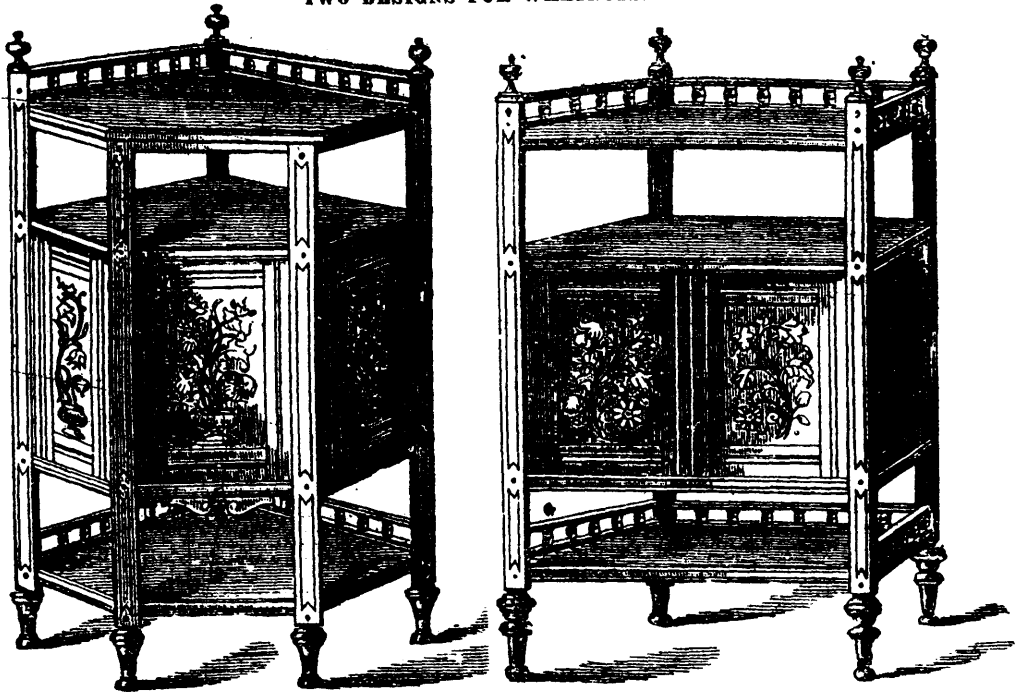


## TWO DESIGNS FOR WHATNOTS.



## TWO DESIGNS FOR WHATNOTS.

(See page 256.)

We offer two more simple designs for whatnots, of a class similar to the two representations shown in our reading columns in recent issues. They are plain and serviceable without being cumbersome or ugly. They show in their arrangement a due recognition of that very important principle—fitness for practical, everyday use. As in the other examples the panels may be decorated as the taste of the workman shall dictate. It is the simplicity of such designs that makes them valuable. The eye is not outraged, the taste is not offended, the room wherein the articles are placed is ornamented by their presence, and you are constantly and pleasantly reminded of them by their usefulness. It is to such unobtrusive furnishings that homes owe most of the cheerfulness they possess.

## MISCELLANEA.

**LUXURY PREVENTED.**—To restrain luxury, and prevent the ruin of families, Perer I., King of Portugal, absolutely forbade all his subjects to buy or sell any of their commodities without immediate payment, and made the second commission of the offence death.

**NEWTON'S PHILOSOPHY.**—Sir Isaac Newton, a little before he died, said: "I don't know what I may seem to the world, but, as to myself, I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

**SELF-DENIAL.**—There are many seasons in a man's life, and the more exalted and responsible his station the more frequently do these seasons recur, when the voice of duty and the dictates of feeling are opposed to each other; and it is only the weak and the wicked who yield that obedience to the selfish impulses of the heart, which is due to reason and honour.

**TYRANNY AND INSOLENCE.**—Tyranny is an exuberance of pride, by which all mankind are so much enraged, that it is never quietly endured, except by those who can reward the patience which they exact; and insolence is generally surrounded only by such whose baseness inclines them to think nothing insupportable that produces gain, and who can laugh at scurrility and rudeness with a luxurious table and an open purse.

**A PROMISE.**—A promise should be given with caution, and kept with care. A promise should be made with the heart, and remembered by the head. A promise is the offspring of the intention, and should be nurtured by recollection. A promise and its performance should, like a true balance, always present a mutual adjustment. A promise delayed is justice deferred. A promise neglected is an untruth told. A promise attended to is a debt settled.

**CHILDHOOD'S HOME.**—Our childhood's home! How our affections centre around the place of our nativity! How we bless that dear old name as we look over our past lives, and brush away the mist which the River of Time, in its ceaseless flow, has obscured the purer and holier aspirations, inspired by the hopes and fears of earlier days; how many fires are kindled on as many hearths, as we cross the old threshold of the homestead, whose embers will glow when all others are extinguished. And then, how our hearts go out in longings for the old scenes, when in after years we are weary with the battle of life.

**A POPULAR DELUSION.**—It is an error to suppose that a man belongs to himself. No man does. He belongs to his wife, or his relations; or his creditors, or to society in some form or other. It is for their especial good and behalf that he lives and works; and they kindly allow him to retain a percentage of his gains to administer to his own pleasures or wants. He has his body, and that is all; and even for that he is answerable to society. In short, society is the master, and man is the servant; and it is entirely as society proves a good or a bad master, whether the man turns out a good or bad servant.

**DYEING VENEERS A FINE BLACK.**—Have a small copper ready, into which put 6 lbs. of chip logwood and as many veneers as it will conveniently hold without pressing too tight; fill it with water and boil slowly for three hours; add  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of powdered verdigris,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of copperas, and 6 oz. of bruised nut-galls, filling the copper up with vinegar as the water evaporates. Boil gently two hours each day till the wood is dyed through.

**GOLD PENS.**—Gold pens are made much in the same manner as steel, with this important difference, that, as they cannot be tempered in the same way as steel is, the necessary elasticity is imparted to them by hammering, and by rubbing them with a small hard stone and water, instead of the tempering, &c., in oil. As gold is too soft of itself to make a durable pen, it is found necessary to attach a minute portion of an alloy of iridium and osmium, by soldering to the tips. This makes an extremely hard and durable point.