

## RUSSIA.

In Russia, lace-making and embroidery go hand in hand, as in our early examples of embroidery, drawn-work and cutwork combined. Lace-making was not a distinct industry; the peasants, especially in Eastern Russia, made it in their houses to decorate, in conjunction with embroidery, towels, table linen, shirts, and even the household linen, for which purpose it was purchased direct of the peasants by the inhabitants of the towns. All will have seen the Russian towels in the International Exhibition of 1874, and have admired their quaint design and bright colours, with the curious line of red and blue thread running through the pattern of the lace. Darned netting and drawn work appear, as elsewhere, to have been their earliest productions. The lace is loosely wrought on the pillow, the work simple, and requires few bobbins to execute the vermiculated pattern which is its characteristic (Fig. 106). In some, silks of various colours are employed, in others the network is formed of silver wire. The Eastern traditions are traceable in all the designs.

Peter the Great founded a manufactory of silk lace at Novogorod, which in the time of the Empress Elizabeth fell into decay.

The principal sites of modern pillow-lace making are Torjok, in the province of Tver, and Jetetz, in that of Orel.

A manufactory of needle-made lace, called "point de Moscou," has been successfully established by a lady of that city. In workmanship it resembles the old rose point, but retaining in design its Russian nationality.