Embroidery Design

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

There are no set rules or restrictions in making embroidery designs. All kinds of curves or lines may be used, so long as the design is held together as a unit. Suggestions for embroidery, like those of the entire costume, are not limited to any one source, but may be taken from almost any natural or artificial object.

In figure 77 you are shown an example of derivations from a spray of morning-glories. The flower and the leaf idea are conventionalized, and made to fit various shapes. If you will examine them carefully you will see how the various parts of the flower and leaf are changed or divided, according to the shape of the outline. Although, at a glance, there may be but little similarity between the natural flower and these conventional designs, on looking at the design as a whole, you will easily detect the resemblance.

If you wish to make an embroidery design for a certain part of a garment, the first thing to do is to mark off with a basting thread the space that is to be embroidered, and on a piece of tracing paper take the impression of this space enclosed within the basting. This is done by putting the paper over the part to be traced and rubbing black wax over the surface of the paper. It will be necessary to draw but half of the design, since the other half should be traced from the first half, in order that both sides, or halves, be exactly alike. Note figures 78 and 79.