As a rule the simpler a conventional form is made the more satisfactory it will be, always providing that its size is not so great as to cause its simplicity to convey an idea of bareness.

As has been stated before, nearly all ornament is composed of one or more units of design "repeated" in a methodical manner. They can be repeated in different ways, laterally and radiately, regularly and alternately. These are shown in Fig. 5. The first is an example of regular lateral repetition, the second alternate lateral, the third regular radiate, and the fourth alternate radiate. In the first three there is only one unit of repetition, and two in the fourth.

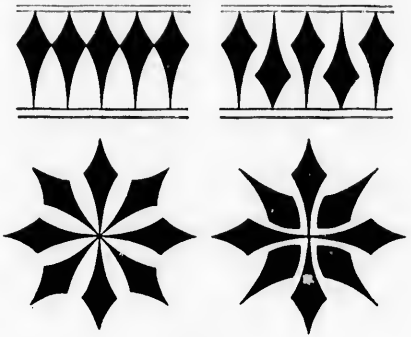

FIG. 5.

Having decided upon our geometric framework and unit of repetition, we must next say how it is to be repeated. Here we have to face the fact that the mode of repetition adopted will have very much to do with the success of the resulting design, as by means of it we can produce almost any effect on the mind. It should be such as to produce the one required, whether it be of rest or excitement, of cheerfulness or melancholy, of richness or poverty. In illustration of this a few examples of repetition are given in Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. The motive in each case is supplied by the leaves and flowers of the Hepatica, a little plant which is a favorite with all who know it. A sketch of it showing its habit, and of separate leaves and flowers showing their form and construction, is given in Fig. 6. It will furnish the young designer with many useful forms which he should make free use of. First, in Fig. 7, the geometric basis is a series of squares arranged horizontally,

and in each square is placed a leaf, the mid-rib of which corresponds to the diameter of the square. If the leaves only are used, the result is not satisfactory on account of there being two empty triangular spaces between each two leaves. These

FIG. 6.