



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

Serviceable Ironing Holder.

THE cover for the novel ironing holder, shown in the accompanying illustration, is made of light brown Canton flannel, the wings and eyes of the bird being outlined with a lighter shade of worsted.

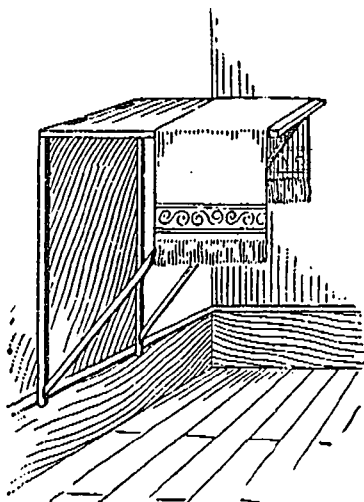
To make a quail holder, cut two pieces of Canton



flannel the shape of the bird, two for the lining out of ticking the same size, but extending only to the neck line; then two more of carpet or heavy cloth a trifle smaller. After the wings and eyes have been worked, sew the bird together from the neck to the tail; turn it and fill the head with cotton; baste the carpet on the lining; and tack it on in several places; sew the lining in a seam across the top, and baste it in the bird; bind all together around the bottom with brown braid; and sew on a loop of the same for hanging it up.

How to Make a Convenient Side Table.

AN extra little table is a great convenience in a crowded dining room. Make one which can be folded out of the way, when not in use by having a flat top, the size you wish, prepared and fastened



with hinges to a horizontal piece of wood set on the wall as high as a table. Two perpendicular pieces extending down from the ends of this form the basis for fastening two brackets, which swing out and support the table, or can be folded back under it as it hangs down.

Handy Wood Boxes.

A WOOD-BOX is sometimes a very convenient piece of furniture, and may be made very attractive. They are seen in the shape of brass-bound chests, box benches and queer little affairs made to fill a corner by the fire-place. We give two designs which serve double purpose of a wood-box and a fireside seat.

No. 1 is eighteen inches to the top of the seat, forty-two inches from the floor to the top of the back, forty-five inches long and thirty inches wide. The material is antique oak nearly an inch thick.

The lid of the box is hinged at the back, and when lifted shows the box for the wood. The top of the

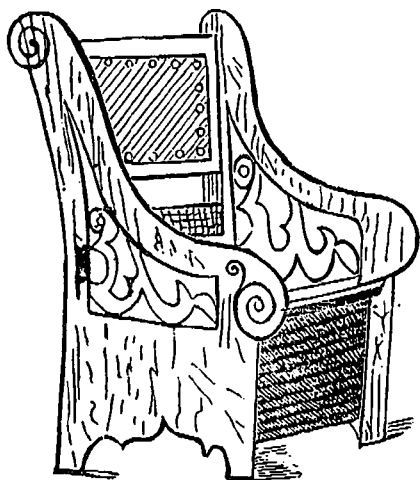


FIG. 1.

seat and the back are covered with brown leather. Some cotton-batting is placed under the leather to keep it from lying flat; the edges of the leather are turned under and secured with large brass-headed nails. The ornaments may be carved or cut through on a jig-saw.

No. 2 explains itself, almost. It measures twenty-eight inches high by eighteen inches square, with a small knob under each corner to

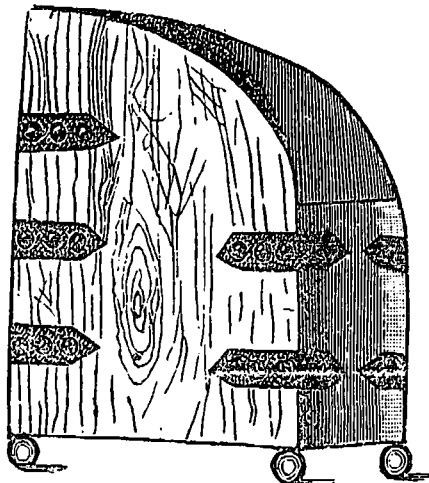
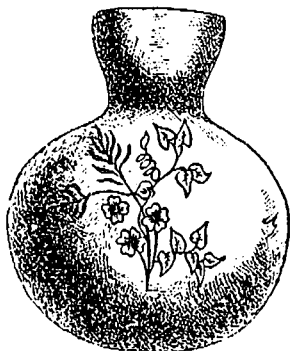


FIG. 2.

raise it from the floor. The straps on the corners may be cut by a clever blacksmith from sheet-iron, and should be fastened on with ornamental wrought-iron nails. These boxes may be made of any well-seasoned wood, but will be more substantial if of hard wood. The iron straps should be painted with two or three coats of dead-black paint.

A Novelty Vase.

A NOVELTY in the way of a vase may be made from a gourd. Select a gourd that has a handle without a crook in it, and cut off just enough of the stem end to enable you to remove the seed. Place it to dry, and when it is thoroughly dry,



give it a coat of paint, and then paint a spray of flowers, or grasses, on the sides. After the paint is dry, varnish it. This makes a pretty receptacle for flowers, as the gourd will hold water. If you prefer, you can gild the gourd instead of painting it. The accompanying illustration shows a vase made from a gourd.

Hints to Housekeepers.

For polishing furniture beeswax and turpentine are very good, but plenty of elbow grease is essential.

White paint that has become discolored may be nicely cleaned by using a little whiting in the water for washing.

To clean a white fur rug use naphtha, cleaning with a soft cloth a small piece at a time in a room where there is neither fire nor gas.

The following treatment for bleeding from the mouth, throat or lungs is recommended: Strict rest in bed with head raised, light diet, and ice cold drinks.

For grease and milk and acid spots upon furniture, rub the place well with cold water, then polish with soft linen. Save old napkins and pillow cases for such work.

If you are troubled with rheumatism mix a half cupful each of vinegar and turpentine with beaten whites of two eggs. Shake thoroughly. Pour a tablespoonful on some red flannel, lay on the aching spot and cover with oil silk. Relief is instantaneous.

TO CLEAN MARBLE—Take two parts of powdered whiting, one part blueing, and a half pound of soft soap. Boil together. While hot apply to your table with a soft cloth and let remain till dry. Then wash off with hot soap suds, into which a little salts of lemon has been dissolved.

To cut glass with chemicals all that is necessary is to draw a line across it with a quill pen dipped in a strong alcoholic solution of corrosive sublimate. After drying draw the same line with the pen dipped in nitric acid.

Beat an egg thoroughly in a bowl and add one teacupful of cold water to it. Use enough of this to thoroughly moisten coffee when making it. Keep in a cool place, and waste no more egg by drying.

A pretty and inexpensive night-light can be made with any piece of candle, weighted so as to float upright in a tumbler partly filled with water. This will last several hours, and will burn until the wick is far below the surface of the water.

To clean a gold chain that is dirty and dull from long use, put it in a bottle with warm water, grated castile soap, and pulverized chalk, shake well and rinse in cold water. Rub dry on a clean cloth and polish with chamæis skin.

An old tin pan is invaluable in the sink. It will retain the grounds from the coffee pot, tea leaves and crumbs in the dish water, and thus keep the drain pipe clear and save the plumber's big bills.

For tired eyes take a cup brimful of water and add sufficient salt to be faintly perceptible to the taster. Hold your eyes to the water so that the lashes touch it, then wink once and the eyes will be suffused; do not wipe them.

A very simple and strong cement may be made for glass and earthenware by diluting the white of an egg with its bulk of water. Beat up thoroughly, then bring to the consistency of thine paste with powdered lime. "It must be used immediately or will lose its virtue."

The best way to clean and renovate furs is said to be to heat rye flour, stirring it with the hand so long as you can bear the heat. Then spread it over the fur and rub in well. Then brush with a clean brush, and beat till all the flour is removed, and they will have their natural luster again.

When putting kettles and pots to soak, after having been used for the cooking of soups, stews or any greasy food, if a few drops of household ammonia is added to the water, and the vessels left to soak about five minutes, there will be no difficulty in cleaning them, for the ammonia does all that hard labor and there will be no necessity for scraping.

An English housekeeper says this is the best way to wash flannels: To a gallon of hot water take one teaspoon of the triple strongest ammonia, and add enough soap to make a strong suds. Dip the flannels in the suds without rubbing them with soap, and then rinse them in clear, hot water. Washed in this way they will be white and firm, not inclined to shrink or "mill," as in other methods of washing.