

MEDICI LACE

AND THE
ART OF MAKING IT



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off

BY

LOUISE W. PORTIER

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MARIE DE MEDICI, QUEEN OF FRANCE.

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LACE always has been one of the highest means of expression for the beautiful and artistic. The splendor of design, the wealth of ingenuity, the careful, painstaking effort put into them, all contributed to place the old classic laces among the choicest products of art, well worthy to be classed with the best in painting, sculpture, and the other fine arts.

The art of making laces first achieved a high state of development in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and in our museums still may be seen many specimens exemplifying the perfection of the art of mediaeval days. Then lace was a treasure possessed only by kings, princes, and those of great wealth. Today the humblest person finds it available, but the laces at her command are mostly machine made, imitations of and vastly inferior to the real laces, which, because of the immense cost and difficulty of their production, still are beyond the purse of ordinary mortals.

This cost and difficulty modern invention is continually endeavoring to overcome. Every effort is put forth to devise ways by which the ambitious modern woman may duplicate the classic laces, like women of old putting into them her own handiwork and individual touch, but with a moderate outlay of time and money. The efforts have resulted in the semi-real laces; as, for instance, the Renaissance or Battenberg lace, which was so universally popular for some years, and still continues in favor.

Yet Battenberg lace attempts only to approach some of the less perfect and attractive old originals, like the Point de Milan. Today lacemaking has advanced beyond that point, so that now all may make for themselves almost exact duplicates of some of the finest laces in existence—the Venetian Point, known as Reticella, Gothic Point, and Punto Tagliato Laces.

This new lace is called Medici* (pronounced Maydidshee), after the Medici princes, the art loving rulers of Florence. Under their patronage and in a century when the highest art of the world was developed, the original pieces of Medici lace were made. The frontispiece, a copy of a portrait by Rubens of Marie de Medici, who later became Queen of France, shows a collar in the fashion of the day adorned with lace so closely resembling the modern product that none but a connoisseur could discern the difference. The original is composed entirely of the finest of needlework. In the modern production the worker finds all the laborious part of the task performed in advance, and is therefore enabled to produce the same beautiful and artistic result with the smallest possible amount of effort. All that is necessary is to tastefully combine the materials at hand, sewing them into shape. These materials consist of the braids, motifs, and buttons as illustrated.

The braids Nos. 3400, 3401, 3402, 3403, 3404, 3409, 3412, 3413, and 3414, show the button-hole-stitch effect which forms the connecting links of the lace, some with and some without picot loops. There are, also, the broader bands, Nos. 3405, 3406, 3407, 3408, 3411, and the

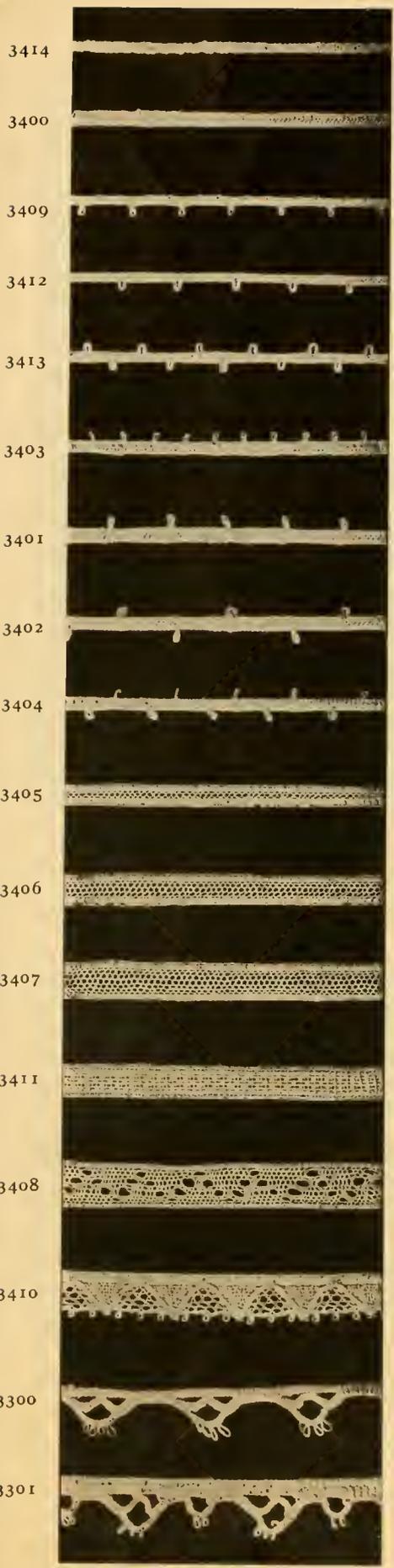
529/2

529/3

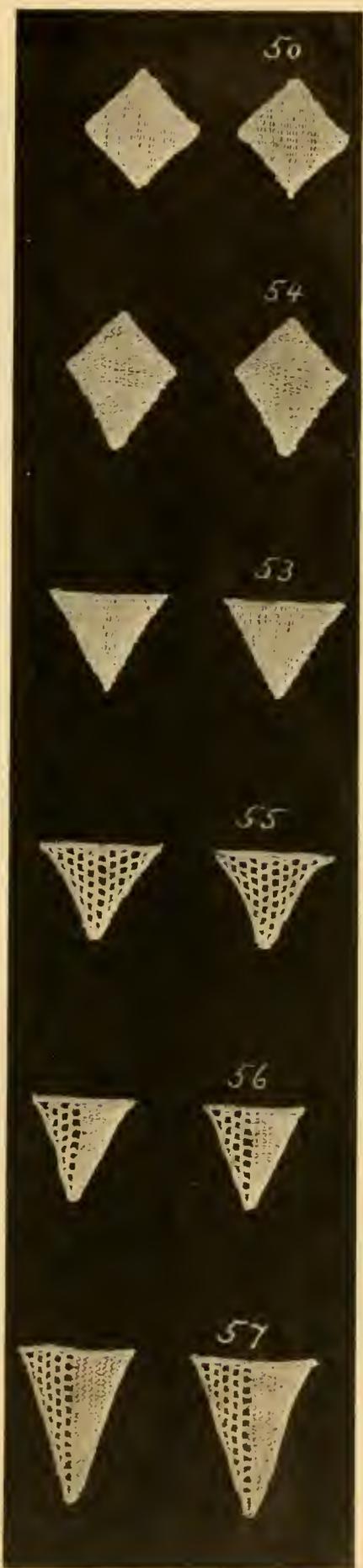


edge effects, Nos. 3300, 3301, 3410, the motifs, Nos. 50 to 59, and the crochet buttons needed to complete many of the designs. What may be accomplished with these materials is shown by many beautiful examples in the pages which follow.

* The name Medici is registered with U. S. Pat. Off. as a Trade Mark for Braids, Lace Ornaments, Stamped Patterns, etc.



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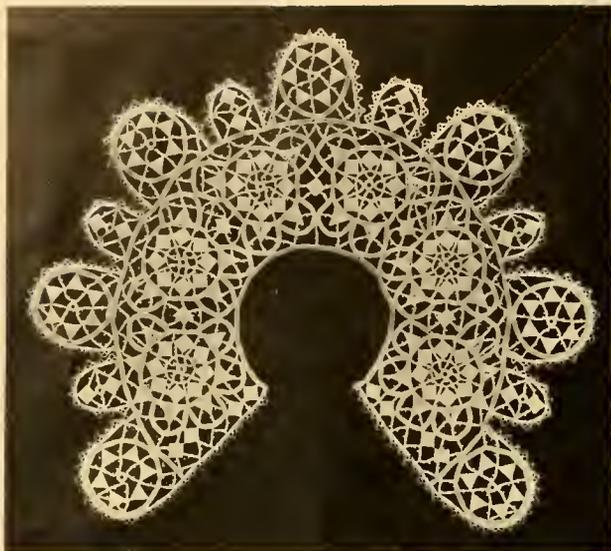


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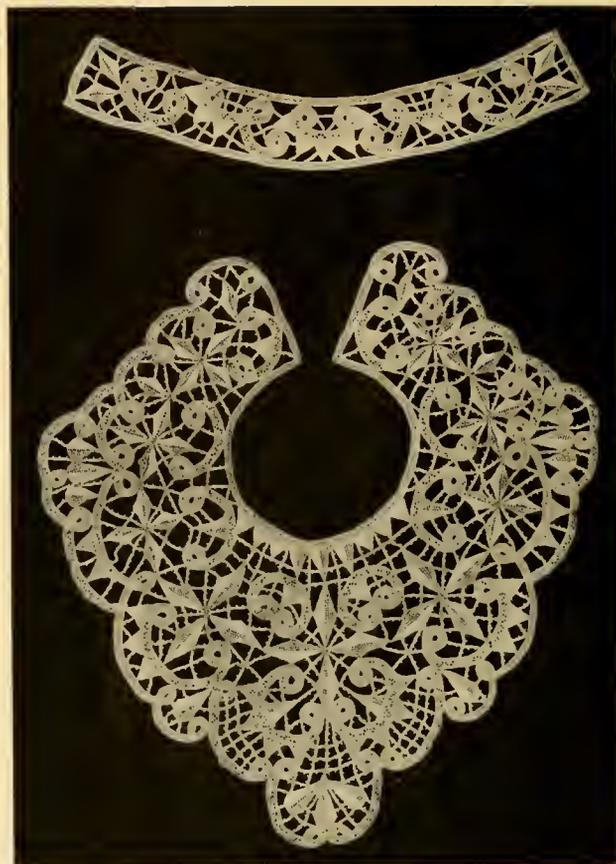


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Medici Lace Collar, No. 506/3908, in design and style somewhat resembling the original Medici collar; requirements:

Braids, No. 3301...	3 yds.	Medallions, No. 50...	73 pcs.
" " 3404...	12 "	" " 53...	42 "
" " 3406...	8 "	" " 56...	30 "

Buttons, No. 529/2, 19 pcs.



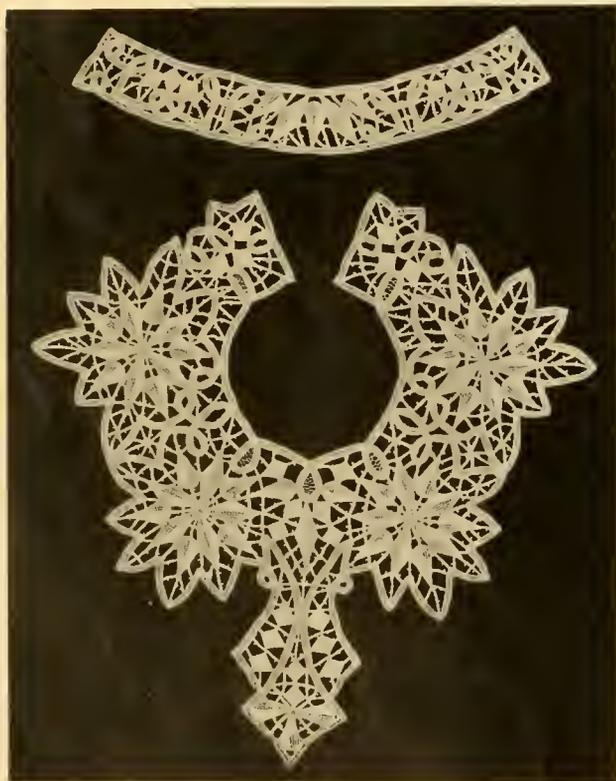
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Medici Lace Yoke and Stock Collar, No. 502/3902; requirements:

Braids, No. 3408...	7 yds.	Medallions, No. 51...	32 pcs.
" " 3407...	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	" " 52...	12 "
" " 3403...	12 "	" " 56...	16 "

Medallions, No. 58. 4 pcs. " " 55... 23 "

" " 59. 7 " " " 57... 6 "



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Medici Lace Yoke and Stock Collar, No. 502/3905; requirements:

Braids, No. 3401...	8 yds.	Medallions, No. 50...	4 pcs.
" " 3407...	9 "	" " 52...	23 "
Buttons, No. 529/3,	5 pcs.	" " 54...	22 "
		" " 59...	28 "

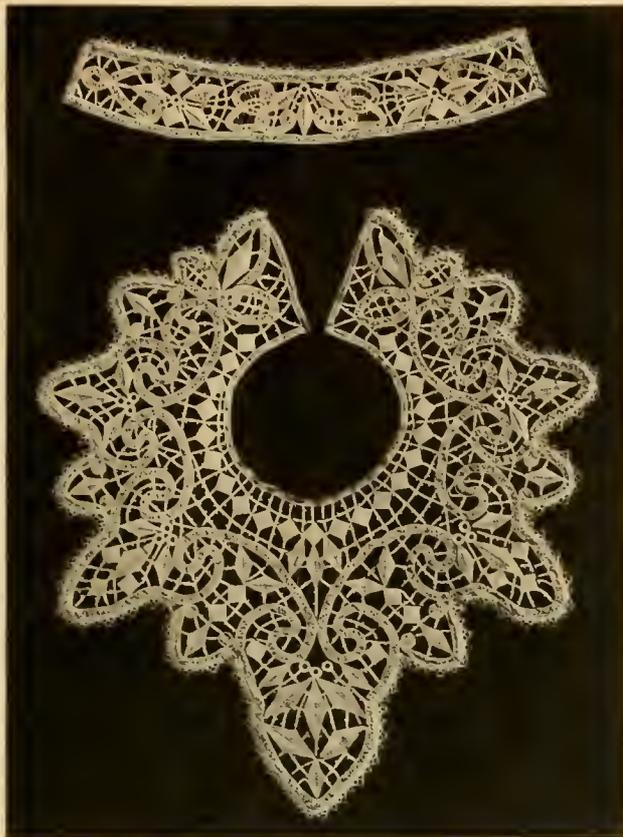


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Medici Laces, with corners and insertions to match, come in great variety, with many pleasing effects. Figure No. 512/3919 is a handsome example of a Medici Lace border.

It is obvious that from any of them not only lace by the yard can be made, but also pillow shams, bureau scarfs, table covers, or curtains, of any desired dimensions.

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Medici Lace Yoke and Stock Collar, No. 502/3904; requirements:

Braids, No. 3301	...	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ yds.	Medallions, No. 50	...	37 pcs.
" " 3401	...	12 "	" " 51	...	33 "
" " 3407	...	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" " 52	...	11 "
" " 3408	...	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Buttons, No. 529/3,	...	18 "



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Medici Lace Collar and Cuff Set, No. 503/3917; requirements:

Braids, No. 3404	...	12 yds.	Medallions, No. 51	...	28 pcs.
" " 3406	...	5 "	" " 54	...	36 "
Buttons, 529/3,	...	11 pcs.	" " 56	...	22 "



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Medici Lace Collar and Cuff Set, No. 503/3903; requirements:

Braids, No. 3301	...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ yds.	Medallions, No. 50	...	16 pcs.
" " 3407	...	6 "	" " 52	...	20 "
" " 3404	...	6 "	" " 53	...	12 "
Buttons, No. 529/3,	...	16 pcs.	" " 55	...	20 "



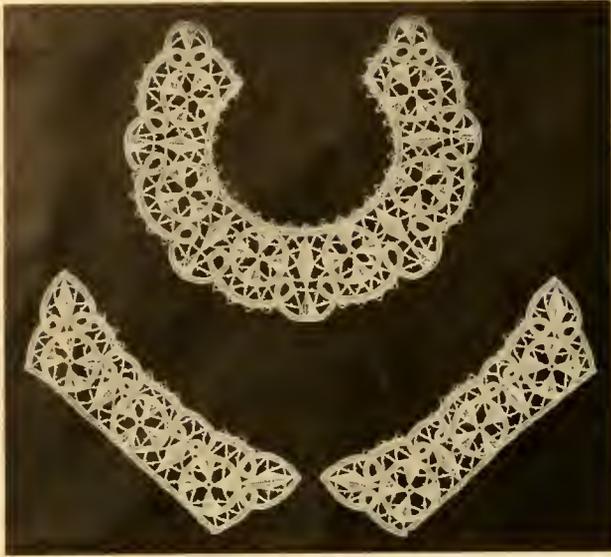
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Medici Lace Collar and Cuff Set, with tab, No. 504/3906; requirements:

Braids, No. 3404	...	8 yds.	Medallions, No. 50	...	25 pcs.
" " 3407	...	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" " 59	...	29 "
Buttons, No. 529/3,	...	4 pcs.			

In this pattern variety is secured with some of the plain stitches employed in Renaissance and Battenberg work, and for which the Battenberg linen thread is the most suitable material.

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Medici Lace Collar and Cuff Set, No. 510/3913; requirements:

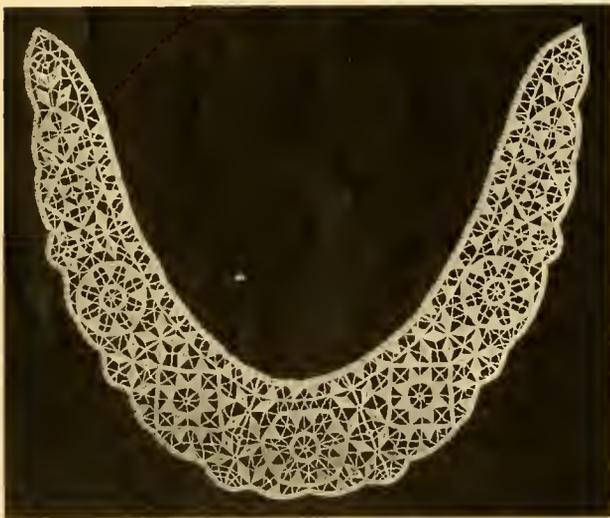
Braids, No. 3300... 1½ yds. Medallions, No. 52... 13 pcs.
 " " 3401... 10 " " " 57... 7 "
 " " 3407... 9 " " " 58... 48 "
 Buttons, No. 529/2, 12 pcs.



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No. 515/3923, is a dainty cap for a baby, for which the following materials are needed:

Braids, No. 3407... 6 yds. Medallions, No. 51... 24 pcs.
 " " 3404... 4 " " " 56... 68 "
 " " 3301... ¼ " " " 50... 3 "
 Buttons, No. 529/2, 6 pcs.

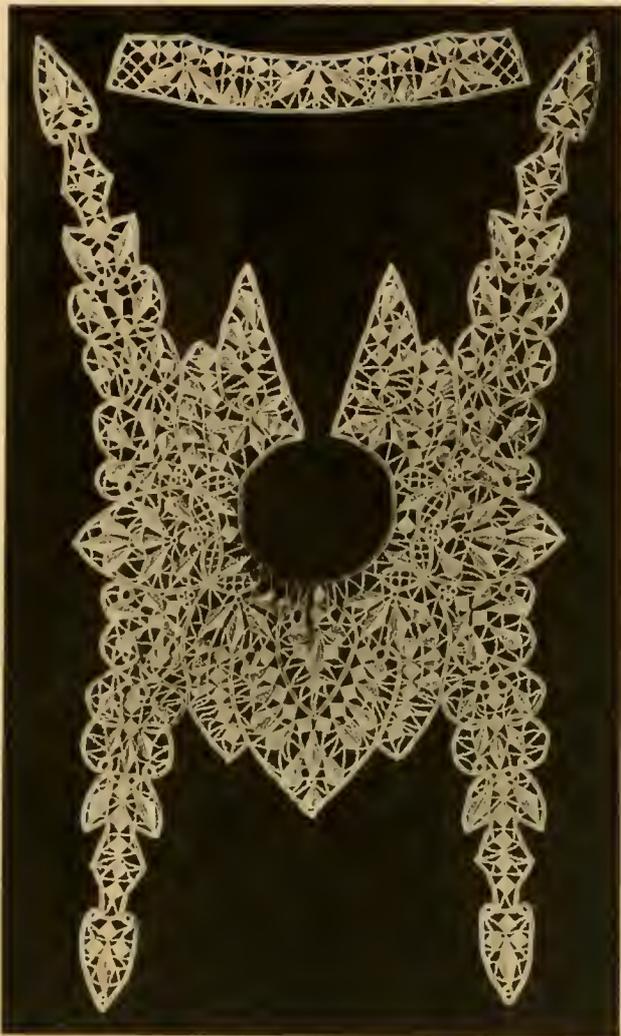


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No. 514/3922 shows a coat collar or bertha which approaches the original lace closely enough to deceive a connoisseur. The requirements for this handsome piece are:

Braids, No. 3409... 18 yds Medallions, No. 51... 58 pcs.
 " " 3407... 3½ " " " 55... 110 "
 " " 3405... 2¼ " Buttons, No. 529/3... 19 "
 " " 3410... 3¼ " Also cuffs to match; requirements:
 " " 3405... 1¼ " Medallions, No. 51... 20 pcs.
 " " 3407... 1½ " " " 55... 56 "
 " " 3409... 8 " Buttons, No. 529/3... 6 "

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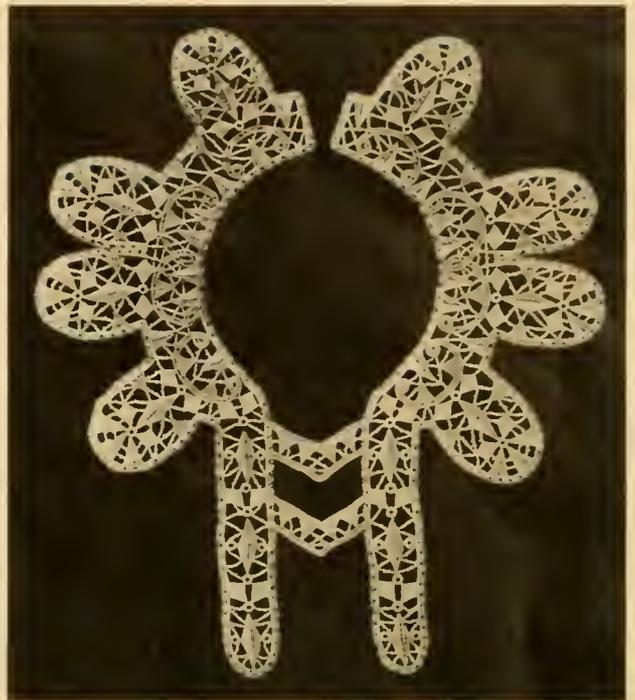


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Medici Lace Waist Decoration, No. 511/3918; requirements:

Braids, No. 3403 . . . 18 yds.	Medallions, No. 50 . . . 111 pcs.
“ “ 3406 . . . 14 “	“ “ 51 . . . 31 “
Buttons, No. 529/2, 17 pcs.	“ “ 52 . . . 39 “
“ “ 529/3, 23 “	“ “ 58 . . . 33 “
	“ “ 59 . . . 35 “

This pattern furnishes an elaborate and elegant waist decoration, with large plastron effect, shoulder bands, and stock collar to match.



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Many other dress ornaments are shown, which may be used freely and arranged in various ways, to suit the taste and the fancy of the wearer. As, for example, waist decoration, No. 516/3924, which requires:

Braids, No. 3404 . . . 10 yds.	Medallions, No. 54 . . . 44 pcs.
“ “ 3407 . . . 2 “	“ “ 55 . . . 36 “
“ “ 3410 . . . 4½ “	“ “ 52 . . . 14 “
Buttons, No. 529/3, 38 pcs.	“ “ 57 . . . 42 “



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518/3930

518/3934

518/3937

Effects of this kind may be elaborated with smaller motifs, three of which are here shown. They may be applied in a great variety of ways, with splendid results.

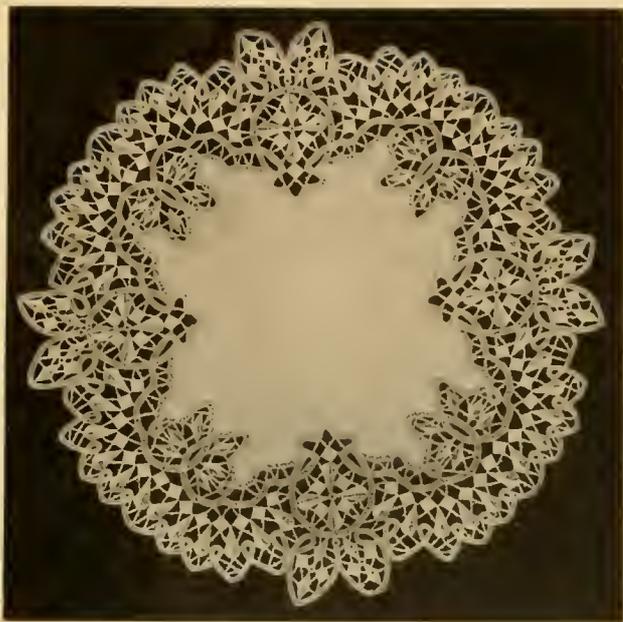


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No. 507/3911 shows a summer hat made of Medici Lace, surely one of the most attractive uses to which it can be put; requirements:

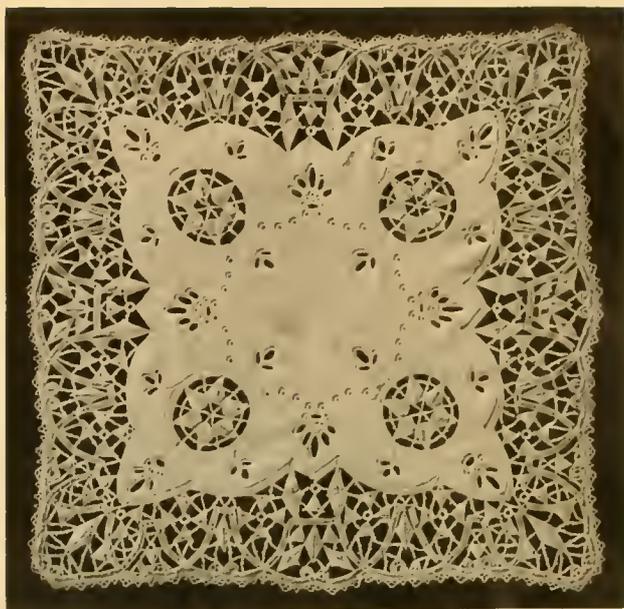
Braids, No. 3400 . . . 15 yds.	Medallions, No. 50 . . . 113 pcs.
" " 3407 . . . 6½ "	" " 51 . . . 20 "
" " 3410 . . . 3¾ "	" " 52 . . . 30 "
Buttons, No. 529/3, 11 pcs.	" " 56 . . . 55 "

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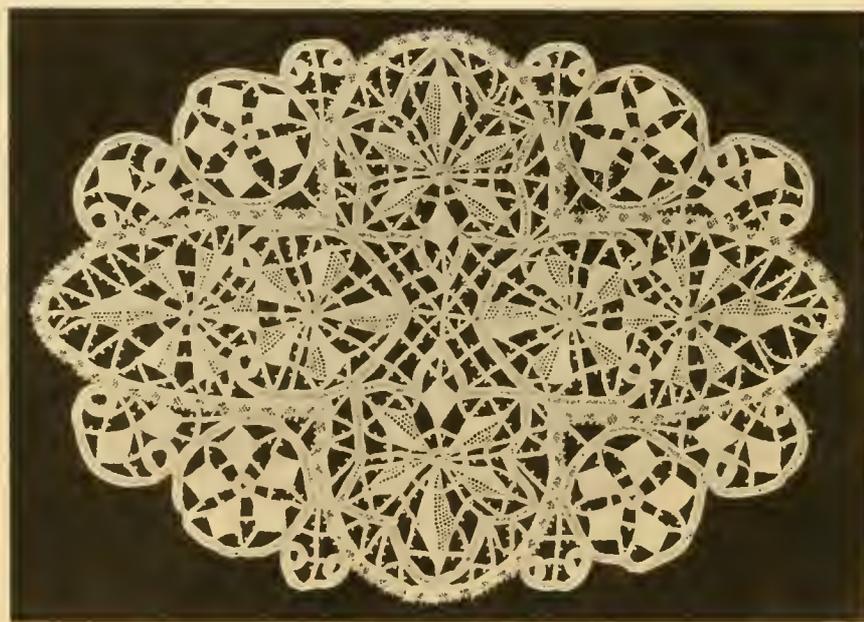
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Figure No. 500/3900, shows a table centerpiece. The same pattern comes in a variety of sizes, from a plate doily up to a large table centre.



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A similar range of sizes is provided for the square pattern No. 501/3901, in which Medici Lace surrounds a linen centre, richly ornamented with Medici Medallions, in combination with English Embroidery. The design is also suitable for a bureau scarf.

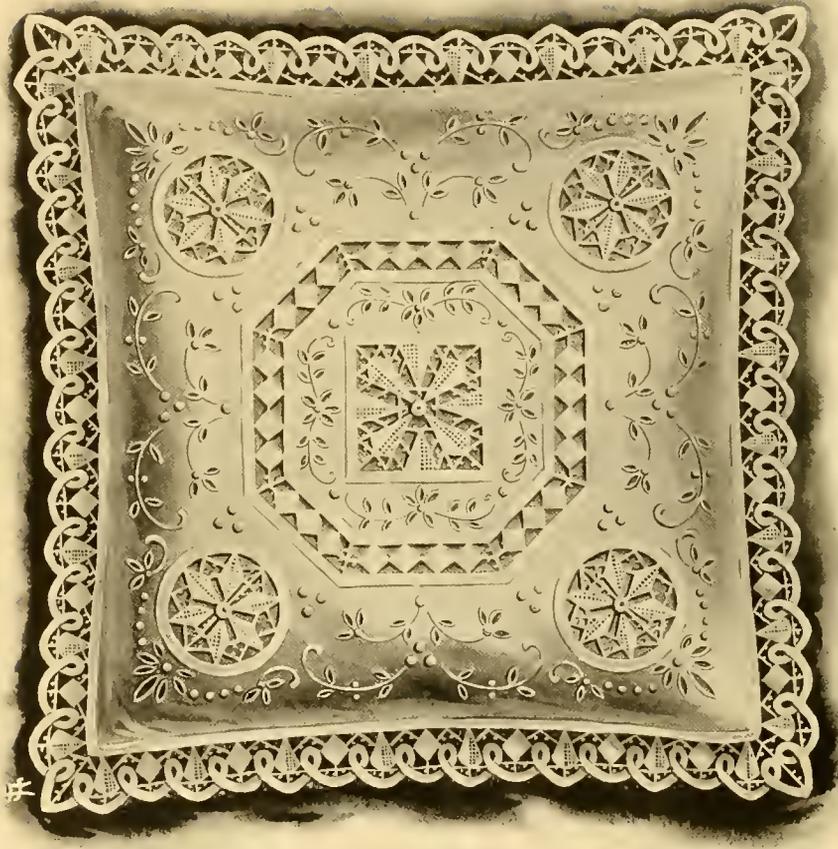


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An all-lace piece is shown as Figure No. 519/3956. When applied on scrim or guipure net it makes a very attractive door panel. The requirements are:

Braids, No. 3406 . . .	3½ yds.	Medallions, No. 54 . . .	30 pcs.
“ “ 3410 . . .	1¼ “	“ “ 57 . . .	10 “
“ “ 3403 . . .	7 “	“ “ 58 . . .	8 “
Medallions, No. 51 . . .	8 pcs.	“ “ 59 . . .	2 “
“ “ 52 . . .	4 “	Buttons, No. 529/3, 10 “	

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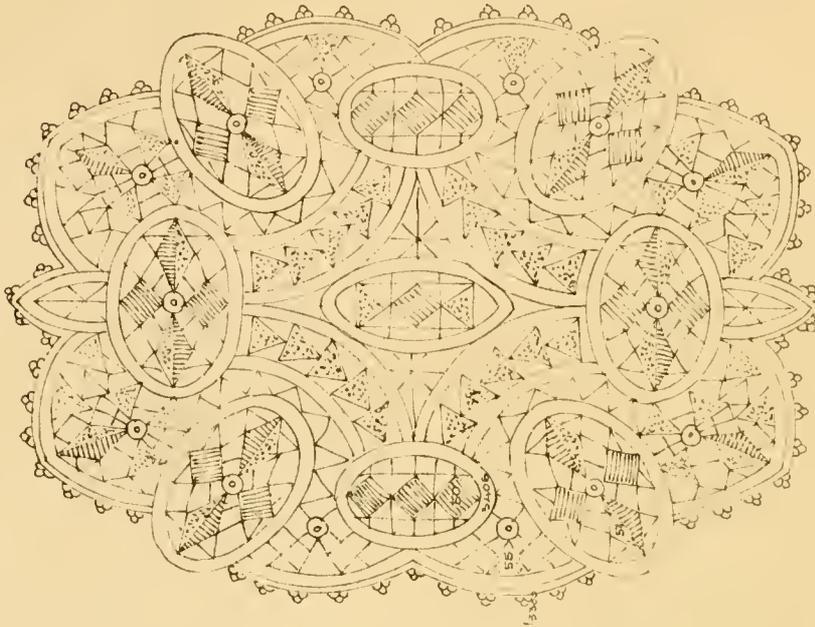


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Figure No. 878 shows a Lingerie Sofa Pillow edged with Medici Lace. In addition, the linen centre is ornamented with Medici Lace Medallions and buttonhole or Madeira Embroidery similar to 501/3901, page 9.

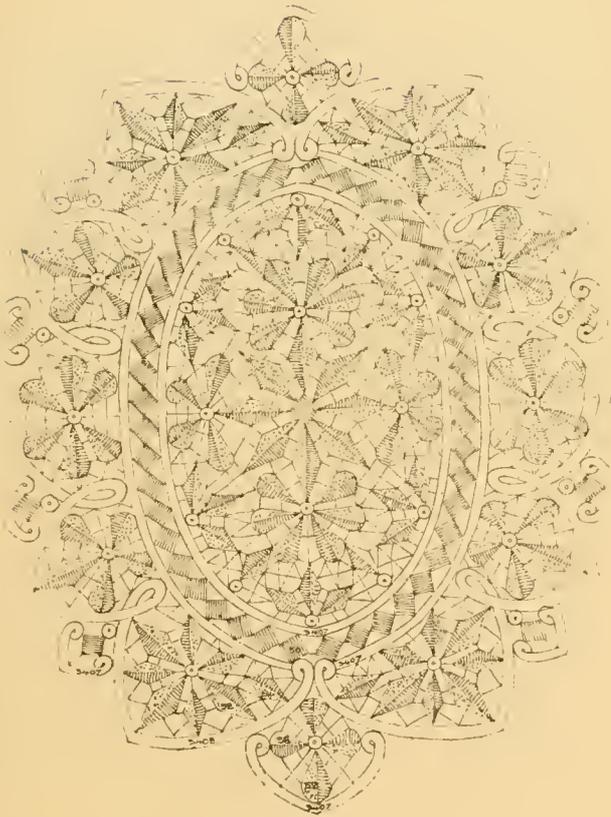
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ON THE PRECEDING PAGES ARE SHOWN BUT A FEW OF THE PATTERNS SUPPLIED FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL LACE.
MANY MORE EXCELLENT DESIGNS FOR MEDICI LACE HAVE BEEN PREPARED AND A SELECTION
OF THEM REPRODUCED ON THIS AND THE PAGES THAT FOLLOW.



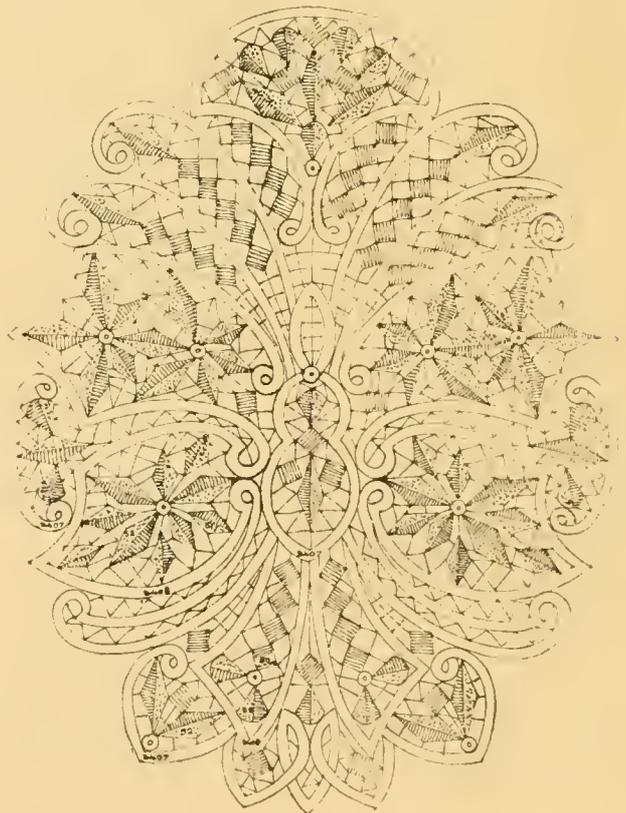
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Medici Lace Door Panel. 519/3955.



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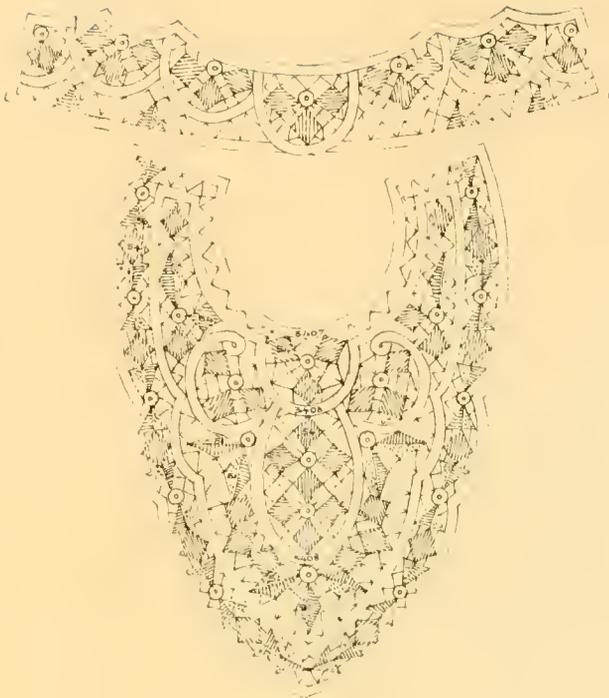
Medici Lace Door Panel. 519/3950.



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Medici Lace Door Panel. 519/3954.

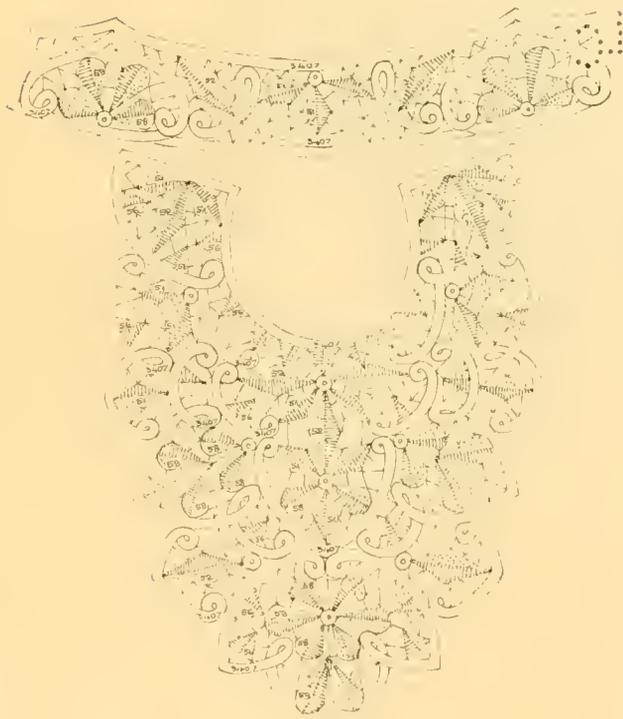
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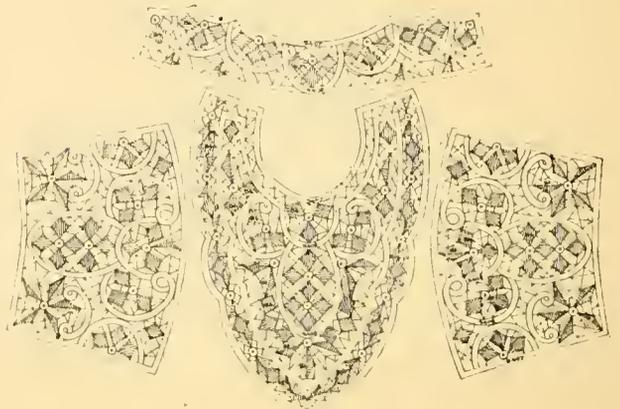
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Medici Lace Stock and Chemisette. 509/3957.



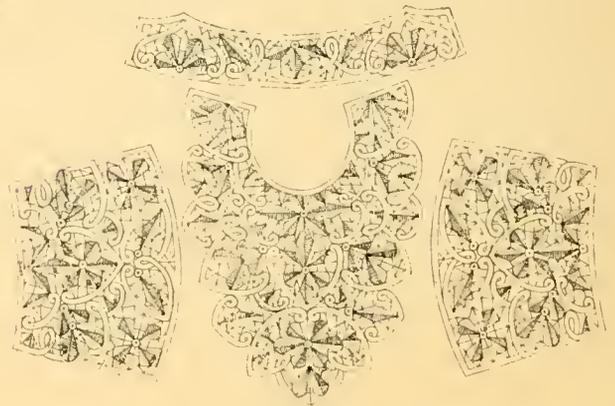
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Medici Lace Stock and Chemisette. 509/3912.



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Medici Lace Stock and Chemisette. 509/3958.

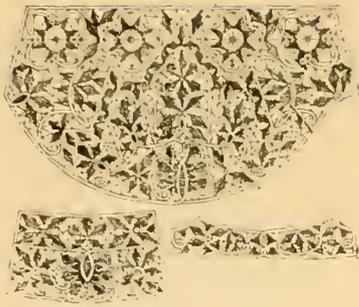


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Medici Lace Chemisette, Stock and Cuffs. 517/3957.



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Medici Lace Chemisette, Stock and Cuffs. 517/3958.

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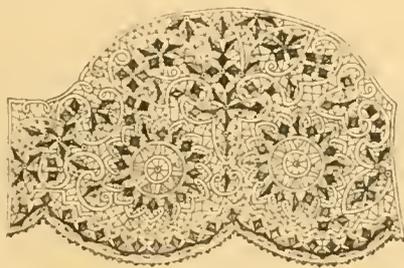
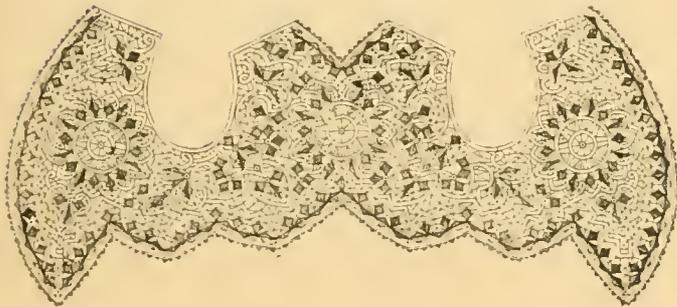
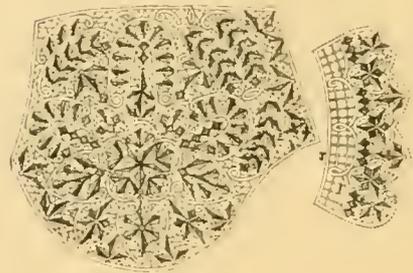
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Medici Lace Chemisette, Stock and Cuffs. 517/3925.



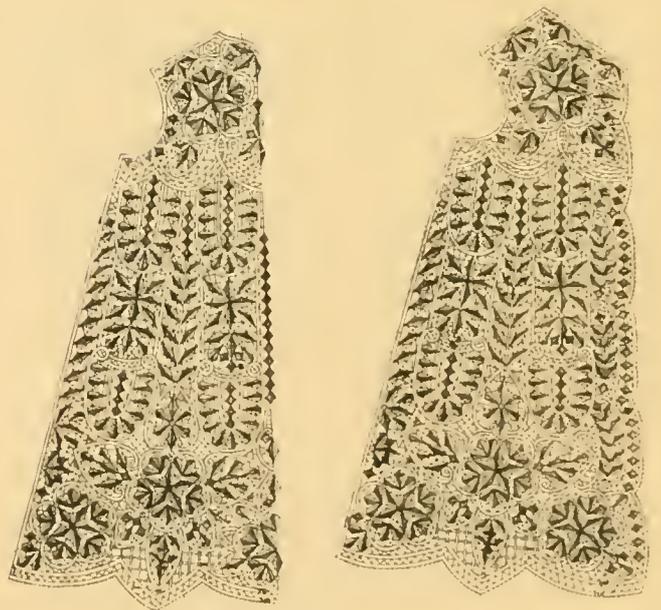
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Medici Lace Waist. 505/3907.



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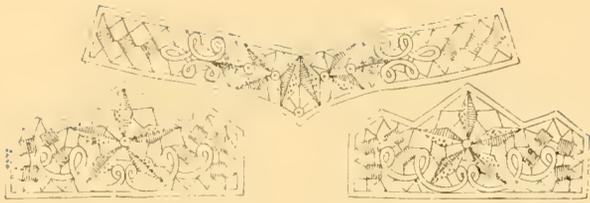
Medici Lace Bolero. 520/3949.



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Medici Lace Three-quarter Coat. 521/3959.

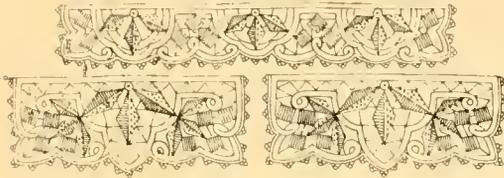
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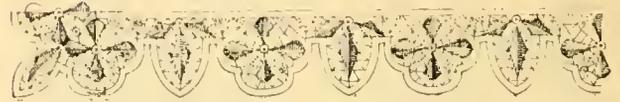
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Medici Lace Stock and Cuffs. 503/3914.



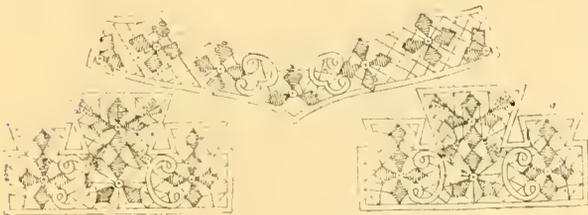
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Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3952.



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Medici Lace Turnover and Cuffs. 508/3915.



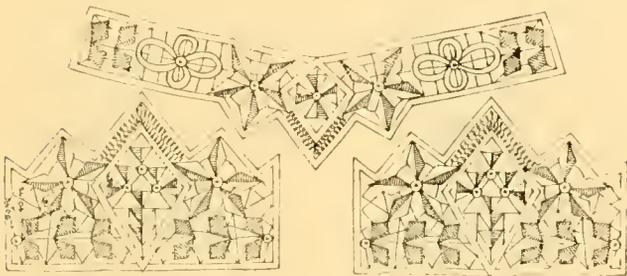
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Medici Lace Border and Corner. 512/3952.



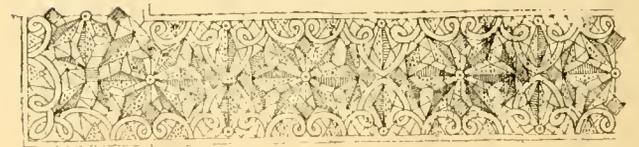
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Medici Lace Stock and Cuffs. 503/3916.



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Medici Lace Border and Corner. 512/3920.



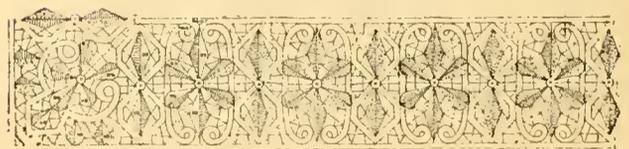
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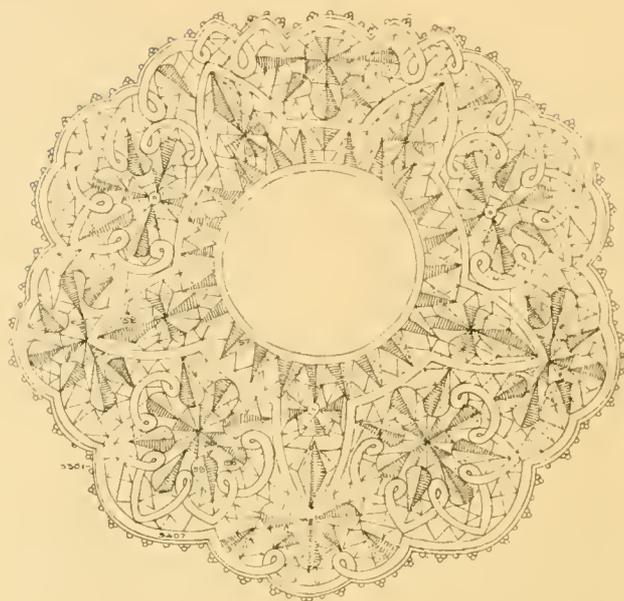
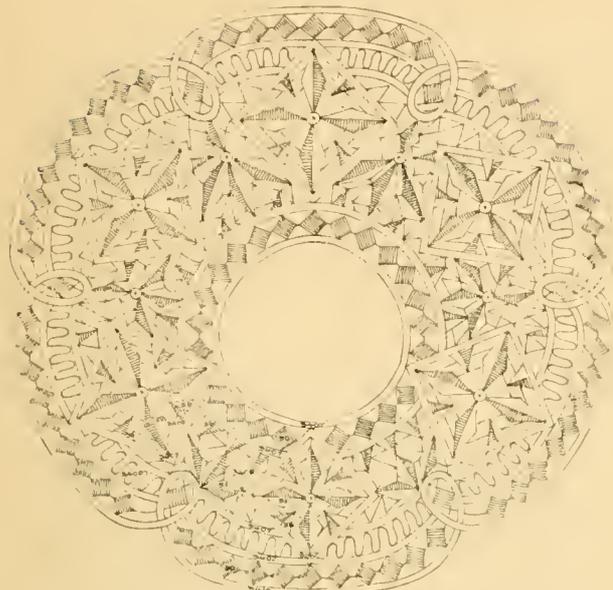
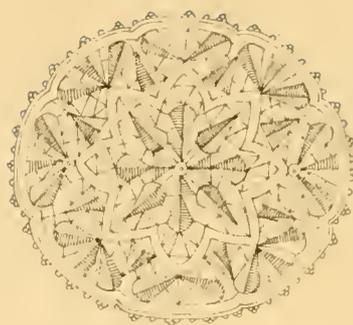
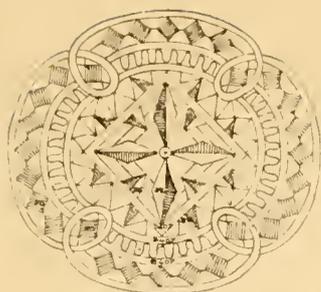
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Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3920.



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Medici Lace Turnover and Cuffs. 508/3940.



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Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3919.



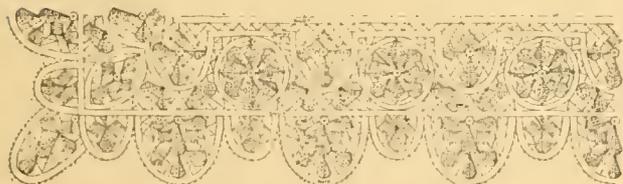
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
Medici Lace Hat. 507/3911.

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Medici Lace Hat. 507/3909.



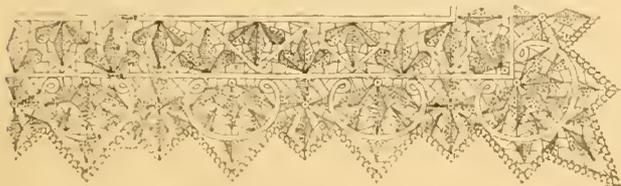
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Medici Lace Border and Corner. 512/3951.

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Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3951.



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Medici Lace Border and Corner. 512/3926.

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3926.



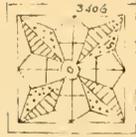
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Medici Lace Border and Corner. 512/3927.

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Medici Lace Insertion and Corner. 513/3927.

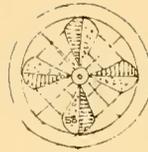
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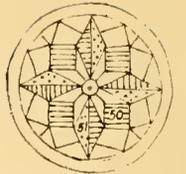
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518/3936.



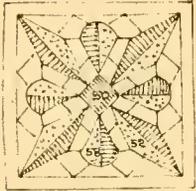
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Medici Lace Ornament.
518/3928.



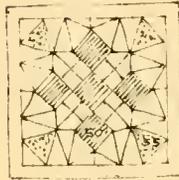
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Medici Lace Ornament.
518/3942.



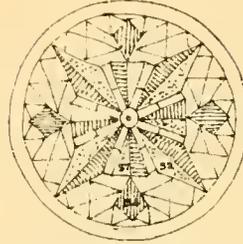
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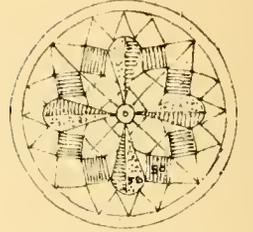
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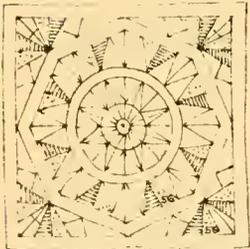
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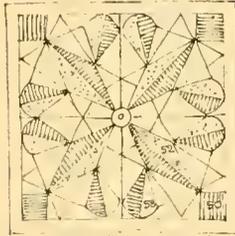
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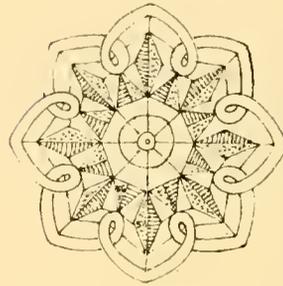
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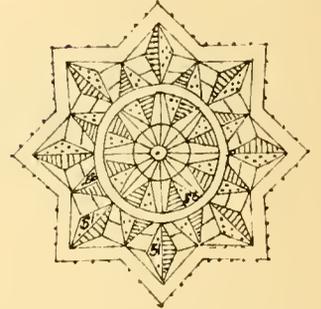
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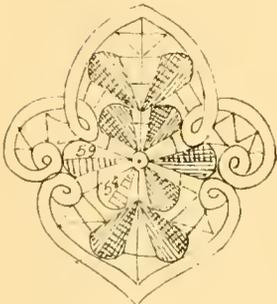
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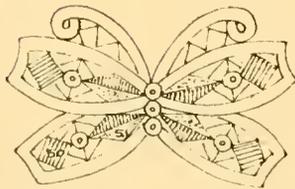
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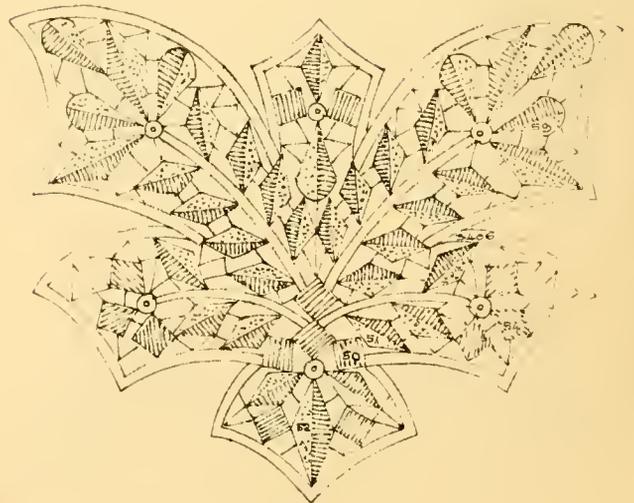
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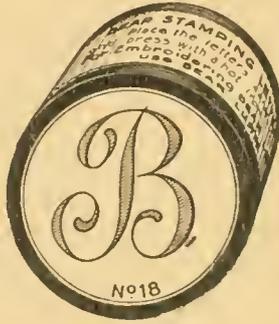


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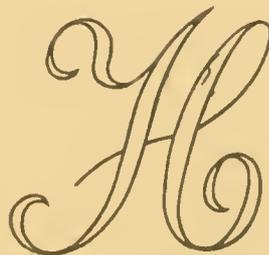


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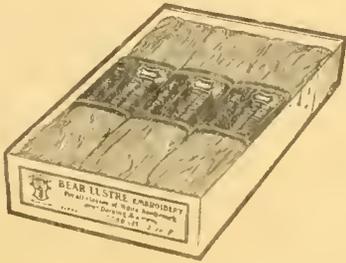
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