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Tatting, or Frivolité;

BY

MRS. MEE AND MISS AUSTIN,

71, BROOK STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON (LATE OF BATH).

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Having been long solicited to bring out a work on Tatting (or Frivolité, as it has been called of late years in Paris), my only hesitation in doing so has been, I thought it difficult to write so that all might understand me. I never remember learning the work, or when I did not know how to do it. I believe it was taught me by my grandmother, who, if she had been living, would have been in her hundredth year. I mention this, as I have heard that a claim has been made by some one lately, to have invented the work, which certainly has been known as Knotting or Tatting, for more than a century. My plan of forming the work from the reel or skein, and only making the foundation from the shuttle, is original, as are all my patterns; and I offer it with confidence, believing that many who have never before attempted it, will be induced to learn. In most of the patterns, the old plan of drawing up the loop from the work formed round the fingers, is altogether done away with; and this has been the great difficulty with many. The patterns are entirely different to anything before published, and I trust will meet with general approval; they are applicable for varieties of

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purposes, and the great durability of the work will be a recommendation to many. The cottons as directed must be obtained; those of Messrs. Walter Evans & Co. being the best produced.

CORNELIA MEE.

1862.
LONDON
EXHIBITION
PRIZE MEDAL

AWARDED TO WALTER EVANS & CO.,
"FOR VERY STRONG AND
MOST SUPERIOR THREAD."

See JURORS' REPORT, PAGE 227.

71, *Brook Street, Grosvenor Square,*
London, December 20, 1862.

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EXPLANATION OF TERMS.

The old plan of Tatting is generally known, the thread is placed between the thumb and fore finger, and then brought round the fingers and again between the thumb and fore finger, the work is then formed from the thread round the fingers and from the shuttle, therefore unless the shuttle is a very large one the thread is soon used up and constant joining is necessary. In my new method of Tatting which I have endeavoured to show in the Illustration the work is formed from the reel, while the foundation is only used from the shuttle, which is the thread that passes through the work. Take both threads between the thumb and fore finger, letting the one from the reel or skein be the uppermost; let this thread pass over and between the fingers of the left hand as shown in illustration; all the stitches described can be done either way. To form into ovals, circles, or squares, it is only necessary to insert the crochet needle between the foundation thread and the upper part or work formed; at whatever part directed to produce the shape required, drawing a loop through, and the shuttle again through the loop.

SINGLE TATTING.

Pass up the shuttle between the 2nd and 3rd fingers, and draw it up to the thumb and fore finger,

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DOUBLE STITCH.

This is formed by passing the thread over the back of the hand, and then passing the shuttle upwards between the fore finger and the 2ND FINGER, and draw it up; work a stitch of single tatting; this COMPLETES THE DOUBLE STITCH, and whenever so many double are directed it means the 2 stitches.

DOUBLE LOOP STITCH.

Work a stitch of double as before, then form a loop by not drawing up the first part of the next double closer than length of loop shown in engraving; it always requires an extra stitch of double after the last loop stitch, but the stitches of double loop are always counted from the first double and loop after it.

A pin is often used to regulate the loops, but if your eye is at all correct this is not necessary.

PEARL TATTING.

This is formed of 2 stitches, 1 single and the next take the upper thread and pass it over the pin TOWARDS YOU, passing the shuttle through between the 2nd and 3rd fingers as in single Tatting; the two stitches are required to make 1 pearl, therefore whenever so many pearl are mentioned, it implies the 2 stitches COUNTED AS ONE, as in double stitch.

A pin and ring is often used, but the chain is in the way, and I much prefer a common pin of a good size as shown in engraving.

A LOOP.

Where this IS MENTIONED only a loop is formed for joining between the single or double stitches directed, and this is done by not drawing up the next stitch so close as about the length of a usual loop stitch or double loop.

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TATTING, OR FRIVOLITÉ.

COUVRETTE, No. 1.—SPANISH POINT PATTERN.

10 *Reels of Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton No.* 6, 2 *of No.* 24.

Let the work form from the reel, No. 6, and fill the shuttle with the same; work 1 double stitch, 1 loop, 2 double, 1 loop, * 8 double, 1 loop, 7 double; insert the crochet needle between the 1st and 2nd of the 8, draw the cotton from the shuttle through into a loop; pass the shuttle through the loop and draw it close; repeat from * 3 times more, unite the 1st double at the commencement to the last loop, *, draw the thread on the shuttle through the next loop, and pass the shuttle through the loop, work 7 double loop stitches, 1 double after the 7th loop; draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop in the centre of oval, pass the shuttle through the loop, work 7 double loop stitches, and 1 double after the 7th loop, draw the cotton again through the centre loop of the oval, pass the shuttle 1 through the loop and draw it quite close, work 7 double loop stitches and 1 double after the last loop, draw the cotton through the 1st of the two loops in square centre, pass the shuttle through, repeat from * 3 times more; in making the second square unite it to the first by drawing the cotton through the centre loop of the oval of 7 double loop stitches: fill the centre with the loop stitch in No. 24 cotton.

This pattern is very beautiful done in purse silk for cushions, and for couvrettes in 4-thread German wool.

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BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND & QUATRE-FOIL COUVRETTE No. 2.

Done in the old style by forming the work from the cotton round the fingers instead of across, and from the reel or skein.

10 *Reels No.* 10, *Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton required.*

For the large diamond * make 4 stitches double, 1 loop, 5 double, 1 loop, 4 double, draw up the loop firmly; for the next loop work 4 double, draw the cotton through the loop, in oval before; work 2 double, 1 loop, 2 double, 1 loop, 4 double, draw the loop quite close; repeat from * 3 times more; in working the next large loop instead of making a loop stitch as at first after the 4 double draw the cotton through the loop in small oval, when the 4 ovals of each are completed draw the cotton firmly together and unite it to the thread at commencement; then with a sewing needle insert it between each loop, making a small loop in this way, and pass the cotton once through to twist it; run the thread neatly through at the back, *, draw the cotton THROUGH the loop at the top of one of the long loops; work one loop of 9 double loops; draw it close, and again draw the cotton through the top of long loop; work another oval in the same way, passing the cotton through the last loop of one before to unite it; repeat from * into the next long loop, always uniting by passing the cotton through the last loop of the oval before; there will be 16 when completed, showing 5 on each side of the diamond as in the engraving. To unite the large diamonds in working the next, pass the cotton through the 5th or centre loop of oval

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over long loop, or if preferred they may be neatly sewed together; when 4 or more large diamonds are done, work the small pattern * make 2 double, 1 loop, 2 double, 15 pearl, 2 double, 1 loop, 2 double, draw it close; repeat from * 3 times more; after the first 2 double in each, draw the cotton through the loop in oval before instead of the 1 loop, and fasten off; neatly join to the large diamonds by sewing the centre of the 15 pearl to the 5th loop of oval over short loop in diamond; 10 large diamonds in the width and 16 in the length makes a good sized couvrette.

This also makes a beautiful pattern for a cushion in coarse purse silk, any 2 colours that contrast well—say Humboldt for the large diamond, and rich Green for the small one,—with Maize or Cerise rich Satin or Glacé Silk to line it with.

BEAUTIFUL STAR PATTERN COUVRETTE, No. 3.

2 *Reels No.* 24, *and* 10 *Reels No.* 8, *Messrs. Walter Evans and Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton.*

This Couvrette is done in the old way; at the beginning make a loop round the fingers with the cotton on the shuttle, work 3 double and 1 loop till you have 10 loops, draw it up quite close into a circle, and unite it, draw the cotton through 1 of the loops, and pass the shuttle through it, *, pass the cotton round the fingers, and work 11 single, very firmly draw it up, but not too closely as shown in engraving, make another loop of 11 single in the same way, work an oval of 9 double loop, and 1 double, draw it firmly up, work 1 loop of 11 single, then unite it to the loop of 11 single on other side, by passing the thread under and over between the 2 loops of 11 single, and passing the cotton through the loop

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make another loop of 11 single, then draw the cotton through the same loop as at beginning and pass the shuttle through, pass on to the next loop of the circle, and repeat from * 9 times more. Now commence by letting the work form from the reel, and draw the cotton on the shuttle through the centre loop of 9 double loop in round before, pass the shuttle through it, work 11 double loop, and 1 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the same loop as at beginning, and pass the shuttle through, work 2 double, 1 double loop, pass cotton through the 2nd of the 11 double loop in first oval, work 10 double loop, 1 double, insert the crochet needle between the 2nd of the 2 double, and 1 double loop, draw the cotton on the shuttle through, and pass the shuttle through it, work 2 double, repeat from the commencement into the centre of next oval of 9 double, taking care after the 1st double loop to pass the cotton through the 2nd loop of the oval of 11 double loop. This completes the circle of large star, the centre is filled with wheels, worked with Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s, 24 Boar's Head Cotton; when 4 or more are done, unite them as shown in engraving, sewing 2 loops together, and leaving 3 between each of 2 loops so united. For the centre star to unite the large ones, let the work be formed from the loop, round the fingers in the old way, work 2 double, and 1 loop, repeat this 7 times more, draw the loop up into a circle firmly, draw the cotton through the first loop, and pass the shuttle through the loop, work 11 single, and draw it up as in large circle, work another loop of 11 single, draw it up, work 1 single, and 11 pearl, draw up the oval, work another loop of 11 single, unite it as described in large circle, work a 2nd loop of 11 single, draw it up, draw the cotton through the same loop of the circle as at beginning, pass the cotton to the next loop, and draw it through, work 9 double, 1 loop, 9 double, and draw the cotton through the same loop, passing

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the shuttle through, go on to 3rd loop of the circle, and repeat from beginning 3 times more, then unite IT AS SHOWN in engraving; in finer cotton, 20 or 22 Boar's Head, it has a beautiful effect.

BEAUTIFUL DOILEY.

In Double, Pearl, and Loop Tatting.

This doiley is worked with the thread from the shuttle across the fingers, the work being formed from the reel.

Form a round by working one stitch double, * make a loop, work 2 stitches double, repeat from * 7 times more, work 1 stitch double, unite the circle by drawing the thread through the 1st loop with a crochet needle in the manner described in Explanation of Terms, with No. 6 Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton, work 1 double, 1 loop, *, 2 double, 1 loop repeat from * 6 times more, work 1 double and unite it to the first double stitch FORMING A CIRCLE and drawing it close, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop nearest and pass the shuttle through the loop.

2nd Round.—Work 5 pearl stitches and stitch single, 9 double loop, 1 double, insert the crochet needle between the 1 single and the 1st double stitch, draw the cotton on the shuttle through and pass the shuttle through the loop, work 5 pearl stitches and 1 single, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the next loop of the circle, repeat from * 7 times more, draw the cotton through the same loop as at FIRST and fasten off by running the cotton neatly through.

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3rd Round.—Draw the cotton on the shuttle through the 5th or centre loop of the 9 double loop in last round, work 5 pearl and 1 single, 3 double, 1 loop, 3 double, insert the crochet needle between the 1 single and 1st of 3 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through and the shuttle through the loop quite close, work 5 pearl and 1 single, repeat from * 7 times more, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop and pass the shuttle through it.

4th Round.—After passing the shuttle through the loop to complete last round * work 7 double loop and 1 double after the last loop, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop in the centre of small oval of double in the last round, work 13 single, make a loop, work 13 single, draw the cotton on the shuttle again through the same loop and pass the shuttle through it drawing it up quite firmly, work 7 double loop and 1 double, draw the cotton through the loop in centre of next small oval, repeat from * 7 times more, fasten the cotton off neatly.

5th Round.—Draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop in centre of single Tatting oval, work 1 single, 9 pearl, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the 3rd of the 7 double loop in last round, pass the shuttle through it, work 1 single and 9 pearl, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the 3rd loop of 7 double loop in last round, pass the shuttle through, work 1 single, 9 pearl, draw the cotton; the loop in centre of next single tatting oval, and pass the shuttle through it, repeat from * 7 times more, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the same loop as at commencement of round and pass the shuttle through it.

6th Round.—Continue from the same place where the thread is, and work 18 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the 2nd bar of 9 pearl, and pass the shuttle through the loop, work 8 double, 1 loop, 8 double, draw the cotton again through the SAME loop of pearl stitches, work 13 double, draw the cotton

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through the loop over the centre of single oval, and pass the shuttle through, repeat from * 7 times more, draw the cotton through the same loop as at the COMMENCEMENT, and pass the shuttle through it.

7th Round.—Continue from where the cotton is * work 10 double, 1 loop, 6 double, insert the crochet needle between the 4th and 5th loops of 10 double, draw the cotton through and pass the shuttle through it, repeat once from *, work 4 double, draw the cotton through the loop at the top of the bar of 8 double on each side in round before, work twice from between the * at commencement and next * work 4 double, draw the cotton through the loop over single oval, and repeat from beginning, 7 times more, fasten off neatly.

8th Round.—Draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop at top of any of the ovals in last round, and pass the shuttle through it, work 11 double loop, 1 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the same loop and pass the shuttle through it, work 7 double, insert the crochet needle between the 2nd and 3rd double, and draw the cotton on the shuttle through, pass the shuttle through the loop, work 2 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the top of next oval, and repeat from beginning into every oval loop, working the small double loop and bar between the last and first oval of double loop. This completes the doiley; to make it more like lace use No. 6 cotton on the shuttle, but by doubling the number of stitches and using No. 20 of Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton, a light and pretty effect is produced.

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EDGING, No. 1.

Messrs. Walter Evans and Co.'s No. 26 Boar's Head Cotton, to form the Work, and No. 8 *on the Shuttle.*

Work 6 double, 17 double, loop 7 double, insert the crochet between the first of the 7 double, draw the cotton through, and pass the shuttle through the loop, drawing it firmly up in AN OVAL * work, 6 double, 1 loop, 12 double, 17 double loop, insert the crochet needle between the 6, each way of the 12 double, and draw it firmly up, repeat from * till the edging, the length you require, but in repeating the 17 loop, unite the 1st loop to the last in oval before, by drawing the cotton through, and passing the shuttle through it, when you have made the leugth your wish, pass the cotton on the shuttle through the loop, after the 6 double, and with the 26 cotton * work 7 double loop, letting the loop come to the outer edge, draw the cotton on the shuttle, through the next loop, and pass the shuttle through, repeat from * to the end of edging.

VERY PRETTY EDGING, No. 2.

Messrs. Walter Evans & Co's., No. 24 Boar's Head Cotton from the Reel, and No. 8 *on the Shuttle.*

Work 12 double, 1 loop, 10 double, 1 loop, 8 double, 1 loop, 8 double, 1 loop, 10 double; draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop after the 12 double,

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and pass the shuttle through it at the same time drawing the oval up firmly, leave a length of the cotton about the 8th of an inch, work 10 double, pass the cotton on the reel through the loop at the last 10 double, work 8 double, work 7 double loop, 10 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle to the outer part of the space of cotton, between the last oval and this, draw it closely up PASSING THE SHUTTLE THROUGH and again through the loop formed by passing through, work 10 double, draw the cotton on the reel through the last of 7 double loop in oval before, and pass the shuttle through it, work 11 double loop, work 10 double, draw the cotton on the reel between the foundation thread and 1st of double loop, pass the shuttle through and draw the oval firmly up, work 10 double, draw the cotton on the reel through the last loop of 11 double loop, and pass the shuttle through, work 7 double loop, work 8 double, 1 loop, and 10 double, draw the cotton on the reel through the other side of the length of cotton left between the 2 first ovals, and pass the shuttle through it, work 10 double, pass the cotton on the reel through the loop after 8 double in last oval and pass the shuttle through, work 8 double, 1 loop, 8 double, 1 loop, 10 double, pass the cotton on the reel through the foundation thread and the first of 10 double at beginning of the oval, drawing the shuttle through and the loop firmly up, work 12 double, pass the cotton on the reel through last loop in last oval, work 10 double, 1 loop, and repeat from beginning.

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EDGING, No. 3.

This is a strong and useful trimming, and is also extremely pretty, in coloured purse silk, or black as an edging, or to lay on the material intended to be trimmed as a gimp.

In cotton for a coarse and strong trimming, use Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s 000 Boar's Head Cotton. For fine edgings, use 8, 10, or 16. Work from the reel, and fill the shuttle with the same cotton.

Work a straight length the quality you require in double loop, and cut off the threads.

2nd row.—Pass the cotton on the shuttle through the 1st loop * work 1 single, 5 pearl, work 9 double loop, 1 double, insert the crochet needle between the foundation thread, and 1st of double loop, draw the cotton on the shuttle through, drawing the 9 double loops, and 1 double firmly into an oval, pass the shuttle through, work 1 single, 5 pearl, pass the thread on shuttle through the 6th loop, from 1st, and the shuttle firmly through it. Repeat. Now work on the other side of 1st row, unite the threads at the 1st loop, work 4 double, 1 loop, 4 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the foundation thread of the 6th double loop in 1st row, repeat from beginning. Next row, draw the thread on shuttle through the loop in centre of 4 double on each side in row before, work 5 double loop, repeat.

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SCALLOP EDGING, No. 4.

For Trimming Children's Dresses.

Messrs. Walter Evans and Co.'s, No. 24 Boar's Head Cotton.

1st.—Work 4 double stitches from the reel, keeping the cotton on the shuttle for the foundation, make 1 loop, and repeat, till you have the length required.

2nd row.—Work 4 double stitches *, draw the cotton on the shuttle through the loop in last row, with a crochet needle, and pass the shuttle through the loop, work 4 double stitches, make 1 loop, work 4 more double stitches, repeat from *.

3rd row and 4th row—The same as 2nd, but 5 double stitches instead of 4.

5th row.—Draw the cotton through the loop of last row as in the 2nd row, work a double stitch, and a loop till 9 are done, work 1 double stitch after the 9th loop, repeat.

EDGING, No. 5.

Messrs. Walter Evans and Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton, No. 8 from the Reel, and No. 0 on the Shuttle.

1st row.—Work 2 double, 1 loop, 2 double, 13 double loop, insert the crochet needle between the foundation of the last 2 double, draw the cotton on the shuttle through, and pass the shuttle through it, drawing the loop of 13 double loop firmly up, work 2 double, 1 loop, 2 double, 1 loop, repeat till you have the trimming the length you wish it.

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2nd row.—Unite the two threads to the 1st row at the begining, work 8 double, pass the thread on the shuttle through the 6th loop of 13 double loop, and pass the thread on the shuttle through, work 9 double loop, 1 double, pass the thread on the shuttle again through the 6th loop, work 8 double, pass the thread on shuttle through the 2nd loop, after loop of 13 double loop in row before, pass the shuttle through it, and repeat.

3rd row.—Pass the thread on shuttle through the 5th loop of 9 double loop in row before, and the shuttle through it, work 1 single, and 11 pearl, repeat, turn the edging, and unite the threads to 1st row, work 4 double loop, draw the thread on shuttle through the foundation at centre of 13 double loop, repeat.

VERY PRETTY INSERTION.

This may be done in different sizes of Cotton according to the material intended to be trimmed from.

No. 8 up to 30 of Messrs. Walter Evans & Co.'s Boar's Head Cotton.

Work with 8 on the reel and No. 4 on the shuttle, 9 double, 1 loop,* 9 double, 1 loop, 9 double, * pass the thread on the shuttle through the 1st loop and the shuttle through it, turn the work and make 1 loop, repeat from between the 2 stars, then pass the thread on the shuttle through the loop made, after turning the work repeat from 1st *, work the length required. Then pass the thread on shuttle through the 1st loop in centre of 9 double on one side, work 4 double loop and repeat passing the thread or shuttle through next loop, work in the same way on the other side.

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SIMPLE AND PRETTY BRAID.

This may be done in fine 24 or 30 Boar's Head Cotton, also in all the coarser sizes, and in Purse Twist.

Take a thread double the size of that you work with for the foundation on the shuttle, work from skein or reel, a stitch of double *, turn the work, having top of double stitch downwards between your fingers, pass the thread upwards, form a loop, and work 1 double, repeat from *. This braid is very pretty for working on cloth for Smoking Caps, Cushions, and it is then done in Fillorelle or PURSE TWIST.

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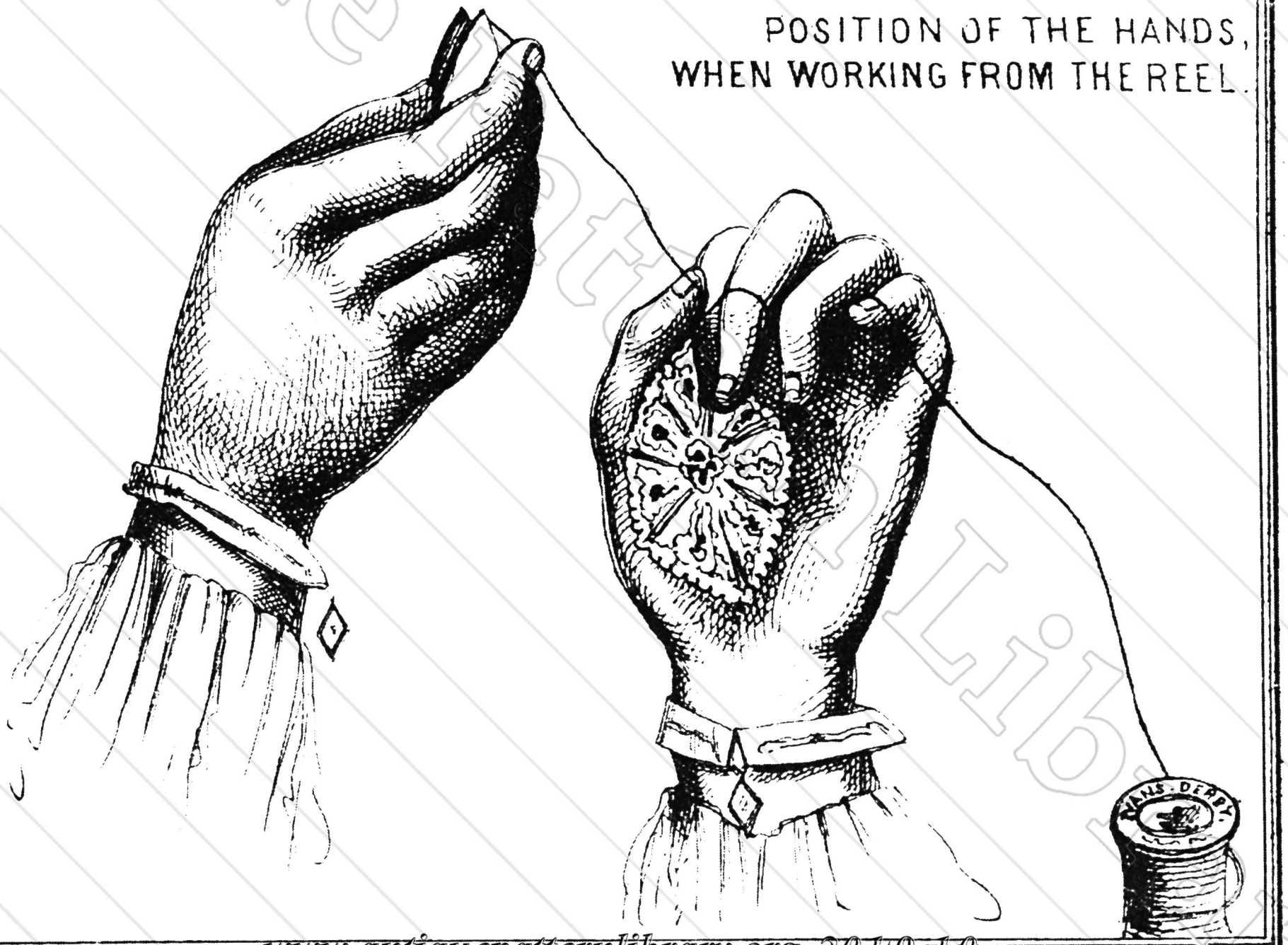
POSITION OF THE HANDS,
WHEN WORKING FROM THE REEL.



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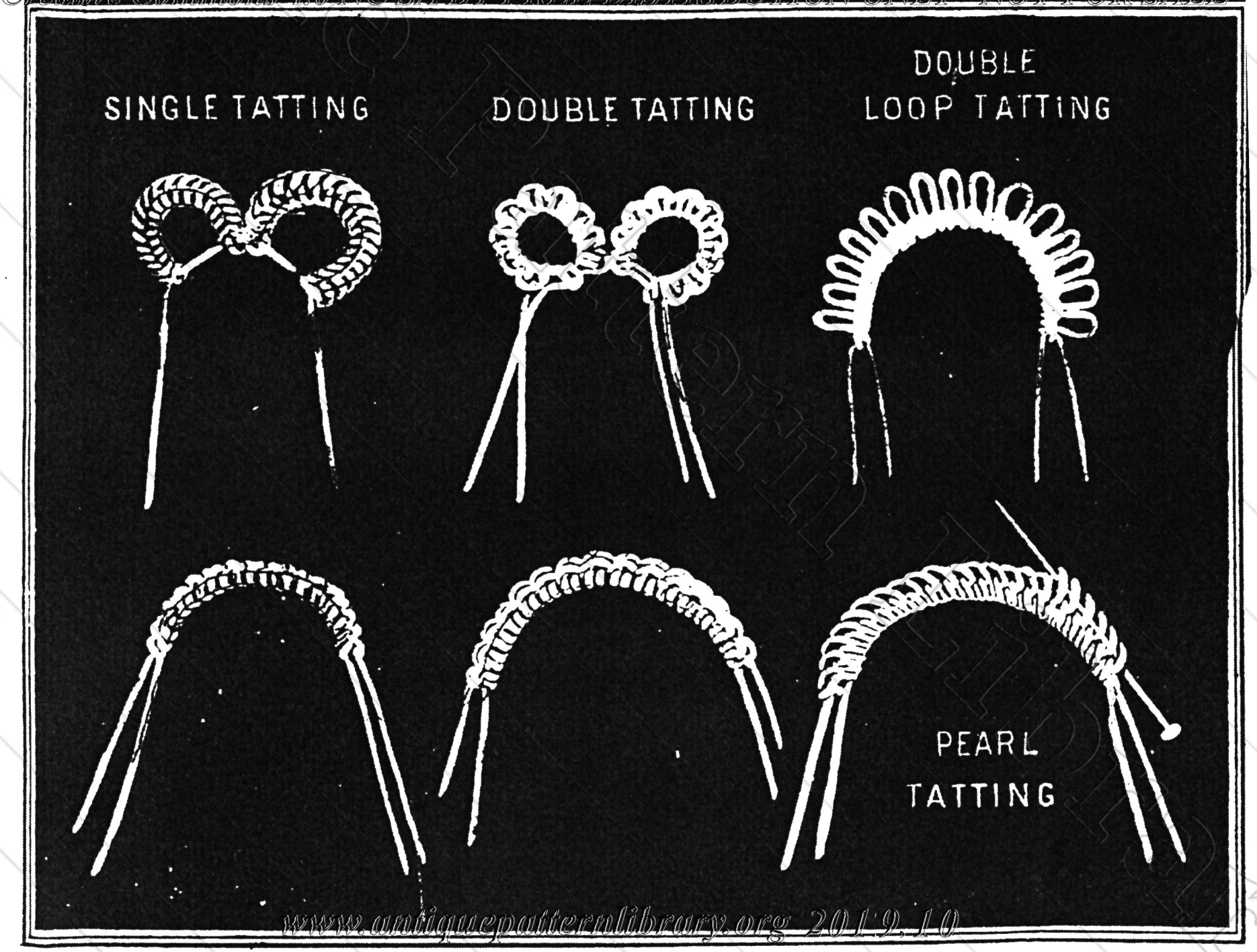

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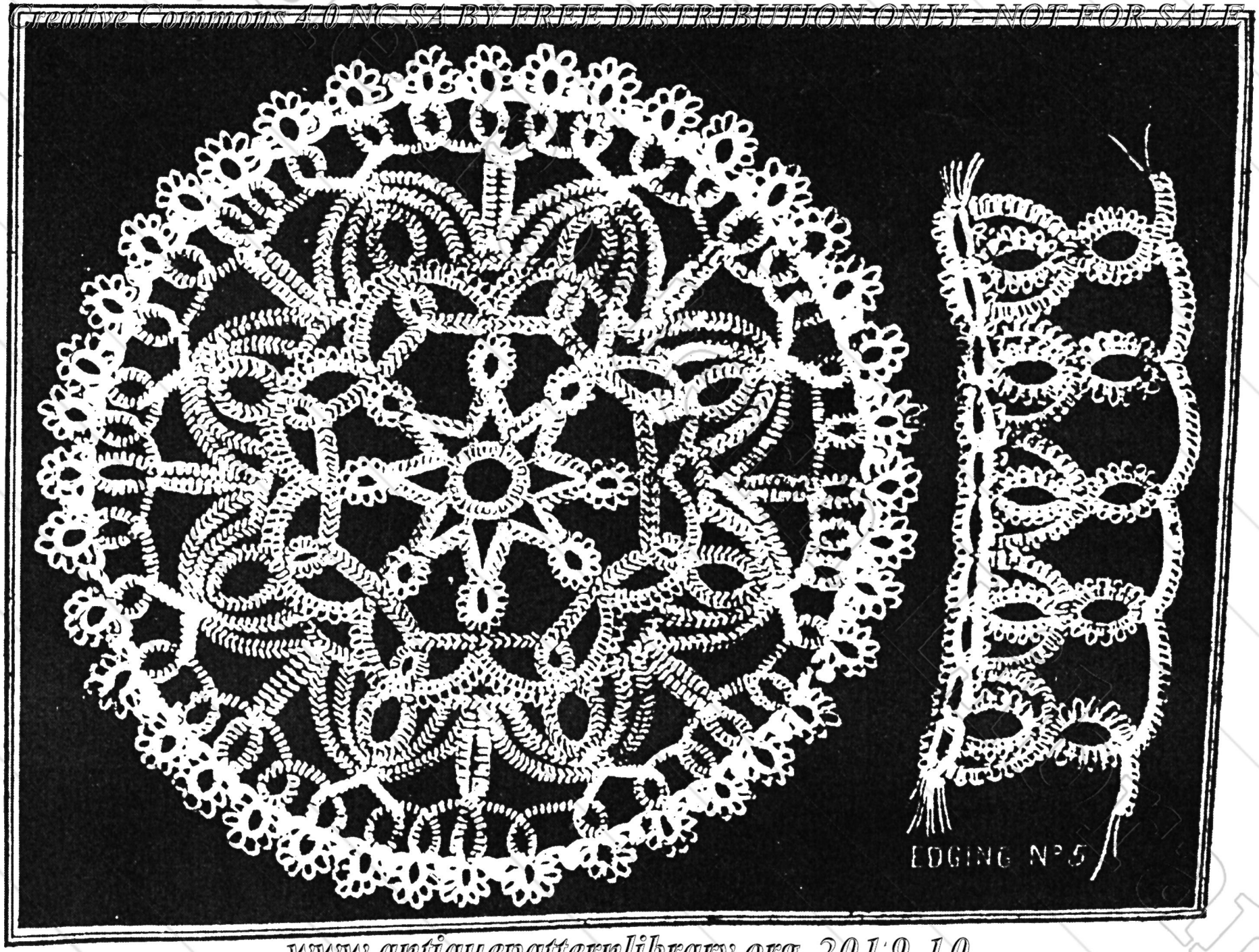

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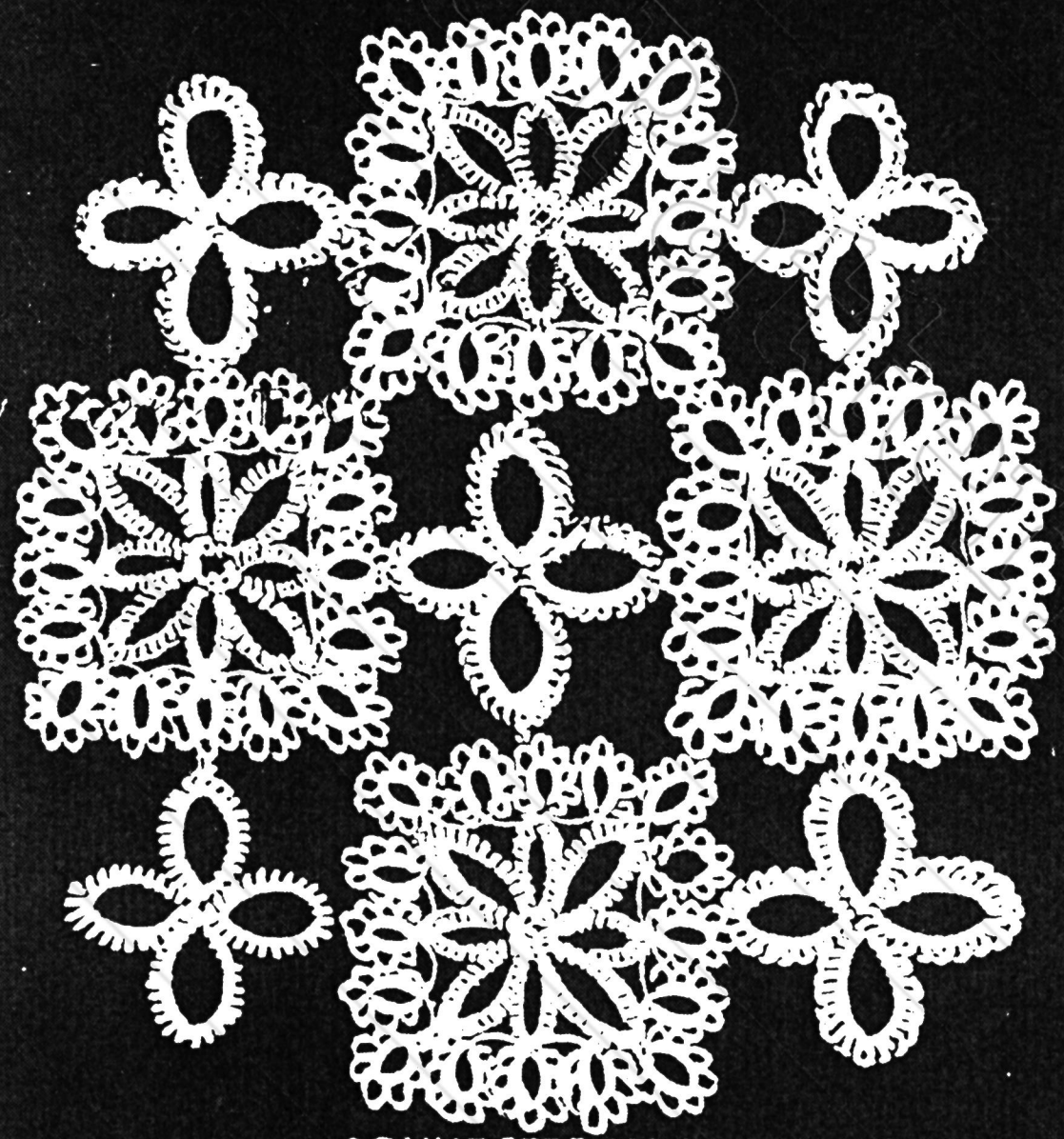
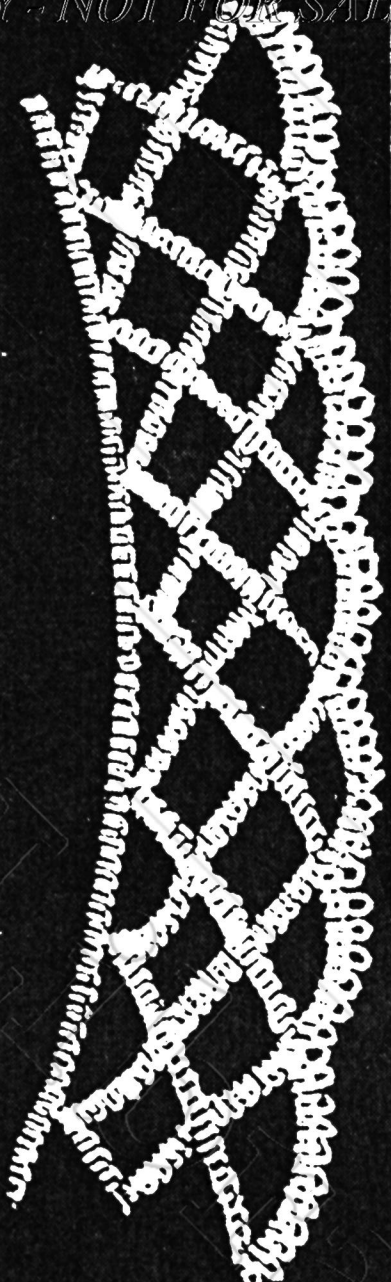


COUVRETTE Nº 2

SIMPLE BRAID FORMED BY TATTING



EDGING Nº 4

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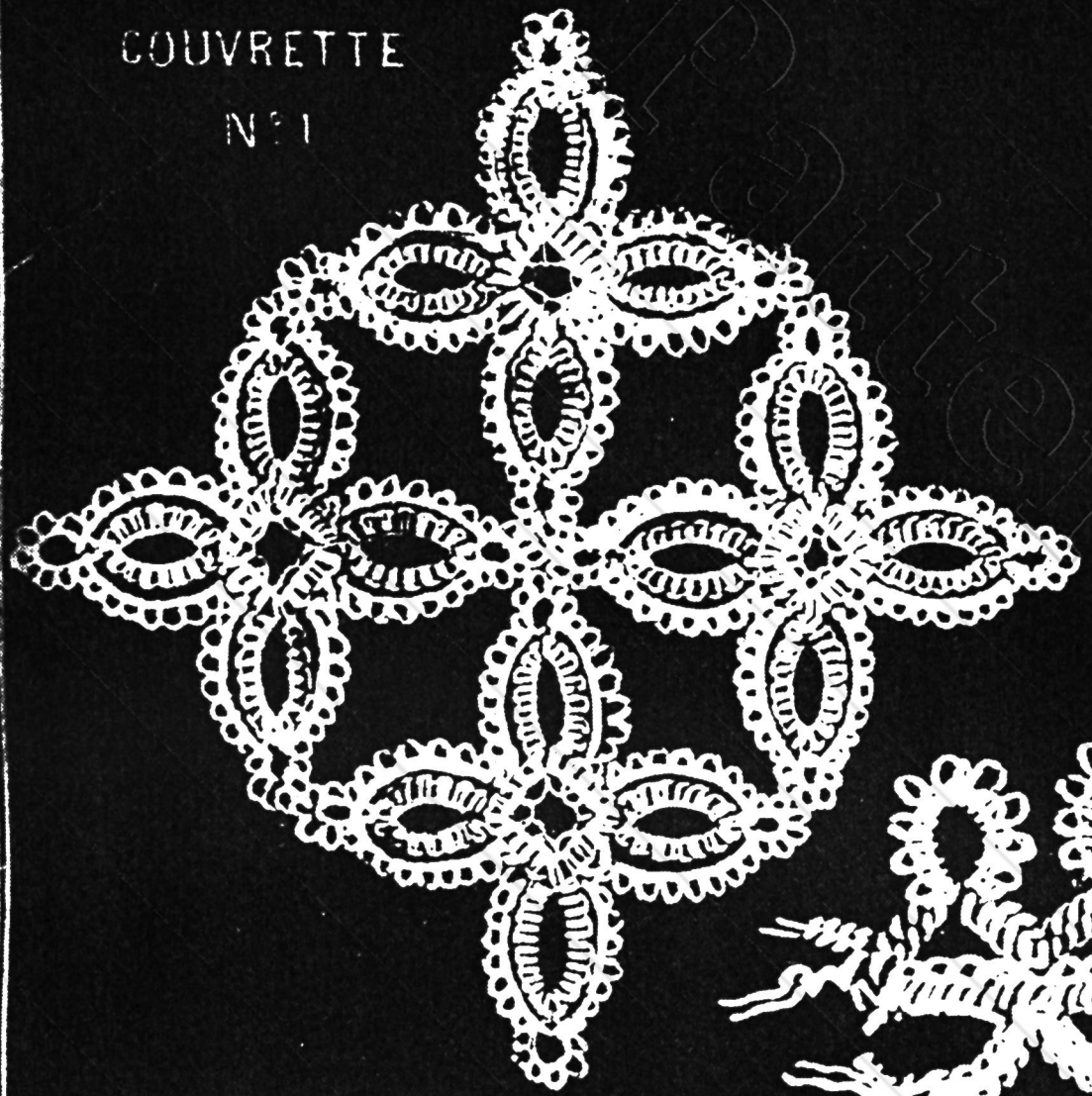
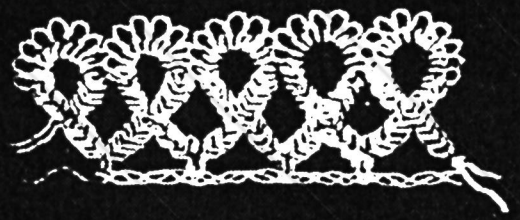
COUVRETTE
N° 1



EDGING N°1.



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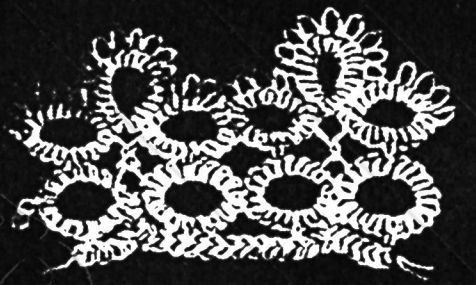

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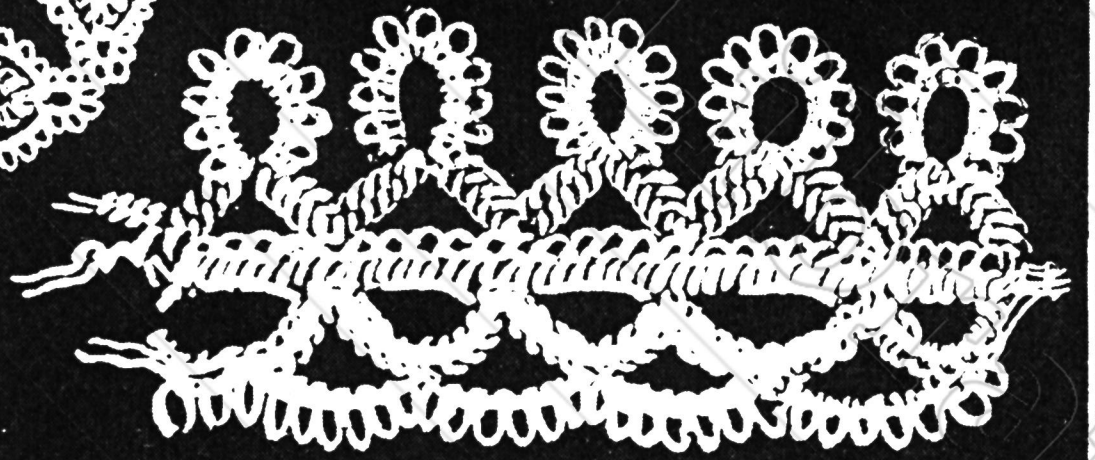

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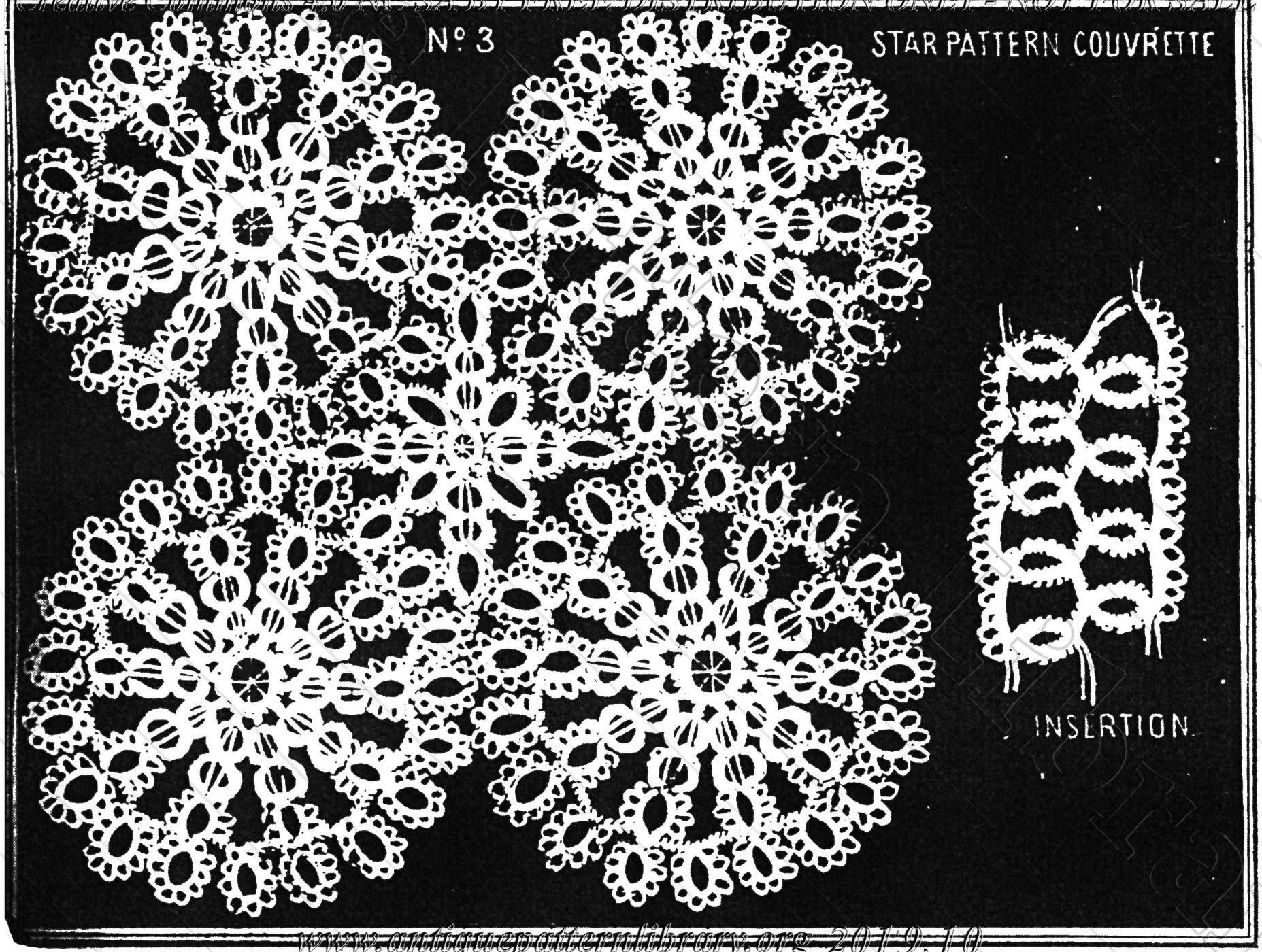

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