



Makart Bouquets.

DRYING grasses dried and arranged with pressed leaves, palm-fronds, peacock feathers, berries, etc., compose graceful vase-bouquets which are very desirable for that season of the year when, in northern climes, no fresh flowers, excepting exotics and hot-house blossoms, can be obtained.

Our illustration of three bouquets of these autumn spoils gives some excellent ideas for artistic grouping in the exquisite decorative taste of Makart, the renowned genre painter and colorist. Two of the bouquets are backed with palm-leaf fans, which serve to support the grasses. This arrangement does not require so much material as a round shape, and being flat at the back, if the bouquet be placed in a slender vase it can be more conveniently accommodated on a narrow shelf.

The feathery pampas grass, which can be obtained dyed in different colors, as well as in its natural state; various immortelle flowers, edelweiss, etc.; the beautiful silky pods of the milkweed; pompons made of these pods; strips of dried palm-fronds, and carefully pressed ferns are used.

Any of the grasses or immortelles may be dyed at home by carefully dipping them in a solution of the desired color. Directions for use accompany all the packets of dye-colors sold for general use.

In making up the clusters, the contrasts and harmonies of color should be even more carefully considered than in a bouquet of fresh cut-flowers, for the tints are not as natural. Any specimens of insects, brilliant-hued bugs, moths, or butterflies will add to the effect, and so will small stuffed birds of gay plumage.

For convenience in working, professional florists always moisten immortelles and dried grasses and let them dry out after making up. This is almost necessary, for otherwise the dried and brittle stems may snap while they are being manipulated, and possibly a most desirable spray be utterly spoiled in this way.

Bouquets like these should always be removed from the room before sweeping or dusting, as their beauty is greatly impaired by dust, which cannot be removed. Pampas grass, however, may be cleansed by dipping it in a strong lathery suds, rinsing through several clear waters, and drying the plumes in the sun.

Sanitarian.

THE NECESSITY FOR VENTILATION.—It is believed by the best authorities that about forty per cent. of all deaths are due to the influence of impure air.

In building houses, a great deal of thought, and the exercise of a high order of intellect are required to supply an abundance of light and pure air; yet people have generally only considered warmth and light, and even light, in most instances, does not receive the attention it ought.

Consumption is, in many cases, the result of breathing

bad air. The habit of slow deep breathing—thirty or forty inspirations a day—is a great preventive of this terrible disease. Take care to have the air breathed during this practice as pure as possible. Expel all air from the lungs, inhale slowly to the fullest extent, and hold the breath as long as possible before exhaling. The temperature should be not far from 68 or 70 degrees.

The external air all over the world is of an almost uniform purity: even in large cities this is remarkable; but in