

French Laid Embroidery.

By L. BARTON WILSON.

With Designs by the Author.

White Work.—Part I.

If one were asked to mention the kind of embroidery in most general use, we may say universal use, the answer would undoubtedly be "French laid work." Professional workers and amateurs in all countries and from time immemorial have seemed to thoroughly appreciate the beauty, the durability, and perfect practicability of the firmly laid Satin stitch in white embroidery. Its very nature

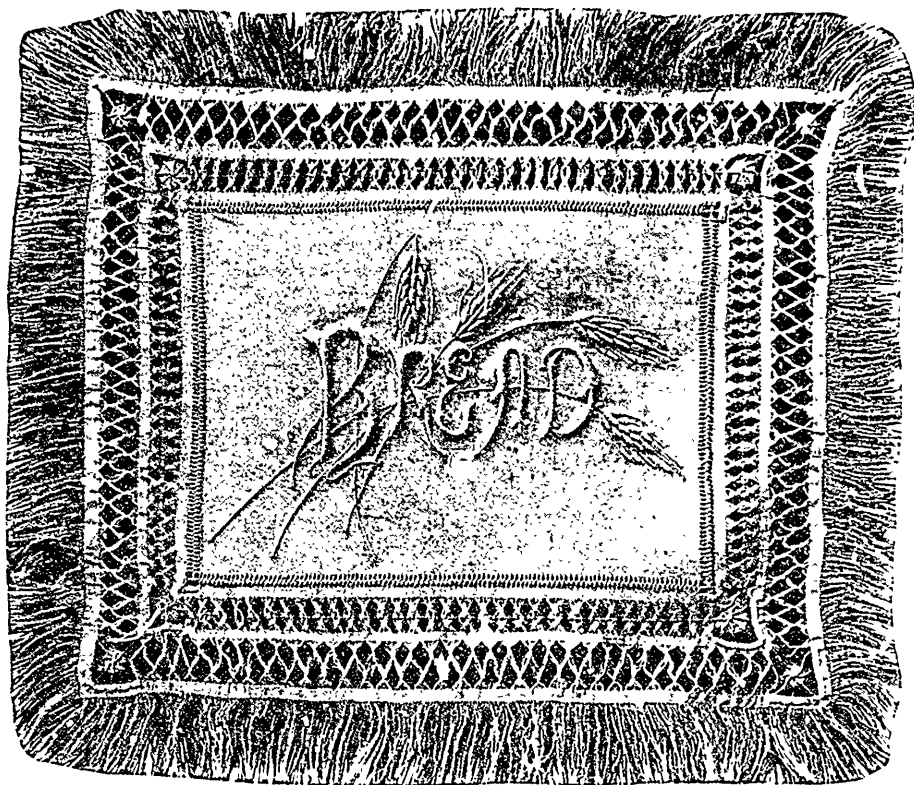


FIG. 27.

makes it generally serviceable and appropriate to all applications of household decoration, the table and all dining-room linens, bed decoration and all toilet-table linens, clothing, both for marking and decorating it, especially infants' clothes, pillows, caps, etc.

The work is absolutely conventional and therefore there is no danger of its being abused by lack of knowledge or lack of taste. It does not require either great skill or artistic knowledge, simply practice, and this is why it is done in great perfection by the peasants of Europe. Like drawn work and lace making it is a kind of hereditary needlework, and, as we know, manual skill descends from

The most delicate work is done with Corticelli B. & A. Silks