



Welcome every bright-winged song bird,
Heralding the dawn of day;
Every bud, and leaf, and blossom,
Welcome all sweet flowers of May.

A "Charmed" Cushion.

The pretty cushion shown in Fig. 1 is covered with pale clover-red satin, on which is embroidered



FIG. 1. A CLOVER LEAF CUSHION.

ered, as a charm for good luck "In love and all things else," a large four-leaved clover, in its own natural shades of green. The edge is finished with a ruffle of embroidered silk muslin, in the lightest shade of green used in the leaf, and the points of the cushion are tied together at the top with narrow ribbons of the same shade. Not as delicate in effect, but very charming, is a cushion of golden yellow satin, with the same trimming as the former. Soft, yielding goods are better for such cushions than those of firmer texture, and all sorts of decorative designs, such as horseshoes, wishbones, and so on, with laces, ribbons, cords, gold thread, and trimmings innumerable, may be tastefully arranged to produce a great variety of

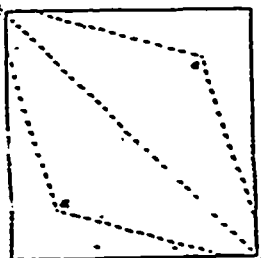
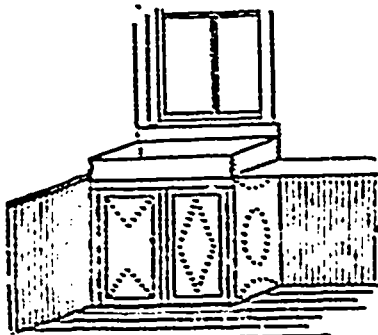


FIG. 2. DIAGRAM OF CUSHION.

these "charmed" necessities for charity sales, or for gifts. A ten-inch square of satin is required for a cover. It is shaped from a square like that part of our diagram seen in Fig. 2, which is enclosed by the two dotted lines, and is folded at the diagonal line of dots, *a* and *b* coming together; *b* and *c* form the points which meet at the top.

Ventilating a Cupboard.

Cupboards located under shelves in the pantry and sink in the kitchen soon become damp and foul for want of proper ventilation, for the reason



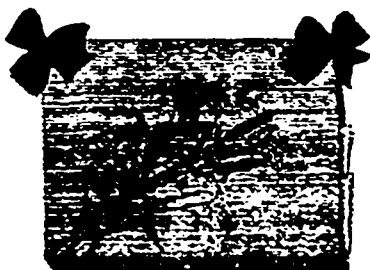
VENTILATED CUPBOARD.

that they are ventilated only when the doors are opened for the purpose of removing or placing in them new utensils. Pots, kettles and tinware

placed therein become moldy and rusty unless in daily use. This trouble can be overcome by simply making holes in the sides and ends, as shown in the accompanying illustration. Half-inch augur holes are most desirable, and may be made in a cupboard already in use. By placing pieces of charcoal, chloride of lime or a piece of unflaked lime in the cupboard the atmosphere will be sweetened, which in connection with the ventilating holes will keep things in better condition.

From a Reed Splasher.

Many useful and pretty things can be made from the reed splashes after you are tired of using them in that capacity. A large one will frame a long, narrow mirror to be placed over a mantel. The mirror must be only a trifle smaller than the splasher you are going to use. Cut the opening with a sharp penknife; turn the ends over on the back of the glass, stretch a piece of muslin over the back and sew it on the turned over ends. Slip in the glass and paint the frame with any pretty design, letting a part of it run over onto the glass. Photographs may be framed in the same way. The simplicity of the wall pocket shown in our sketch will commend itself to every one. Simply fold a splasher of the ten-



A SPLASHER WALL POCKET.

cent size and sew good-sized brass rings to the corners to hang it up by. Ornament at the corners with bows of ribbon, and on the front set castles and distel grasses or peacock's feathers, or joint with any pretty design, if preferred. These trifles sell well at fairs. Attractive covers for flower pots can be made from these splashes. Fit the material snugly around the pot and cut it the desired depth; sew it top and bottom, run the ribbon through, drawing the lower bands up to fit the pot and tie in a bow. Cut the top in points and attach a fleshy little tassel at the base of each. Where the material is cut lengthwise, be careful to tie the ends or it will ravel readily.

Cushion for Chair Seat.

A lovely cushion for a large cane or willow chair is shown in the accompanying sketch. The stout



EMBROIDERED CHAIR CUSHION.

lining is boxed all around the sides with a two-inch hem. The embroidered velvet cover is not quite as large as the top of the cushion, and the under cover matches it in size and shape. Between the two, covering the edge, is a puff of satin of a shade which harmonizes with the embroidered blossoms. At two corners are fastened large silk-crocheted rings, firmly sewed through to the lining. Ribbons may be passed through these rings, then around the chair posts, or through some openings, and be tied in pretty bows outside the chair.

Facts About Whalebones.

DOXA HARVEY VERMONT

In buying whalebones for a waist, select those that are flexible rather than those that are stiff. The former bend to the shape, yet hold the waist in position, while the latter are apt to snap or break. If a loose becomes very much bent, do not

throw it away as worthless, but hold it close to the fire or lamp chimney, and the heat will straighten it out as good as new. Hold the bent or curved side towards the heat. It is best to buy bone by the yard and cut lengths to suit. You can buy casing or covering for them for about five cents a yard; it is double so that the bone can be slipped down the center. The metal "bones" are very good when first put in, but they are apt to break and then the jagged ends pick holes in the dress material.

Handkerchief Pocket.

There are always those who, regardless of the edicts of fashion, will have a pocket of some kind in which a handkerchief at least may be safely carried.

A favorite design for such a pocket is shown in our engraving. For making it, four dozen three-quarter inch rings, one yard of half-inch ribbon and part of a ball of crochet silk will be required. The rings are crocheted singly, filled with lace-stitch, and sewed together, as seen in the sketch; twenty-four being used for the front, and the same number for the back, although the back is sometimes made of thin canvas covered with the dress material. One-third of the ribbon makes a pretty bow for the bottom, and the rest is used for a suspension loop and a bow for each upper corner. A little bow at the top, where the loop is pinned to the belt, would be pretty if the pocket is to be worn with a round waist. Such pockets are prettiest if made in color to match the gowns with which they are to be worn; but black pockets are often worn with gowns of other colors.

PRETTY POCKET FOR HANDKERCHIEFS.



Ribbon Guard for Baby.

A pretty gift for a baby is a ribbon guard for its carriage or chair. Two pieces of two-inch ribbon, each a yard long, are required. For the model shown in our engraving one ribbon was cream



RIBBON GUARD.

white and the other pale pink. On the white one the word "Baby" was embroidered with pink silk in satin stitch. Along the middle of their length the ribbons were sewed together, over a canvas band, while beyond the last they were left free. A cross row of pink silk stitches was worked at each end of the canvas. It was used as a guard to keep the baby in his carriage, the ends being tied in airy bows to each side of the carriage front. A charming guard might be made of yellow and white-scattered yellow daisies on white ribbon or white daisies on yellow ribbon; also little white violets might be worked on blue ribbon and larger blue violets on white.