

Old Embroideries.

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Illustrated by photographs from specimens in the famous South Kensington Museum, London, England.

PART III.

Up to now, embroideries with sumptuous materials have engaged our attention, but fine needleworks produced with the simpler materials of colored or plain white linen and cotton threads must be taken into account. In this connection we may note the fact that from divers causes, such as sumptuary

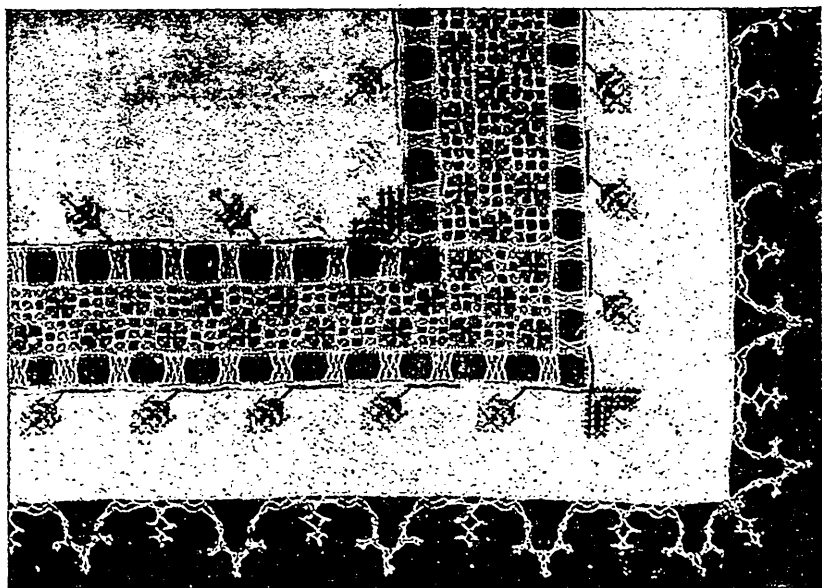


FIG. 1. CORNER OF A LINEN TABLECLOTH EMBROIDERED WITH BROWN, BLUE, AND WHITE THREADS. A SPECIMEN OF ITALIAN WORK OF THE 16TH CENTURY.

edicts against popular lavish expenditure in costly needlework,—edicts which did little really to check the fashion, the confection of dainty linens and their much freer use than formerly for costume and household purposes seem to have taken a marked start about the beginning of the 16th century. Many kinds of ornamental needlework on such lineens and cottons were wrought both in Oriental districts adjacent to Europe and in Europe, especially in the Grecian

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