

summer, and which would be, for this reason, "unhealy" if packed away in "moth-proof" chests.



For Busy Fingers.

A pretty bonbon-box or jewel-case can be made of a turned wooden box of rather large size. For the first use, line it neatly with satin-paper and cover the outside with satin, pleated, or with plush neatly glued on, having it extend to where the cover fits down. One which I saw last Christmas was covered with blue velvet and had the words "Sweet's to the Sweet" written around the box, while on the top was "Bonbons" fancifully arranged. The writing was done with a small hair pencil dipped in "size," and before this was dry it was thickly sprinkled with diamond-dust or "frostings." These come in different colors and cost but ten cents a package; and I always plan to have a supply of them for my Christmas decorations.

By-the-way, three of these boxes, one stuffed, for a cushion, one for a hairpin-holder, and one for jewelry or whatever one likes to use it for, joined together and tied with a pretty ribbon, would be a most useful "adjunct of the toilet-table" and take but little room. It seems to me, too, that "scorch-work" will furnish a very

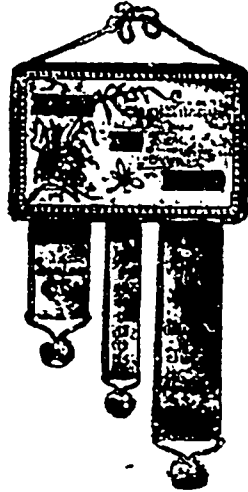


"HANDY BAG," IN CROCHET.

nice decoration for these boxes, and I am looking anxiously for the promised directions.

I like always to have a few flowers on our table, and am never without them in summer. Not having suitable vases, all of

mine being too large, I improvised a pair. I took blacking bottles of fanciful shape — "Bixby's," I think — gave both a coat of glue, let it dry a little, rolled them in coarse



A PRETTY CALENDAR.

bird seed until thickly covered (all but the portion which rounds out just below the neck — this was kept clear, not having received the coat of glue), and when thoroughly dry painted the rough portion of one with pearl-gray enamel and the other with light blue. Before the paint was fairly dry I dusted the gray with silver brocades or "flitters," and the blue with the gray, and, when dry, traced a dainty pattern around each, using silver and gold bronze for the purpose, the silver, of course, on the gray vase. The whole cost me little time and less money, and my "unique" vases are greatly admired! I intend making a piazza vase in much the same way.

I was much interested in the prize award for Christmas contributions last year, even though I did not enter the lists; but I want to echo "Sweet Sixteen's" sentiment that we begin earlier this season to tell of the pretty things we intend to make. — Mrs. E. S., Framingham, Mass.

Another correspondent, in asking that a second "prize award" be made, offers the pleasant suggestion that the articles submitted be printed and voted upon by readers — those receiving the greater number of votes to be awarded each a subscription to the for one year. This we are glad to do, and six subscriptions to the magazine shall be thus awarded in the Christmas number. Articles for competition should be sent in as soon as possible. Directions for scorch-work shall appear next month.

"Handy Bag," in Crochet.

This bag will be found very useful for carrying a bathing dress, towels, etc., as well as in many other ways. It may be made as much smaller as desired by following the general directions.

For the model, Harbours's 5-cord flax thread, No. 16, which comes in large balls, was used, with a rather large steel hook.

It is begun at the bottom with a chain of 37 stitches.

Work around this chain in double crochet, putting 2 stitches in 1st and last stitch of chain. Continue thus, widening at both ends of the strip so as to make it lie flat, or nearly so, for 2 more rows of doubles, then chain 3 to take the place of a treble, and work a row of trebles, joining the 1st to last with 1 single crochet, and widening as when working the first 3 rows. There should be 89 trebles in all. The pattern for the sides of the bag is now begun. This is formed of shells of 2 trebles, 3 chain, and 2 trebles. The 1st row consists of 20 shells, and these are worked into every 3d and 4th treble of previous row, alternately. The shells of 2d and succeeding 6 row are worked under the 3 chain separating the trebles.

Now comes the row for running ribbon through. Work along with single crochet to the middle stitch of 1st 3 chain, chain 7; * chain 1, then work 5 stitches, beginning with a treble, and putting the thread over one more time in each until the last stitch has 5 times, back into the chain from the 6th to 2d stitch. Make 1 long stitch (thread over 5 times) around next 3 chain, and a double treble round next chain. In repeating from the * the stitches, which grow gradually longer, are caught at regular intervals into the long stitch which represents 7 chain. At the end of the row the last long stitches are followed by 4 singles worked along the 1 chain and treble, and the shell-work is begun again for the upper part of the bag. The shells are worked alternately into the double treble and the long stitch, 20 in all. Seven more rows are then made, working the shells under the 3 chain, as at first, and in the 8th row, which completes the bag, the shells are caught



CARDINAL LACE.

down by 1 double between the shells of last row.

The handles may be twisted of cord or crocheted; are thirteen inches long, and separated by 5 shells at the sides of the bag. To crochet them, make a chain of 5 or 6 stitches, join, and work around in double crochet, from in to outside. The work is continued until the handle is long enough, working the doubles in the outer loops between the upper stitch links. The latter in this way go to the inside and make the cord tighter. A very durable cord may be made by the little folks, if preferred, on the "daisy" or spool knitting-machines. The bag when finished is stiffened by being dipped into thin glue, to which a little saffron may be added, and when partly dry is drawn over a mold, as thick as the bottom is wide, to become thoroughly hard.

This pattern may be used for waste-baskets and a variety of similar work, and the row of openwork may consist plainly of long stitches, at little distances apart, and separated by equal chains. — M. E.

The following curious advertisement appeared not long ago in a newspaper in Paris: "A lady having a pet dog whose hair is of a rich mahogany color desires to engage a footman with whiskers to match."

