PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.

No. 326 - Original collar.

## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.



No. 327 - Rosaline Border.
Jesurum, Venice.


No. 328 - Trimming for alb. Extremely handsome design of candle-sticks with seaweed and shells, in reliel on rosaline ground. The lace looks like a tissue of coral, jewels and flowers.

Treasure of St. Mark's, Venice.
Foldout rotated $90^{\circ}$ and reduced to $70 \%$ to fit on page..
PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.


## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.



No. 331 - Cravat in Venice Point.
PUNTO IN ARIA .- XVII CENTURY.


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Venice Point.
PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.

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Venice Point.
Nos. 334, 335 -- Ristori, ${ }^{\text {s }}$ Florence.

## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVII CENTURY.

336




Venice Point.

No. 336 - Cíteraesi, Florence. Nos. 337, 338 - Rístorí, Florence.

## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.



No. 339 - Heavy Venice Point, with barred background forming an open net-work. Luccheschi, Venice.

## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.



No. 340 - Venice Point on groundwork imitating Argentan lace.

PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.


No. 341 - Burano Point. The small medallions in the form of cameos with various figures: a heart transfixed, a lamb, etc. Ecclesiastical piece, with bobbin-made edging.

Rucellai, Florence.

PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.



Burano Point, made from a design imitating Alençon lace. Nos. 342, 343 - Jesurum, Venice. Nos. 344, 345 - Rucellai, Florence.

## PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.






Burano Point, from designs imitating French laces.
Nos. 346, 347 - Rucellai, Florence. No. 348 - Morosini, Veaice. No. 349 - Citernesi, Florence. No. 350 - Baldini, Florence. No. 351 -- Jesurum, Venice.
PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.

Original mittens and chalice-veil in Burano Point.
Nos. 352, 353, 354 - Rucellaí, Florence.
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PUNTO IN ARIA ... XVIII CENTURY.


PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.


Scarf in Burano Point, imitating French lace (Louis XVI).

PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.

354


Burano Point.
No. 359 - Lace like scarf in preceding plate.
No. 360 - Edging and shawl, imitating French laces. Rucellai, Florence.
PUNTO IN ARIA - XVIII CENTURY.

PUNTO IN ARIA - END XVIII CENTURY.


## APPENDIX.



No. 365 - Ivory point. Poldi Pezzoli Museum, Milan.


MONG our Italian Alps, in Valsesia, Valle Vogna, and Valseriana, the women still work very skilfully at a special kind of lace of a traditional type.

The needle-lace known as punto Saraceno (Saracen point), punto Alpino (Alpine point), punto avorio (ivory point), and in dialect, poncett (little point) is made with a double button-hole stitch, very closely worked, which is not to be met with in any other Italian lace. The design is no more Italian than the stitch. In ancient samples it is closer, more opaque and more monotonous than in the ordinary reticello patterns. And this is not all: for whereas our laces are generally white, and only in exceptional cases tinted or showing touches of colour, these are rarely white; they are usually of tones varying from ivory to brown and are often worked on brilliantly coloured linen. How did this exotic work find its way to our mountains? It is a mystery. But it is certain that when once this punto Saraceno had become punto Alpino (to use the two names commonly applied to it), it never died out, and is still an integral part of feminine elegance in these regions. Made of ivory or brown thread, it adorns chemises, while worked with blue, red, yellow and green silks boldly and sometimes very happily contrasted, it is applied to aprons and girdles.

The workers vary the designs according to their fancy; but it is always the same rosettes, crosses, and triangles, which, variously disposed by the kaleidoscope of taste, form the motives picturesquely described in such terms as: the staircase, the little windows, the daisies etc. The execution is terribly slow, but in compensation,
the work is more durable than any other kind of lace; it is literally indestructible; the double knots also make it possible to cut it without causing it to ravel. In its vigorous, simple, and attractive appearance it suggests the austere grace of the women who make it and adorn themselves with it.

Sfilatura (drawn thread work) would seem to be derived from that needle-work


No. 366 - Lace in ivory-stitch. Portratt of a Child by A. Allori. Uffizi, Florence. Photo. Brogi.
known as hem-stitch, in which the threads are removed only lengthwise in the linen, while the vertical lines are either fastened in various ways with a cord or finished with matting-stitch, both methods being capable of producing varied and even very rich designs. The old hand-books of the XVI century perhaps allude to this work when they speak in their prefacee of punto desfilato.

Revealing its Arab origin in its name, macramé-work comes from the oldest form of the art of knotting. An art so old in itself that its origin is lost in

