A HANDKERCHIEF OF BELGIAN LACE

At the annual meeting of the Needle and Bobbin Club a lace handkerchief was shown which had been made in Belgium for the marriage of Queen Marie Louise, daughter of Louis Philippe, with Leopold I, in 1832.

Our illustration shows not only the design with the monogram of the Queen surmounted by a royal crown, but also the raised work in the border with lines of little fringes on the garlands. Most important and unusual is the center of the handkerchief which is an exquisite web of lace-work. There is a central star surrounded by crowns, all worked with bobbins in fine firm workmanship. There is no inset of plain linen, this central motif taking the place usually filled by a bit of fine linen. The handkerchief measures seventeen inches square. A member of the Club, Miss Margaret T. Johnstone, had offered to head a subscription for its purchase, as she felt that a piece of such unusual workmanship should be preserved in a permanent public collection as a dated record of the achievement of the Belgian lace makers during the 19th century.

The President put this matter before the club and it was voted to buy it by subscription of interested members, to be presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Editor of the Bulletin will be glad to answer any questions in relation to this matter.



HANDKERCHIEF MADE IN BELGIUM IN 1832 FOR QUEEN MARIE LOUISE.