

inches wide in the center running to a point at each end—the exact shape of a section of an orange. In each piece we painted or embroidered some tiny design. Then sewed the pieces together with silk, leaving one seam open. Then drawing it together over a ball of blue twine, we sewed like the others. At the top we sewed the ends together tightly, but at the bottom worked an eyelet, through which the inside end of the twine was drawn. At the top we put a large bunch composed of loops of blue ribbon, one quarter of an inch wide; to one long end we tied a small pair of scissors. This made a very nice twine holder, and is a suitable present for gentlemen, as well as ladies.

We made two other twine holders cut in the same way, one of orange velvet with three leaves and a cluster of orange blossoms. The stem was a real orange branch, the blossoms paper, and the tiny green ribbon for hanging was hidden by the foliage. The other is of cream-colored velvet, with the blush of a ripe peach painted on it. It has stem and leaves.

We are going to make some apples the same way only using satin instead of velvet. We use rubber cord to hang the scissors by, for the fruit. With some bits of red satin we made cherry emeries, three in a cluster, with little stems (wire of course), and a few green leaves. These were exquisite.

JONAH.

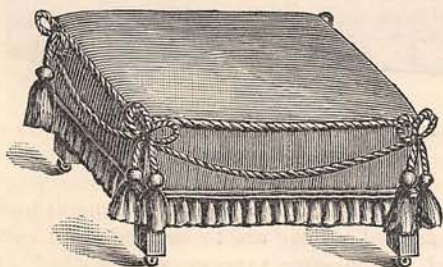
OTTOMANS AND DIVANS.

MARY CECILIA SPAULDING.

NOW I am one of those who always had despised "home made furniture." I never could sympathize with the enthusiasm of the amateur cabinet maker. The only excuse for such work to my mind, was lack of money and abundance of time, and even then I should have advised finding some more profitable employment.

But I have at last taken up the business, or rather one branch of it, and will endeavor to show how I became able to construct substantial and useful articles that did not look "home made," in an offensive sense, and also

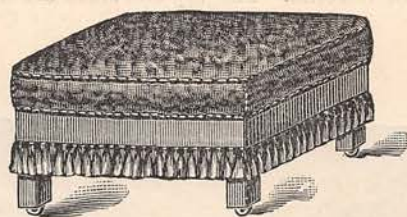
elegantly furnished, the chairs and seats mostly those with many interior springs, showing little exterior wood-work. In my idle moments I observed that many of them



OTTOMAN.

that did not cost more than they are worth, as many such pieces of furniture do.

I was at one time boarding where my time was little occupied evenings, the rooms were

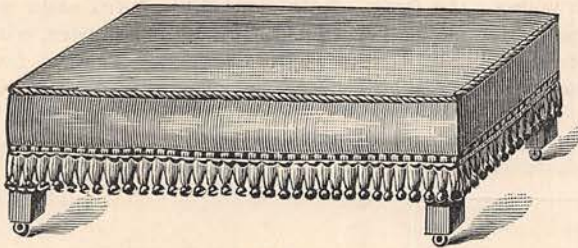


OTTOMAN.

might be successfully imitated by an amateur. I did not think of trying any such work myself, however, but studied the subject a little, thinking that I might be able to make suggestions to friends. Some years later I happened to have several packing cases, such as are used in transporting plate glass and marble, I then became really anxious to try what I could do with them. Some were about two feet square and six inches deep. These I designed for ottomans. The legs were the only expense the frames were to me. I had a carpenter take plain blocks of wood about eight inches long, and two by two inches or more thick, and fasten a caster in each; these

were nailed inside the corners of the box. They can be made very solid, as nails can be put in from any direction.

Next, the top was to be padded; the most convenient way, is to use a tick first, of the proper size, containing excelsior or any other stuffing desired, above that enough cotton to make a smooth surface. Part of an old comforter is good, if one has it. These must be fastened to the frame so as not to slip. Curled



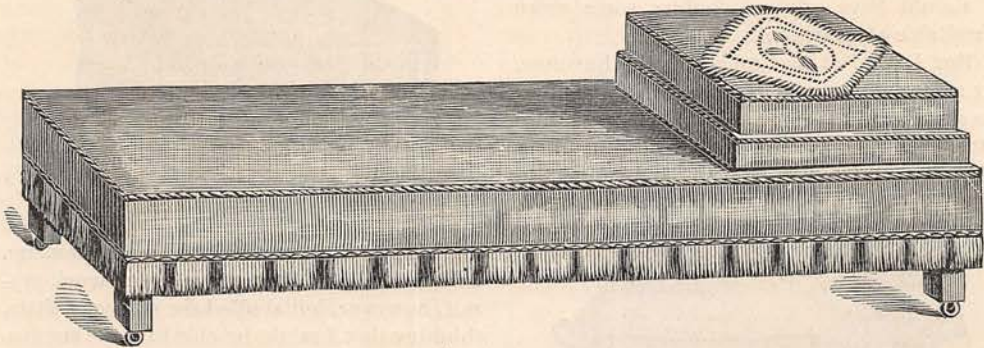
DIVAN.

hair can be used for cushion, either wholly or in part; then the covering should be cut just the size of the top, allowing for seams; also a long strip of the same the width of the board sides *plus* the thickness of the cushion, which should be stuffed rather hard at first, so as not to settle. The top and sides are then

cord and tassels, added as shown in the illustration, improves it greatly. They should be low, not to exceed fourteen or fifteen inches when completed.

These make very convenient seats, upholstered in strong goods, for ordinary use. If remnants are to be used, the sides may be of plain material and the top of figured. Or the top and part of the side may be alike, while the lower part of the side is different, tacked on afterward, the joining covered with gimp or braid. The top also might be made of two pieces joined diagonally. Made of good material they are handsome enough for the finest drawing room.

A lounge or divan is constructed on the same plan. The frame should be not less than two feet wide, and whatever length is desired. Such packing cases can be procured, when we do not happen to have them ourselves, from dealers who have plates of glass or marble; they only break them up for kindling wood, so it would cost little or nothing. If too long, they can be shortened. A long one can be cut in two to make a pair of ottomans. For divan, about three feet is



LOUNGE.

sewed together, stretched over frame and cushion and tacked fast. The lower edge to be covered with fringe which gives it a very elegant appearance, making the cushion look deep and also partially covering the legs, which need only to be oiled. If desired not to be so plain, cord in the seam is an improvement, either a piping sewed in or a silk furniture cord applied. Also a pair of handsome

a good length; for a lounge as long as may be desired. They are to be made and covered in the same manner as described. I have a small divan some two by three feet, covered with blue and gray striped duck, such as is used for awnings, trimmed with wool fringe of blue with gold shades. This is very light and convenient to wheel about the house wherever extra seats are required.

Pale blue Canton flannel makes a pretty one for a girls' "blue room;" a lace or drawn work cover may be added. It need have no special corner, but may be wheeled in front of the fire or the window as desired.

Another way to make up a lounge is to cover the sides plain, allowing material to come up over top of packing case about two inches. Then make the top like a mattress, separate. Lay it on and tack a little if desired to keep from slipping. For every day use, or for hall or dining room, blue or brown

denims make a handsome and useful cover. It may be corded with red or gold color, and the fringe may combine the two colors used.

For a large lounge, two pillows are a desirable addition. They should be square, the width of the lounge, with a strip five or six inches wide making the thickness. Seams corded to match. If desired, in a later article I will give directions for entire parlor suits, to be made in a similar manner, with additional suggestions in regard to color and trimming.

SOME DAY.

RUTH HUBBARD.

ONCE upon a time there lived a young woman, not so many centuries ago either; and, sad to relate, she had a decided tendency for beginning many things and never finishing them. Now, dear, gentle readers, don't all blush at once; for this is not at all personal, only as it relates to this young woman who was quite unacquainted with INGALLS' HOME MAGAZINE. If she had been this tale would not have been told, for we have an idea that the readers of this Magazine are devoid of such traits, always ambitious, finishing all they undertake, and in all things methodical, persevering and practical. However, our young woman (whom we shall call Miss Alpha, because she was always at the beginning), did have a conscience, and it sorely troubled her, especially when she was called upon to find something. In so doing she would take a cursory view of bureau drawers, closets, boxes and trunks. Something in each and all waiting for the finishing, and Miss Alpha, what was she waiting for? *Some day.*

Day of days! When it comes, shall we recognize it? Will it not be a very long and weary day if all reserved for it is completed in the twenty-four hours? The minutes will be hours, the hours days. Really do we wish such a day to come? We fondly picture *that* will be the day when we shall only have that which our inclination leads us to do. Aye, and instead, all our unfinished tasks will come like so many specters in the night, and

our hands will tremble fearful that the day will end and our tasks be still undone.

It seems the some day for us all is the one which comes with the present, and in it we can devote a few moments to what we are continually reserving for the future. Miss Alpha was at last awakened to all this. One day as she was walking in a rural churchyard, and glanced at a moss-grown stone, she was particularly attracted with the sentence: "Her work is done, the battle won." Dear me! she thought, that never could be placed above my grave, they would have to put: "Her work is still undone." What a record! This was the climax, and forthwith when she returned she took the first step towards completing the numerous pieces of unfinished work. There was a good opportunity for so doing, for her father and she constituted the whole family, the others being away for the Summer season. The first and hardest task was a lambrequin that was rolled away in the shape of a large piece of bright olive satine, even having two yards of plush the same shade, and an equal quantity of beautiful pink satin; also the chenille for working. This was an important undertaking, but with close application the whole was completed in two weeks. It was designed after one at Bentley's, and was one of the prettiest seen in a long time. The left end was a straight strip of satin, embroidered with pink morning glories. A little to the right, falling over this part, was the plaited piece of plush, faced