

BY NELLIE CLARK BROWN.

Throughout the ever-increasing popularity of hand-made laces the handkerchief has maintained the place it won by its beauty and practicability long before the pieces for dress garniture had made their appearance. A lace handkerchief is always in good taste, and suitable both for personal use and for gifts. It may be as elaborate as pattern and skilled fingers may devise, or may consist of a simple narrow edge surrounding a square of filmy linen.

Fashion dictates various uses for the lace handkerchief, and there is always a charming variety of ways in which it may be adapted. Just now, effective results are obtained by folding a handkerchief diagonally over a ribbon, which is then passed around the neck over a stock and tied in the back.

In the first handkerchief illustrated [Design No. DP2700-A] Honiton and very fine Point lace braid are used with thread No. 600. The pattern consists of an inner insertion composed of a straight row of the Point braid on either side of a straight row of the Honiton medallions. Outside of this is a second row of the Honiton braid placed in a serpentine or wavy line. This is followed by a third row of the Point basted in scallops, each embracing two medallions of the Honiton braid.

The inner row of stitches should always be finished first and the work continued outward until the edge is reached. This prevents the crumpling and soiling which cannot be avoided when the edge of the lace is completed first.

In this handkerchief the Sorrento Bar is the only stitch used. In making these bars successfully the twisting of the thread should always be from, not towards, the worker, as in this way each twist of the thread tightens those already made, and the result is a smooth, even coil. To make the first row the pattern should be held with its edge towards the worker and the thread fastened to the inner row of Point braid. It is then carried forward, entered into the Honiton braid and twisted back to the Point braid. This is repeated at regular intervals, according to the design of the bars, until the first row is completed. In the plan or arrangement of the bars a design has been selected which does not require the passing of the thread through the hard little cords between the medallions of the braid. This cord is so tightly wound that it is with difficulty the needle is made to penetrate it. In the plan chosen three parallel bars connect the middle part of each medallion of the Honiton braid to the line of Point braid above. The space between these trios of bars is filled with two bars placed on the straight braid half-