

Maritime Farmer.

Published by the

VOL. I.

"AGRICULTURE THE TRUE BASIS OF A NATION'S WEALTH."

Maritime Farmer Association.

FREDERICTON, N. B., NOVEMBER 27, 1879.

NO. 13

REDUCTION
IN
STOCK!
Having over-bought in the following goods, we are determined to close them out at

COST PRICES.
DRESS TWEEDS,
commencing at 5¢ per yd.

DRESS GOODS,
175 PIECES,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

GREY COTTONS,
10,000 YARDS,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

WHITE COTTONS,
2,000 YARDS,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

PRINTED COTTONS,
300 PIECES,
Commencing at 6 cents per yard.

Black Lustres,
800 pieces, commencing at 14 cents per yard.

Wool Shawls, 200,
Commencing at 75 cts each.

COTTON FLANNELS,
200 pieces, commencing at 7 cents per yard.

A LOT OF WOOL GOOD,
At quarter prices to clear.

It would be the advantage of buyers to call and examine prices before purchasing elsewhere.

DEVER BROS.
November 6.

NEW GOODS
AT LOGAN'S

NOV. 20, 1879.

DRESS GOODS in great variety,
COLORED CASHMERES and
FRENCH MERINOS,
DRESS SUITINGS,
BLACK GOODS, in Cashmeres,
Merinos, Coats and Alpaca.

WOOL SHAWLS,
LADIES' FURS, CAPS, MUFFS,
BOAS,

TRIMMINGS, Swansdown and
Fur,
GLOVES and HOSIERY of
every description.

BLACK SILK FRINGES,
POMPADOUR RIBBONS,
BERLIN WOOLS,
FINGERING, Peacock and Scotch

KID GLOVES, Two and Three
Button, in Black and Evening Shades, in
Stock.

FLANNELS, BLANKETS,
QUILTS,
SWANS' TWEEDS, TICKINGS, and
all kinds of seasonable Dry Goods

Two Bales
Parks' Cotton

Warps,
No other make kept in stock.

THOMAS LOGAN,
OPP. NORMAL SCHOOL.
Fredericton, Nov. 27, 1879.

Poetry.

Grandmother's Gift.

The ship will sail at the turn of the tide
And grandmother looks with a tender pride,
With a tender pride and a sorrowful joy,
On the brown face of her sailor boy.

There sparkles a tear in his own blue eye,
As he whispers, "dear granny, goodbye,
Goodbye!"
And he looks at her with a tender pride,
Taking the gift from those trembling hands;
A small, plain Bible, with just his name
Written inside by the careful dame.

Grandmother's poor, but her heart well knows
How great a treasure she thus bestows;
For the light that illumines the holy page
Has guided her feet from youth to age.
Henceforth, my lad, may it ever be
Your beacon too, on the stormy sea.

Grandmother's poor, yet she gives him here
A wonderful compass whereby to steer
Through joy and sorrow, labor and sport,
Straight and sure for the heavenly port.
From rock and rapid to warm his heart,
That bounding heart that the world thrills brave;
Breasting the dark undercurrent of sin
That would bear her away from the haven
she'd win.

Gently my lad; if the current grows swift,
Look to your anchor: 'tis grandmother's gift.

Dear old grandmother! happy will she
No more on earth the young voyager see,
One bark lies moored in the harbor bar,
And one must weather the gale afar.
Yet shall they meet when his sails are furled,
If he make for land in a better world,
Wherever his footsteps roam;
And that he may not be cast adrift,
His passport is hidden in grandmother's gift.

—The Sunday at Home for October.

Agriculture.

Chit-Chat On Farm Topics.

How quickly the seasons follow each other; and how rapid seems the flight of time. It appears but a very short time since we welcomed the Spring with its bursting buds and wild flowers, rich in promises and bright anticipations—the seed time of the husbandman. How quickly it passed. The summer came, laden with early fruits and fragrant flowers.

The husbandman was made glad as he beheld from time to time his crops steadily advancing to maturity. An autumn came, bringing with it the bright golden harvest of the gathering time, when songs of thanksgiving were heard for the abundant blessings bestowed on the labors of the husbandman by an overruling Providence. And now Winter here with its frost and snow, bringing additional cares for the farmer.

To some these cares will be a grievous burden. Preparations for winter with them have been put off from time to time. The barn still remains open, with boards off in many places and the door off its hinges, and altogether has a cheerless look. The house is in little better condition, and shows the shiftness of its occupants. The cold chills insist on taking possession of us as we look at the wood-pile, so little of warmth does it suggest. Well, we do not wonder that some people complain and think their lot in life a hard one. Probably we would think so too were we in their position. But while the cares of this class must necessarily be a burden to them, simply because they have not made the necessary preparation, to very much the larger portion of our population these additional cares of the winter months will fall but lightly, and will prove to them rather a source of pleasure than otherwise.

With comfortable and well-filled barns and granaries, the daily care of their stock will cause them no anxiety. The dwellings have been made comfortable and tidy, the winter fuel of fire, wood or coal is nicely housed, and everything betokens comfort and thrift. We are assured that in many of these comfortable homes the weekly visits of the MARITIME FARMER will find a hearty welcome from both old and young. We are anxious that the circle of our visits shall be rapidly increased. This can readily be effected by our friends speaking a good word for the FARMER while visiting or calling upon their neighbors. We trust they will take sufficient interest in our efforts to do so.

Great attention should now be given to all kinds of stock. Now that butter is in good demand, much care should be extra well fed, so as to secure the best results in the dairy; aside from the profits of extra feed in the increase of the dairy products, the measure will give good interest on the additional cost, and the animals will steadily increase in flesh and strength. Cows, to be profitable during the summer months, should receive good care and be liberally fed during the winter. Sheep should also have better care in early winter than they often receive. From the present outlook wool will probably be in greater demand next Spring than for some years past. In order to secure a heavy fleece, sheep must be well fed and good shelter provided for them. Those who let their sheep run out in the storms, and half feed them, will be disappointed if they expect to secure heavy fleeces. If you want fat sheep, heavy

fleeces, and to carry off the prize at your agricultural fair next year, we say, *Feed liberally*. Pork will probably join in the upward tendency, and from the present large stock of potatoes on hand, and the low prices they bring, it will be good policy to feed a little longer, than last year. We note by our exchanges that this article is quoted "firm, with an upward tendency."

The general outlook is more encouraging to farmers than it has been for some time past—a fact which will be heartily welcomed by all.

The Harvest of the United Kingdom 1879.

The facts supplied by the London Times regarding the wheat crops in Great Britain and Ireland in 1879, certainly offer food for reflection. The harvest of the present year is the worst that has occurred since 1816, and considering the greater acreage under cultivation, and the improved method of cultivation in 1879, the harvest of this year is even worse than that of 1816. The yield per acre was not only very much less than in any year, (not to go further back) since 1866, but the quality of the crop was in many places worse than was ever before known, in fact worthless. In numerous cases the result of the threshing was the most miserable ever remembered.

The standard average yield of wheat in bushels per acre in the forty counties of England is 29.9-10, in Wales 27, in Scotland 29, in Ireland 25, total for the United Kingdom 24; there were 3,056,880 acres, in wheat, in 1879, which if the produce had been an average one would have yielded 1,175,400 quarters. But instead of there being an average yield of 24 bushels to the acre, it is estimated that there has only been a yield of 18 bushels. The harvest of 1868 was a magnificent one. Had the 3,056,000 acres in 1879 yielded 34 bushels as in that year, the total produce would have been 12,958,000 quarters, for seed would be deducted 2½ bushels for seed per acre, 855,750 quarters, or 6½ per cent. Had the yield of 1879 been an average one, 24 bushels per acre, the total produce would have been 11,278,400 quarters, with the same deduction for seed, or 7½ per cent. But with a yield of only 18 bushels per acre, the total produce is only 5,846,000 quarters, and deducting the 855,750 for seed, there is a reduction of 12½ per cent.

In 1868-9 the magnificent harvest year before mentioned—the home produce available for consumption was 15,000,000 quarters, the exports of wheat were 7,880,000 quarters, a total of 23,870,000 quarters. In 1874-5 an average year, the home produce available was 13,700,000 quarters, imports 11,640,000, total 25,340,000. In 1879 the home produce available will be only 5,900,000, the imports 18,000,000, total 24,000,000.

The situation seems very serious. It looks as if the United Kingdom were threatened with a continued decline in the total yield of wheat from the acreage sown, while the population increasing, will demand greater bread supplies, which will make necessary larger and larger imports. And the prospect before the British farmer seems black, if he continues to gather scanty harvests and receive lower prices for the smaller crops he raises. The landlord under such circumstances must lower his rents. But the great decline in the total yield of wheat, has been caused by bad harvests, of which there has been a succession for the last five or six years. It is very probable that the harvest will yet smile propitiously on "maritime England" "bonnie Scotland" and "Green Erin" and bless them with bounteous seasons. In that case the black prognostications of the statisticians will be dissipated, and the stout patient heart of the British farmer be cheered. "So mote it be."

Canadian Cattle Prohibited.

We notice that an order from the United States Treasury Department has been issued prohibiting the importation of neat cattle from the Dominion of Canada, to go into effect on the 1st day of December. It is stated by American journals that the object is to prevent the introduction of diseased cattle into the United States from the Dominion. If so, it is certainly an exceedingly precautionary measure, for up to this date, we have not learned of one solitary case of disease, either among our herds or flocks. In the extensive export trade continually going on from the Dominion to Great Britain in sheep and cattle, we do not learn of a single instance of disease, while those cattle exported from the United States have, in many cases, to be slaughtered on the quay. It is quite clear that the measures adopted by our Dominion Government prohibiting the importation of cattle from the United

States into the Dominion was an absolute necessity, if we expected to be able to continue to take advantage of the English market. The measures now adopted by the United States has all the appearance of being retaliatory. Well, so far as the Maritime Provinces are concerned, we cannot see that it will have any bad effect, nor do we see how that will seriously affect the upper Provinces. Our best market is still open to us with much in our favor. Our animals intended for exportation must be well fed, and shipped in good condition, and no loss will be sustained by us, but on the contrary a positive gain. The season of the year is now at hand when we can ship our meat either alive or dead. The order will certainly have the effect of causing all cattle intended for the English market to be shipped via Halifax instead of via Portland, U. S. This will operate beneficially in giving the traffic to the Intercolonial Railway, and is certainly no ground of complaint. On the whole, we think it is just possible that the Americans will be the greatest sufferers by their regulations, and we feel disposed to say that as long as they are pleased, we don't object.

Among the Dairy Farmers.

No. 2

Our notes this week have reference to the Dairy Farm of Messrs. Ames and B. Franklin Merritt, situate in the Parish of Hamptstead, Queen's Co., and lies on the west side of Long Island. Their farm also comprises quite a large tract of intervals lands on Long Island, and is well calculated for dairy purposes. The upland yields good crops of grain and potatoes and quite extensive pasturage, while the intervals lands give them all the hay required to carry their large stock. The Messrs. Merritt are among the first to have early potatoes for the market for which they receive good prices.

During the present year their first planting was on Wednesday, the 16th April, the crop was harvested on the 10th July and sent to market. On the 12th July, the ground was again planted to potatoes, and the crop (which was about a two-third one), harvested on the 25th Sept., thus producing two crops from the same piece of ground in one year.

Their stock consists of 50 head of cattle (of which 20 head are milch cows), 7 horses and 28 sheep. Their crop this year consists of 150 tons of hay, 200 bushels oats, about an equal quantity of buckwheat, and 1,400 bushels potatoes. Their dairy products are 5,430 pounds of cheese, and 600 pounds of butter. They will make 3000 pounds of pork, and are feeding 4 head of beef cattle. As will be seen, the Messrs. Merritt manufacture most of their milk into cheese.

Poultry—Feed Twice a Day.

The best rule, both as to quantity and time, is to give the fowls a full meal in the morning and a second shortly before going to roost. Many persons feed their fowls only once a day, usually in the morning; the consequence is that they go to roost with empty crops, and as the nutriment they have obtained during the day is required to keep up the animal warmth, particularly during the long, cold nights of winter, it cannot be employed in the production of eggs, and thus feeding hens once a day is not favorable to their fertility. It is necessary, therefore, to feed liberally twice a day, at least, if any large amount of profit be desired from fowls. There is one great advantage dependent upon having fixed hours of feeding—namely, that the birds soon become accustomed to them, and do not hang about the house door all day long, as they do if irregularly fed. They consequently obtain a greater amount of food for themselves, and are less troublesome than they otherwise would be.

Standard Requisites for Poultry.

There are certain things absolutely necessary for the fertility, comfort and conveyance of fowl stock which must be supplied by every one who attempts to raise them. These requisites, in general terms, are a sufficient quantity of lime amongst their food, to act on the egg-shell making, plenty of gravel which helps to digest their hard, dry grain food; a due allowance of animal substance, such as insects, meat, scraps, etc.; a moderate supply of shells, pounded bones, etc., and a full mordicum of green feed constantly in the year round. All these are necessities. And in some shape or other these must be furnished the fowls or they will not grow well. If the flocks are permitted to run at large, the birds will gather a good share of these supplies abroad, especially in the summer season. If they are confined within fenced runs, all the provisions must be accorded them artificially, or they suffer.—*American Poultry Yard.*

International Dairy Fair at New York.

The Exhibition will be open to the public, December 8th, at 6 o'clock, A. M., and thereafter for two weeks. Exhibits from all parts of the United States, Canada, and Europe, are invited, and entries may be made any time before Dec. 6th. Blank applications will be furnished gratis, by writing or sending to the General Superintendent. Of the premiums offered, in which the Canadian manufacturers may compete, are:—

Dairy butter, for the best made in Canada, 1st prize \$50, 2nd \$25, 3rd diploma. Sweetstakes—for the best butter, of any kind, made at any time or place, 1st prize \$100, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$20, 4th \$10, 5th \$50.

Cheese, for the best made in Canada, 1st prize \$50, 2nd \$35, 3rd diploma. For the best fancy shapes made anywhere, 1st prize \$50, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$10, 4th \$5, 5th \$30. Special premiums offered by Nicholas Ashton, Liverpool, for the best lot of butter (if creamery) not less than 200 lbs., and if dairy, not less than 50 lbs., salted with Ashton's factory filled salt, made in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Canada. Prize \$75.

The prizes offered and open to competition by Canadians are liberal. We should be glad to learn that the Proprietors of our cheese factories, and our best butter dairies purpose to be represented at the Exhibition by their products.

We are authorized to state that a leading firm in the City of St. John, who take a warm interest in the agricultural developments of the Province are desirous of offering a prize to each county in the Province, for excelling in some particular branch of *General Farm Husbandry*, and would like an expression of opinion from our Agricultural Societies, and leading Agriculturists, as to what would be the most desirable object for which such prize should be awarded. The object in view is to assist in the advancement of improved Agriculture. We trust that all interested will give this matter their prompt attention, and we cheerfully place our columns at the disposal of those who desire to give an answer to the question.

Archdeacon Denison on Cheddar Cheese.

The Bristol Mercury publishes the following note from Archdeacon Denison; and notwithstanding it is more especially addressed and intended for the ear of the English Farmer, yet the point in it is applicable everywhere that is a good article will always command the highest price.

Notwithstanding the depression in the Cheese trade I believe that my good friends the cheese making farmers have the game still in their own hands. It is the bad article that has nearly ruined the cheese trade, and the Cheese trade I believe that my good friends the cheese making farmers have the game still in their own hands. It is the bad article that has nearly ruined the cheese trade, and the Cheese trade I believe that my good friends the cheese making farmers have the game still in their own hands.

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The Latest Yankee Yarn.

THE MOST WONDERFUL SQUASH ON RECORD.

Among those exhibiting at the Territorial Fair this year is James R. Johnson, a farmer of the Pringle Pear Valley, whose ranch lies seven miles north of Helena. He has a splendid collection of grain and vegetable—among the latter a squash of nearly forty pounds weight, which has a history too remarkable to pass unrecorded. It is of the California mammoth variety, and considerably the smallest "bulb" of several of the same kind shown in the same collection. Some six or seven weeks ago—when little more than ten pounds weight—this squash was accidentally severed from its vine by the tread of a farm employee. Mr. Johnson deploring the accident, the vegetable being a favorite, and the first to set from the blossom, and he entertained great expectation from it. The hired

man, seeing his distress, suggested that the squash be taken and raised by hand. Johnson confessed he did not know what that meant. "I will grow and mature it if you will furnish the milk," was the reply. "Go ahead and do it," said Johnson, who smiled grimly, thinking that the Yankee hired man was disposed to play a "joke" on him. The "orphan vegetable," with the stem and a few inches of the vine left intact, was taken to the house and deposited in a garret room, where it could get a sea bath part of each day. The stem was wound with several layers of cotton cloth, and this was submerged in a dish of new milk morning and evening. The squash fed hungrily on the lactical fluid. On the start it absorbed a pint of milk in few hours. This was presently increased to a quart, and twice a day it was thus rationed to the first day of the fair on Monday last. It thrived wonderfully on its novel bringing up, and neighbors who dropped in to see it from time to time expressed their surprise and astonishment at this singular mode of rearing a vegetable. They watched it nurse, and could easily detect the healthy appetite driving the nutritious drink. Everyone gave the squash repeated shakes, and pressed investigations to learn whether there was any internal evidence of all the milk which the vegetable had consumed. The squash prospered amazingly, expanded in size continually, and when taken away for exhibition weighed within a fraction of 40 pounds. There were many at the fair whose curiosity was greatly excited about this squash, and Mr. Johnson promised to cut the vegetable in the presence of witnesses, and exhibit to them its "true inwardness." This was done this morning before a large concourse of people, and the amazement of the multitude may be pictured but not described. The squash was opened to their wondering eyes. Divided carefully in the middle, the top half was removed, disclosing a globe of beautiful golden-hued butter, with poppy-filled seeds peeping out from all sides of the luscious looking ball. Its weight was estimated by many of the best judges at 10 lbs., and was as fresh and fragrant to the smell as a spring-blown daisy. It was the greatest novelty more than the surprising beauty of the sight that raised the enthusiastic outburst of the crowd as they viewed this remarkable being of farm and dairy produce. The "meat" of the squash was a fine, light cream, equalled that of the butter-ball, and after everybody had had a fair chance to see and satisfy themselves of the genuineness of both, and investigate the mode of raising the unique exhibit, it will be divided up and parceled out to a dozen or more parties, to whom also will be given portions of the butter for trial. Mr. Johnson receives from the citizens of Helena a special premium of \$20 for this rarest specimen of a "butter squash" ever raised by hand, or for that matter, by nature's own process. We think it will be generally acknowledged that the squash, the counterpart of which has probably never before been seen or heard of in Montana or any other part of the world.—*Helena (Montana) Herald.*

Many Crops on a variety of Stock.

It becomes more apparent every day that the land occupier's income must come not only from one or two large sources, but from a number of smaller ones also. We must have many crops and a variety of stock, and must learn how to make the most of each and all of them. The time when merely to get a farm to was to be on the road to wealth are gone, probably for ever. All that can be looked for now is that the greatest possible care in choosing the percentage on the capital be had to commence with, if he follows the road to success adopted by men of all other professions.

The land to success means almost invariably unvarying attention to detail. Genius, (some one says) is an infinite power of taking trouble; and success means genius well applied. Cereals can only be made to pay by the greatest possible care in choosing the varieties best adapted to the land and markets, and cultivating them with a special eye to get quality. Cattle can only be made profitable by those who condescend to watch their peculiarities, to develop the valuable ones, and to take care in selling that they get market price for all they have to part with. There must be no mean guess work, no rule of thumb; we must learn to recognize the best methods of breeding, feeding and marketing, even though we have to abandon long established practices.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

PERCHES FOR POULTRY.—The old fashioned perches or roosts (where one rises above the other) were once avoided, since they caused the birds to crowd and soil each other. Perches should never be placed or arranged at a distance of six or eight feet from the floor, no matter what approaches are made to them, since fowls fly almost invariably to fly off the perch as well as suffer other injuries if the distance from the floor is considerable and, moreover, the air is purer nearer the floor. Those perches which are stationary are not as convenient as those which can be easily removed, and the same is true of a platform for the droppings. The better plan is to make them both removable, with the perch three feet from the floor and the platform about midway between. This latter article should always be placed under the perch in every pen, it saves much time and trouble, besides keeping the pen cleaner and giving more room to the fowls.

HOME INTERESTS.

Christmas Presents—or work for the Fireside.

With every year the giving of presents at Christmas-time grows more popular, and poor indeed is now the family in which there is not some small kindness of this sort. It is to our "grown up" readers that we this week offer directions for the making of simple and acceptable Christmas gifts. Nearly all the directions given are available for holiday purposes. The young girl who has but a trifle of pocket-money can spend a little of it in the purchase of some nice colored yarn, out of which to knit or crochet a variety of articles both useful and pretty. With taste and carefulness in working, many charming gifts can be made at a very small cost.

In the country, where kerosene lamps are used, pretty shades will be appreciated. Those who have the usual lamp shade of paper or one made of wire frame, can cover an old and make it really beautiful. Put over it a piece of any desired color, either stretched on plainly or plaited, with the edge neatly turned in. Put around the edge a fringe of lace (cheap lace) about two inches deep and cover the joining with a full fringed out ruche of the silk. A ribbon of the same color should be tied loosely in a pretty bow round the top; or if the wire work be so old as to need covering, another ruche can be clustered about it. Cheap thin silk can be used, but it must be a pretty color; a carmine red is always the prettiest. A simple shade made of colored tissue paper is very pretty. Take an ordinary sheet of this, fold it once, and hold the centre between the thumb and finger of the left hand like a pocket handkerchief. Draw it through the right hand from top to bottom over and over again till it is a mere wisp. Cut an inch off the point at the top, to form the hole for the chimney of the lamp to pass through. The paper is then spread out and falls in four graceful crimped points. The shade is complete; and when dexterously put over the globe (before the lamp is turned up very bright) throws a pretty, subdued light. Pink, pale green, yellow or violet are all favorite colors; and when two or more are used, the effect is charming. These shades, which really cost only a cent or two, were lately sold at a fashionable fancy fair in London for 62 cents each. The soft subdued light they show is at once pleasant and becoming. Old shades can be neatly covered with gold paper on which pressed ferns or Autumn leaves are gummed and then varnished. An edge of light lace should complete the shade.

A novelty in pen-wipers is in the shape of a travelling rug or shawl rolled up in a shawl-strap. Take heavy Berlin wool and cut evenly a bunch about a finger in length—scraps of wool can thus be nicely used. Round this straight bunch of wool place a piece of cloth of the same width, pinned all round. About half an inch from each end put a strap of silk or gold cord, connecting them by another piece of the cord, which thus forms the handle. A glance at your shawl in its strap will show you how the pen-wiper ought to look.

A table cover of green or red cloth may have a border made out of odds and ends of cloth, silk or velvet. Cut out card-board in the shape of small hearts, cover these with the scraps, first tacking them on the card, and then button-holing the silk all round with yellow embroidery silk, when several various colored ones are prepared, arrange on the cloth near the edge, tack them on, and make a chain stitch on the yellow silk from each up to a point, as if each were hanging by a string. Last of all, sew on a bow of narrow ribbon of the same shade as the embroidery silk, and thus you have a bunch of little hearts hanging from a bow. These bunches in different colors, in groups at equidistances, have a very pretty, quaint effect. Any color may be used for the chain stitching and the ribbon.

Card-board boxes serve as the foundation for many dainty receptacles. A collar-box, for instance, lined and covered with bright silk, will give two compartments when divided by a piece of silk-covered card-board, one of which will hold loose spools, thimble, etc., and the other, well stuffed, make a pincushion. Handkerchief-boxes are effectively covered with silk or velvet bordered inside by a row of little silk "pockets" for spools, silk winders and tape measures. The lid inside comprises four flaps closing like an envelope, the two side ones overlaid with flannel for needling, the middle ones securing bodkins, crochet hoops and other odds and ends by elastic straps. A simple and handsome housewife is to be made out of a 3-inch double strip of silk (or velvet lined with silk) finished at one end by a triangular flap. Down the length inside, sets of needles are placed in a row on flannel, each set divided by an ornamental stitching and numbered according to size by a cross-stitch figure. To the plain end sew a silk mattress three inches by two inches, round the border of which pins are stuck.

For those of our readers who do not know how to make the photograph

frames of the young shoots at the ends of fir branches, we present a few directions: Break off the shoots about twelve inches long, let them dry several days, when the leaves will easily brush off. Take four strong pieces and firmly sew or wire them together into a square frame, allowing the ends of each piece to project a little beyond the point of joining. Then take four more shorter pieces and join them, making a smaller frame which will lie inside the first about an inch apart from it all around. They should be fastened together with wire and then more fragile pieces of the fir should be laced in and out of the double frame in such a manner that the bunched tops will be brought to the front. After a few days, varnish the frame and when dry, sew a piece of elastic across the back to keep the photograph in its place. Two long pieces of the fir can be fastened to the back in a triangular manner, so that the bunched pieces will cross and project at the top (centre) of the frame, and the other ends fastened wide apart at the bottom of the frame will serve like the two feet of an easel for the frame to apparently rest upon. A third long piece fastened at the back in the manner of the supports of a stepladder will enable the easel-like frame to stand on the table. Pretty frames can also be made of apple-tree twigs, which may be gilded with the liquid gold, a preparation which is to be found at the shops furnishing artists' materials.

A nice basket for grandmother-to carry her cap or work in can be made thus: Take a strip of flexible paste-board about four or five inches wide and a yard long, and cover neatly on each side with any colored silk you like; fasten the ends together very nicely, making a complete round. Take a width of silk about 1½ or 1¾ yards long and gathering one edge sew it tight to one edge of the paste-board round. Make an inch wide hem on the other edge of the silk with a row of stitching a short distance above the stitching which holds the hem;—this makes a case through which a cord can be run which is used to draw up the silk into the closed, puffy wide of the basket. Another piece of the silk is similarly sewed to the other edge of the pasteboard. When these two silk sides are closely drawn up by the silk cords—which are then based on the ends little tassels made out of a skein of sewing yarn to either edge of the band, and if the maker is good at embroidery a monogram or initial may be worked upon one side of the band. The handle should be long enough to give good space for the hand to go through between it and the band.

Little boys are passionately delighted with woolen balls and with knitted reins. The balls are made on a large scale exactly as are the little woolen tassels used for hoods and baby socks. Take a perfectly round piece of stout paste-board just the diameter you want your ball to be. Cut a good-sized circular hole in the center, and with double saphyr of any color threaded (double) on a worsted needle go over and over the card evenly all round until the hole is so filled with wool you cannot force the needle through. Then with sharp scissors clip the wool all round the outer edge of the card, so that the latter is exposed. Press the wool, which has expanded, when cut into a ball, away on one side so that you can slip a very stout but small (wine round) cord close to the card, and the two ends together as tightly and firmly as possible; then cut and pull away the card completely, and you have a very pretty and elastic ball. Trim the ball with sharp scissors till completely smooth and even.

For the knitted reins take double saphyr wool and a pair of ivory knitting-needles. Cast on twenty stitches, and knit in plain knit a strip of ten inches in length, after slipping the first stitch of every row; cast off. To each end of this strip is attached a circle for the arms which is made thus: Take a piece of cord, the kind used for hanging pictures, and make a circle the size of a child's arm at the shoulder; sew the ends firmly together, splitting the one a little past this other; then cover the cord with cotton, wool or flannel, make it soft; then cover lastly with a strip of knitting, casting on eight stitches and knitting the length required, plain every row; sew it on overcast on the inside. Before attaching the strip of twenty stitches broad, which was first knitted) to the arm-holes, there ought to be sewn on it, with some contrasting color, a name, such as Beauty, Fairy, etc., and to the under edge should be attached three or four little bells—if the knitting be of green or crimson, make the letters in yellow with gilt bells. When attaching this strip for the chest to the arm-holes, do not let the ends be seen, but overcast on the inner side to the overcasting on the arm-holes. Cast on eight stitches, and knit in plain knitting a strip the length required for needling, and numbered according to size by a cross-stitch figure. To the plain end sew a silk mattress three inches by two inches, round the border of which pins are stuck.

