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STEM-STITCH, D.—This is a sort of back-stitch in which the stitches overlap, as seen in the illustration. It is taken

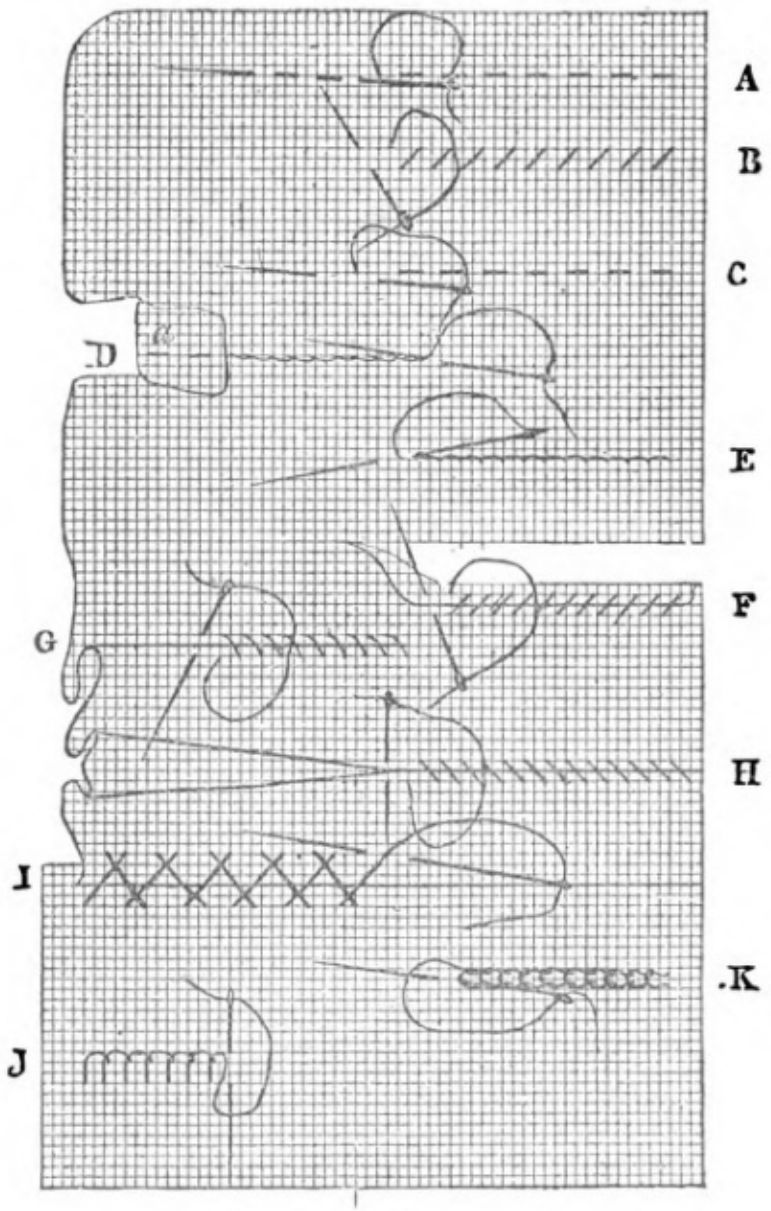


FIG. 1.

from left to right, and forms a neat finish for the right side of a hem.

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STITCHING, E.—This is composed of a row of back-stitches without any interval between them—the needle being at once inserted backward into the stitch just made, to be drawn out at an equal distance in front of the stitch which has to be formed.

HEM-STITCH, F.—This stitch is employed to fit a hem in any stuff, the needle to be placed under the material, and drawn out about two threads above the edge.

SIDE-STITCH, G.—By the help of this stitch the folds, or rather the folded edges, of two pieces of stuff are joined; the stitch is made slantingly in the opposite side to that which is held toward the worker.

SEWING-STITCH, H.—This is employed to join two edges of material. The needle, directed *over* the edges, stitches through the outer fold, and comes under that which is held nearest the worker. A depth of some threads must be observed. This stitch is always required to join the two selvages of calico or other cloth, and is familiarly called *sewing a seam.*

HERRING-BONE OR CROSS-STITCH, I.—This is used to join two edges of material which, instead of being folded together, are laid one over the other and worked from left to right, making alternately a stitch below and one above. The cross-stitch is made by the thread being drawn out each time above the stitch which has just been done. This stitch is used particularly for making flannel garments.

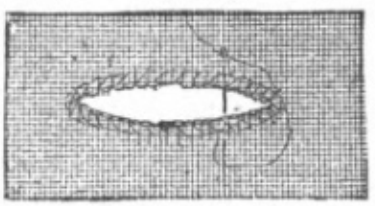

FIG. 2.

BUTTON-HOLE STITCH, J, and Fig. 2.—A straight slit having been cut for the button-hole (and it is of advantage in order to strengthen the work to run two threads, one below and one above the hole), the stitches are taken from left to right in the slit of the button-hole, to be drawn out behind the tracing at the upper end,

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ties are gathered and fastened into bands. These bands can have elastics run in them (for trousers); and they are always arranged to fasten beneath the child's knee.

These little trousers can be trimmed in various ways—with rows of buttons, or braid, down the sides, or whatever happens to be worn.

Charming patterns for CHILDREN'S DRESSES of all descriptions—both girls and boys—as well as the dresses themselves, are to be had at the furnishing stores; but there are few prettier garments for a little girl than the Gabrielle dress. It is cut, like the Princess, all in one, and has an ease and grace peculiarly its own. This is cut almost exactly like a deep sacque; the back has a seam on each side that reaches the shoulder, but none in the center (unless for an older child than four or five); each front has, very near the hem, a seam, like a dart, reaching the shoulder, where it joins the back side-seam.

FIG. 34.—DRESS OF WHITE CAMBRIC.

The dress is buttoned from the neck to the bottom, and may be trimmed in any way desired. Plain and exceedingly

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comfortable little dresses of calico, gingham, or thicker cheap materials, can be made from this pattern, and also very elaborate ones.

Two very pretty yoked dresses for young children are given below, the styles being taken from "Harper's Bazar." Fig. 34 is made of white cambric, with a square yoke at the top, to which back and front are gathered, and also gathered at the waist. The borders that trim it are strips of white lace—striped piqué—embroidered with two shades of red cotton, as shown in Fig. 35. The cross-seam

FIG. 35.—EMBROIDERY FOR DRESS.

on the solid stripe of the fabric, which forms the middle of the border, is in the lighter shade; and the cross-stitches on the open-work, or lace stripe on each side, are in the darker. Narrow embroidered edging finishes the sleeves, the front, and the bottom of the dress. A ribbon sash is attached at the side-seams.

Fig. 36 represents a very pretty dress of white baptiste, or nun's veiling, the waist of which is tucked, and the top edged with wide embroidery. This is joined to a yoke composed of alternate bands of lace and embroidered insertion. The skirt is side-plaited, and edged with similar embroidery, which is headed by a cluster of tucks. The neck and the short puffed sleeves are trimmed with lace insertion, through which narrow pink *gros grain* ribbon is drawn in and out; and a broad sash of the same ribbon completes the dress.

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A HOOD and CAPE made in one is a very useful thing for children; and this is done by folding a square of mate-

FIG. 36.—DRESS OF NUN'S VEILING.

rial on the cross, so that it forms a double fichu. One of these fichus or capes is placed on the head, the corner falling over the forehead; the other covers the shoulders. It will be necessary to make some plaits upon the line which separates the actual hood from the cape, and also to fasten the hood under the chin by a clasp or ribbon. This simple form may be improved on, and the hoods lined or wadded, as may be desired. The shape is a very becoming one for a grown person.

The pattern in Fig. 37 has the back made very large and the front exceedingly narrow—so narrow, in fact, as to be almost imperceptible. The back—which is cut on the cross, through the center, and the entire shape rounded—is drawn together by a very full gathering, although the cap itself is tight to the head. In order to make this gathering, the outline of the back ought to be a third larger than the edge of the front.

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This style can be varied by dispensing altogether with the front, and making the cap entirely of a back like the above, kept firmly round the head by a gathering. This class of cap is generally surrounded by a full trimming either of lace or ribbon.

The back made smaller, and formed either by a broad

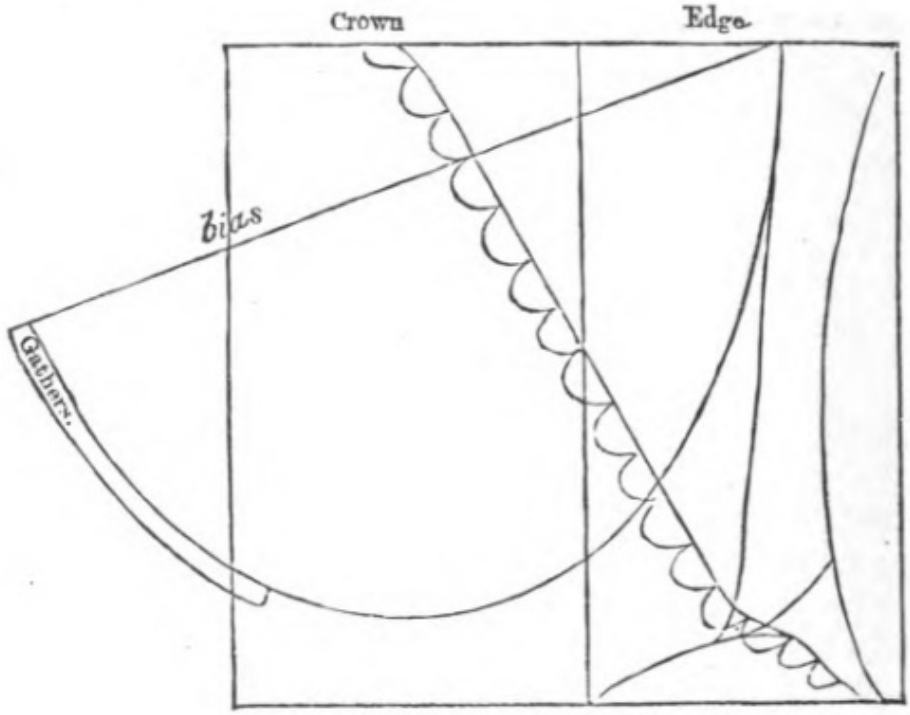


FIG. 37.—CAPE AND HOOD.

lace gathered and rounded as a shell, or a piece of lace laid upon a back of tulle, covering only half the head, and trimmed with some knots of ribbon, forms a pretty head-dress for an elderly lady.

The CHILD'S CAP in Fig. 38 is made in three pieces: *e* is the front made lower in height; the piece *f* is the back, which is larger than the front. To cut these out, two pieces of stuff must be prepared after piece *e*; the back is placed upon the stuff folded double and on the straight,

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seldom worth patching; it is better economy to supply its place with a new one. Neither is a garment that has many thin places, for these will soon be dragged into holes by the patches. Linen is worth mending almost as long as it will hold together, for nothing is more delightful wear during a heated term than old linen. It is worth mending well, too, and deserves the finest and most durable of work. Holes that are "caught together," instead of having a piece properly set in, are soon gaping open again; and darning that covers only the worst of a worn place makes the surrounding part worse than ever. Darning and patching are not to be done at hap-hazard, but according to a regular process, like any other species of needle-work; and the following rules and illustrations, from the little English work referred to, will be found a valuable assistance:

The first class of repairs is DARNING, of which there are many sorts, which can be classed thus: 1. A plain darn. 2. A crossed darn. 3. An opened or figured darn. 4. The

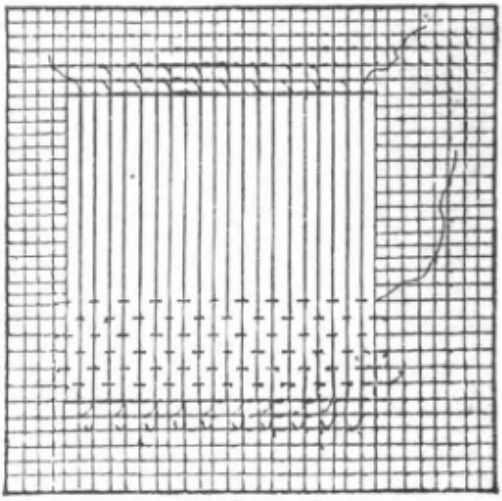

FIG. 39.—PLAIN DARN.

invisible or joined darn. All these are made at the back of the article to be repaired.

For all darns, a warp and a woof have to be formed; a

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An OPEN or FLATTENED DARN is shown in Fig. 42. This is done like a crossed darn. It is in the woof that the

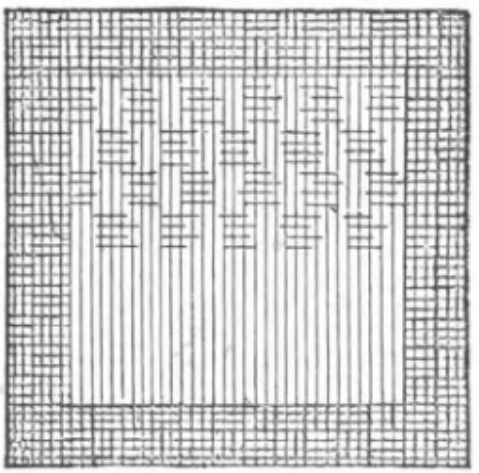

FIG. 42.

pattern has to be imitated. Two, three, or four threads are taken upon the needle, according to the required pattern, then the usual crossed woof is continued—that is to say, when there *is* one, because often the patterns of checks, stripes, etc., form a perfect ground of themselves.

The HIDDEN or JOINED DARN (Fig. 43) is only used where the edges of the tear can be joined naturally, or in a species of patching which will be described later.

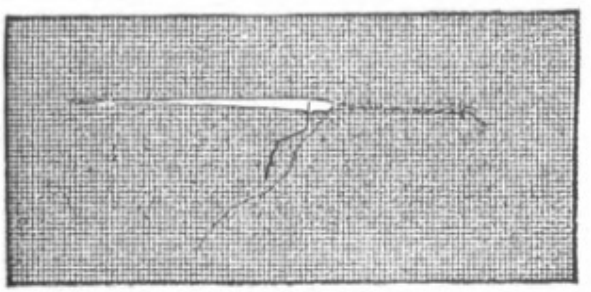

FIG. 43.

In all these repairs care must be taken to equalize the edges, or to cut away the raveled threads which are generally

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linen, is especially used in other materials. There is also another way of piecing by overcasting, intended for worn

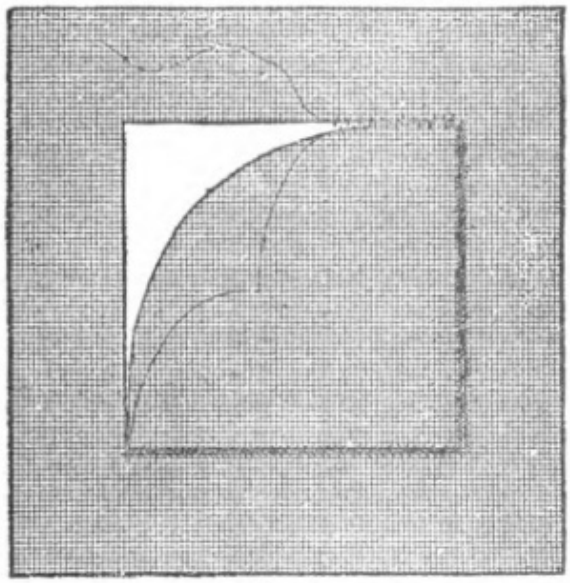

FIG. 44.

linen and thick stuff. For this, the worn or torn part, which has to be cut away, is left until the piece has been laid upon it and overcast or sewn there. Before sewing, it should be carefully basted all around. The torn part, cut away on the wrong side, should have enough allowed all around its edges to make a good turned-down seam, with which this kind of patch is often finished.

PIECING BY A TURNED-DOWN SEAM is prepared like the above, and sewed either by overcasting or running, so that the right side (or where the stitches are placed) is always found above the turned-down seam. In this patch the corners are very difficult to form, and, done by unpracticed hands, they are sure to "pucker."

It is just this detail which forms the greatest difficulty in patching. In order to make the corners well, it is necessary to keep to the straight thread for the seam; and, when the notch is arrived at, care must be taken to seize with the



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last stitch the last thread of the woof or the warp, following the course of the sewing into the side of the notch, and never a thread beyond. In order to sew the next side, the first stitch is taken with the first thread in the notch in the opposite side, and this process is repeated for each corner. When the piece on the back, or wrong side, is sewn, the flattened seam is then made, folding the edge down upon the article mended. (See Fig. 45.)

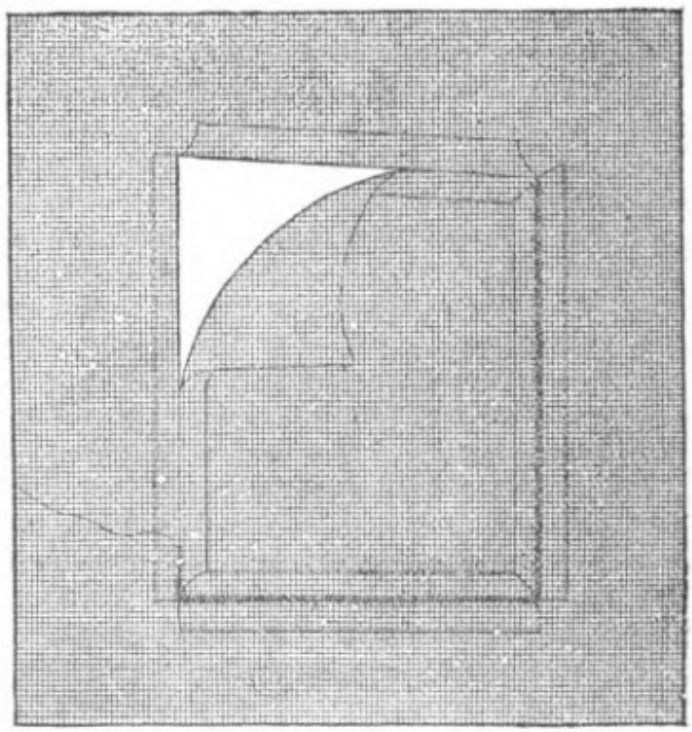

Fig. 45

Fig. 46. Piecing by a Seam.—This is rarely used for linen, except when it is necessary to repair something very fine, which has been torn by accident and not by wear. It is serviceable in very clear stuffs, such as muslin, etc., when there is only a little tear. It is frequently used in other materials, especially in woolen, and always in cloth stuffs.

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In order to place these last-mentioned stitches, it is useless to cut notches in the sides, as the patch is cut exactly to the same size as that taken away; about the depth of two or three threads may be left half-way round the piece, so as to make a tiny turning by which to fit it into the hole. It is kept in its place by the aid of a tuck like a darn, and then the stitches are joined by the invisible stitch. The thread used for this ought to be finer than that of the cloth material. In cloth, a fine sewing-silk is used, and only half the thickness of the cloth is sewed. When the piece is sewn in, the work is turned on the right side so as to slightly raise with the needle the nap of the cloth upon all its repaired sides. This renders the patch completely invisible, and after this it is requisite to pass a hot iron over the sewed edges at the back, as this greatly improves the appearance of the repair. (Fig. 46.)

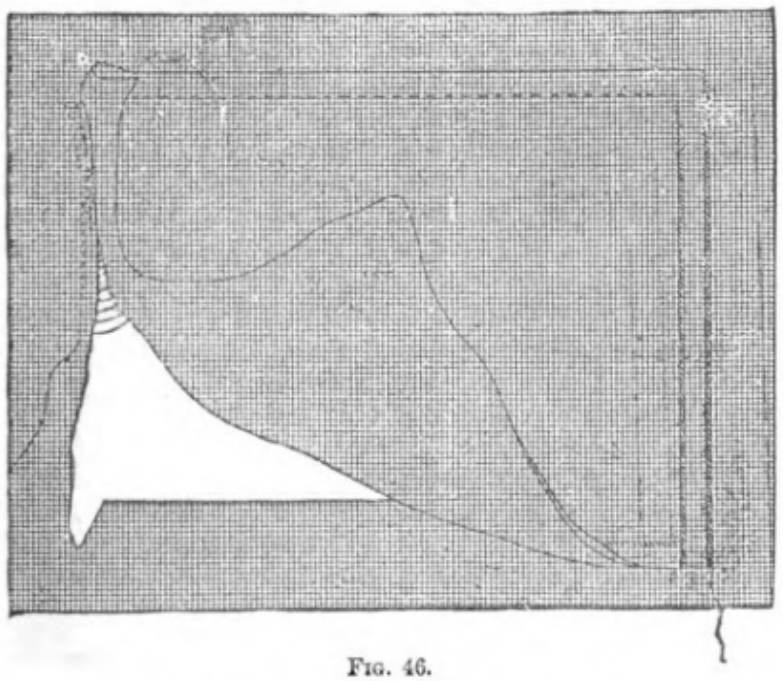

Fig. 46.

Darning stockings is perhaps the most constantly-recurring phase of mending in ordinary use, and the stock-

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in the light and dark of the illustration. About a yard in length is required for the light, and something like an

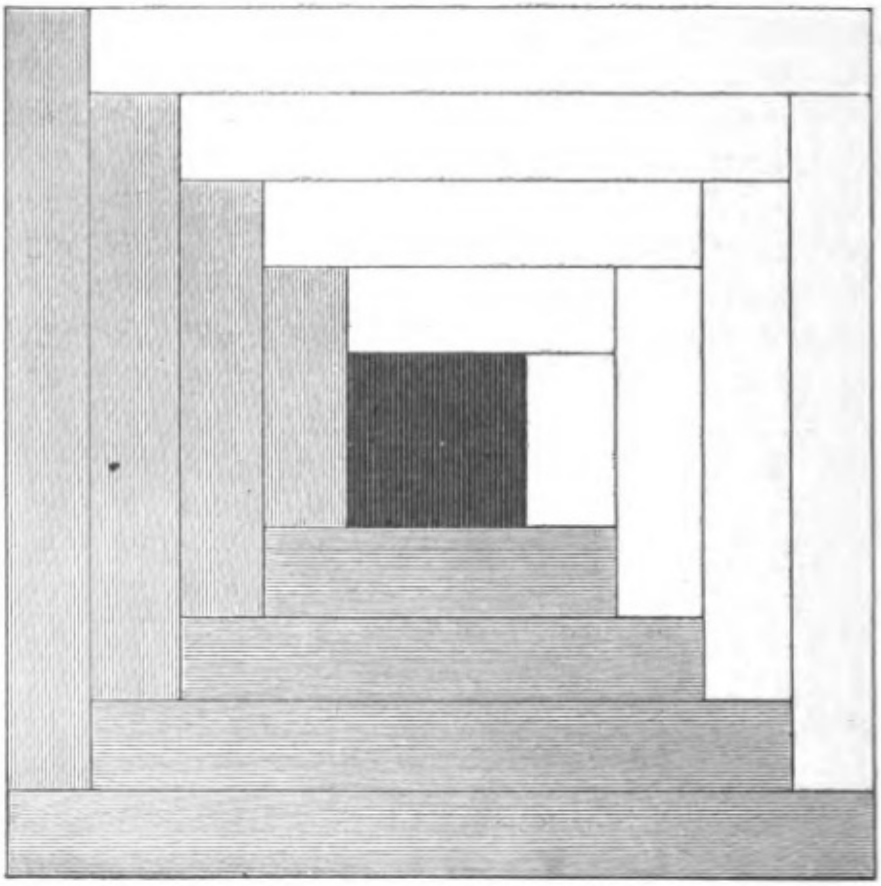

FIG. 47.

eighth more for the dark. The width of these strips, as cut, is *rather* more than three quarters of an inch, to allow a good seam on both sides. All these measurements include seams.

The wadding is cut in strips *about* the width of the silk, and, before beginning to sew, it will be best to prepare several foundation-pieces, several velvet centers, a number of silk strips, and several lengths of the wadding. Neither silk nor wadding should be cut off until joined to the foundation. Sewing-silk of the same shades, or nearly the same,

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be very handsomely arranged for silk and velvet, with small pieces of white silk between to simulate the ground-work.

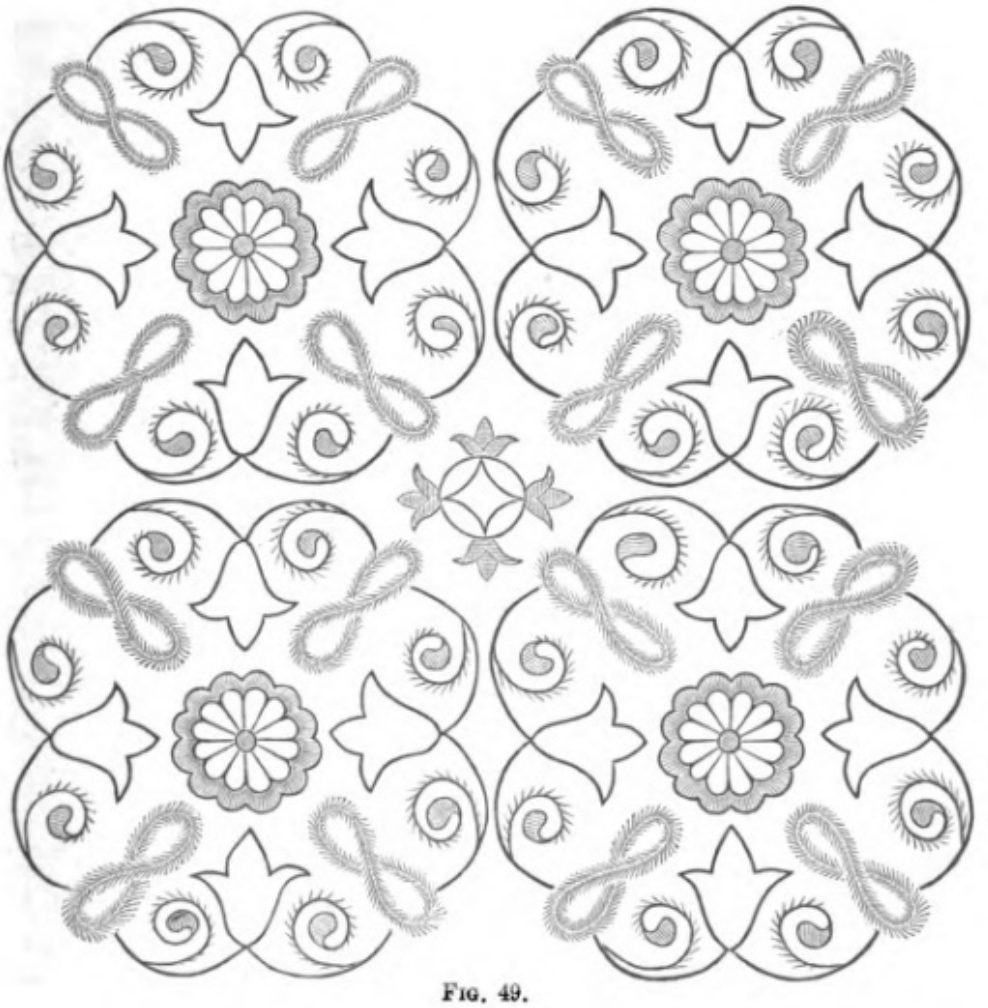

FIG. 49.

Another very pretty quilt could be made by taking an old silk dress (if one has it to take) and dividing it into stripes, squares, oblongs, etc., with narrow strips of silk or ribbon of a darker shade, and edging these strips with herring-bone or feather-stitch. But this sounds like wandering out of plain needle-work into the regions of fancy work and embroidery.

All these quilts or afghans, with the exception of the



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