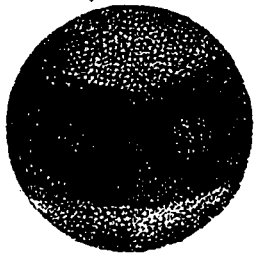


Two pages are set apart this month for fancy work and the designs submitted have been carefully chosen, with a view both to beauty and utility. The articles pictured are not the ephemeral holiday articles our papers have lately been flooded with, but are useful appurtenances to a lady's boudoir.

A Parlor Ball.

The first pictured is a parlor ball, so much used now for the indoor game for children. It is easily made out of two circular pieces of cardboard each three and three quarter inches in diameter. Cut out a round piece in the centre of each circle about seven-eighths in size. These double rings are laid upon each other, and wound first for the



PARLOR BALL.

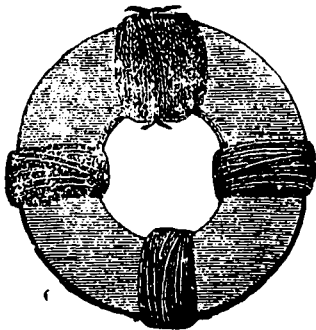
flowers with yellow and brown worsted, in two shades, and then over these threads with blue or pink worsted. In order that the worsted shall not separate, overcast the worsted loops on the edge of the cardboard rings with twine, and tie the ends. Wind the cardboard rings between the flowers with green worsted in several shades and then tightly with white worsted, until the rings are completely filled. Cut through the mass of worsted along the edge with sharp scissors, tie it tight between the two pieces of cardboard with twine, take out the cardboard, and cut the ball even.

India Silk Cushion.

This square sixteen inch down cushion is covered with a large-flowered India silk in a tulip design, and surrounded with a scarf of plain India silk to match the color of the pattern. The scarf is twelve inches wide and four yards and a quarter long, and is hemmed to a tarlatan lining; it is shirred for a space of two and a half inches at the middle of each side, with a five-inch loop on each side of the shirring, and there is a cluster of four five-inch loops at each corner of the cushion.

Postal Card Cases.

With the advent of the New Year people in Canada are allowed to use any cards for correspondence upon affixing the needful cent stamp and placing the address only, on one side; but the privilege will not extend to the U. S. postal department. So that the little design from Good Housekeeping will still be useful for



DETAIL OF BALL.

postal cards of the ordinary dimensions. Postal card cases may be an old idea, yet a useful and acceptable article, if coming in a new costume and large enough to hold the large cards. Get from an artist supply store some fancy white cardboard—a heavy parch-

ment answers well—cutting one piece $4\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 inches and a second $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Fasten the smaller piece at the bottom of the larger one by four bows of baby ribbon of any preferred color, making the upper bows loose enough to allow the card to set off a little, pocket fashion, as shown. Cut two blotters the size of the larger card and fasten on the back by bows at the top, allowing a loop of the ribbon to hang it by. On one top corner of each card splash a little gilding, and on the upper card, just above the smaller one, write "Postal Cards," in gilt. On the smaller card make a little drawing, or glue on one of the little monthly calendars that are so pretty, and write in fancy letters, "A penny for your thoughts," or "Just time for a few lines." The recipient will be pleased to hang this in a convenient place.

Crocheted Hair Receiver.

One ball of Kensington crochet twist, three-fourths of a yard of inch-wide ribbon, one yard of cord and two silk pompons are used in this receptacle for combings of hair, etc. Use a quite coarse steel crochet-hook, commence at bottom with 4 ch, and join in a ring.

First round—9 d c under the ring; 1 d c in first d c.

Second round—3 ch for first tr, 2 tr in each d c of last round; 1 d c in top of 3 ch used for first tr.

Third round—3 ch, *2 tr in 1 tr, 1 tr in next tr; repeat from * all around; 1 d c in top of 3 ch.



INDIA SILK CUSHION.

Fourth round—1 tr in each of 2 tr, 2 tr in next; 1 d c in top of 3 ch.

Fifth round—1 tr in each of 3 tr, 2 tr in next; 1 d c in top of 3 ch.

Sixth round—1 d c into each st.

Seventh round—5 tr in a st, 1 ch, miss 1 d c; repeat from beginning of round; join to top of first 5 tr.

Eighth round—1 d c into first 1 ch, 1 ch, miss 5 tr, 1 d c in next; repeat.

The seventh and eighth rounds are repeated three times more.

Fifteenth round—1 tr in each st of last round.

Sixteenth round—1 long tr (thread over twice) in each of 2 st; 2 ch, miss 2 tr, and repeat from beginning of round; join to top of first long tr.

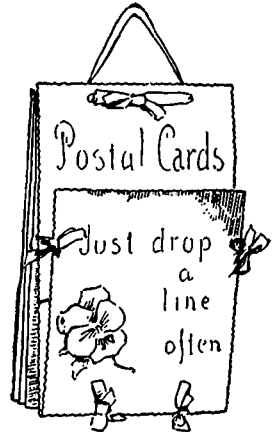
Seventeenth round—1 tr in each st of last round.

Eighteenth to twenty-fifth round—Like seventh to fourteenth round.

Make a cylinder of cardboard or celluloid to exactly fit inside the crochet; if of cardboard, cover with a harmonizing color of silk, satin or sateen, and sew it inside, putting the last round of crochet to the edge of the inside cylinder. Run a ribbon through the round of long tr and tie in a bow. Sew three pieces of cord on the edge at equal distances, join at or near the top, and finish with loops or cord and a pompon. A pompon is sewn to the bottom.

Sponge Bag.

This bag made of a square of crocheted rings, worked with knitting silk in any desired color. A pinked square of chamois is placed inside the rings, and this has a lining of oiled silk. The bag is hung with rings as shown in the illustration, and four silk pompons give a pretty finish.



CASE FOR POSTAL CARDS.

Writing Desks with Shelves.

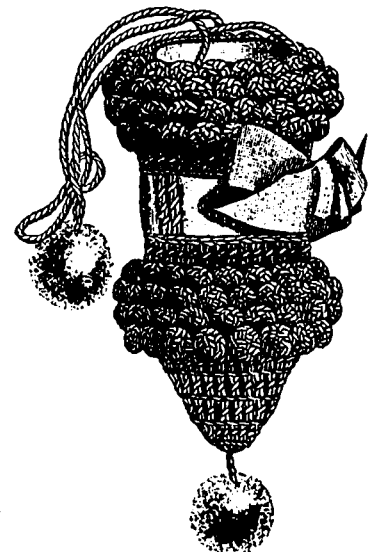
The Companion tells how the handy John in a family, constructed all sorts of useful articles out of comparatively nothing; but his greatest success was a writing desk and shelves, of simple but convenient form. The sides were carved with a gouge, in long, curving arabesques, and the whole was given a dull finish. The illustration shows the simple but true outlines of this useful and ornamental piece of furniture, which, dates from "ye olden time." The shelves serve for braces, as well as for holding books. The sides and back could have been effectively ornamented with pokerwork, or simply beveled.

Handkerchief-Case.

White ribbed silk is used for the outside of this sachet and pale pink quilted silk for the lining; the size when spread apart, is fifteen inches deep by twenty-one wide. The embroidery on the upper half consists of a spray of chrysanthemums, worked, some in pale rose, some in tawny yellow silks, with foliage in gray and olive greens. The lattice in the corner is defined by laid lines of gold thread. The straight line in the frame is defined by a laid silver corner, with a line of tawny-yellow chenille on either side of it, while the twisted ribbon is formed by two lines, of white silk braid, which are carried through under the silk, where they disappear and out again to the surface farther on; on either side of the braid is a strand of pale yellow filoselle sewed down with slanting stitches to match. The flowers springing from the points are outlined in silver thread, and filled in with long chain stitches in pale pink silk. The case is edged with white silk cord, twisted into loops at the corners and tied with white ribbons.

Embroidered Shopping Bag.

The bag illustrated is of seal-brown satin duchesse, lined with cream silk and ornamented



CROCHETED HAIR RECEIVER.