

**Warp-lace.** Lace having a warp which is crossed obliquely by two weft-threads. See also BOBBINET.

The oldest lace has a knit ground, and the ornament worked by the needle. The oldest machine, made in 1764, was a modification of the stocking-frame, and was called the *frame-looped net* machine; six-sided meshes could be made, which held their form when starched, but shrunk like crape when damp.

To this succeeded the *warp-frame*, which had looped stitches, but had so much more solidity that it could be cut and stitched like cloth. In 1810, there were 400 warp-loomns at work making Mechlin net.

Heathcote patented his first *twist-net* machine in 1805, and Lord Lyndhurst pronounced it "the most wonderful machine ever invented." It was to make a net like the *bobbin-net* made on the *pillow*. As he observed: "Cushion-made net had half the threads proceeding in wavy lines from end to end of the piece, and may be represented by warp-threads. The other threads, lying between the former, pass from side to side by an oblique course to the right and left, and may be called weft-threads. If the warp-threads could move relatively to the weft-threads so as to effect the twisting and crossing, but without deviating to the right or left hand, and if the weft-threads could be placed so that all of them should effect the twisting at the same time, and one half of them should proceed at each operation to the left and the other half to the right (a substitute being also provided for the cushion-pins), lace would be made exactly as on the cushions." See "Popular Science Monthly," March, 1874, Vol. XLVII., pages 540-542.