

lace hoods Walpole describes Lady Mary Wortley Montagu as wearing at Florence, 1762, in place of a cap.

There is also another lace from Venice, "à réseau," or grounded. Its characteristic is its extraordinary delicacy and fineness; its most remarkable feature its flatness. Its meshes are very minute, the cordonnet which outlines the pattern worked flat; the ground has a horizontal appearance. It in some respects resembles the finest Brussels needle point.

M. Dupont d'Auberville had some exquisite specimens in the International Exhibition, which he assigns to the adjacent island of Burano, which evidently produced a lace of some celebrity, for Marini quotes from a document of the seventeenth century, in which, speaking of merletti, it is said that "these laces, styled 'punti in aria,' or 'di Burano,' because the greater part of them were made in the country so-called, are considered by Zannoni as more noble and of a greater whiteness, and for excellency of design and perfect workmanship equal to those of Flanders, and in solidity superior."<sup>40</sup>

From this it would appear as if punto in aria was made here and found occupation for a number of lace-workers.<sup>41</sup>

In the dictionary of Boerio, punto di Burano is described as fine needle point lace like that of Flanders, made by the women of that island.<sup>42</sup>

In 1845, when the late Mrs. Dennistoun, of Dennistoun, visited the island, a superannuated nun of ninety conversed with her on the subject, and said that she and her companions in her younger days employed their time in making punto di Burano, which was very costly and ordered for great marriages long beforehand. She showed specimens still tacked on paper, the ground à réseau, worked backwards and forwards, like the Alençon. Fig. 26 is taken from a specimen purchased at Burano by the Cavaliere Merli of the maker, an old woman known by the name of Ceccia la Scarpariola. It has no resemblance to the exquisite production we have described, but bears close analogy with point d'Alençon.

leur têt."—*Madame du Boccage*, 1735, *Lettres sur l'Italie*.

"Quella specie di lungo cappuccio di finissimo merlo pur nero, chiamato bauta."  
—*Michiel*.

<sup>40</sup> Marini, "Com. di Venezia," t. viii.

<sup>41</sup> L'île de Burano où l'on fabrique les dentelles."—*Quadri*, *Huit Jours à Venise*.

<sup>42</sup> "Chiamasi il lavori di certe merletti finissimi e pregiatissimi fatti a punto d' ago—come quelle di Fiandra—che si fa dalle donne nelle Isole di Burano—singolarmente, ed anche nelle vicino di Torcello a Mazzorbo del Veneto Estuario dov'è da molti anni introdotta questa arte."