CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

An acceptable gift is a foot mat o be placed in front of the dressing oom mirror. Take a piece of rimson or old-gold astrachan cloth ighteen inches wide and twentyeven long, sew all around in a porder of leopard skin plush or beaver plush, if preferred, and then earch in German fancy work tores among the canvass work hat is sold there with the figure lready wrought and the ground infilled, for a large cat's or dog's head. Cut the canvass away, leavng enough around the figure to urn in and hem down. Then sew he head upon the centre of the nat, the woolly ground will cover he irregularities of the edge. The nat should be lined with ticking or lenim to give it firmness. The ligh-colored astrachans, being now o little used in costumes, are sold

t an extremely low price.

A very easily made gift is a let-ler-holder. One of ordinary size vill require four pieces of card-poard 6x10 inches (that used in loxes is heavy enough); one quarler of a yard of plain material, and two yards of ribbon three-quarters of an inch wide. On two of the bieces of card-board baste the igured cretonne, turning the stuff Imoothly over the edges, holding t firmly in place by many stitches lover the other two pieces with he plain material in the same way; lay one of the cardboards irst covered on the table, and pin across it one piece of the ribbon. wo inches below the top; two nohes above the bottom pin the econd ribbon; lay on this one of the cardboards covered with the plain stuff, and after fitting the edges exactly together, overseam them neatly, being careful to avoid the spaces through which the ribon passes, but closing these spaces firmly by several strong stitches on Sach side of the ribbon. The same peration is repeated with the two Tremaining boards, and the result will be the nicest sort of binder for letters, the ribbon slipping easily through the unsewed spaces allows you to enlarge the hinge (or back) of your binder as occasion requires. The binders may be made of figured oretonne and some contrast ring shade of plain sate on for the tining; they are then very inspensive, but any amount of money and time may be spent on them when silks and plushes are used, and the outside ornameuted with gold embroidery.
A small convenience for the dress-

Ming table is made of three little yround Japanese bamboo cup like abaskets, sewed tightly together. They are then prettily trimmed with short lengths of satin ribbon, with one end pointed and finished Awith a tiny silver bell. The other thend of the ribbon is fastened to the te pening of the basket. There are three or four of these on the outer hide of each basket, forming a sort of fringe to the tri form con-heyenience. One basket can be stuff-faled with hair, covered with black net, and used for hairpins; another hisan be filled with a cushion on which to stick shawl pins, and the street, Montreal.

third left empty to drop saticles of jewellery in. The baskets are only five cents each, the ribbons and bells cost but a trifle, so this little Christmas gift will not be expensive, and yet will serve to show a kindly thought on the donor's part,

A shoe-finding bag is one of the ever-welcomed minor necessities A long strip of doubled ribbon with a bag on the end for the buttons, another for the thread, and some button-holed-edged leaves for the needles, is a good style, and a loop at the top serves to hang it

up above the shoe bag. An easy piece of work, which any little girl can do with slight assistance from her mother, is an ordinary "Tam O'Shanter," suitable for boys: Three ounces of dark brown zephyr are required. Use a bone crotchet needle Chain four stitches and fasten in the first. Work in double crotchet a flat piece as large as a dinner plate; widening to keep the work perfectly flat-that is, put two stitches in the same place, and always catch both ribs of each stitch. Double crotchet is to put the hook in the stitch and draw the thread through, Thread over and draw through both stitches at once. Do not widen at regular intervals, as this gives it the appearance of being worked in sections. When large enough, crochet four rows, without narrowing or widening. Then narrow every twenty stitches until the cap is the proper size for the head, that is skip the twenty first stitch.
When this is done, continue crotcheting a strtight band an inch and a half deep, without narrowing or widening and the cap is finished. The centre of the crown can be covered with a thick, short tassel, clipped smooth, or crotchet a small piece, like the cap, and cover a large button with it and sew it to the centre. These caps are particularly comfortable for boys, as they fit snugly and can be drawn over the ears when Jack Frost is about. For an ordinary round cap, crochet a cover to fit the crown of a hat exactly the right size. Make the straight brim wide enough to turn up on the cap, and finish with a shell scallop of a different color. School children find them comfortable

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