

Subscribers' Questions Answered.

BY L. BARTON WILSON.

Any regular subscriber to CORTICELLI HOME NEEDLEWORK is always at liberty to ask for information on any subject pertaining to stitches, designs, or material. These questions will be answered by mail as promptly as possible if a two-cent stamp is enclosed. The only condition to be fulfilled is that your name must be on our list as a regular subscriber. We hope our readers will take advantage of this privilege and if there are any doubtful points will not hesitate to write us for assistance.

EMBROIDERY ON LACE.—To embroider on lace, baste firmly over the reverse side of the pattern a very sheer piece of linen lawn or fine net. Be generous with the lawn, allowing ample margin, so that when the piece is set in hoops all strain can come on the linen, and not on the lace. Outline stems and the like first—that is, before lining, as far as this is possible. Embroider through both lace and linen, and after "setting" the work by dampening and letting dry quickly, release from the frame and cut the linen away from the back as close to the embroidery as possible. Here and there a few overstitches along the edge may be necessary. Canvas may be used for patterns done in any of the cushion stitches, and this can be drawn out, thread by thread, when the embroidery is complete.

WHITE LILACS.—To embroider white lilacs, use Filo Silk, White B. & A. 2001, and shade with 2281, also in the buds work in the Greens 2282, 2283. Work out the flowerettes in the light in detail with a little shadow behind them to throw them out. Consider the spray as a whole, especially in regard to light and shadow. Keep the detail in the light, that is, through the center of the cluster. Work out the shape of the little buds on the edges. The shadow work may be suggestive of petals, but incomplete ones. The stitches, which are mere background work, should not be long. The most successful way to bring out the white lilacs will be to surround them more or less completely with green leaves.

MOSS ROSES.—To successfully suggest the moss on the "moss rose" one needs to work in stitches horizontally. It is well to embroider the general form of the rose as one naturally would if it were not covered with the spines. The petals, etc., would be laid in the same as the smooth rose, then with split filo—green and brown—lay over the first work short horizontal stitches, not in rows, but irregularly, and lapping into each other. The stem may be embroidered in two rows of horizontal stitches only. These stitches should not lie close together, but should have tiny spaces between, and the rows should interlace, thus making the center of the stem much heavier than the fringing sides. If possible, have a rose or a picture of one to copy from, and aim to suggest the texture.

SCARF FOR UPRIGHT PIANO.—The richest and most appropriate material for a piano scarf is heavy corded silk, an ottoman or faille. Delicate colors should

INSIST UPON HAVING YOUR SILK IN HOLDERS.