

DAINTY XMAS PRESENTS.

Aprons, Either Fancy or Plain, Are Very Appropriate for the Purpose.



Dress Apron.

The apron has come in again, again is considered quite a pretty domestic touch to the home dress; and this fact makes it a welcome addition to the Christmas present list. Aprons may be strictly utilitarian, there is a wide choice from which to make selection. In the olden days grand ladies wore the fancy apron as a matter of course, and we hark back to the Louis XVI. models in the resurrected elaborate apron of the present, a piece of luxury constructed of silk and net and embroidered in gold.

A dainty apron more practical than the above is a sewing apron of lawn, cut double length and trimmed back upon itself to within about six inches of the waist band. The pocket thus made is stitched at either side, and a bow of ribbon at the center of the pocket tucks it to the foundation. This may be of white flowered silk, lace-trimmed, and serve admirably for a fancy-work apron; or a very fetching one may be made of line and be of very decided service on mending day, big and strong enough to hold stockings, torn garments, cotton, thread, scissors, all the mending paraphernalia that is wont to scatter itself in such an annoying manner when one is interrupted at the mending task.



Sewing Apron.

An apron that is a tried and true friend to the housewife, and which often comes in well for mistress as well as maid, is the all-enveloping gingham apron; the most approved kind being the one that has a ruffle at the foot whose flaring protects the hem of the dress beneath. The apron should be long, but escape the floor, allowing the wearer to hurry from task to task, and should have a sizeable pocket or two in which to put kerchiefs, bits of string, nails—whatever small necessities a worker about the house finds herself in frequent need of. These pinafores are really very pretty when made of gingham not too dull; use bright blue and white, pink and white, or lilac and white.

Housewife's Apron.

FOR CHILLY MORNINGS.
A Circular Shawl That Will Make an Acceptable Christmas Present for Many.
Crocheting is easy, pleasant work, something the Christmas worker can pick up in the evening or at odd moments. The circular shawl here described is a present suitable for old or young; and as individual choice is to decide the question of color, care should be taken to consider the tastes and years of the person who is to be recipient of the pretty present. The shawl requires four and one-half hanks of Shetland floss; use bone crochet hook. Make a chain of six and join, in this space make 23 long crochet and join; make a chain of



A CIRCULAR SHAWL.

three and over the third long crochet make a shell of eight; skip two and between the second and third make one long crochet; skip two and make a shell of eight; around this 23 you will have four shells with eight long crochet in each shell and one long crochet between each eight. For third row, make a chain of three directly over the long crochet, and between the second and third long stitch make a shell of six. Skip two and make a shell of six. This makes two shells with six in each, and one long crochet between, directly over the shell of eight; fourth row, same as third row; fifth row, make eight shells in the middle of each sixth shell, with long crochet between each shell of eight directly over the long crochet in the preceding row; make two rows of the six shell; make one row of the eight shell; make two rows of the six shell; make one row of the eight shell; finish with rows of six shell to the length required. Make fringe of a chain of 20 caught between every long stitch around the cape.

A Photograph Frame.

A pretty photograph frame may be made of a piece of poppy wall paper, 14x12 inches. Cut a piece to fit a photograph into, mount the whole on a cardboard under glass and bend round the edges with poppy red binding paper.

FOR THE GIRL TO MAKE.

Crocheted Bedroom Slippers Will Not Prove Difficult and Will Be Acceptable.

The school girl should not be required or expected to endanger her eyes and overtax her nerves with elaborate pre-Christmas labor, but usually the energetic miss wants to have part in the preparations for the grand festival of giving. We therefore suggest a gift that is not difficult to make, is useful and pretty—a pair of crocheted bedroom slippers. The materials needed are one and one-half hanks of Germantown wool, a pair of lamb's wool



USEFUL BEDROOM SLIPPER.

soles, a bone crochet hook, No. 3 or 4. Commence by making nine chains; make half-stitch rib and widen by two stitches in each row; make 18 rows (or nine ribs), which completes the vamp; begin sides of foot by taking up 12 stitches, rib, but do not widen any; make 38 rows (or nine ribs); connect at left side, and finish top by making shell; six whole stitches for first row, and seven stitches for second row. Turn slipper wrong side out and sew to binding on sole. Finish front by making bow of ribbon and sewing to vamp.

BATTENBERG CENTERPIECE.

It Takes Much Time to Make, But Is Always an Acceptable Christmas Present.

A hand-made center piece takes considerable time to make, but the donor of such a gift is rewarded when something has been fashioned that brings pleasure to the recipient. The woman too busy to indulge in fancy work herself appreciates especially the handwork of others, and this should be borne in mind when deciding to whom and to whom to send a needlework



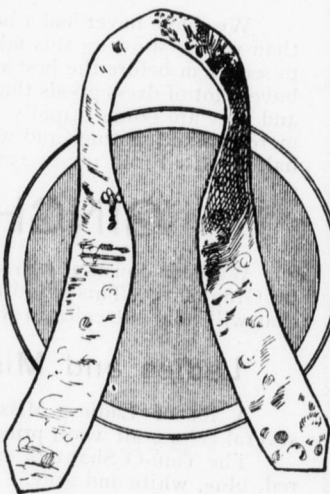
A DAINY CENTERPIECE.

gift. The accompanying Battenberg piece does not require a great deal of work, but is effective and pretty. It may be made either of ecru or pure white, if the former would be suitable for library or sitting room table. Ecru Battenberg on green art-linen is artistic and different from the ordinary, and this combination may prove a welcome suggestion to the Christmas worker. The stitches employed in the lace are few and simple, principally plain Brussel point mesh, spider-web, Sorrento cross-bar and plain Russian stitch. Eight rings and ten yards of braid are required for a 16-inch piece.

THE STOCK-COLLAR.

They Are Always Acceptable to the Dainty Woman as Christmas Presents.

Not only is there a variety of stock-collars to offer for Christmas gift suggestion, but the stock-collar has called in requisition the case for stocks and the stock-protector, two articles to cheer the jaded searcher after novelties. The case for stocks should be made of white linen, or some other washable material, be flat, of a width



A STOCK COLLAR PROTECTOR.

to hold without creasing the tab-end stock, of a length to contain without folding the turn-over collar. The stock-protector, which is not folded away in the secret recesses of a bureau drawer, but parades as an article of dress, worn to protect collar and dress front from the outer wrap, should be of richer material than the stock-case.

It is very pretty made of thick satin, edged with silk cord and fastened with fancy loop or frog. One monogram or initial may be embroidered on the protector below the fastener, in a silk corresponding with the color of the finishing cord.

PRESENTS FOR THE BABY.

The Little Dear May Be Remembered with Many Home-Made Articles.



Baby's Knitted Boots.

We call Christmas the children's festival, and they are our first concern when it comes to planning presents for this season. For the very little one, too small to enjoy toy or book, something useful is chosen, usually something in the way of wearing apparel. Of course, the baby is the modern out-door kind, daily taken abroad for the air; and consequently must need plenty of out-door trappings.

Anything in this line is, therefore, a suitable gift, and we suggest for his or her small highness a pair of booties and a pair of mittens, offering a crocheted design for the former, and for the latter a model to be followed by one that uses the knitting needles. Materials needed for the booties are one bone crochet hook, No. 3, and one-half hank of three-fold Saxony.

Directions: Make a chain of 35 stitches and join; first row, second, third and fourth rows plain single crochet; fifth row, take up one stitch, wrap wool on the needle, take through the stitch, wrap wool again, and draw together as one; make 18 of these stitches in the round. The first, second, third and fourth rows are repeated in the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth rows, and so on until the leg is of the desired length. Take up 13 stitches for the vamp, make ten rows of afghan stitch, take up stitches for the sole, make ten rows single crochet, turn the sock on left side, take up ten stitches on the needle, draw together into one to make the heel, and the same at the toe. Crochet together one stitch each side. Finish with baby ribbon or cord and tassel.

Directions for the mittens: Make a chain of 35 stitches and join, then two rows of slip stitches; now take the front stitch of the work and make 11 rows. Start thumb by putting two stitches in one, the one double stitch plain row over the previous row. Continue until you have 11 stitches in the thumb, then join the thumb together. Make nine rows plain, then quarter decrease one stitch. Continue until you have eight stitches left, then turn the mitt inside out, and knit together. Finish the thumb by decreasing two stitches, one each side, until you have two stitches left, draw together. For the cuff, make 17 bean stitches round top, purl last row.

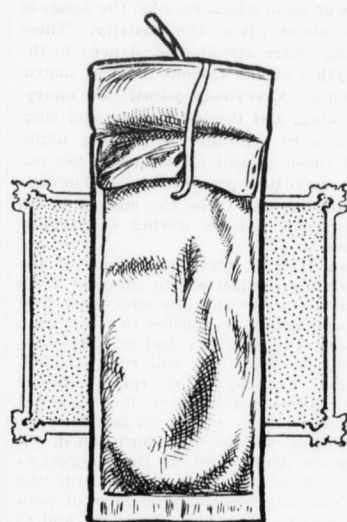


Baby Mittens.

CASE FOR STICK-PINS.

Makes an Attractive Christmas Present and Is Very Easily Made at Home.

That these pins may not scratch other pieces of jewelry, it is well to have a case especially devoted to them. One puzzled as to what to make for Christmas here has opportunity to fashion a pretty and useful gift. The material doubtless can be found in the home scrap-bag, but should be perfectly clean and of soft richness. Light flowered satin is very prettily employed, the lining of light-weight elderdown. The case folds in envelope



A STICK-PIN CASE.

shape, and when closed takes up very little room. The silk cord or baby ribbon used to fasten it should be of the color most dominant in the material employed for the outside part. Firm ribbon of suitable width could be selected if one did not possess the flowered satin suggested, and at the shops one can pick up short odds and ends at very reasonable prices. It is a good idea to make several presents of the same kind, as experience gives one skill and speed, and one perhaps can make several articles from the one material chosen.

A Watch Holder.

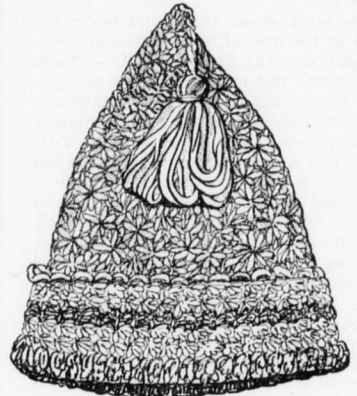
A watch-holder consists of two oblong pieces of card-board covered with white linen or with silk or brocade, fastened together at one of the shorter sides under ribbon bows, spread apart at an angle of 45 degrees and kept there by two pieces of ribbon. A gift-book in one piece holds the watch. If of linen, embroider a circle on one half to surround the watch when it is hung.

PRESENTS FOR THE BOY.

Two Things, Easily Made, That Will Please Him on Christmas Morning.

There are always plenty of things to get for girls for Christmas, but what to get for the boy of the family is often a problem, especially if the donor wishes to present something she has made with her own hands.

We offer a couple of suggestions to the puzzled planner of the Christmas list; call to the attention a pretty toboggan cap, and a fine sweater. The former is crocheted, the latter knit. Materials needed for the cap, two hanks of Germantown wool; one of eight-fold and for the border one of four-fold; use long crochet needle No. 7. Make a chain of 46 and join; first row, 46 double crochet; second row, make 28 stars of five stitches each, and repeat for next four rows; for seventh row, decrease one stitch in each row, and do the same with eighth and ninth row; tenth row, take off in three different places one stitch each



BOYS' TOBOGGAN CAP.

and so on in the following rows, until your cap comes to a point, when you will have only one stitch left. Now turn the cap. To make a border, crochet 32 stars all around the rim, five rows of the same, next one row Picot edge. Cord and tassel, and the cap is finished.

In giving directions for the sweater, we make provision for a large one, 38-inch bust, but the size may easily be decreased by subtracting five stitches for every inch of bust measure. Cast on 102 stitches on one of the steel needles for the bottom band. Knit two, purl two, making rib of two and two for 24 rows. For twenty-fifth row, use bone needles and knit one, purl one, making rib of one and one for 157 rows; for one hundred and fifty-eighth row, rib 34 stitches for the right shoulder, then bind off 34 stitches for the neck, and on a third needle rib the remaining 34 stitches for the left shoulder. Rib three rows on each shoulder, then on the right-hand needle cast 34 stitches to correspond to those bound off. Now put all the stitches on one needle and continue to rib for 157 rows



A GOOD SWEATER.

for the other side, then take steel needles in the one hundred and fifty-eighth row of this side and knit two, purl two, making rib of two and two for 24 rows and bind off. For the sleeve, double the sweater, and with two bone needles, pick up 109 stitches, 50 on each side of center of shoulder. Seam of sleeve must come under the arm. Rib back and forth 15 rows. For sixteenth row, put all the stitches on one needle and knit as before, narrowing one stitch at each end of needle in each following fifth row, until you have narrowed 13 times. The sleeve is 80 rows in length. Then narrow in every other row until the sleeve is 115 rows long, then take steel needles and knit two, purl two for 24 rows. Bind off, and sew up sleeve and under-arm seams. For the collar, cast on 83 stitches on one steel needle, knit two, purl two, making rib of two and two for 72 rows. Bind off, sew the ends together and sew to the neck of sweater, the collar seam a little back of the shoulder.

Home-Made Muff.

A muff can be made of purple velvet, lined with white satin. An immense bow of purple satin ribbon and a mink's head form the trimmings. The opera glass bag which accompanies the muff is made of velvet, and has a drawing string of purple silk ribbon. A mink's head and two mink's tails form the trimmings.

For the Golf Player.

A golf scrubber is made by covering two pieces of pasteboard with gray linen, lined inside with scarlet silk. On the cover is embroidered two miniature golf sticks and flowers in scarlet silk. It is intended to hold a small pencil and card.

TO MAKE FOR FATHER.

Some Little Things the Children Can Construct That Will Be Appreciated.



For Shaving Papers.

Little fingers can construct the following articles for Christmas, and the owners feel the glow of satisfaction because they, too, have had part in the holiday preparations, the receivers of the gifts be much pleased that the youngsters have devoted so much thought and time to them.

To make the case for shaving papers, cut a circular piece of card-board the desired size and a number of pieces of tissue paper the same size. Cover the card-board smoothly with a piece of silk, and on it have some older member of the family paint the "Shavers" design in water-colors; or, and perhaps better, let the youthful worker finish the gift herself, paste on the silk figures cut from some advertising page of paper or magazine. To have "done it all herself" will be a great triumph. Fasten shaving-papers and outside together with a cord loop.



A Match-Striker.

For the match-striker, use a covered card-board foundation, put on the "striker" as suggested with the "shavers," but have the gentleman's trousers of sand-paper.

ACCEPTABLE XMAS GIFTS.

A Couple of Suggestions for the Holiday Season for the Home-workers.

When one wants a postal card it is always at a rush time, and yet nothing is more elusive than the postal card—unless it be the notorious collar button. Which fact is explanation for the need of the case herewith illustrated. The case, which is made of colored linen, has a card-board foundation, and may be finished with either a cord or a bow of wash-ribbon. In this day of liking of variations of brown and of green, we would suggest a brown background with embroidery of tawny-colored nasturtiums, or green art-linen ornamented with thistles. This case is



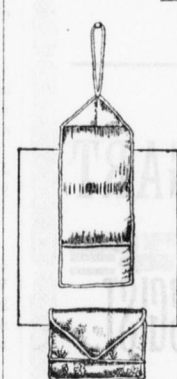
CASE FOR POSTAL CARDS.

suitable for presentation to that troublesome being, man, as it is practical and not over-fussy.

Another article that probably would meet with masculine appreciation is a pine-needle pillow; a small one to throw over the top of a lounging chair, or a sizeable one for couch or bed. Very pretty designs for these are now shown in the shops, artistic and inexpensive ones. We have in mind a tan cotton with brown cones embroidered thereon, and some lettering among the cones, a woodland quotation. If one is not skilled with the needle, a very pretty case for the fragrant pine can easily and cheaply be made of thin leaf-green silk, and it will convey sylvan suggestion as well as the more elaborate cone-embroidered one.

POWDER CASE FOR XMAS.

One That Is Both Practical and Easily Made by the Home-worker.



Folding Powder Case.

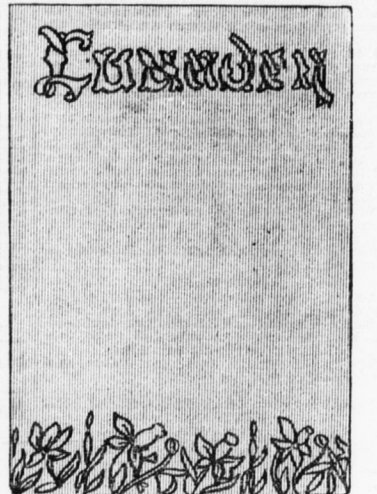
To traveler and shopper the powder case is a friend in need, and the one here illustrated is practical, easily made, and can be rolled into small compass. Materials needed are a bit of ribbon, a bit of chamois, a fragment of crepe de chine. Take a piece of taffeta ribbon four inches wide, nine long, and line with chamois; when stitching them together have the ribbon at one end extend a little beyond the lining. At the opposite end of the ribbon fasten a scented powder pad of thin silk, or of crepe de chine, the pad a bag about an inch or so wide and as long as the chamois is wide. A case for the pad is made of a piece of ribbon a little wider than the bag, is stitched along the outer edge and fastened with some baby ribbon when the bag is not in use. Another recommendation for this powder-case is that the chamois and powder are in one piece.

FOR MEN OF THE HOUSE.

A Laundry Bag or Necktie Case Make Appropriate Christmas Presents for Them.

If one begin in due season, the work of planning and making Christmas presents need not be unduly burdensome. The difficulty besetting her that wishes to give only what she herself has made is that there are so few things of home manufacture one dare inflict upon a man.

Bearing this in mind, we offer for consideration two articles that seem appropriate for father, brother or man



CONVENIENT LAUNDRY BAG.

friend; a laundry bag and a necktie-case. The bag should be made of some washable material, of coarse cream crash, or of denim in blue, red, tan or green. Place rings at top by which to hang bag, as the draw string kind is annoying when one is in a hurry and wishes to cram things in without delay.

The necktie-case illustrated is made of white linen, embroidered in violets and lined with violet silk. Of course, another flower and lining to correspond may be chosen, one that harmonizes well with the toilet furnish-



A NECKTIE CASE.

ings of the recipient, if the color of these is known. Baste lining to sheet of wadding on which orris root or some good sachet powder has been sprinkled, and loosely tack to white cover here and there, in such a manner that the latter can easily be removed for laundering.

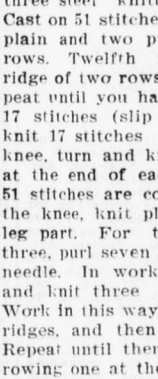
FOR THE KNITTER.

An Acceptable Present Grandmother Can Make for the Little Ones for Christmas.

All sorts of handwork is being revived; this is the day of the vogue of hand-made needlework and hand-made furniture, hand-knit articles. She who learned to knit in her early days now possesses an art of which she may well be proud, for she has the ability to turn out articles of wear that bear the stamp of gentility—and are of the very highest fashion, too; hand-knit sweaters bringing almost twice as much at the stores as machine made, and the hand-knit baby sacks, caps and socks are very high-priced.

So this year grandmother has a wide choice in the matter of what to give for Christmas. We offer cut and description of child's leggings, and trust the design will prove a pleasing one to the knitter. Materials required, one hank four-fold Germantown wool, three steel knitting needles, No. 15. Cast on 51 stitches and knit across two plain and two purl, repeating for 11 rows. Twelfth row plain (make a ridge of two rows of knitting) and repeat until you have four ridges. Knit 17 stitches (slip on another needle), knit 17 stitches more, forming the knee, turn and knit back. Add stitch at the end of each needle until you have 51 stitches are complete, 17 ridges on the knee, knit plain 17 ridges on the leg part. For the fancy part, knit three, purl seven and repeat across the needle. In working back purl seven and knit three across the needle. Repeat until there are 12 blocks, narrowing one at the end of each needle, and at the end of fancy portion there should be 38 stitches. For the instep, knit 25 stitches and slip the other 13 on another needle, knit back 12 stitches (of the 25) and leave the remaining 13 on the first needle. Knit the 12 stitches back and forth until there are nine ridges, knit two more ridges, narrowing every end one. With the needle left at the right side of the work, pick up stitches along the edge of instep and knit across the toe. Repeat same on left side of work, knit back and forth until there are three ridges below the instep part. Bind off and sew up leg seam.

CHILD'S KNITTED LEGGINGS.



CHILD'S KNITTED LEGGINGS.