



(Communications intended for this Department should be addressed to AUNT TUTU, care MASSEY PRESS, Massey Street, Toronto.)

### Pocket Pinballs.

THESE are handy to have when travelling, and yet are pretty enough for the daintiest work-basket. You can make these any size. I have seen some only one and a half inches square; but a good,

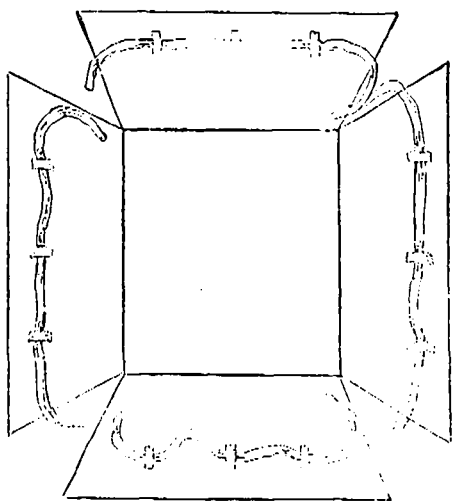


A DAINTY PINBALL.

useful pinball is about as big as an ordinary butter-plate. Cut out two pieces of pasteboard this size; on each baste a bit of light colored silk or satin, stretched tight. Stitch them neatly together. Now take a tiny square of bolting cloth just large enough to cover the pinball, and paint on it a fancy portrait in oil or watercolor. When dry, tack it neatly on the ball, sew a loop of ribbon on the back, stick pins in round the edge, and it is finished.

### Folding Basket.

THOSE who have lived much of the time with their possessions in trunks, know how the pretty basket will break, and how unhandy is the box, bag or other substitute. Such are fully able to appreciate the very durable and convenient folding basket illustrated. It can be laid perfectly flat in the



trunk, and when unpacked, the tying of a few bows will turn it into a trim-shaped basket, ready to set on the table and hold securely the sewing utensils and the numerous little "traps," so troublesome but necessary. The basket which served as a pattern was of gray linen with crimson ribbon in the loops. The bottom was four inches square and the sides three inches deep. Two pieces of card board were cut for the bottom and eight for the sides; these were covered with the linen. On four of the side pieces three loops of the linen were strongly stitched; all of the pieces were then overhanded together, two and two, a plain piece and

one with loops. On the plain side of two, pockets of the linen were sewed; on one of the others a few leaves of flannel for holding needles, on the remaining one a pincushion. The four sides were then sewed to the bottom, and an inch-wide ribbon drawn through the loops. When in shape, the bows at the four corners make this basket quite ornamental. For a friend who is to travel during the summer, such a basket would be a pretty gift. Crêtonne or India silk could be used instead of the linen.

### Removable Window Shelves.

THE following article is contributed by J. Marion Shull to the Rural New Yorker:

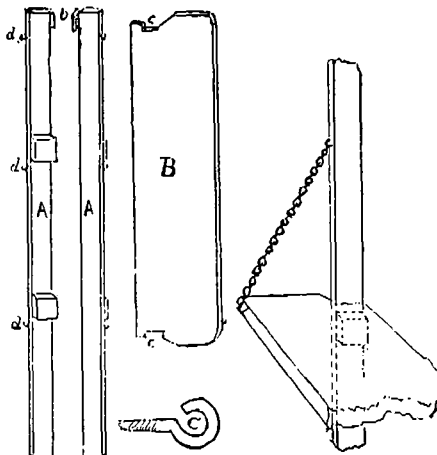
House plants if in good condition add greatly to the beauty and cheerfulness of the living-room, and every good housewife endeavors to have a place for at least a few specimens, but in rooms where there is no bay window, it is always more or less inconvenient to arrange a pot stand or table before the window, while permanent shelves are a nuisance during the summer when the plants are all enjoying the out-of-door air and sunshine.

From the accompanying designs may be constructed a convenient set of shelves which are put up or taken down at will, and without the aid of any tool whatever.

For material, use common white pine, one inch in thickness.

The construction of the uprights, AA, is easily seen. They consist of two strips, each two inches wide and as high as the window in which they are to be placed. At suitable distances are small square blocks, aaa, upon which the shelves rest. At the top is fastened a cleat, b, which, when in place, rests in the sash way, and holds the entire set of shelves securely in the window.

With a hack-saw or file cut three screw-eyes like that shown at C, and screw them into the front edge of the upright at ddd.



The shelves, B, are eight inches wide, with notches, cc, cut at each end to accommodate the uprights. The distances between these notches should be just two inches less than the width of the window, so that the whole may fit closely when in place. The form is that of an upper shelf, the dotted lines representing those which rest against the lower sash. At each end of the shelf is a screw-eye, ff, with a chain one foot long attached.

To arrange the shelves, place the two uprights in their respective sides of the window with the cleats in the sash-way; the shelves are then set in position, with the chains hooked up to the screw-eye above, and all is snug and secure.

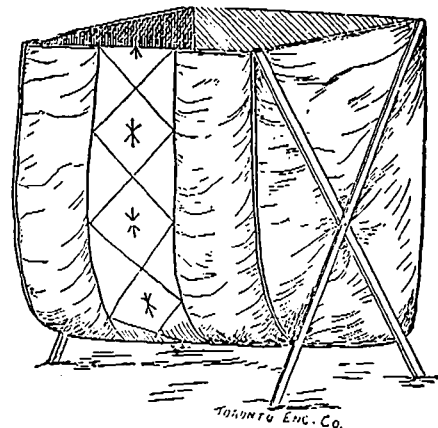
The lower shelf of course rests upon the window-sill.

The shelves are a home invention, well tried, and inexpensive.

An experienced housekeeper once well said: "I never throw away a single potato which is left over; there is always some use for it. If even one or two only are left, I grate them and use them to thicken soup. If more, they can be sauteed the next morning for breakfast, or cut into dice and heated up with hot milk, into which some salt and a piece of butter has been added. By putting them in a hot oven and allowing the milk to be partly absorbed by the potatoes, this makes a very good plain dish."

### Standard Work-Bag.

THE foundation of this motherly-looking work bag, is a discarded toy saw horse, the owner of which had out-grown such childish things. A stout wire was passed around the top, the middle bar removed and a strong screw inserted where the frame



crossed. Two coats of cream-colored paint were given the wood. A bag was made of blue denim that just fitted the space around the top. The centre of the bag was cut straight and long enough to reach from side to side; the ends were rounded at the bottom. On this lining was fitted a pulled cover of light brown sateen. A straight piece of the denim crossed the centre. This piece was ornamented with brown braid, sewed on to make diamonds, in the centre of which a simple fancy stitch was worked with a linen rope floss. The edges of the bag were bound with blue braid. This bag has an almost unlimited capacity for holding work, and occupies a place of honor by the sewing machine.

### How to Cook a Husband.

MORE than a decade ago, in the Baltimore Cooking-School, the following recipe for "Cooking a husband so as to make him tender and good," was contributed by a lady, presumably of experience. We commend it to our lady readers:

A good many husbands are utterly spoiled by mismanagement. Some women go about it as if their husbands were bladders, and blow them up. Others keep them constantly in hot water; others let them freeze by their carelessness and indifference. Some keep them in a stew by irritating ways and words. Others roast them. Some keep them in pickle all their lives. It cannot be supposed that any husband will be tender and good managed in this way, but they are really delicious when properly treated. In selecting your husband you should not be guided by the silvery appearance, as in buying mackerel, nor by the golden tint, as if you wanted salmon. Be sure and select him yourself, as tastes differ. Do not go to the market for him, as the best are always brought to your door. It is far better to have none unless you will patiently learn how to cook him. A preserving kettle of the finest porcelain is best, but if you have nothing but an earthenware pipkin it will do, with care. See that the linen in which you wrap him is nicely washed and mended, with the required number of buttons and strings nicely sewed on. Tie him in the kettle by a strong silk cord called comfort, as the one called duty is apt to be weak. They are apt to fly out of the kettle and be burned and crusty on the edges, since, like crabs and lobsters, you have to cook them while alive. Make a clear, steady fire out of love, neatness and cheerfulness. Set him as near this as seems to agree with him. If he sputters and fizzes do not be anxious; some husbands do this till they are quite done. Add a little sugar in the form of what confectioners call kisses, but no vinegar or pepper on any account. A little spice improves them, but it must be used with judgment. Do not stick any sharp instruments into him to see if he is becoming tender. Stir him gently; watch the while, lest he lie too flat and close to the kettle, and so become useless. You cannot fail to know when he is done. If thus treated you will find him very digestible, agreeing nicely with you and the children, and he will keep as long as you want, unless you become careless and you set him in too cold a place.