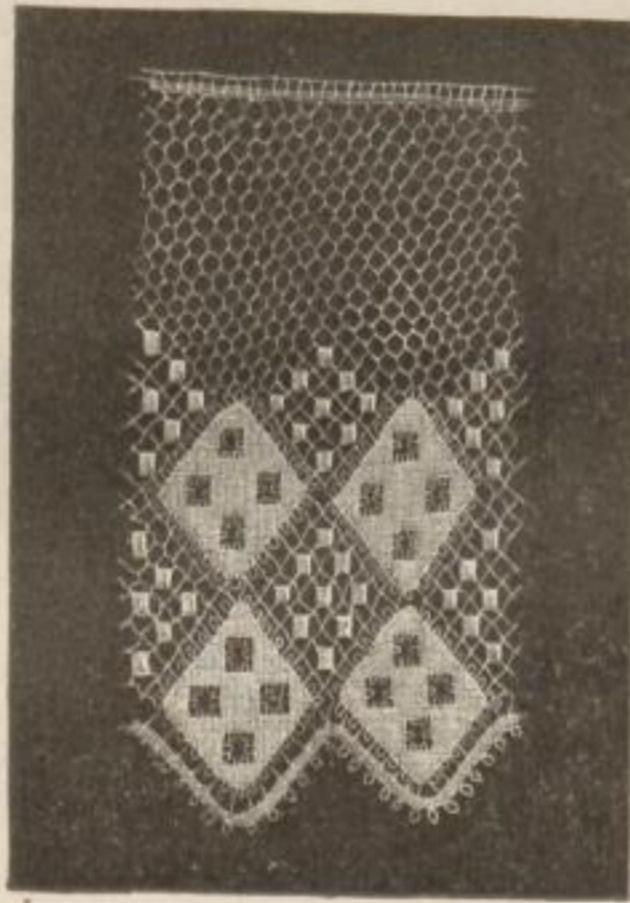


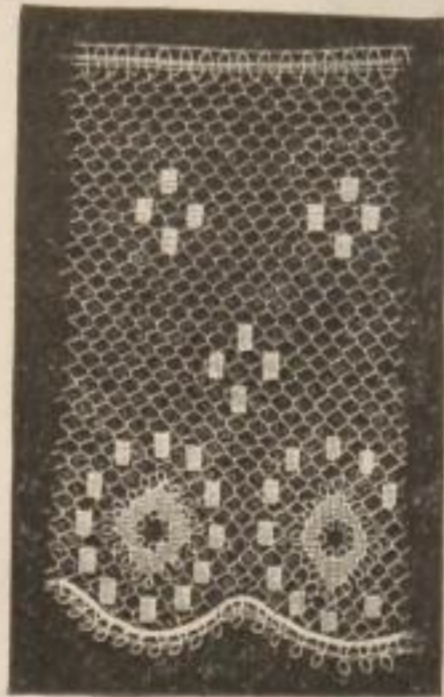
The principal branch of the lace trade was the making of "baby lace," as those narrow laces were called, most specially employed for the adorning of infants' caps (Figs. 126, 127, 128). The "point" ground was used, the patterns taken from those of Lille and Arras—hence the laces of Buckingham and Bedford-

Fig. 126.



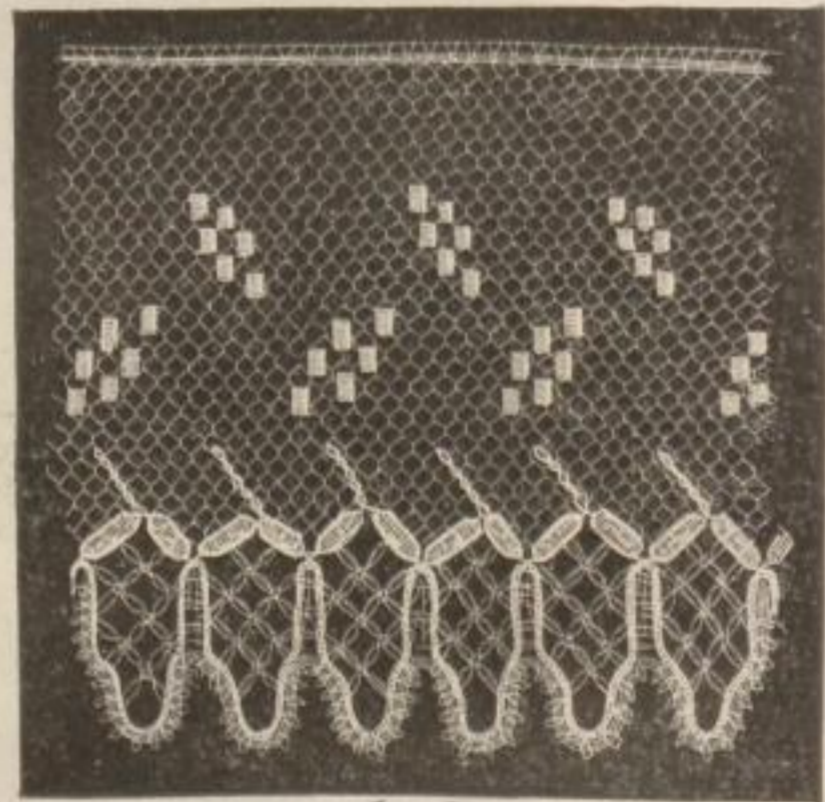
"Baby" lace. Northampton.

Fig. 127.



"Baby" lace. Beds.

Fig. 128.



"Baby" lace. Bucks.

shire have often been styled "English Lille." Though the fashion in the mother-country has passed away, the American ladies still hold to the gorgeously trimmed infant's cap; and till the breaking out of the Civil War, large quantities of "baby lace" were exported to America, the finer sorts varying from five shillings to