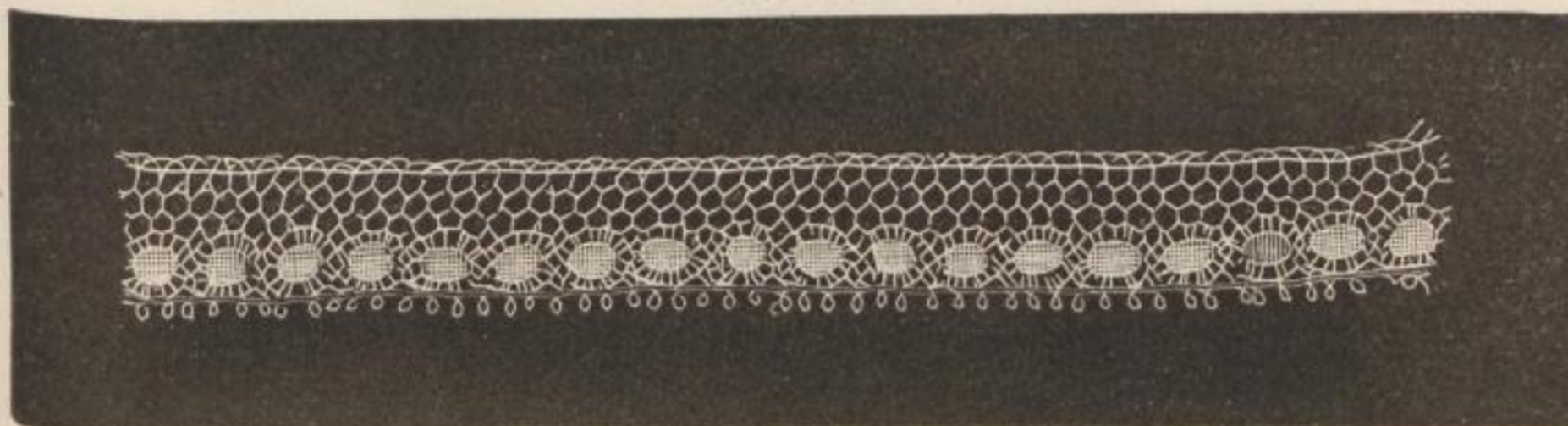


free, without any corporation; but those who make lace without being mercers cannot sell lace thread, the sale of which is very lucrative."<sup>9</sup>

About twenty years later, we read: "The lace manufacture, which is very ancient, has much diminished since the points, embroidered muslins, and gauzes have gained the preference; yet good workers earn sufficient to live comfortably; but those who have not the requisite dexterity would do well to seek some other trade, as inferior lace-workers are unable to earn sufficient for a maintenance."<sup>10</sup> M. Feret writes in 1824:<sup>11</sup> "Dieppe laces are

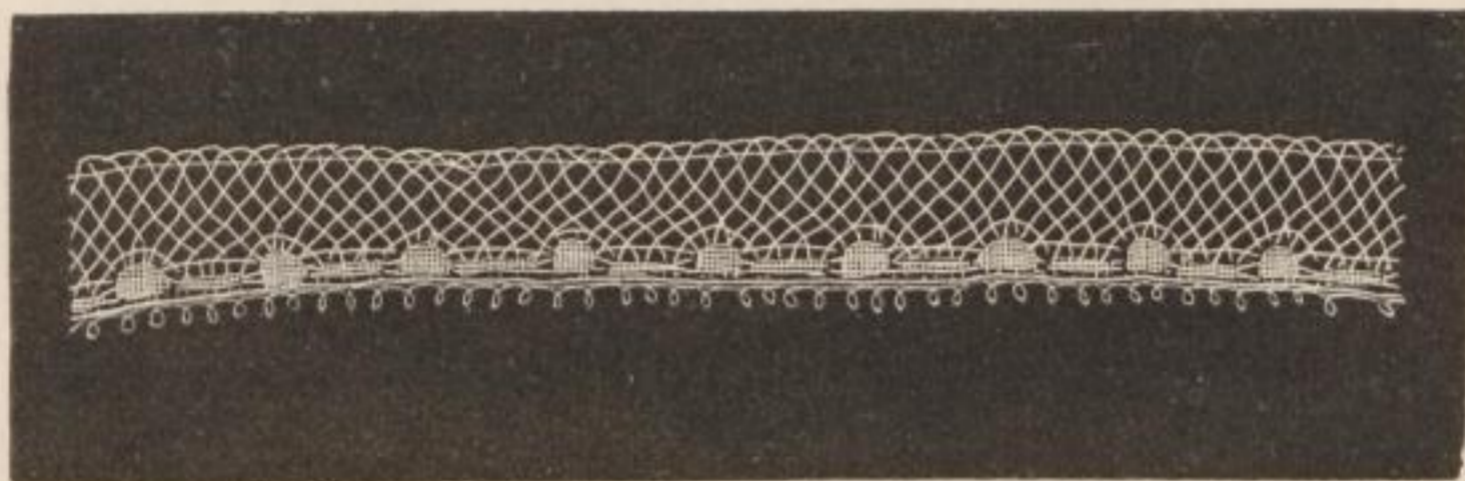
Fig. 88.



Petit poussin.

in little request; nevertheless there is a narrow kind, named 'poussin,' the habitual resource and work of the poor lace-makers of this town, and which recommends itself by its cheapness and

Fig. 89.



Ave Maria.

pleasing effect when used as a trimming to collars and morning dresses. Strangers who visit our town make an ample provision of this lace" (Fig. 88). The lace-makers of Dieppe love to give

<sup>9</sup> "Mémoires pour servir à l'Histoire de la Ville de Dieppe, composés en l'année 1761, par Michel-Claude Gurbert," p. 99.

<sup>10</sup> "Mémoires chronologiques pour

servir à l'Histoire de Dieppe, par M. Desmarquets," 1785.

<sup>11</sup> "Notices sur Dieppe, Arques etc., par P. J. Ferret," 1824.