

*broiderie*, of *broider*, to *embroider*; which some deduce, by transposition, from *bordeur*, because they formerly embroidered only the borders of stuffs, whence the Latins also call the embroiderers *limbularii*. Du-Cange observes, that they anciently wrote *aurobruffus* for embroidered with gold, or *bruffus brudatus*, and *brodatus*; whence *broderie*.

That done with silk, flax, or the like, is not now called embroidery; though anciently, and properly, the word denoted all kind of figuring or flourishing.

The chief use of embroidery is in church vestments, cloaths, housings, guidons, standards, &c. The invention of embroidery is attributed to the Phrygians; whence the Latins call embroidered garments "vestes Phrygionæ," and embroiderers *Phrygiones*. In the "Menæchmi" of Plautus, (act ii. scene 3), a young woman, desirous of sending her mantle to be embroidered, says: "Pallam illam ad phrygionem ut deferas, ut reconcinnatur atque ut opera addantur, quæ volo." The Greeks seem to have used the words  $\kappa\epsilon\upsilon\tau\iota\sigma\iota\upsilon$  and  $\kappa\alpha\lambda\alpha\sigma\tau\iota\zeta\iota\upsilon$ , as we use the word *embroider*.

The embroidery of stuffs is performed in a kind of loom; that of muslin is done by stretching it on a pattern already designed; the former kind is the most easy, but the latter admits of the greatest richness and variety. The thinnest muslins are the best for this purpose; and they are embroidered to great perfection in Saxony.

There are diverse kinds of embroidery; as *embroidery on both sides*, that which appears on both sides. *Guimped embroidery*, performed either in gold or silver. In this work, a sketch is first made on the cloth, then they put on a cut vellum, and afterwards sew on the gold and silver with silk thread, interspersing silver and gold cord; tinsel, and spangles. *Embroidery on the stamp*, where the figures are very high and prominent, being supported on wool, cotton, hair, &c. *Low and plain embroidery*, where the figures are low and flat, and without any enrichment between them. It is probable that the covering of the sword of Goliath, which was laid up in the tabernacle as a consecrated memorial of the victory gained by David over that vain-glorious idolater, or the wrapper that enveloped it, was some beautiful piece of embroidered work. (1 Sam. xxi. 9.) By statute 22 Geo. II. c. 36. no foreign embroidery, or gold or silver brocade, shall be imported, upon pain of being forfeited and burnt, and penalty of 100*l.* for each piece. No person shall sell or expose to sale any foreign embroidery, gold or silver thread, lace, fringe, brocade, or make up the same into any garment, upon pain of having it forfeited and burnt, and penalty of 100*l.* All such embroidery, &c. found, may be seized and burnt, and the mercer, &c. in whose custody it was found shall forfeit 100*l.*

**EMBROIDERY**, the enriching of a cloth, stuff, or muslin, by working diverse figures thereon with the needle, and thread of gold or silver.

The word embroidery is derived from the French