

embroidery will be laid somewhat differently from the usual way. It is always better, with one exception, to work from the outline *in*, that is to bring the needle up on the outline and send it down within the space which is being covered with stitches. The exception is concave curves. Always embroider these, that is when the method used is Long and Short stitch or Feather stitch, by bringing the needle up *within* the leaf or form and sending it down on the edge. See Fig. 164. This is a more natural movement and therefore easier to do and better in result. The first stitch on a leaf will be a short one and should be taken as indicated in Fig. 164; well out to the point. The direction of the succeeding stitches is shown in Fig. 165, and the way to place the shadow under the turned-over leaf is in this illustrated. Observe how the stitches at B are a continuation of the stitches at A. They should appear to pass under the overlapped edge though they should never in reality be carried under, but worked up against the over form.



FIG. 164.

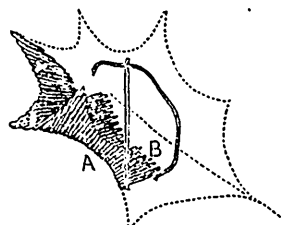


FIG. 165.

While all the stitches hold a general direction which would point to the stem base as the center of a circle of which they are radii (see article on "Stitch Direction" in last April magazine, page 139; copies can be supplied at 10 cents each), yet in order to make the points sharp the stitch which reaches out to the point itself is made a little straighter. This is a slight modification of the rule, or rather the prickly edge of the holly leaf may be said to be very decided modification of what we expect in general of

the edge of a leaf. We remember that the edge of holly leaves are somewhat fluted. This straighter stitch brings out this effect, but it should not be exaggerated, indeed it should not be indicated even, in all the leaves. In groups of leaves, those which are back of others should be darker, especially on the side which is underneath. See Fig. 166. A very pretty touch is a stitch in terra cotta, B. & A. 2091 on each leaf point. The Filo should be split and the stitch taken from within the point, out a trifle beyond the work already done. See Fig. 167.

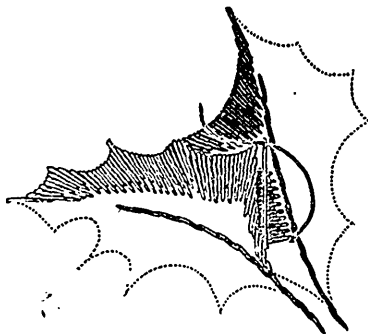


FIG. 166.

The berries are more difficult to embroider; it takes careful work to keep them round. They should be worked in full, because as they are small their weight in full

B. & A. WASH SILKS ARE THE MOST ENDURING.