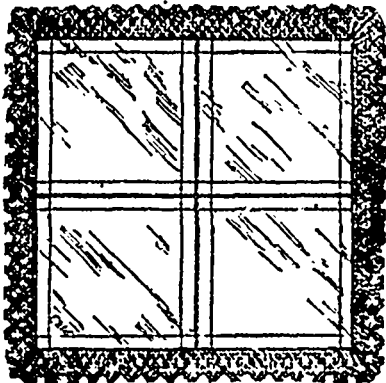


### A Pillow Sham of Handkerchiefs.

Something entirely new in the way of a pillow sham, is here illustrated. The sham is formed of four linen hem-stitched handkerchiefs, joined together with a fancy stitch. They are easily made, and in comparison with the tucked and ruffled ones, easily laundered, and they present a neat and attractive appearance on the bed. They can be lined with pink or blue allealea if one desires, but there is nothing prettier for a bed than spotless white.



HANDKERCHIEF PILLOW SHAM.

The size of the handkerchiefs will depend on the size the sham is to be. A very good quality for such purposes, can be purchased for fifteen cents. The shams are edged with linen antique lace. A slip for baby's carriage pillow, can be made of a single handkerchief, edged with the lace. An embroidered sham over a pillow of pink eastern, is very handsome.

### A Folding Shelf-Rack.

"T. S. P., Fresno Co., Cal., sends us the following: A very neat and cheap shelf-rack may be constructed after the plans given below. While not especially fine, it is at least presentable, and will be found quite a convenience, even for books in the family sitting-room, and owing to its peculiar construction, is capable of being easily folded up, and set aside when not actually in use. Figure 1 represents one pair of uprights (end pieces), with connecting strips, which also serve for cleats or rests for shelves. The uprights should be an inch and a quarter, or one and a half thick, and about two inches wide; the height may be regulated to accom-

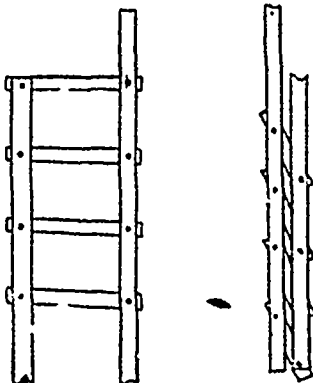


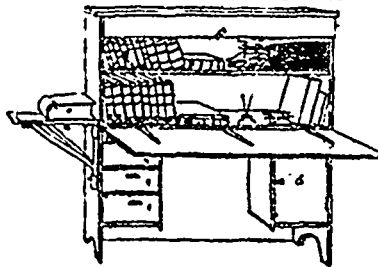
Fig. 1. FOLDING SHELF RACK. Fig. 2.

moderate any number of shelves. The cleats should be of some light material, and far enough apart to allow the entrance of ordinary volumes. If intended for this use. The shelves, end pieces, etc., should

be made of wood, and with front edges neatly beveled. The second pair of uprights should be the reverse of the first, so that the shelf cleats will be inside. The cleats should be fastened to the uprights with screw bolts with nuts well screwed down, so that the book-case will stand firm. When not in use, these nuts may be loosened, and the shelves be withdrawn when it is desired to fold it, as in figure 2. Three tie-strips, not seen in the diagram, will be required; one connecting the tops of the taller uprights, one just below the lower cleat behind, and one just below the lower cleat in front. When arranged in this way, they will not interfere with the movement of the several parts.

### A Farmer's Desk and Book-case.

Mr. Fred. Grundy, Christian Co., Ill., writes us: Every farmer should have a desk and book-case, where he can keep his records, accounts, books of reference, private papers, etc., etc. The principal objection those made for sale, is their cost, a very poor affair being sold, at the furniture stores for twelve dollars. A sketch of one is here given, which any one, who possesses a few carpenter's tools, can construct for a small sum. It is fifty-four inches high, thirty inches wide. The distance from the floor to the desk, which slopes downward a little when open, is thirty inches. The desk is sixteen inches wide, and is fastened to the shelf with three strong hinges, and has three bars, one inch square, firmly screwed across its back, to prevent it from warping. When the desk is down, it rests upon a piece of large moulding, C. When closed, it is fastened with a button. Under the desk on one side of the case, are three small drawers, e, e, e, for papers, on the opposite side is a small closet, d, for account books, etc. Fastened to one front corner of the case is a swinging shelf, to serve as a dictionary holder. An iron bar, x, rests in two sockets, which are screwed to the corner of the case. The top of the bar is bent at right angles, and divided into two short arms, as shown in the engraving. Supporting



HOME-MADE DESK.

bars are welded to the main bar near its lower end, and act as brackets to support the shelf, which is attached to them with screws. In the engraving, the shelf is shown beside the case, from which position it may be swung around to the end of the desk, bringing the dictionary into position for reference. The desk and case is a very compact affair, requires but little room, and is easily made. The dictionary holder is a very useful attachment, and will be valued by all who adopt it. The desk and case may be made of pine and stained; the cost will be small, while it will look as neat as one made of hard wood. Any blacksmith can make the bars and sockets.

### An Apron for Little Girls.

How much pretty and useful work little fingers can accomplish if they feel so inclined. It makes long, rainy days pass before you are aware of it. We propose to give for the girls, from time to time, some pretty and easily made little articles, and hope they will find them so interesting, that they will try to make something like them. Now for little girls, that intend to do some fancy work, we would advise them to make an apron, in which to keep such things as are necessary to work with. It is a handy one to around your waist, and keeps your work from slipping off to the floor. The de-

sign of one given in the engraving, is about the best, and is very easily made. It can be made of nainsook or plain cambric. Cut a piece of the material so that it will measure eighteen inches one way, and twenty-six the other, hem it across one end, making the hem one inch deep, turn this edge up seven inches to form the pocket, and baste it on the sides. Give the sides a hem of the same width; and lastly, hem the top, run a ribbon

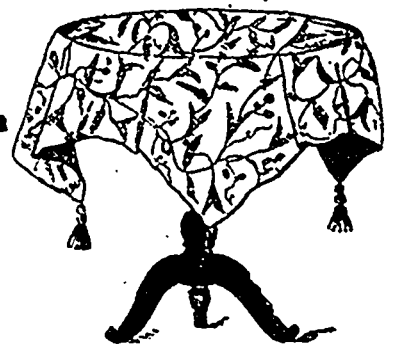


APRON FOR LITTLE GIRLS.

through it, and shirr the apron on it; make the ribbon fit the waist, and fasten it with a hook and eye underneath the bow at the left side. Bows are also placed on the corners of the pockets. "A stitch in time saves nine," or some similar motto can be worked if you can conveniently have it stamped on. It is worked in outline stitch with red working cotton. It is not at all necessary, and I think if the apron was to be for my own use I should omit it. W.

### Table Cover.

There are many, of course, who cannot embroider, and many of those who can, have not the time it demands to devote to it, and we are always glad to give those articles for home adornment, that do not require much labor, and are still pretty and effective. The design here given of a tablecloth, is something that anyone can make, and it will repay the time spent on it. It is made of a material called Madras, which is principally used for curtains. Select a pattern with a yellow ground, partly covered with large figures. It can be purchased at from fifty to seventy-five cents a yard, fifty-two inches wide. A yard and a half makes a good sized cover. The flower or principal pattern, is outlined with tinsel laid around the edge of the flowers, and caught down with white thread. The tinsel comes in balls at fourteen cents each. After the cover has been outlined with the tinsel, it is to be lined with yellow Surah silk or satin, the edge finished with tinsel, and a fancy ball on each corner. Another style of table



MADRAS TABLE COVER.

cover may be made of the same material, in the form of a scarf. This is to be draped on the table from the center, the two ends falling over the front. This is more appropriate where the table stands against the wall. The scarf is one yard and three-quarters in length, and half a yard in width.