



For the Companion.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

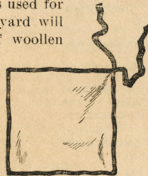
Which Children Can Make.

Shoe-Bag.

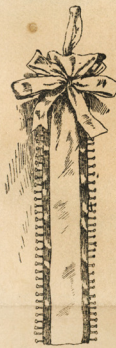
In packing a trunk it is very convenient to have covers for boots and shoes. These are easily made, and are very useful presents.

Get fine silesia, which is used for dress lining. One-half a yard will make two. One piece of woollen dress braid of a pretty shade. Cut the silesia in two pieces, making a square of each, one-half a yard square.

Bind all around with the braid, leaving ends of the braid at one corner to tie around the shoes. When packing the trunk lay the shoe, or pair of shoes, diagonally across the centre. First fold over the corner farthest from the strings, then turn over the two side corners and roll over, so that the strings come in the right position for tying up the parcel.



Hanging Pin-Cushion.



One yard of ribbon two inches wide, and three-quarters of a yard the same shade, one-half an inch wide. Make a long bag of the wide ribbon, sewing overhand on each side, leaving eight inches at the top. Fold this over and join together like a hem.

Stuff the bag with sawdust, bran or curled hair; fasten the top by tying the narrow ribbon around the bag and finishing with a bow and ends. Make a loop of the same to hang up by.

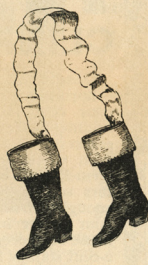
Stick pins down each side. This would be pretty made of fancy ribbon, which can often be bought cheap at a bargain counter.

Knitting-Needle Sheaths.

These little cavalier boots are intended to slip over the ends of the knitting-needles, when the work is laid down or carried about. They serve to keep the needles all together, and prevent their catching into other things, after the usual manner of knitting-needles.

To make them: Cut the lower part of the boot of bronze, or some fine sort of leather. Overseam the front and the upper and under part of foot together; or, cut in two pieces overseaming all round. For the tops, put on pieces of plush, any color. Stuff the feet and lower parts of the legs with cotton, to give a round shape. Use sachet if you choose. They should be about two inches from top of the gauntlet top to bottom of heel—other measure in suitable proportion to this.

Lay a piece of flat elastic, seven and one-quarter inches long, inside a piece of ribbon nine inches long, and with stitches as invisible as possible run the ribbon together on each side of the elastic, leaving a little "heading" on each side, or edge. For this two narrow ribbons—about one-half inch wide—may be used; or, one wider ribbon, folded. When done the ribbon should be folded a little on the elastic. Attach this at either end to a little boot, fastening it just inside the back of the plush top.



Handkerchief Case.

Twelve inches of fine white linen and embroidery silk is all that is required to make this case.



it, either finishing with a row of feather-stitching or hem-stitching.

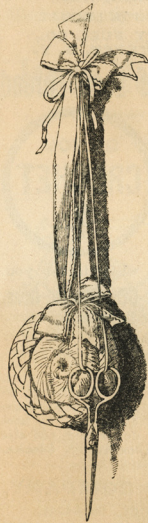
Have stamped in the corners simple little patterns, which can be outlined in white or colored silks, and in one corner the word "Mouchoir." It is very pretty to have just one corner with the word "Mouchoir," and the other three corners plain except the feather-stitch edge.

Then fold together, as shown in the illustration, fastening three corners together; sew a small white linen or pearl button where they are fastened. Make a small loop of very narrow tape, or cord, and sew to the fourth corner to secure it to the button.

Possibly you can get a child's handkerchief the necessary size, of white linen. That would be very nice, as it would not require hemming.

A Twine Basket.

Into a small Japanese basket, which can be bought in any fancy store for a few cents, you can, with a little skill, press a ball of soft, bright-colored twine. Use ribbon an inch wide to suspend the basket, and attach a very small pair of scissors with a narrower ribbon, as shown in the diagram.



Balloon Catchall.

From any dealer in electric light supplies you can get a lamp for an incandescent burner which is broken inside, and of no use to them, but having the glass perfect. These they will sell cheap, perhaps for fifteen cents. With a small basket (three cents) and three yards of narrow ribbon (six cents) and some crochet silk the same color, yellow or other pretty shade, you can make a very pretty little ornament in imitation of a balloon.

The cover is made with the simple crochet stitch, beginning at the top of the balloon; make a chain of three stitches, join together. In each of these stitches make a double crochet stitch, with a chain or one stitch between. After the first row make a chain of two between, keeping on in the same way, widening when necessary to fit the balloon. When you have enough to cover it about half-way, as shown in the drawing, finish in shells, fourteen in number.

Make the cover a little tight, as it stretches.

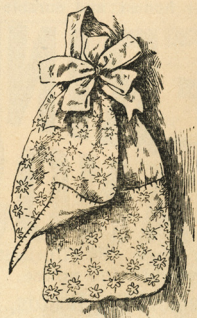
Now make a similar piece for the bottom, only more closely, so the brass will not show through. Finish with seven shells.

Now join these two pieces together with chains of crochet, joining the middle of each shell at the bottom to the middle of every other shell at the top. When you get all the chains made but one, slip the cover over the glass, as you will not be able to do so after all the chains are made.

From the bottom make four chains of twenty or twenty-five stitches, and fasten to the basket. Ornament with bows of the ribbon, and finish at the top with a large bow and ends, and a loop to hang up by.

Knitting-Bag.

One-third of a yard of cretonne, of a small figure, and one-third of a yard of silesia of a



pretty contrasting shade, and one yard of ribbon one inch in width.

Line the cretonne throughout with the silesia, fold as shown in the illustration, folding one end to form a pocket about half the depth of the bag.

each side of the bag, and finish with a bow of the ribbon.

Needle-Book.

A novel needle-book is made by using a small Japanese doll about four inches long. Make a dress of ribbon or fancy silk, which must be three inches in width and one-fourth of a yard in length.

Cut this in two pieces, one for the front and the other for the back of the dress. Put the doll between the two pieces, having the middle of each piece of ribbon come in the centre of the doll's head. Sew together on the shoulders by overhand seam. Tie a narrow ribbon around the waist, with a small bow in the back. From this sash you can hang a small emery bag, scissors, etc.

Make a small needle-book of two or more leaves of fine white flannel, and secure to the waist of the dress inside. A gold cord around her neck will serve as a necklace, and also to hang her up by.



A Plaything for the Baby.

Wind a ball of yarn—the ravellings of an old stocking are as good as anything—of the required size. Divide it in sections of four or six by passing a large cord around it; fastening this



lightly with thread so it will not slip. Thread a long needle with bright-colored worsted, push it down through the ball from stem to "blossom-end," and begin to work around the ball, passing the needle under and back around each cord so as to cover it with the worsted.

Attach a rubber or worsted cord to the ball when finished. If you wish you can put a small tin box containing bits of tin inside, for a "rattle." The more stripes, and the brighter colors of worsted you use, the better.

Straw Beads.

Collect a large pile of nice, even straws, with no cracks or flaws in them. Soak them till they are soft and pliable, then cut into beads about half an inch long.

Color the beads with Diamond dyes, so as to have varieties of every shade. These make very acceptable gifts for kindergarten work.

A Pincushion.

Take a basket, similar to that used for the twine basket, and push out the bottom, so that only a hollow rim is left. Lay in a circular piece of plush, velvet, or woollen material if preferred, so that the wrong side shall be on the inside of the basket.

Then stuff the basket full, with wool or hair. Then press in a second circular piece of the material to cover the stuffing.

This material should bulge a little on each side when the cushion is finished.

Tie a ribbon of a harmonizing color around the basket, having a loop to hang it up by, as shown in the drawing.

Worsted Reins.

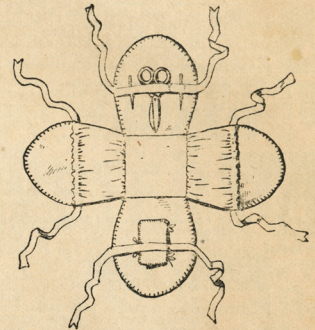
Instead of making reins in the old-fashioned way, flat, a very much better way is to make them round. Cast on a chain of fifteen stitches, join together, make a single crochet in each stitch. Holding the inside of the work toward you make a single crochet in each stitch, taking up the outside loop made in the row before the last one. This can be made in one or more colors of Germantown worsted.

Work-Basket.

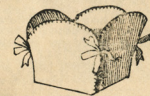
One-half yard of pretty silk or cretonne, two yards of ribbon one-half inch wide. Cut two pieces of cardboard four inches in this four inches at the each piece with the drawing it over the inches square, and shape, measuring bottom. Cover silk or cretonne, cardboard neatly

one across each side of the basket, fastening at intervals. Make a small needle-book and slip under the ribbon on one side of the basket.

On another side a pair of small scissors and two tape needles, and on the other two sides small



bags to hold buttons, etc. These bags can be two and one-half inches deep. Gather them at the top and bottom, and sew at the side to the basket.



Now sew these four sides to the square piece, which is the bottom of the basket, being careful to sew strongly and finely, and be sure that the sides measure the same as the bottom, otherwise they will not fit. Tie the ribbons together on each side.

Mounted Christmas Card.

An oval, gilt-edged Christmas card, on which was a little landscape in brown, as delicate as an etching, was mounted



on a cardboard panel covered with brown satin and trimmed across the top and bottom with fluffy silk fringe set in between the satin cover and the backing where they were overlaid together.

The fringe was made of second-hand ribbon, one edge cut off, then unravelled almost to the other edge, and gathered to make it heavy.

"Such a Pretty Dust-Brush!"

This is the exclamation of almost every one who sees the dust-brush for the first time; and if they see not only one but a whole tableful, tied with ribbons of a dozen different shades, they will think nothing could be nicer for a fair, at twenty-five cents apiece.

Take three lengths of manilla rope, fresh and new, about half a yard each, and braid them in the middle. Then untwist and comb out the ends, producing this effect:



Bend together, fasten securely, and tie with a ribbon, making as handsome a bow as you can, and you will have a novel and pretty dust-brush, which will be an ornament to any corner where it hangs.

Japanese Sachet.

A paper napkin or handkerchief, a very small Japanese doll, perhaps four inches tall, and a tiny Japanese umbrella, with three-quarters of a yard of ribbon (narrow), a little cotton and sachet powder are the materials required.



Spread the handkerchief out smooth, laying in the centre a large bunch of the cotton sprinkled with the sachet powder. Put the doll into the cotton as far as the waist, draw the four corners of the handkerchief together around the doll, and tie it in with the ribbon wound around the