

If the bag is intended for music, slip two sheets of cardboard in the size of the bag and the music will remain straight.

**Fig. 2.**—A receptacle for soiled linen. Take an ordinary flour barrel, line it with paper muslin, and on the outside cover it with cretonne, laid in box pleats. Around the top finish with a lambrequin made of turkey red, with cretonne flowers transferred on the centre of each point. Cover the lid with cretonne inside and out, and put a full pleating of the same around the edge. For the handle on top, use an iron trunk-handle. The tassels on the lambrequin are made of worsteds corresponding with the colors in the cretonne. By having the handle off the top, and having the lid made large enough to fit over, instead of the ordinary way, the barrel can stand in a room and be used for a table.

**AFGAN FOR BABY CARRIAGE.**—This is a pretty and simple pattern for making an Afgan or couvrette for a baby carriage, or it may be used for a cover for a child's cradle. It is worked with Saxony wool in alternate squares of white and blue; other colors may of course be chosen to suit individual taste. The stitch is crochet tricotee, or what is commonly called "Afgan stitch." Make a chain of 14 stitches with white Saxony wool, making 13 loops of tricotee; work on it 13 rows of white; then take the blue wool and continue working 13 rows; then take the white again, working thus in alternate squares until the required length is reached. The next stripe begins with the blue wool and is worked in alternate squares in the same way. The stripes are joined together by a row of chain stitch in either white or blue; a white square must always be next to the blue ones, and *vice versa*. In the centre of each square may be embroidered in blue or gold silk any pretty flower or figure the worker likes. The couvrette is to be finished with a fringe which is crocheted thus:—*1st row*—With white wool 1 sc. (single crochet), 7 chain, miss 2 loops, 1 sc. on the next loop, repeat from all round. *2nd row*—1 sc. on the 4th loop of the first 7 ch., 7 chain, 1 sc. on the 4th of the next 7 ch. of the preceding row; continue all round; this row is worked with blue wool. Next cut the two wools in lengths of 9 inches, and loop 6 strands into the centre of each 7 ch. of the 2nd row, pulling the blue and white in alternate chains. Saxony wool is excellent for Afgans, as it washes well, especially if bran is used instead of soap.

**PIN CUSHION.**—This is made on a cardboard box which should measure about eight inches in length and three and a half in width. It may be covered with brocade velvet, satin or fancy silk, with a silken cord run around or finished with a frill of lace.

**KNITTED SILK SUSPENDERS.**—A nice gift for a gentleman. The simplest ones are knitted like a stocking and used double. Cast on thirty stitches, ten on each needle, and knit perfectly plain until of sufficient length. Another way is to knit them like a garter, in some fancy stitch. In this case the silk is used double and the fabric is single.—[Dorcas Mag.]

**PALETTE AND BANNER.**—Ladies who can neither use a painter's brush nor embroider, can cover a large wooden palette neatly with red plush or satin, and tack one or two peacock feathers across it. Fasten to the wall with a bow of light blue satin ribbon tied in the

thumb hole. This is a very pretty decoration for the wall. A banner can be made with a centre piece of gray linen, or better still, of brown aida canvas, with a band above and below it, of red or peacock blue plush. Diagonally across the canvas put a strip of ribbon richly brocaded in floral pattern. Line the banner with stiff muslin, and suspend it by a silk cord the color of the plush. Fringe of the same color, or of a mixed variety to correspond with the diagonal ribbon bar, may be added.

**BABY BOOTS.**—These little boots are very pretty knit of blue or pink and white zephyr. They are commenced in the middle of the sole,



FIG. 1

and a tiny slipper is knit basket work with the colored wool. The instep and upper part of the boot is then knit shell work with white wool. The following directions are correct, and I hope no one will have any difficulty in following them.

Cast on thirty stitches.

1. \* Knit three, seam three, repeat from \* across the needle, widen one at the end of the needle.
2. Seam one, \* knit three, seam three, repeat from \* across the needle.



FIG. 2.

3. \* Seam three, knit three, repeat from \* across the needle, widen one.
4. Knit two, \* seam three, knit three, repeat from \* across the needle.

Continue in this way, knitting two rows to look alike, then change, seaming what was plain, and knitting plain what was seamed, making one stitch at the end of each odd row,

until you have knit seventeen rows, and have thirty-nine stitches.

18. Seam three, knit three, seam three, knit three. Pay no attention to the rest of the stitches.

19. Knit three, seam three, knit three, seam three.

Knit these twelve stitches back and forth, without increasing, twenty-six times, or through the forty-third row.

44. Knit three, seam three, knit three, seam three, cast on the right hand needle twenty-seven stitches.

45. Take a third needle, \* knit three, seam three, repeat from \* across the needle, narrow the last two stitches.

46. Seam two, \* knit three, seam three, repeat from \* across the needle.

Knit in this way seventeen rows, narrowing at the end of every odd row. There will then be thirty stitches on the needle. Bind off. You will now have the slipper part of the boot completed.

With the white wool knit across the needle that is left in the work, beginning at the heel, knit three, seam three, etc. With the same needle pick up seventeen stitches across the instep, and twenty-seven stitches on the other side.

1. Seam forty-three, seam two together. Do not knit the rest of the stitches.

2. Narrow, narrow, narrow, \* thread over, knit one \* five times, thread over, narrow, narrow, narrow, three stitches together, turn the work.

3. Knit plain sixteen stitches, narrow.
4. Knit plain sixteen stitches, narrow.
5. Seam six, seam two together.
- 6, 10, 14, and 18. Same as second row.
- 7, 11, 15, and 19. Same as third row.
- 8, 12, 16, and 20. Same as fourth row.
- 9, 13 and 17. Same as fifth row.

21. Seam thirty-four. In this row and each row following, there will be fifty-one stitches.

22. Narrow three times, \* thread over, until one, \* five times, thread over, narrow, narrow, five times more, \* thread over, knit one, \* five times, thread over, narrow, narrow, five times more, \* thread over, knit one, \* five times, thread over, narrow, narrow, narrow.

23 and 24. Knit plain.

25. Seam.

Repeat the twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and twenty-fifth rows ten times, then bind off.

The ninth and tenth times that you knit the twenty-second and twenty-third rows use the colored wool.

Join the boot on the wrong side, in such a way as to make the toe square. Run a narrow white ribbon around the lower row of shells in the ankle, and tie in a bow in front.

#### Answers to Inquirers.

**CARRIE KELLY.**—We are unable to give you any information on the matter, but will insert your question under "Queries."

**YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER.**—1. The following is a good recipe for "Tomato Catsup":—Take one peck of tomatoes, quarter of a pound of pepper, quarter of a pound of allspice, quarter of a pound of white mustard seed, two ounces of cloves, six tablespoonsful of salt, half a gallon of vinegar; boil slowly six hours, cool, and then bottle. 2.—To make beef or mutton gravy—After the roast is done, pour nearly all the fat out of the pan, then pour in a little boiling water; if there was not enough after pouring off the fat, wet up some flour with a little cold water till the lumps are out, then