoisseur

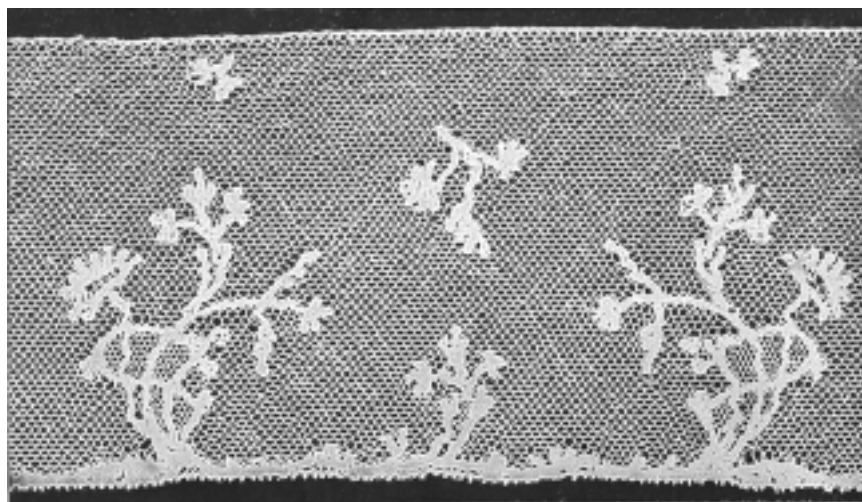
Bucks lace, or "Bucks pillow point" as the fine

Buckingham- work is usually
shire Lace called, dates

back as far as the sixteenth century, and was introduced into England by the Flemish refugees. In appearance it is much like the lovely specimens one sees of old "Lille" work both in design and stitch, but with a difference in the net. In the Bucks work two, and sometimes three, twists are made, but in "Lille" only one. Unfortunately, this interesting industry was in danger of becoming a lost art till some few years ago a number of ladies took up the cause and formed a society called the "North Bucks Lace Association," their aim being to revive this lovely work, and it is very gratifying to find that now quite a large quantity is produced. The finest work is done by the old workers, the younger ones preferring to make the heavier kinds usually

known as "Bedford" lace, which in reality is a reproduction of the Maltese thread work. The great fault of our English lace workers is that they do not move with the times in producing up-to-date shapes, preferring to keep to the same parchments and patterns that their grandmothers did, and which are not at all suitable for present-day fashions. Queen Katherine of Aragon is credited with the development of this most fascinating art, she was a great lover of lace as well as being an expert worker. In some districts "Katherine" day is still observed as a holiday. The accompanying photo is of a fine old piece of Bucks about one hundred and twenty years old, and must have required some two hundred bobbins to produce, and in some of the more elaborate designs as many as four hundred bobbins were required on the pillow at one time.

Notes



A FINE SPECIMEN OF OLD BUCKS LACE