

## Our Work Table.

### HINTS FOR HOME-MAKERS.

ONE of the most novel, as well as most effective decorations for a screen, is Manilla rope, somewhat smaller than is used for a clothes line. An exceedingly pretty one was made after this wise: A carpenter made the framework for a three paneled screen of plain white pine, which was then painted with white enamel paint to which there had been added just enough of carmine to give it a pale rose tint. Curtains of rose pink China silk were added, shirred at the top and allowed to fall in full folds to the floor. Over this back-ground of pale pink, was a net work of Manilla rope, knotted at regular intervals, and finished at the bottom with tassels of rope, ravelled out, and combed with a coarse comb until they were fluffy.

The knots were gilded and the whole effect was prettier than can well be described.

A DAINTY little fancy that costs almost nothing in the way of expense or time, and yet which adds so much to the charm of a well appointed room, is a hearth broom made of Manilla rope. By saying that you wish to use it for fancy work you can get a better quality of rope than is made for more practical purposes. Take three pieces, a yard in length, and plait them in the middle, leaving a little over quarter of a yard at each end of the rope unplaited. With strong linen twine secure the ends of your plait, and then tie the rope together in the form of a loop with the loose ends of the rope hanging in a heavy fringe. Ravel out the ends of this fringe, and then comb them till they are fluffy and stand out like a brush. Tie a bow of broad ribbon at the place where the loop is secured by the linen twine, and you have a hearth brush which will really be useful, and will in addition be as ornamental as the veriest lover of beauty could desire. The plaited loop will form a handle by which it may be hung up beside the fireplace.

AN ODD and pretty work bag was contrived by an ingenious woman out of four of those twisted bamboo carpet whips. They were first glorified with white enamel paint, touched here and there with gilding and then two were fastened together cross wise, so that the handles formed legs upon which the work bag frame was to rest. Slender strips of wood, also painted and filled, held these legs together, and kept them in their proper place, and thus the frame work in which the bag was to be swung, was contrived. The bag was large and deep, and small convenient pockets were fitted upon the lining. The outside of the bag was made of rose colored silkoline, and it was lined with silkoline of an olive shade. A pretty bow at one corner finished this tasteful and ingenious contrivance. The expense of this bag was very trifling, but if one chose to expend more money upon it, the bag could be made of China or India silk. It added a great deal to the decoration of the cosy sitting-room in which it was placed, and besides its usefulness and beauty, it added a great deal to the happiness of the little mistress of the home to know that out of such unpromising materials, she had contrived by her woman's wit such a graceful arrangement.

A VERY effective, handy and simple contrivance can be made out of one of those little three cent Japanese baskets that one sees in all the Japanese store. Enough small brass rings should be covered with embroidery-silk, to make three rows around the middle of the little basket, and the rest of the space should then be covered with crocheting, either shells or plain crochet. The bottom of the basket should be quite covered with the crocheting, but a small opening may be left at the top through which a ball of twine may be slipped into the basket, and then the opening can be closed by being drawn together with daisy ribbon. A small pair of scissors complete the convenience of this arrangement, and then no time need ever be spent in vainly searching for a piece of twine. The only drawback to it is, it is almost too convenient for the small boy with his innumerable uses for string.

ANOTHER little convenience is the court plaster case, which can be so easily and quickly made that one wonders that there is not one in every house, so that no time need be spent in looking for the little roll of plaster that is apt to have a fashion of mislaying itself, whenever its services are in immediate requisition. There are several ways of making this little contrivance, and no doubt some original way will suggest itself to the reader, after she has read these methods. Take a quarter of a yard of ribbon about two inches in width, and ravel a fringe about an inch and a half in depth at each end. Double this over and sew the court plaster, cut in small sheets, in the fold. Add a loop of daisy ribbon by which to hang it up, and fasten a tiny pair of scissors to it, so the court plaster may be immediately available, when it is needed. Some little spray of flowers may be embroidered or painted upon the ribbon, or some appropriate motto may be inscribed upon it. "I heal all wounds save those of love," is one much adopted, and "A friend that sticketh closer than a brother" is another. Two little strips of celluloid may be used in place of the ribbon, if desired



NO. 1. CENTRE OF QUILT.