

someone, and another day we gave great joy to God by holding out a friendly hand to a person who had deeply injured us. One day we drifted away from our Friend by allowing all our thoughts to be fixed on the passing work or pleasure of earth, and another day we lifted up our hearts and eyes to the radiant Vision of God, gladly yielding our will to His in trustful, joyous obedience. So, unseen by all but the Friend who cares most, a life grows in the beauty of holiness, day after day—the kingdom of God cometh not with observation.

"The busy fingers fly; the eyes may see
Only the glancing needle which they hold;
But all my life is blossoming inwardly,
And every breath is like a litany;
While through each labor, like a thread
Of gold,
Is woven the sweet consciousness of
Thee."

DORA FARNCOMB.

The Ingle Nook.

[Rules for correspondents in this and other Departments: (1) Kindly write on one side of paper only. (2) Always send name and address with communications. If pen-name is also given, the real name will not be published. (3) When enclosing a letter to be forwarded to anyone, place it in stamped envelope ready to be sent on. (4) Allow one month in this department for answers to questions to appear.]

Some Christmas Gifts.

Dear Ingle Nook Friends.—Not quite six weeks until Christmas!—But the busy fall season is at last over, and the evenings are long; there will be opportunity enough to plan for those few pretty Christmas gifts that have been floating nebulously through your mind for the past fortnight or so.

What to make and what to buy, that is the question, as usual, but you will not go very far astray if you just remember four little guiding-points.

In the first place, study the likes and needs of those to whom you wish to give gifts. For instance, don't give Helena, who is delightedly collecting a pink-rose Limoges china set, a cream-jug in red and blue Crown Derby. She would feel obliged to use it on all state occasions, because you gave it to her, and because it is "good," but how much better satisfied she would be with one that "went with" her set! . . . And don't give dark-skinned Mary a pale baby-blue waist. No matter how pretty it may be, she would look a fright in it. Remember that there is no one more absolutely helpless than the woman who receives an utterly "impossible" gift,—especially if the giver chances to live in the neighborhood. Don't embarrass anyone in this way.

In the second place, don't give gifts that will embarrass anyone financially. Perhaps you are very fond of Maud, whom you have met this year for the first time. Just to show your love for her, you would like so much to give her a present. But perchance you have a surplus of this world's goods, while Maud has to exercise the strictest economy. She is poor, but proud. Possibly, then, a long, newsy, jolly letter would please her better than anything you could give her,—or an invitation to dinner on Christmas Day, if she lives near enough. If, however, you really feel that you must give her something, let it be some pretty trifle. You see, if you give her a present that costs much money, she may feel that she must return in kind next year, perhaps at a possible stroke upon her slender purse, and you don't want that.

In the third place, see that your gifts are personal. It is not a very good compliment to John to give him a chair that is to be used in the living-room, where it is needed as furniture, and which he would be touched far more by a little tie perhaps made by your own fingers, or some such trifle. Of course you may at any time give John, or his daughter May, a piece of furniture for his or her own room,—that would be different,—but don't give anyone something that is to be for general use, except, possibly, the housewife, who is always pleased with any tasteful little odd or end for her home.

Last of all, don't waste money on "junk." Let your presents be really

useful, or really beautiful, but keep clear of bits of flimsy trash fit only to be thrown into the rubbish-box before the year is out. There is no need to enumerate: everybody knows what constitutes "junk," very well.

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Now, "to the concrete," as the Normal students of whom I am seeing so much these days, would say.

There are many pretty and cozy things to be made of wool. Directions for making a crocheted cap were given in this column lately, and what girl would not be delighted with one made of pure white or cherry-red, now that the skating season is near. The house-jacket, too, for which directions were also given a little earlier, would be very suitable for either a young or an elderly woman,

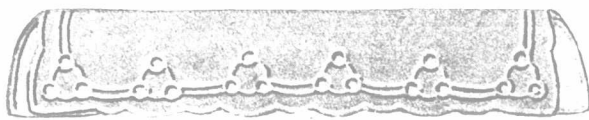


Fancywork or Shopping Bag.

Made of coarse white linen or "natural" crash, with an insert of crochet.—From Pictorial Review.

if made in white, with a blue border for the former, or of gray and lavender for the latter. These jackets are especially useful for wearing under a coat when driving in cold weather. Woollen bedroom slippers are also a very acceptable gift at Christmas time, as are also the little woollen scarfs to be worn about the neck and chest beneath an "open"

medallion pattern may be used instead of the "rose" then given. Make the medallions or motifs first, baste them on cambric, then connect by ordinary square-mesh or picot crochet. . . . Linen dresser or sideboard covers, with crocheted insertion across the ends, are pretty, and useful, and easily made, as are also little guest-towels trimmed in the same way. Center-pieces and doilies, with the pattern traced in coronation braid, and a crocheted edge (the daisy pattern given last week would do splendidly), are comparatively quickly done, as the coronation braid is not hard to sew on. Other ideas are: A crocheted marmalade mug cover; linen or crash fancywork bag, with a crocheted design on the side; corset-cover yoke entirely of crochet, or of crochet and novelty braid mixed (this is more quickly done); handkerchief with



Collar and Jabot.

Of white or colored linen, embroidered in white or in colors.

crocheted edge—little wheels of crochet may be inset at the corners; linen stand-up collar with crochet on the outside forming a double collar; crocheted neck-bow; tie crocheted in colored silk or mercerized floss for a man; neck-scarf made the same way; crocheted belt made of white or colored crochet cotton; pin-cushion covered with silk or linen, crocheted top; cushion cover crocheted with

ered in conventional design with colored silks, also of blue or green denim with an outline pattern in heavy white floss; pin-cushion tops,—white linen done in English embroidery; jabots, linen with the embroidery in white or in color to match dress; belts; hair-bands, etc.—Just a word in regard to these last which are very fashionable now for young girls for party or theater wear. They may be made of silk ribbon, pink, pale blue, cream, etc., or of black velvet ribbon, embroidered with some pretty design in colored silks, or gold or silver thread. Tiny gold, pearl, jet, or steel beads may also be used. Still more easily, made bands, or "bandeaux," as the fashion-papers delight to call them, may be made of softly folded tulle, with a flat bow at each end to come just above the ears. Down the center of the bandeau, and across the bows, a single string of pearl beads is run.

Bran Muffins — Pumpkin Marmalade.

Here is the recipe for bran muffins that I told you about: One egg, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 cup butter-milk or sour milk, piece of butter size of an egg, 1 teaspoon soda, 1 cup flour and 2 cups bran, added last. Bake in buttered muffin-rings or deep pattypans. May also be baked in a deep cake-pan and afterwards cut in squares.

Pumpkin Marmalade.—Probably you still have a few pumpkins or Hubbard squashes on your store-room floor. Try a bit of marmalade made from them. Cut the flesh into bits and put through the meat chopper, also a couple of oranges and a lemon (more if you like), rind and all, to each kettleful. Add sugar as usual, and cook very slowly until a rich marmalade is the result. This is nice for breakfast.

Loose Sealer Rims.

Dear Dame Durden and Ingle Nookers,—I noticed in our Nook (October 5th), that Sylvana wanted to know, "What is the best way to seal fruit when sealer rims have become too large."

I had the same trouble with my rims, and a lady told me to put cloth between rims and sealer. I used an old table-cloth, cut in squares, and when I canned my fruit, put on the rubber ring, the lid, then one of my squares of cloth over the lid. I had them cut large enough to come well down past where the rim would come; if one ply of cloth did not keep the rim tight, I put on two ply. I have several "doctored" this way, and they seem to be keeping splendidly. Hope this will be of use to "Sylvana." The lady who told me said her mother used to do this, and their fruit was always good. I thought I would send this wrinkle, as I get so many from Dame Durden and Ingle Nookers.

Perth Co., Ont.

CONNIE.

Crocheted Bedroom Slippers.

Dear Dame Durden,—I have been a silent reader of your columns for quite a while, and often thought of writing before but never had the courage. I take very much interest in the fancywork. I made the doilies given some time ago, also made one of the house jackets given recently, and would like if you would give, as soon as possible, crocheted bedroom slippers, with directions; also men's socks. I can knit plain and rib, but can't make the heel. If I haven't been too much trouble, will call again some other day. Thanking you in advance.

Leeds, Ont.

A NOVICE.

Since receiving your letter I have set to work at bedroom slippers, and have one finished. It is for a child, No. 12 sole, but the larger ones are made exactly the same, except that you chain more stitches to begin with, always an odd number, say 17 or 19, instead of 13. For these little slippers I got 3 skeins double Berlin wool, gray, for the body of the slippers, and one skein of single, "king's blue," for the top, choos-



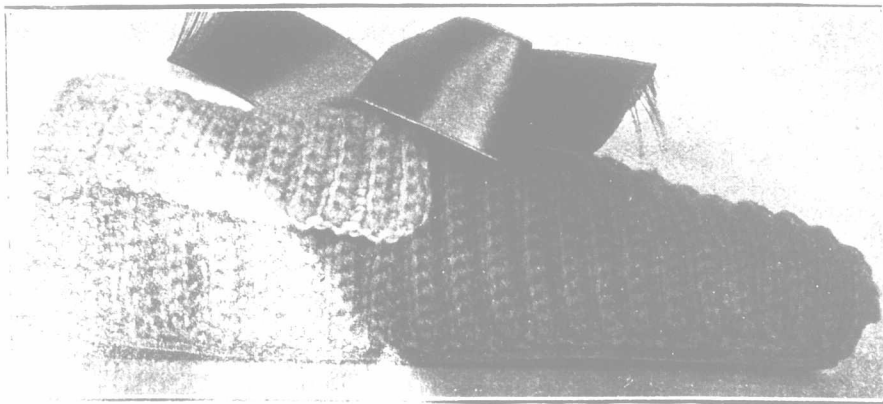
Embroidered Bandeaux. (By courtesy of the Corticelli Co., St. Johns, P. Q.)

coat. Fascinators are somewhat out of date, but the old-fashioned "clouds" seem to be coming in vogue again, while the big woollen shawls, like very broad scarfs with fringed ends, are always in favor. Both clouds and shawls may be knitted on large bone needles, and are prettiest when made of white, pale pink, lavender, or gray.

If you can crochet, the possibilities are endless. Directions for making a very pretty jabot appeared in this column some time ago, but any dainty crocheted

heavy white warp and large hook; crocheted collar for coat;—many other ideas will suggest themselves.

Most of the things done with crochet may also be done in embroidery, for instance, embroidered nightdress (pattern given recently); corset-cover; waist; coat and dress collars; sideboard and dresser covers; towels (be sure to embroider the initial, padding it heavily); hand-bags; center-pieces; doilies; cushion-tops—very pretty ones are made of natural-colored crash or linen embroid-



Slipper.