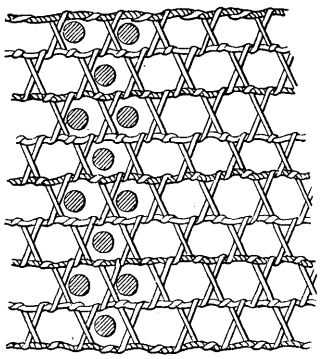
Bob-bin-et'. (*Fabric.*) A machine-made cotton net, originally imitated from the lace made by bobbins upon a pillow.

It consists of a series of parallel threads which may be considered as *warp*-threads, and two systems of oblique threads which proceed from the right to the left, and from the left to the right respectively. Each weft thread has a single turn around each crossing of a warp, and the contrary strain of the respective weft threads gives a serpentine course to the warps.

Fig. 752.



Bobbinet.

The thread that makes the bobbinet is supplied partly from bobbins and partly from a warp. The bobbins are small brass pirns, and swing with a pendulous motion between the warp-threads so as to wrap the weft round the warp.

The bobbinet-machine was originally derived from the stocking-frame, invented by the unfortunate William Lee, M. A., of Cambridge, 1589.

Lee was successively patronized by Elizabeth and by Henry IV. of France. The former liked the stockings well enough, but refused Lee a patent, as the invention was so valuable that it would command the market. The assassination of Henry deprived Lee of a more generous patron, and he fell into poverty, obscurity, and an untimely grave.

Hammond (about 1768) modified a stocking-frame to make a coarse imitation of Brussels ground; this was the *pin*-machine.

In 1784, the *warp-frame* was invented, for making *warp-lace.*

In the next decade, the *bobbin-frame.*

In 1809, Heathcote invented the *bobbinet* machine.

This is a complicated machine, used in but few localities. The parts are very numerous, the motions intricate, and the machine cannot be readily explained within the limits admissible in this work.