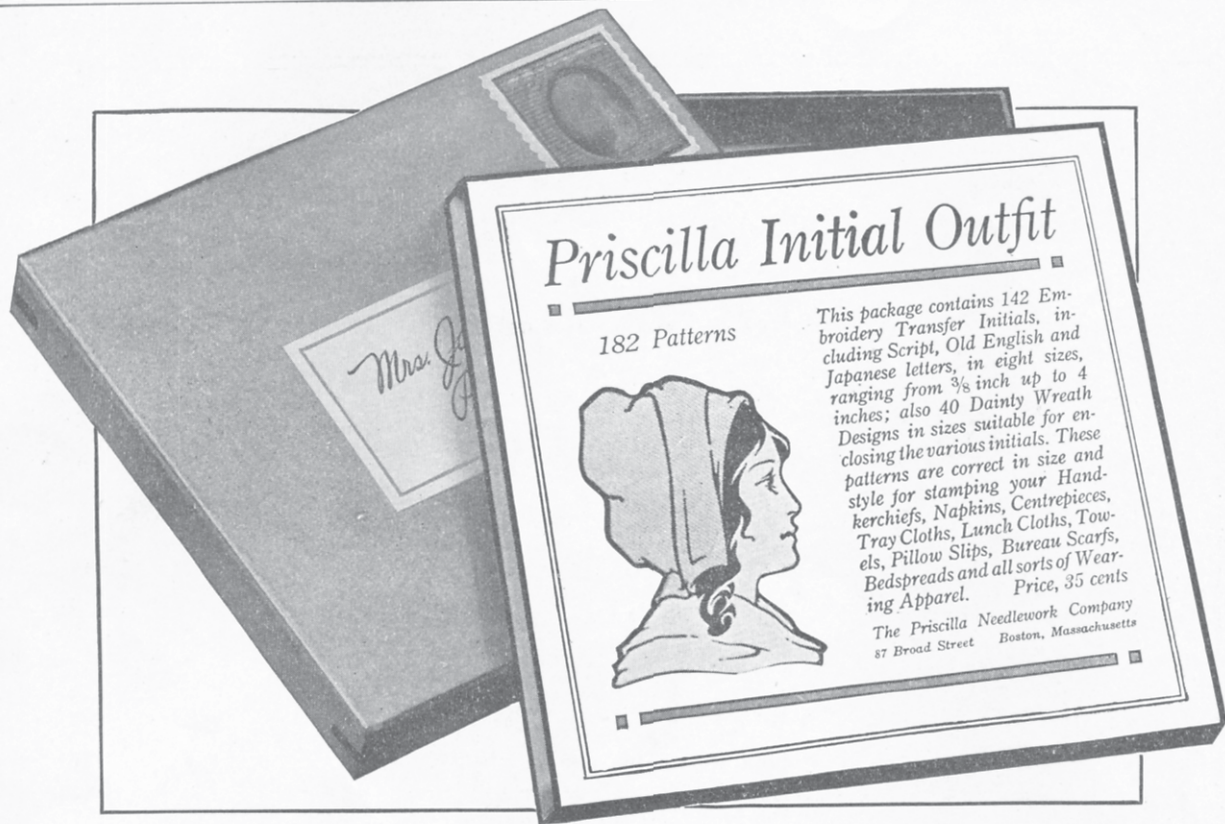


PRISCILLA
Cotton Knitting
Book

Published by
The Priscilla Publishing Co.
Boston, Mass.



What you can do with YOUR INITIAL

TO the person of refinement, there is nothing quite so satisfying as a dainty initial neatly embroidered on crispy white linen. One immediately thinks of an initial for use only on Table Linens and Towels, but the initial to-day is quite the fashion for use on Bedroom Linens, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Day Slips, Bedspreads, Bureau Scarfs, Pincushions, Doilies, Underwear, Pajamas, Nightgowns, Sport Shirts, Neckwear, Automobile Slip Covers, and we have even seen Curtains and Overhangings neatly initialed.

What You Get
54 graceful Script letters
in eight different sizes

M
49 dignified Old English letters
in eight different sizes

MA
39 novel Japanese letters
in eight different sizes

M
and 40 choice wreath designs
just the proper sizes for
enclosing the initials

The Priscilla Initial Outfit is a treasure box to the woman who wants her belongings marked in this distinctive manner. Each Outfit contains three different style letters—Script, Old English, Japanese—and each style letter comes in *eight different sizes*. This big Outfit gives you initials for every purpose. There are tiny letters for handkerchiefs; larger ones for underwear; others just the right size for napkins, tray cloths, bureau scarfs, pillow slips, towels; and big four-inch letters for luncheon cloths and bedspreads.

Altogether you receive 142 patterns of your initial letter. *In addition* we include 40 dainty wreath designs, just the right sizes and styles for enclosing the initials—*182 patterns in all*.

Patterns in the Priscilla Initial Outfit come on sheets about four inches square, put up in a dainty snow-white case and sent to you in a sturdy mailing box. To stamp your initial, select the pattern desired, lay it face down on the cloth, pass a hot iron over the back, and presto! your stamping is done. Included with the patterns is an illustrated instruction sheet, showing how to embroider initials. Price of the Priscilla Initial Outfit only

35¢ post-paid
Be sure to state letter wanted

THE PRISCILLA COMPANY, 85 BROAD ST., BOSTON 9, MASS.

The
Priscilla
Cotton Knitting Book

A COLLECTION OF BEAUTIFUL
AND USEFUL PATTERNS
FOR COTTON, LINEN AND SILK

WITH

Directions for Working

EDITED BY

BELLE ROBINSON

PRICE, 25 CENTS

PUBLISHED BY

The Priscilla Publishing Company

85 BROAD STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

Copyright, 1918, by The Priscilla Publishing Company

Trade Mark Reg. U. S. Patent Office

All rights reserved

Copyright in Great Britain and the Colonies



FIG. 1. KNITTED CENTREPIECE. (See directions on page 8)

PRISCILLA COTTON KNITTING BOOK

Introduction

AMONG the earliest and the simplest of all crafts is that of the knitter. It is the simplest because it is merely drawing one loop of thread through another loop to make a fabric; or drawing a series of loops through a series of loops on a straight needle or pin, by means of another straight needle or pin.

There are very few stitches in knitting, but the complicated designs are the result of combinations, successions, alternations, and repetitions of those few stitches. While a novice might expect the same result always from such simple directions as "narrow, over, knit one," yet it depends greatly upon what work in the previous row forms the foundation, and the work of the row which follows these or any other direction.

Added to the simplicity of knitting, there is a charm or fascination about the work that is not surpassed by any other work, when one has a grasp of the principles and sufficient practice to knit easily.

The best way to learn to knit is to have the right sort of a grandmother, and while she is teaching your childish hands how to hold the needles and yarn—how to knit tightly enough so there are no seams running down the corners between needles—how to hold the work loosely enough that you do not bend the needles into "ram's horns," and all the while telling you stories of "before they came over the mountains to western Pennsylvania," or when they made the long journey "out to Ohio," or about your grandfather's grandfather who was killed by the Indians a year before the Battle of Lexington, and on, and on. But since those grandmothers are no more to be had, we who remember them must help PRISCILLA teach "how to knit."

The revival of knitting of socks, helmets, sweaters, and scarfs, for the soldier, has multiplied the number of those who knit; and having learned plain knitting there is a demand for more elaborate designs for other purposes. This demand we hope to meet in this book.

Directions for Working

Materials. There is a wide range of materials in knitting, but we will treat chiefly of Cotton, Linen, or Silk in these pages. Crochet Cotton will denote any hard-twisted thread, such as Cordonnet, Cordichet, Kord-net, etc. The numbers of all such threads are well standardized.

Spool Cotton and Spool Linen, Knitting Cotton (a loose-twisted thread in balls or skeins), and a loose-twist, mercerized cotton for crochet or embroidery, which is to be had in both balls and skeins—all are material used in making the articles in this book.

Needles required are steel knitting-needles from No. 8 to No. 24, the latter the finest. For each piece of work a selection of needles and thread is given, if not the actual numbers used, a careful suggestion is made. If the worker knits very tightly, then she may well select a larger size of needles; for one who knits very loosely, a smaller size of needles should be selected.

Explanation of Terms

Stitch (st)—One loop over the needle.

Knit (k)—Plain knitting. *Having thread in place on right hand (see Fig. 2), insert right-hand needle from left to right in the front of st on left-hand needle; lift thread with forefinger over the point of right needle; slightly tightening the thread bring the loop through st on left needle, at the same time releasing the st that has been knitted from left needle; repeat from * for each st.

Purl (p)—To make a seam-stitch, like the wrong side of plain knitting. *Having thread forward under right needle (see Fig. 3), insert right needle from

right to left in the front of st on left needle; lift thread over point of right needle, toward the knitter, and draw the loop back through st on left needle, releasing st from left needle; repeat from * for each st.

Narrow (n)—Knit two together, in the same manner as plain knitting.

K 3 tog—Knit 3 together.

Slip and bind (sl and b)—Slip one st from left needle to right without knitting, knit the next st, pass the slipped st over the knitted st.

P 2 tog—Purl 2 together.

P 3 tog—Purl 3 together.

Over (o)—Bring thread forward under right needle and back over the needle if the "over" comes after plain knitting; if thread is already forward after purling, throw back over needle and entirely around the needle to continue purling; or carry the

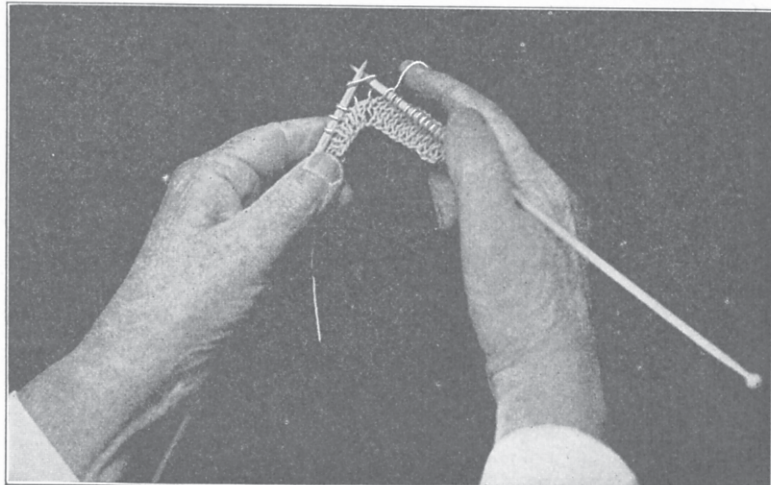


FIG. 2. POSITION OF HANDS IN PLAIN KNITTING

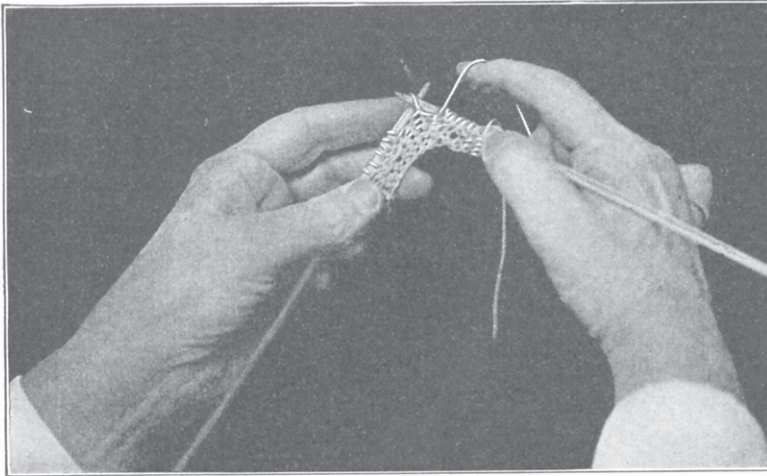


FIG. 3. POSITION OF HANDS IN PURLING

thread across the needle after purling and to continue with plain knitting. An "over" always increases 1 st unless it is counteracted by a "narrow" in the same needle or row.

O 2—Over twice.

O 3—Over three times.

Knit and purl 1 (k and p 1)—Knit one st, and without removing it from the left needle, thread forward and purl the same st, then release the st.

Knit, purl and knit 1 (k, p and k 1)—Make three sts out of one by knitting, purling, and again knitting the same st.

Knit front and back—Knit the st as usual, but before removing from left needle knit the back loop of the st. This is the least perceptible of any method of widening.

Casting on—There are a variety of ways of casting on sts to commence a piece of knitting, but they may be reduced to two of the best methods. **First**—Casting on with one needle and two threads (see Fig. 4). **Second**—Casting on with

two needles and one thread (see Fig. 5). Where a firm edge is required the first method is always best, and yet it may be made more or less elastic. With one needle held in the right hand as for knitting (see Fig. 4), and the ball at the right, let the thread come up forward of the fourth or little finger of right hand, back around the finger and forward under three fingers, up over first finger, leaving a half-yard of thread hanging toward the left. With the left thumb, moving toward the knitter, take up a loop of the hanging thread, giving it a twist by moving the point of the thumb over the thread toward the first finger; now insert the first finger, downward, in this loop and give it another twist by releasing the thumb and straightening the

fingers; knit this loop as in Fig. 2 and the first st is cast on the right needle. Repeat the process for

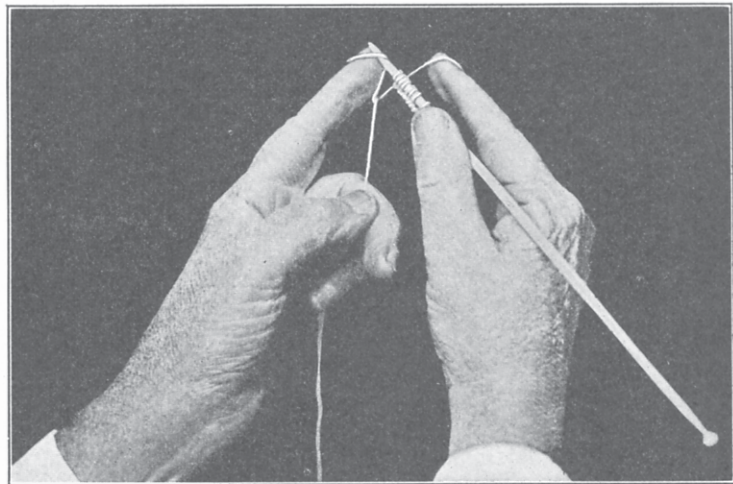


FIG. 4. CASTING ON—FIRST METHOD

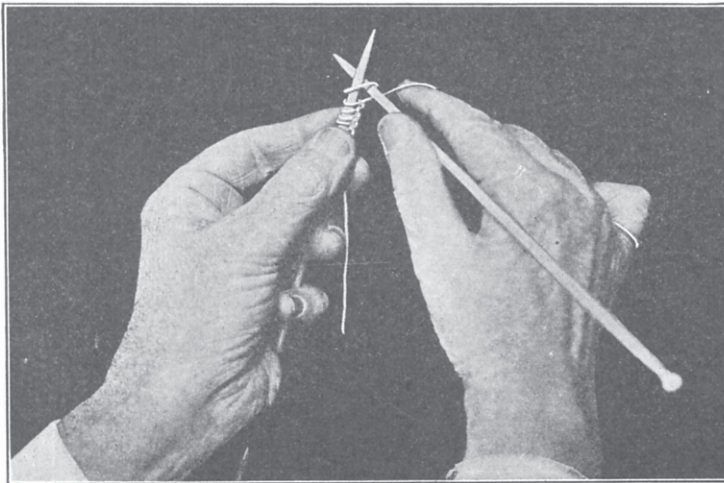


FIG. 5. CASTING ON—SECOND METHOD

the number of sts required. Only experience gained by practice will enable one to judge of the length of thread to be left for casting on; an old saying among knitters is to the effect that if the length of thread was accurately gauged the piece would be soon finished; but if a very long end remained the piece would be a long time on hands. **Second method of casting on**—Make a slip-knot for the first st on the left needle; * with the right needle knit the st, but let it remain on the needle, place the new st also on the left needle; repeat from * for the required number. Where sts must be added at the end of a row this is a very convenient and practical method, and where a light elastic edge is required it is best. Exactly the same edge is obtained by crocheting a chain and taking up on the knitting-needle a loop of each chain-stitch.

Binding off—To bind off the last

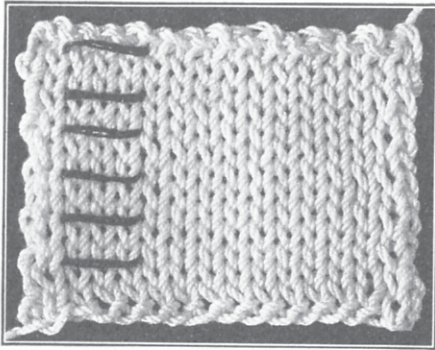


FIG. 6. PLAIN KNITTING

fastening) and draw through the last st. In binding off points or scallops of lace, the 1st st is usually slipped (without knitting), as in "slip and bind."

Methods of Work.—There are two well-established methods of knitting. First method—"English knitting," which is used exclusively in this book. It is the method adopted in England and France, and much used in the United States.

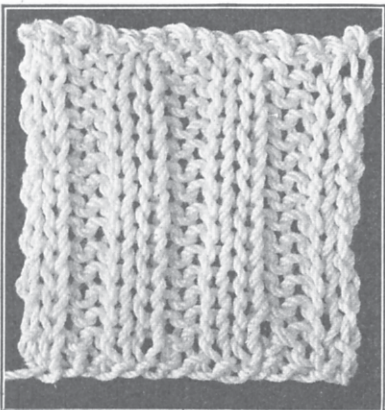


FIG. 8. RIBBING (KNIT 2, PURL 2)

fabric because of the twisted stitch, and is to be recommended for some wool knitting. One knits, perhaps, more rapidly with this method, in plain knitting, as for garments. But for the character of knitting given here, the English method is much to be preferred.

A web of knitting may be made in a tube, as in stocking knitting, by casting on stitches on 3 needles, joining and knitting with the fourth needle, around the work; or a flat piece may be knit back and forth with but two needles. Plain knitting around will make the web at Fig. 6. Plain

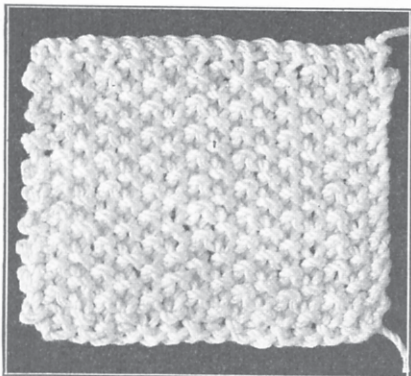


FIG. 10. MOSS STITCH

edge, knit 2 sts, draw the 1st over the 2d, knit the 3d st and draw the 2d over the 3d; continue until but one st is left; break thread a finger-length long (for

knitting, back and forth, makes the web at Fig. 7, sometimes called "garter stitch"; two rows of this make what is called one ridge.

To produce a plain web in a flat piece it is necessary to purl the rows on the wrong side and knit

the rows on the right side of the piece. Triangular pieces may be made by knitting back and forth, leaving one or more stitches unknit at the end of alternate rows, as in the sections of Frontispiece. Square pieces may begin in the middle with one or two stitches on each of four needles, knitting around with the fifth needle and widening as directed to

keep the work flat. An Octagon or Hexagon is made in a similar way.

It is of great advantage to be able to count the rows of knitting; to make that point clear, the black threads in Figs. 6 and 7 mark off 2 rows, showing there are 12 rows in Fig. 6 and 14 rows, or 7 ridges in Fig. 7.

To mark the beginning of a round, or any particular point, it is helpful to tie in a thread of contrasting color and lay it back and forth after every 5 rounds (or any selected number); this makes the counting of rows or rounds very easy when knitting a complicated pattern.

Figure 8. Ribbing.—Cast on 14 sts. 1st row—(k 2, p 2) 3 times, k 2. 2d row—(p 2, k 2) 3 times, p 2. Repeat first and second rows. If the number of sts is divisible by four then all rows are like the first row.

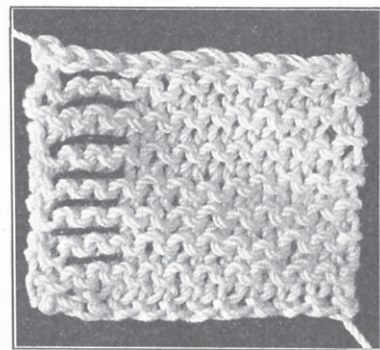


FIG. 7. GARTER STITCH

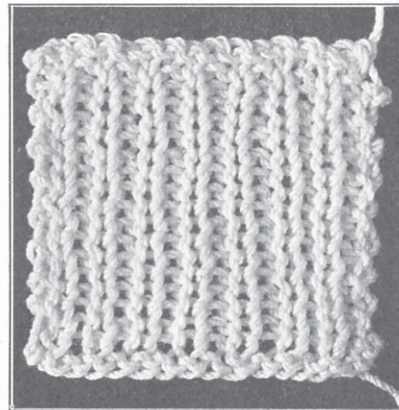


FIG. 9. RIBBING (KNIT 1, PURL 1)

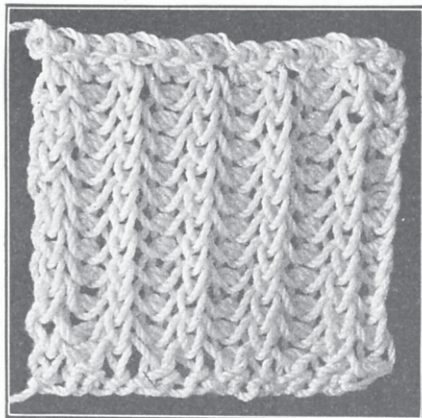


FIG. 11. BRIOCHE STITCH

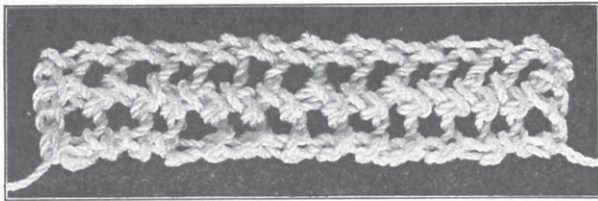


FIG. 12. FAGOTING No. 1

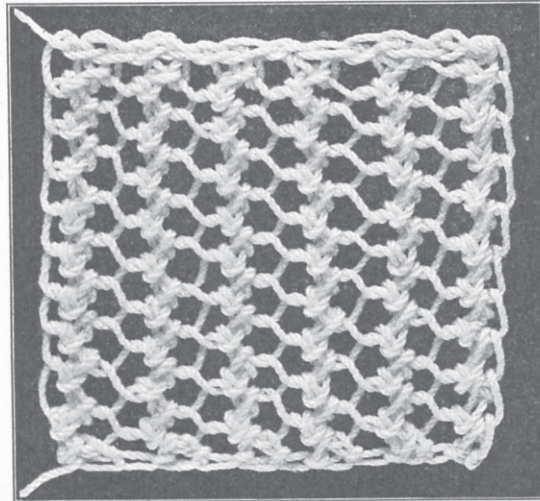


FIG. 13. WEB OF FAGOTING No. 1

Figure 9. Ribbing.—Cast on 16 sts. *1st row*—(k 1, p 1) 8 times. Repeat the 1st row throughout.

Figure 10. Moss Stitch.—Cast on 16 sts. *1st row*—(k 1, p 1) 8 times. *2d row*—(p 1, k 1) 8 times. Repeat 1st and 2d rows.

Figure 11. Brioche Stitch.—A heavier ribbing is produced by casting on a multiple of three, in this case 15. *1st row*—Thread over (that is, in front of the needle to commence), sl 1, n, * o, sl 1, n; repeat from * to end of row. Repeat the 1st row throughout.

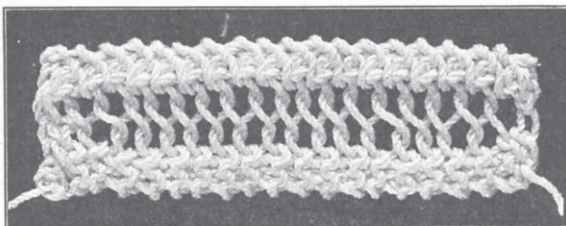


FIG. 14. FAGOTING No. 2

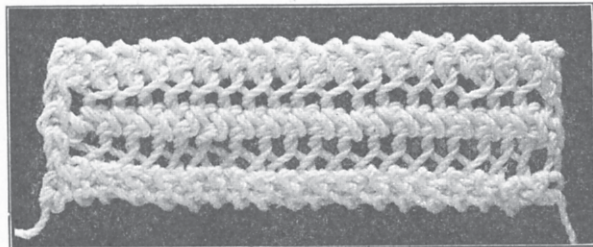


FIG. 15. FAGOTING No. 3

Figure 12. Fagoting No. 1.—Wherever fagot (fag) is directed in this book, this stitch (o2, p 2 tog) is intended unless otherwise explained. Cast on 4 sts. *1st row*—k 1, o2, p 2 tog, k 1. Repeat 1st row for whole length.

Figure 13. Web of Fagoting No. 1.—Cast on 12 sts, or any even number. *1st row*—Thread in front of the needle and once around the needle, p 2 tog, (o, p 2 tog) 5 times. Repeat the 1st row. This all over is without the single plain st at first and last of the row. The thread being forward from the first fagoting needs but once over for the remaining fagots. This web has been known as "purse-stitch," owing to the fact that the Miser's purse of many years ago was knitted with this stitch, sometimes with beads and sometimes without. A slight modification of this stitch (called "Turkish" stitch) is (o, n) repeated across the row and the same on the return row; but the purled stitches are rather prettier and the needle slips into the stitches very much easier.

Figure 14. Fagoting No. 2.—Cast on 6 sts. *1st row*—sl 1, k 2, o, n, k 1. Repeat 1st row.

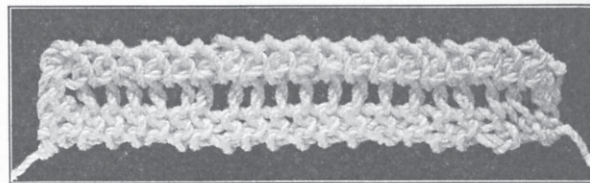


FIG. 16. BEADING No. 1

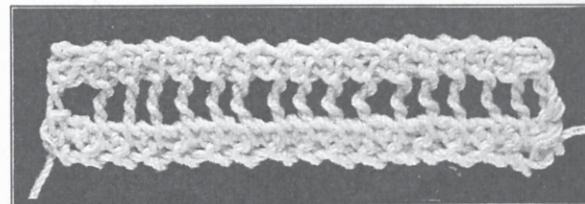


FIG. 17. BEADING No. 2

Figure 15. Fagoting No. 3.—Cast on 7 sts. *1st row*—sl 1, k 1, o, n, o, n, k 1. Repeat 1st row.

Figure 16. Beading No. 1.—Cast on 5 sts. *1st row*—sl 1, k 1, o, n, k 1. *2d row*—sl 1, k 4. Repeat 1st and 2d rows.

Figure 17. Beading No. 2.—Cast on 6 sts. *1st row*—k 1, n, o2, n, k 1. *2d row*—k 3, p 1, k 2. Repeat 1st and 2d rows.

The terms used are those commonly employed by knitters; where a distinction was necessary and a term used arbitrarily, or one invented, it has been done with the purpose of simplifying the work.

In designating the size of steel needles, one rather well-known system of numbering has been followed. Since the war-work of knitting has become so universal, several other gradings have been in common use, notably a German numbering, of which No. 12, used for soldier's socks, corresponds with No. 8 of the system followed in these directions.

The foreign laces in this book include specimens of Chinese, Portuguese, and Mexican work. The American pieces have been gathered from ocean to ocean, and from Canada to Mexico.