



CHAPTER XII.

DECORATED EASEL.



FIGURE No. 1.—Such easels may be purchased at any furniture warehouse. The one here pictured is of gilt and ebony. The lambrequin can be easily made, and

loving fingers are always ready for work that beautifies the home. This lambrequin is of olive cloth and is very elaborately garnitured with artistically arranged sprays of luscious-looking grapes and full, short tassels. The lower edge is cut in alternating deep and short points, from each of which depends a tassel. In each short point is applied an arrow-head of garnet velvet, and the rest of the rich garniture consists of the grape-sprays mentioned. The method of making the sprays is illustrated and described at Figures Nos. 2 and 3. Plush, velvet or any lambrequin fabric may be selected, and may be of any preferred color; and the tassels may be as handsome as desired.

Spray of Grapes, and Method of Making the Grapes.

FIGURES NOS. 2 AND 3.—The bunch of luscious fruit shown at Figure No. 3, with its

knotty branch and handsome leaf, is effectively used in decorating the lambrequin on the easel pictured at Figure No. 1. The leaf and branch are embroidered with arrasene in South-Kensington stitch, but the fruit itself is made as shown by Figure No. 2. Take a piece of silk, satin or Surah, cut out the shape of an English shilling or an American twenty-five-cent piece, and over-stitch the circular portion along the edges as shown by Figure No. 2. Draw the thread together tightly, stuffing the bag thus formed loosely with cotton. This forms a grape. In applying the grapes, they are pressed slightly flat and slip-stitched on. They should be bunched as nearly as possible like the natural bunches, and may represent any variety of grape. The leaf and stem should, of course, be of natural tints, and it is not impossible to have the similitude extend to the fruit if care be exercised in the choice of colors. Such sprays may be grouped or arranged in vine or other designs, with handsome effect, on all kinds of lambrequins, table scarfs and covers, etc. Hand painting or embroidery may, if preferred, take the place of the decoration described.

Easels of this, or any other shape preferred, made of unfinished wood, may be purchased and covered with plush or *velours*,

driven in to develop some artistic arrangement and the effect is especially attractive. The brass-nail work is easily done by femi-

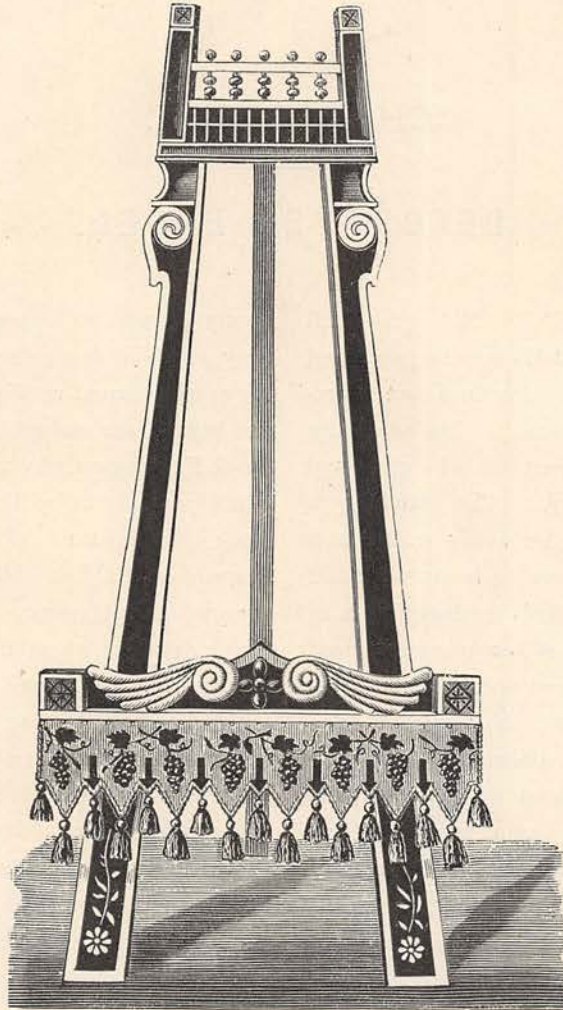


FIGURE NO. 1.—EASEL DECORATED.

the covering being held in place with short, nine hands and is very fascinating. The fancy brass-headed nails. Similar nails are

tacks or nails may be purchased by the

dozen, ounce or gross for a moderate sum and judge how much force is necessary to send the shape of the article to be ornamented each nail into the wood with one blow.



FIGURE NO. 2.

FIGURE NO. 3.

FIGURES NOS. 2 AND 3.—SPRAY OF GRAPES, AND METHOD OF MAKING THE GRAPES.

usually suggests appropriate designs. A Repeated hammering is apt to decapitate little practice will enable a novice to them.

