

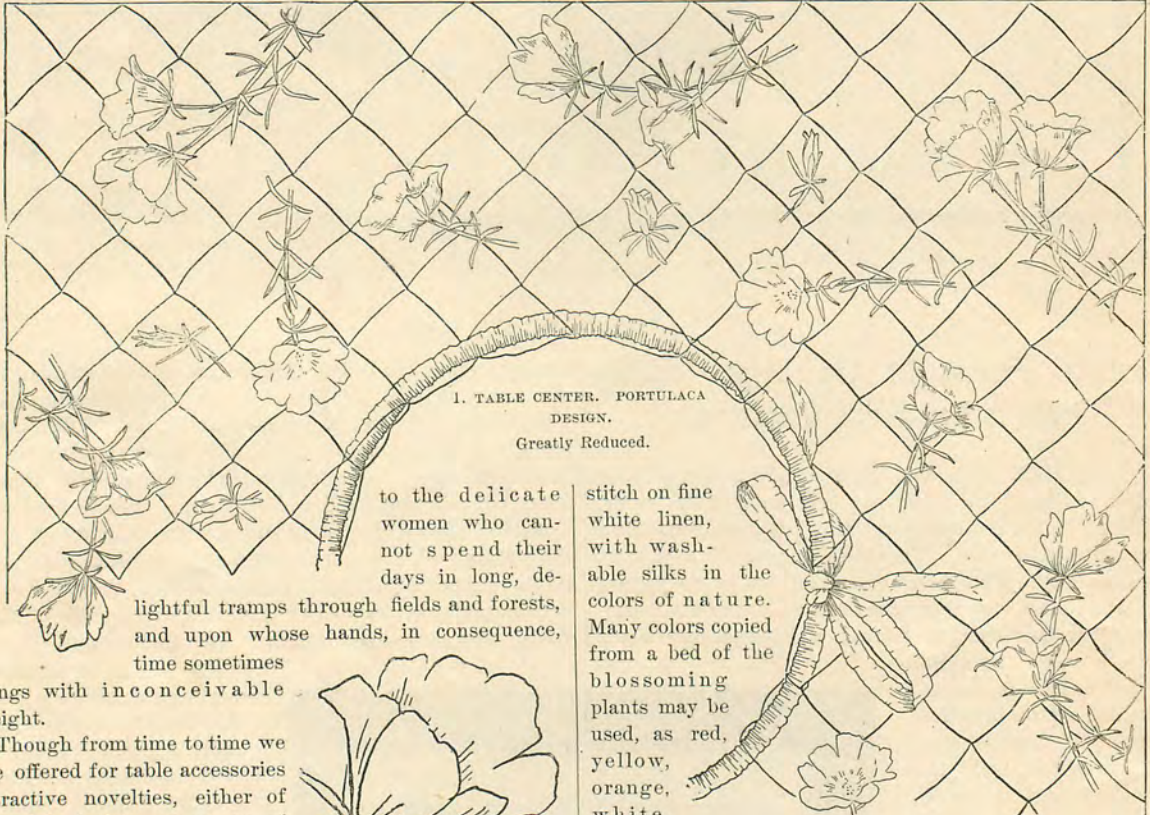
Home Art and Home Comfort.

Ornamental Napery.

LONG summer days with idle hours on cool verandas are just the time when fascinating patterns and novel designs for fancy-work appeal most strongly

esteem so unvaryingly as all forms of embroidered linen; and as freshness and spotless purity are essential conditions of everything in connection with the table, this is natural. Doilies and table-centers, or tea-cloths, of delicate textiles, or with a kind of decoration that will not bear laundering, are out of place on the dinner and tea table; hence the continued and increasing favor of all styles of decoration on linen.

We give several illustrations with different styles of embroidering for table-centers, tea-cloths, and a table-runner. The first design is for a table center fifteen inches square. The portulaca design is to be worked in satin and outline

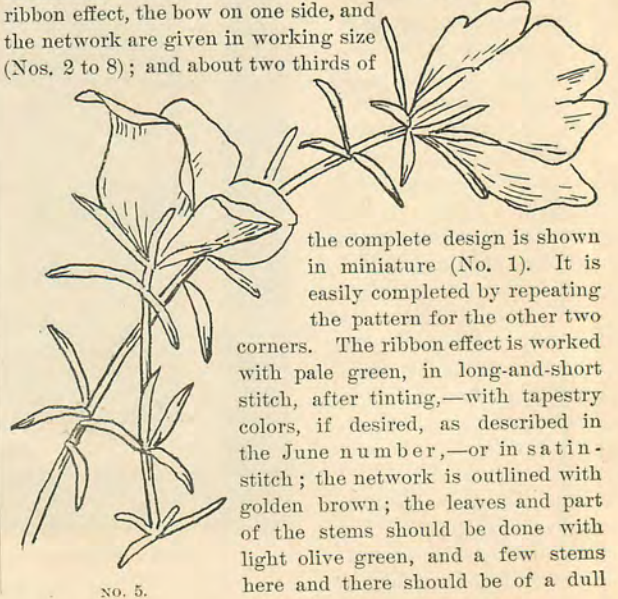
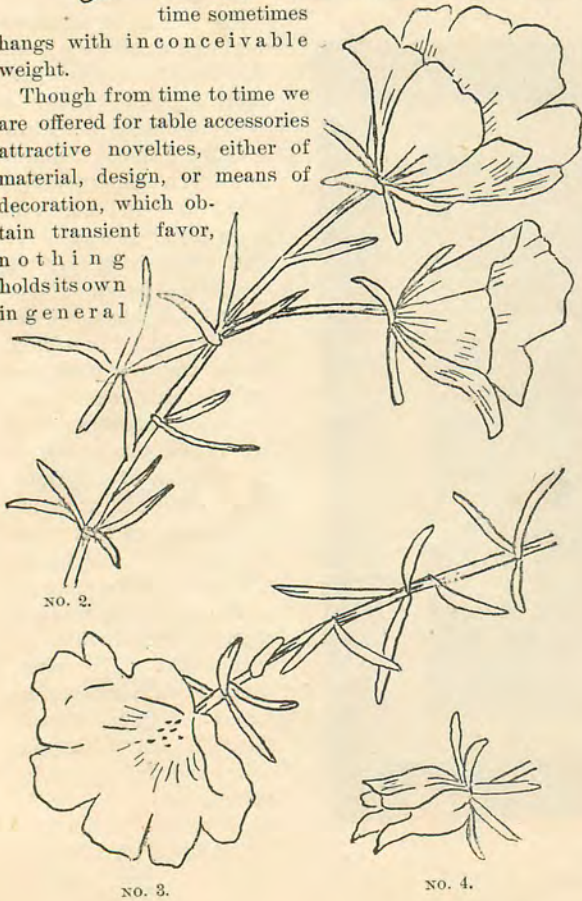


1. TABLE CENTER. PORTULACA DESIGN.
Greatly Reduced.

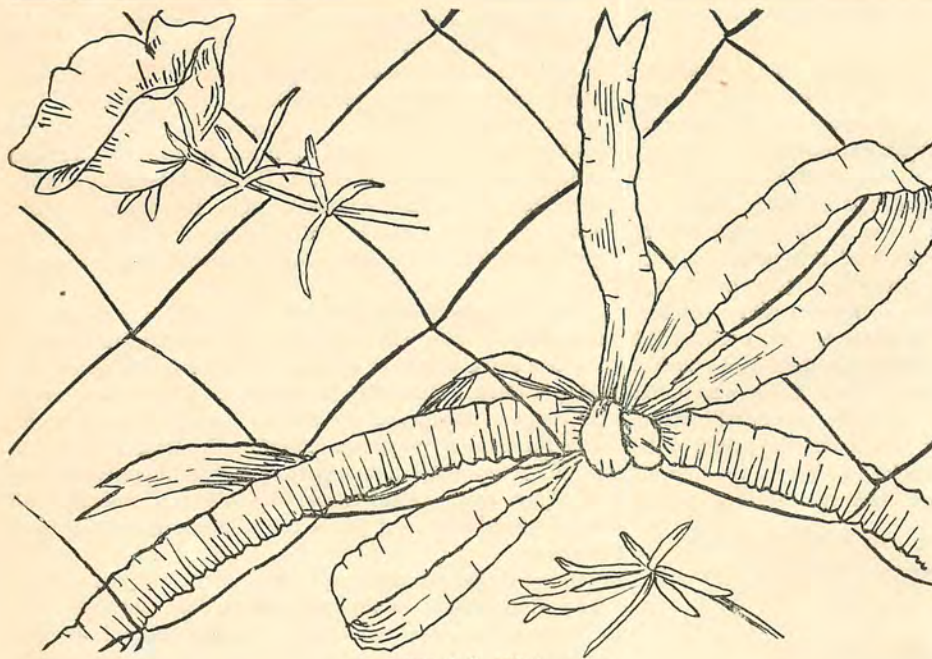
to the delicate women who cannot spend their days in long, delightful tramps through fields and forests, and upon whose hands, in consequence, time sometimes hangs with inconceivable weight.

Though from time to time we are offered for table accessories attractive novelties, either of material, design, or means of decoration, which obtain transient favor, nothing holds its own in general

stitch on fine white linen, with washable silks in the colors of nature. Many colors copied from a bed of the blossoming plants may be used, as red, yellow, orange, white, and pink; the effect can be made delicate and unobtrusive, like the Dresden flowerets, and it will harmonize with everything. If one color, as yellow or pink, be preferred, several shades should be used. All the flowers in the pattern, the ribbon effect, the bow on one side, and the network are given in working size (Nos. 2 to 8); and about two thirds of



the complete design is shown in miniature (No. 1). It is easily completed by repeating the pattern for the other two corners. The ribbon effect is worked with pale green, in long-and-short stitch, after tinting,—with tapestry colors, if desired, as described in the June number,—or in satin-stitch; the network is outlined with golden brown; the leaves and part of the stems should be done with light olive green, and a few stems here and there should be of a dull



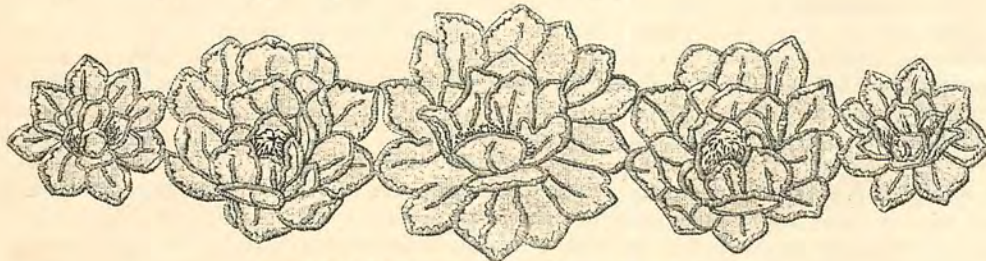
NOS. 6, 7, AND 8.

reddish cast. Where the center of the flower shows it must be worked in French knots—seed-stitch—with orange silk.

Doilies can be made to match the table-center, either reducing the design, or simply using one corner of it and letting

ity in their forms. Work all the outlines in long-and-short buttonhole stitches. Quite an effect of shading can be given by the irregularity of the stitches, for which no rules can be given, as practice is the only teacher. The stamens and pistils in the centers of the flowers are worked with yellow silk, in knot and satin stitch.

The largest flower makes by itself a lovely plate-doiily to use for luncheons when the table-cloth is dispensed with; and it can also be used on cake and bread plates. Finger-bowl doilies to



WATER-LILY DESIGN FOR TABLE RUNNER. Much Reduced.

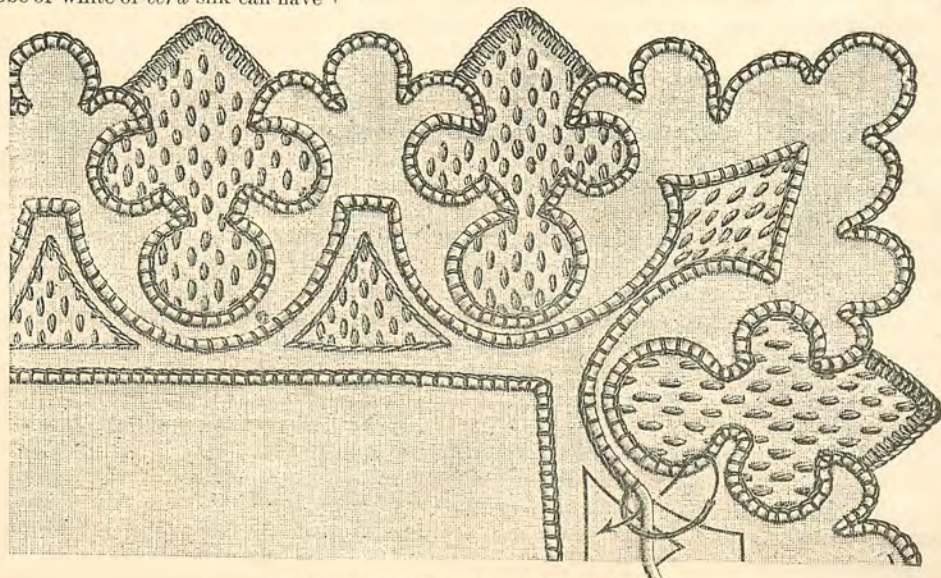
the network cover the whole doily. The edges may be buttonholed in scallops, or fringed out.

Many other pretty things can be made with this lovely design. A baby's carriage-robe of white or *écru* silk can have it painted or embroidered upon it, with a monogram or name in the center; or the ribbon effect can be omitted, and the network cover the whole ground. It would be pretty to paint the network and embroider the flowers, or *vice versa*.

A handsome sofa-cushion of light sage-green silk has an all-over network done in golden brown, with the flowers in old-rose, and the leaves dark green. This all-over pattern is very pretty also for handkerchief, glove, veil, and cravat cases, either worked or painted upon silk, pongee, linen, or chamois-skin.

A dainty fancy-work

match should measure between five and six inches in diameter. In making the table-runner the whole design may be traced on a strip of linen, or the flowers may be worked sep-



GOTHIC DESIGN FOR TEA-CLOTH. Working Size.

apron of pongee has the sides hem-stitched, and a fourteen-inch pocket, sloped to ten inches in the center, is turned up at the bottom. The whole pocket is embroidered with the portulaca design, the upper edge being finished with the ribbon effect in golden-brown; the flowers are in Jacqueminot shades, and the network in olive green.

The table-runner is a water-lily design worked with white silk on white twilled linen. The center flower is twelve and a half inches in diameter; those next it are ten and a half inches; and the end flowers are eight inches. Trace the outlines of the petals and their veinings on the linen with a lead-pencil, and avoid anything like regular-

arately and attached to each other with a few stitches at the points of the petals.

The tea-cloth is made of fine twilled linen, one yard square; but, of course, it can be adapted to any desired size. The very effective Gothic design has the appearance of being underlaid by another cover, and it is very handsome for a table-center, which should measure about twelve by sixteen inches. A corner of the full-sized working design showing plainly the stitches used for working is given. The design can be repeated indefinitely. The white cord is couched on with yellow floss; the underlying points are buttonholed with pale green silk, which is used also for the filling stitches. Quite an Oriental effect can be achieved by working the design in dull blue and red, using a fine gold cord couched with red, and doing the filling with blue. Those who prefer white or very delicate colors for all table napery will admire the effect produced by working the underlying points in the palest sky blue,—just enough color to preserve the appearance of relief in the work,—and doing the couching in pure white.

Household.

Holiday Comforts.

SO much of the real comfort and rest of a holiday depends upon our surroundings that often the wisest and apparently most far-seeing plans in the arrangements for the outing are defeated by petty discomforts that could by no possibility have been foreseen. While grave thought must be given to the selection of the place for the outing, the wisdom of a serpent is needed in deciding what shall be packed for the journey. So largely does our comfort depend upon a wise choice in this respect,—the taking with us what we need and the leaving at home all that will simply inconvenience us by increasing our luggage and filling no earthly purpose,—that some plans which have succeeded will afford helpful suggestions to the housemothers, all over the length and breadth of the land, who, at this moment, with perplexed brows, are trying to solve the vexed problem more satisfactorily this year than last.

In the small rooms into which many people are crowded at summer resorts, trunks are usually found to be an unmitigated nuisance; not only in the way, but also liable, unless treated with the utmost respect and caution, to inflict jagged rents in gowns,—for who can guarantee the integrity of a trunk's bands and corners after it has been in the hands of a baggage smasher?

All this can be avoided by utilizing the trunks as pieces of furniture. In the following suggestions many hints that will prove useful at home the year round may be found. Make covers of different kinds and styles for all your trunks, according to their size and shape. Low steamer-trunks serve as comfortable divans when covered with a cushion, which should be just the size of the top of the trunk, and filled with hair, moss, excelsior, or cotton-batting; denim, cretonne, cotton *crêpe*, or Canton flannel may be used for the cover, and a valance of the stuff, just clearing the floor, should be sewed all around it. Your little divan will take the place of two chairs, and be vastly more comfortable than the regulation, straight-backed, high, cane-seated affair found in country hotels and boarding-houses.

Large, high, flat-topped trunks are easily converted into tables by laying over the top a piece of stout pasteboard or

a thin board, and covering either with a silk rug, table-cover, or with cretonne. If the latter be used it is best to shape it to fit the trunk, cutting a piece the size of the top, and putting on the side-piece without fulness, but with just a little spring at the corners. A rug is something one should always take when traveling, for it can be turned to a multitude of uses, and it is needed to throw on the ground when sketching or reading outdoors. The inexpensive Italian silk rugs, which come in stripes of color upon color in a great variety of combinations, are admirable for this summer use.

Round-topped trunks are somewhat harder to dispose of, but a little trouble will well repay one. Get a packing-box the size of the trunk, or of convenient height to serve as a table or toilet. Discarding the cover, let the bottom serve as the top, and knock out one side to leave it open in front. This furnishes a convenient closet for the trunk, which can be pulled out when necessary to open it, without disturbing the things on the table. Cover the table top smoothly with denim or cretonne, and put a full valance around the front and sides.

One of the large writing-pads, fitted with every convenience for writing, laid on its top, will convert the trunk-cover into a writing-table,—a convenience usually sadly lacking in summer hotels,—which will encourage prompt attention to correspondence, and turn a task into a pleasure. If greater need is felt for a toilet-table, the box can be covered with light-colored Japanese *crêpe* or dotted Swiss, and converted into an attractive *Duchesse toilette*. In the illustration given, the curtains are hung from a brass rod which is fastened at the ends with tiny brackets. Another simple fashion, which gives a slight canopy effect over the mirror, is to suspend the drapery from a bird-cage bracket fastened above the mirror. *Crêpe* tissue-paper is also a pretty fabric for draping toilet tables, and much more durable than its name implies. The white paper will last a season, and the colored ones can be used for a year.

A most satisfactory toilet-table of this sort in a dressing-room where space was of much importance, but where it was necessary to place two trunks,—a large "Saratoga" and a steamer-trunk,—was a thing of beauty as well as a convenience. A table was made to cover the "Saratoga," upon which casters were put so it could be rolled forwards and backwards with ease. The table-top was generously broad, and a very convenient height; and the whole was covered with a rich cretonne of conventionalized pattern in shades of olive and dark crimson, the side piece, or valance, being put on with considerable fulness. An upright piece, about six inches high, covered smoothly with the cretonne, was fastened securely across the top at the back, and to it were screwed two metal brackets which supported a narrow shelf, also covered with cretonne. Two stout pieces of wood about an inch and a half wide and an inch thick, also covered with cretonne, were screwed to the back and served as uprights to support a fair-sized mirror in a neat black-walnut frame. Ornamental-headed screws, run through the uprights and into the mirror-frame on the sides, held it securely, and allowed it to tilt when wanted. This arrangement of the mirror gave a much more finished effect to the toilet-table than would have been possible if it had been hung on the wall back of it, and made any draping of the wall and mirror superfluous. The steamer-trunk was covered with a curtain and valance, and served as a divan.

Still another convenient cover for a round-topped trunk is a board, as long and as broad as the trunk, fitted with supports at the ends shaped to the curve of the trunk. These end-pieces are attached with hinges, so they can be shut flat (see illustration) for convenience in packing. Such a board