MODERN LACE-MAKING.

PORTIÈRE OR CURTAIN IN MODERN LACE.

Figures Nos. 1 and 2.—Portières, or curtains intended for windows, and draperies for canopy-beds, etc., are very popular when decorated and made up as represented. Coarse, strong net, made expressly for such purposes forms the foundation of the curtain, and the decorations are formed of Battenburg lace braids and cord. According to the use to which the curtain is to be put, make the design wide or narrow. As represented in figure No. 2, the design is about half size, but as it is not intricate, anyone competent to do lace-making will be able to enlarge it to any size desired. This could easily be accomplished by making a scallop for the edge as large as wished, and then fitting the design to it. The trial could be made on stiff paper, and once correct, or satisfactory, could be duplicated to form a section of two or three scallops to be used as the working design under the net. In our book on Modern Lace-Making, price 2s. or 50 cents, the method of using a design is fully illustrated and explained. In this book are also many designs suitable for a great variety of purposes, and a large number of the stitches generally used in making modern lace.

The main portion of the portière is covered with sprays of blossoms like those seen in the border arranged on stiff-looking cord stems with foliage at either end. In the book just mentioned are a number of spray designs that could be used in making a curtain like the one here illustrated.

The same variety of picot edged braid that is used in the design is also used to border the scallops at the bottom of the curtain.

In making curtains and draperies of this kind the net and braid may be chosen to suit individual taste. Écru braid upon white net is a fashionable combination. Deep butter-colored braid upon white or écru net is another very popular choice, while écru braid upon écru net is quite as often chosen.

Linen covered rings, ready made, may be purchased at a professional lace-maker’s for the centers of the blossoms. They will pass through the process of renovation perfectly unharmed and, being ready made, save the lace-maker much time and trouble.

For the information contained in this article, thanks are due Miss Sara Hadley, lace-maker, 923 Broadway, New York.