broderie, of broider, to embroider; which some deduce, by
transposition, from bordure, because they formerly embo-
dered only the borders of stuffs, whence the Latins also call
the embroiderers limbularii. Du-Cange observes, that they
anciently wrote aurobrufus for embroidered with gold, or
brufus brodatus, and brodatus; whence broderie.
That done with silk, flux or the like, is not now called
embroidery; though anciently, and properly, the word de-
noted all kind of figuring or flourishing.
The chief use of embroidery is in church vestments,
cloaths, houfings, guidons, standards, &c. The invention
of embroidery is attributed to the Phrygians; whence the
Latins call embroidered garments velites Phrygionies, and
embroiderers Phrygiones. In the "Menæchmi" of Plautus,
(act ii. scene 3), a young woman, defrous of fending her
mantle to be embroidered, says: "Pallam illam ad phrygi-
onem ut deferas, ut reconcinnatur ut opera addantur,
que volo." The Greeks seem to have used the words
xoxeia and xxexexia, as we use the word embroidered.
The embroidery of stuffs is performed in a kind of loom;
that of muffins is done by stretching it on a pattern already
defigned; the former kind is the most easy, but the latter
admits of the greatest richness and variety. The thinnest
muffins are the best for this purpose; and they are embo-
dered to great perfection in Saxony.
There are dierfe kinds of embroidery; as embroidery on
both siles, that which appears on both sides. Guimped em-
brdery, performed either in gold or silver. In this work,
a sketch is first made on the cloth, then they put on a cut
vellum, and afterwards sew on the gold and silver with silk
thread, interpenerring silver and gold cord, tinsel, and
spangles. Embroidery on the flamp, where the figures are
very high and prominent, being supported on wool, cotton,
hair, &c. Low and plain embroidery, where the figures are
low and flat, and without any enrichment between them.
It is probable that the covering of the sword of Goliath,
which was laid up in the tabernacle as a consecrated memo-
rial of the victory gained by David over that vain-glorious
idoler, or the wrapper that enveloped it, was some beau-
tiful piece of embroidered work. (1 Sam. xxii. 19.) By
statute 22 Geo. II. c. 36. no foreign embroidery, or gold,
or silver brocade, shall be imported, upon pain of being for-
feited and burnt, and penalty of 100l. for each piece. No
person shall sell or expose to sale any foreign embroidery,
gold or silver thread, lace, fringe, brocade, or make up the
same into any garment, upon pain of having it forfeited
and burnt, and penalty of 100l. All such embroidery, &c,
found, may be seised and burnt, and the merce, &c, in
whose custody it was found shall forfeit 100l.

EMBROIDERY, the enriching of a cloth, stuff, or
muffin, by working dierfe figures thereon with the needle,
and thread of gold or silver.

The word embroidery is derived from the French