

Thicken with a tablespoonful of flour rubbed into a generous tablespoonful of butter, add salt and pepper. Stir till thick and creamy, add the salmon, tossing it up lightly with a fork till thoroughly heated. Fill a greased pudding dish with this, scatter cracker crumbs over the top, dot with bits of butter, and place in the oven till delicately browned. Serve with sliced lemon. Pass crackers with this dish.

BROWN BETTY PUDDING. — Use bread crumbs and finely-chopped tart apples for this pudding, allowing a cup of crumbs for every two cups of chopped apple. Cover the bottom of a greased pudding dish with a layer of apple, sprinkle with sugar, bits of butter and a very little cinnamon. Cover with bread crumbs. Proceed in this order till the dish is full, having the last layer crumbs. Bake covered for half an hour. Remove the cover and brown nicely. Serve with plain pudding sauce (given in December number, 1887) or with sugar and cream.

FRUIT TRIFLE. — May be made of canned berries, cherries or peaches, after the recipe given for strawberry trifle, in June number of Magazine.

Home Dressmaking.

THE necessity of Spring dressmaking will force its unwelcome visage to the front at this time of the year, just as surely as the haunting presence of the annual house-cleaning will present itself in the month to follow. Happy is she who early yields to its persistent demands and completes the work before the latter intrudes. She who has a practical knowledge of dressmaking has achieved half the battle, even though she perform little of the work herself. She can tell at a glance whether a garment is constructed so as to permit remodeling, and just how much in the way of trimming, combination goods, etc., will be necessary to accomplish it. If she has previously discovered that really good materials are cheapest in the end, she will find her bills at this season materially lessened. Many ladies who are ambitious to dress fashionably fall into the error of copying rich costumes in cheap, showy materials. No greater extravagance can be committed. Not only does such goods assume a shabby, shoddy appearance before it

has seen half service, but it is incapable of the second and even third term to which a garment is elected if made of substantial, reversible material, with a view to renovation. A good all-wool cashmere or serge may be so varied by new trimmings as to take on the appearance of a new garment. In cutting new garments, patterns should be selected with a view to re-making. Fashion furnishes so wide a range that beautiful and and becoming draperies may be found which have the goods in fine, large pieces for this purpose. Avoid much pleating and shirring as they not only disfigure the goods, but extend an open invitation for the unsightly deposit of dust which follows. One may exercise a great deal of economy by purchasing in the Fall what she requires in the Spring, or by buying in the early Spring that which shall constitute her next Winter's outfit. Merchants make great reductions on goods at these times rather than carry them over another season. One should, of course, choose staple goods and quiet patterns. Some are not sufficiently "forehanded" to avail themselves of these bargains, proving that "the destruction of the poor is their poverty," but all can take advantage of the economies which can be controlled by tact and taste. Many housekeepers who sadly feel the added expense, are obliged, either from lack of time or ignorance of the work, to call in the aid of a home dressmaker. Much time and, therefore, expense is saved if all the preparations possible are made in advance. Old dresses should be ripped apart, well shaken, threads picked out, sponged and pressed. Woolen, if much soiled, should be well washed in a suds of soap bark. Grease spots do not return after this form of cleansing. Full directions for the process were given in the September Magazine of last year. Black woolen goods which have acquired a rusty look will assume a freshness akin to new if sponged with a solution of alcohol and ammonia equal parts. Old black silk should be sponged with cold coffee and stretched to dry by pinning to sheets fastened to the carpet. Do not iron it, as it imparts a stiff, crackling quality, besides destroying the "grain" of the goods. For this reason it does not pay to dye silks. Dresses of all-wool dye well if judgment is exercised in the choice of colors. Some

goods will take one color beautifully but not another. Especial care must be taken to remove all grease spots before sending to the dyer, as they are sure to re-appear afterwards. If a careful inventory of linings, sewing silk, whale-bone, thread, etc., required be made and the articles purchased before the siege begins, much vexatious and expensive delay may be saved, besides affording the housekeeper time to assist at the plainer parts of the work. Her culinary arrangements should be planned beforehand. It is not necessary that the home be converted into a perfect pandemonium, nor the husband doomed to seek sustenance elsewhere. She may plan such meals as require little attention. Graham pudding almost takes care of

itself. Vegetables may be prepared the evening before and will not suffer the least detriment if kept covered with cold water. Simple desserts of fruit and stale cake, all of which may be prepared before, assist in the bill of fare. Numberless recipes have appeared from time to time for the preparation of inexpensive dishes on short notice. Some given last month answer admirably. Canned meats and fishes require little time to convert into palatable dishes. There are so many ways to offset the added expenditure at the yearly sewing time, that the husband, who calmly considers the pro's and con's in the case, cannot but advocate the means employed to work the transformation achieved in so proportionately short a time.

THE COSEY CORNER.

MINNIE R. RAMSEY.

THERE is nothing of more decorative value to a room than the portière. It softens, enriches and clothes it; and if it has been carefully selected as to tones of color, it harmonizes the ceiling with the floor, the furniture with the ceiling, and the remaining articles with each other. Your portière must either add to, or take from, your room; too important a place cannot be given it. Satin sheeting of electric blue, worked with gold-colored flax thread, is a happy combination. In a room where the tints are pale, and something elaborate and high-colored is needed, take dark-blue linen for the background. A design of white linen may be appliquéd upon it, while over this white linen again is appliquéd a design in red of a rich and warm shade.

Cushions are also valuable adjuncts, beautiful and necessary. Of course those of self-colored silk are now at the front, yet many lovers of the needle prefer to spend some of their own handiwork upon them.

Satin sheeting is a material par excellence, for such work. In brown it is handsome worked with dark brown, old-gold and white filoselle, the strands of which are laid (or couched) and caught down with threads of the same color. Next to to this material, pretty and durable, and also quite inexpen-

sive, comes twilled linen. If the design be fruit, have it simply outlined in the proper colors (which should be *natural* colors), and darn the background closely with green. These are very stylish and serviceable. If you add a little gold thread here and there, it will give richness to the general effect.

Damask linen or sheeting is also very much used just now for fancy work. There are many methods for its ornamentation; one is to appliqué upon it conventional patterns of velveteen of the same color but of a darker shade. Outlining the pattern of the goods with stem or satin stitch, herring-bone or cord is an easy, quick and effective style.

Velveteen is often applied to serge, especially for the ornamentation of occasional chairs, and looks in particularly good taste, if both serge and velvet be of the same color. A very favorite mixture, one much used this year, is light and dark yellow; a light lemon and deep orange being the accepted contrast.

For a very dainty quilt, the center is peacock-blue, the framework white. The white portion must be embroidered, either in satin or stem stitch, or in outline, with a paler shade of blue. Embroider the blue, slightly with white. Wad the quilt a little.

The following is a description of a very lovely quilt copied from a Spanish quilt of