



CONDUCTED BY AUNT TUTU.

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Cat-Tail Card-Receiver and Camp-Kettle.

Tie together three nicely formed cat-tail stalks with a bow of broad ribbon. Bronze a large, coarse woven straw hat; the woven hat requires no lining, and is consequently much lighter than a braided one. Fasten the brim of the hat at three points, that is, to each cat-tail stalk; and a pretty card basket is the result, as seen in Fig. 1.

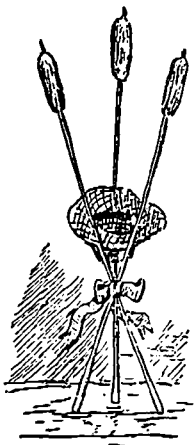


FIG. 1.

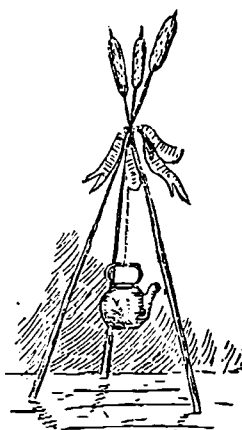


FIG. 2.

A gypsy camp-kettle may be represented by tying three strong cat-tail stalks together quite near the heads, thus forming a tripod. From the center, by means of a light brass chain, suspend a tiny Japanese tea-pot or a light kettle, as shown in Fig. 2. The effect will be quite pleasing in an otherwise vacant corner of the parlor. This can also be made to serve as a pretty table decoration for a five o'clock tea. But in this case the cat-tails must be quite small, nor should the stalks be more than two feet long. The kettle must be of crackled ware which will resist great heat. A small alcohol lamp, completely hidden by small pieces of wood, is placed under the kettle to keep the water boiling.

Crocheted Book Bag.

Pretty book bags, always acceptable to school girls, may be manufactured so easily by one having the least bit of ingenuity that it seems unnecessary for any child to go without one, or be obliged to carry the plain homely canvas ones so often seen. Two balls of macrame cord and a remnant of fine French sateen are all that is required for the bag as illustrated; but, if desired, a much nicer one may be produced by using satin for the lining and placing a large, soft bow of broad satin ribbon carelessly on one side. First, an oblong piece of crochet work, twelve inches wide and twenty-two inches long when completed and bordered, is made in any easy stitch. As shown here the work begins in the middle of the piece—at the bottom of the bag—with a chain about eleven inches in length, on which are worked several rows of plain double crochet, then a row of shells, then plain again, and so on till one side is completed. The other is worked on the other side of the chain in the same way. A border of scallops like the shells is worked all around the edge, and straps fifteen inches long, that are also of plain crochet bordered by small scallops, are joined to it at each end for handles. It is stiffened

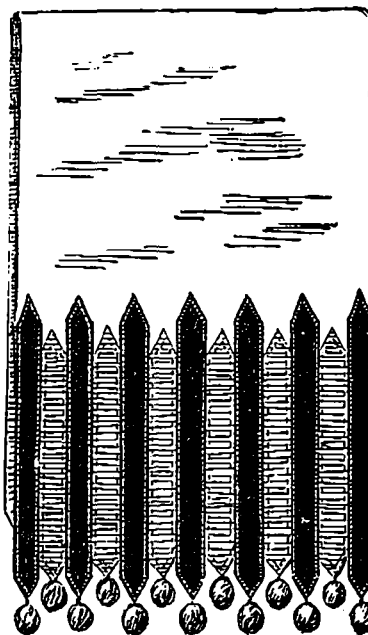
with thick starch, spread out smoothly and dried, and afterwards varnished with white or bronze shellac according to taste. The bag is then smoothly lined as far as the border with blue, yellow or red sateen, bent in shape, and finished with a fan-plaiting of the sateen at each end, the top of which



is turned down to form a ruffle, below which is a casing for an elastic band. If preferred the lining may be omitted and a wedge-shaped piece of crochet-work, folded lengthwise through the middle, inserted at each end, but the bag will not be as capacious, or as readily adjust itself to the demands made upon it as it would with the fan-plaiting and elastic. Of course much smaller ones may be made for little children, who, if they have only one little book to carry, are much comforted if they have something pretty to carry it in.

Table Scarf.

This table scarf is made of a width of India silk of the needed length for the table that it is to adorn. The ends are decorated with alternate strips of velvet and silk, of equal width but of different lengths, the silk strips extending not quite as far below the edge, nor as far up on the scarf, as the velvet strips. All the strips are finished in points



at both ends, and all the edges are stitched with coarse silk of a contrasting color. The lower ends of the strips are tipped with chenille pompons. The velvet and silk may be of contrasting shades, and the pompons may be the color of each or both. On each end the strips and pompons may be of different colors. This is a most decorative way of utilizing scraps of silk or velvet, or odds and ends of ribbon.

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