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A Tasteful Housewife.

TAKE two pieces of pasteboard, each seven-and-a-half inches long and four-and-three-quarters inches wide.

Cover them with plush, and overseam together. For the pocket take a piece of satin (contrasting in color) five-and-three-quarters of an inch deep by twelve-and-a-half inches wide. Turn a hem an inch deep for top, and run two shirrings at bottom of hem, between which four-and-a-half inches of narrow, flat elastic is inserted. Gather the lower edge of pocket, and fasten neatly across the bottom of housewife; also fastening the pocket firmly at sides. Cut three graduated flannel leaves, neatly buttonhole the edges with silk, and catch them lightly to the top of housewife. About two yards of satin ribbon three-quarters of an inch wide, is needed of same shade as pocket; also one spool of black, shoe-thread, one spool of number fifty white cotton and a pair of small scissors. Fasten one end of ribbon at upper corner of housewife, carry it across the top and fasten it to the other corner. Allow eleven inches more for a loop to suspend it



A TASTEFUL HOUSEWIFE.

by and catch at first corner. Measure eleven inches more and cut the ribbon. Slip this cut end through the spool of shoe-thread, and make a short loop and end to prevent the spool slipping off. A strip of ribbon seven-and-a-half inches fastened at same corner, and finished in the same way, holds the white spool in place. At the opposite upper corner fasten one end of a half-yard of ribbon, and sew a black hook at other end. Hang the scissors on this

ribbon, and fasten the hook in a silk loop made on side of housewife, near the top. A small bow of ribbon conceals the stitches at the upper corners. The pocket holds thimble, shoe-buttons and buttoner. The leaves are for the needles. This will be found a very useful article when suspended on the wall in the bedroom of a growing girl.

A Pretty Magazine Cover.

MATERIALS: seven-eighths of a yard of brown canvas, 29½ inches wide, and one yard of moire ribbon with picot edge, a half-inch in width.

For the outside cover cut a strip of the canvas measuring exactly eleven inches, using the entire width for length of cover. Turn down each sel-



PRETTY AND SERVICEABLE MAGAZINE COVER.

vedge end to the depth of an inch-and-a-half, creasing flatly with the finger-nail. Measure a space three inches and a half from crease just made, and crease again. Fold the strip in the middle, and you now have a complete cover for any of the household magazines. With a second strip of linen, fourteen and a half by eleven inches, we line the cover by slipping the ends under the folded ends of outside strip. The upper and lower edges of cover are fastened together by an easy button-hole stitch, made with heavy cotton, first a long and then a short stitch. The yard of ribbon is passed over the centre of the cover and tied in a bow on the outside. When the cover is open slip the magazine under the ribbon, and it and the cover will remain firm friends. The name of the magazine may be written across the cover diagonally or otherwise. If further ornamentation is wanted, any conventional design or flower spray may be painted at top and bottom, on either side of the name of the magazine.

Milk will readily remove ink stains on linen, if used before the ink is dry; otherwise the best thing is oxalic acid, applied as for fruit stains. Another practical method is to spread the stained part over a plate and rub it with some butter and salt till the stains disappear, then wash with soap and water. Sour buttermilk removes mildew, and benzine, followed by a hot iron and blotting paper, with a wash in warm soap and water, causes paint to disappear.

Shoe Buttoner.

A CLOTHES-PEG may be converted into more uses than one, as is here shown. It makes a novel shoe buttoner. It will be best to let the boys take this in hand, as there is some pounding and filing to be done. First, chop the handle off a common button-hook and sharpen the end of it to a point. Bore a hole in the top of the peg and hammer it in. Give it all several coats of gold paint and tie two colors of narrow ribbon around the head of it. The best way to buy gilding for ornamental purposes is to first buy a bottle of sizing, then a ten-cent bottle of any bronze powder you wish to use. Give the article two coats of sizing, and when the second is nearly dry, dust with the powder. You can get besides gold, silver and copper of almost any shade, and several colors on one article make it very showy, they come out so brilliant.



CLOTHES-PEG SHOE BUTTONER.

Little Hints, but Useful.

ON nearly every gripsack and satchel there is a ring near the lock. A little wire snap put on this ring will hold small packages by hooking the cross-strings, as shown in Fig. 2. To hold a postage stamp in a letter without sticking it is often desirable. It can be done by cutting in the paper two parallel slits, and running it in. To open a letter at the flap use the back of a knife. A sharp instrument will cut, and anything like a lead pencil will tear the envelope. This is how a man, young or old, can make good use of a hair pin. Bend it to hook on the button over each side pocket of your pantaloon and hang them

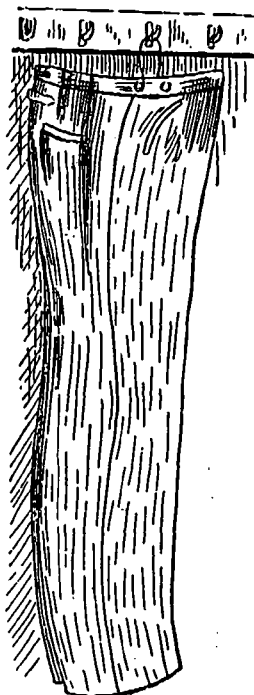


FIG. 1. HAIR-PIN HOOK.

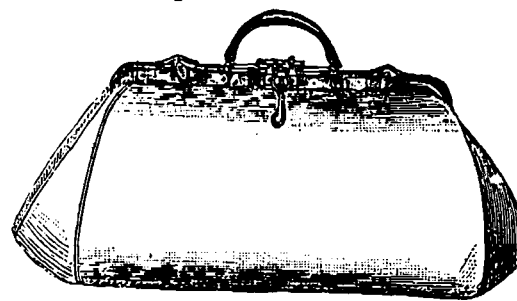


FIG. 2. PACKAGE HOOK.

up by this hook. This will keep them in good shape. The engraving (Figure 1) shows how it is done.

A hint for a pin cushion that is a sachet as well may be new to some. It is made square, with each corner of the inner covering cut off about three inches from the point. The outer covering is left square, the corners tightly tied, and each made into a tiny sachet. The powder selected for the filling must be that preferred by the owner.