



An Inexpensive Screen.

ONE that deserves this adjective and many other complimentary ones in addition, has for its frame a very small clothes-horse stained with a dark walnut stain. Its panels are of wood, but at a little distance look like matting. They cost but a trifle and are elaborately ornamented with fruit designs done in luster paints. For their lower edges a unique fringe is made of rope cut in short lengths and frayed out to form a full, crimped tassel. Several short lengths are then tacked on the frame in such a way that the tassels form a fringe below a pretty scroll. Each panel is suspended upon the frame by a piece of looped rope frayed out into fluffy tassels at its ends. If a folding screen is not in request a single panel might be developed in the same style.

A recent fashion in furnishing sleeping and sitting rooms has led to some pretty innovations in the framing of screens. One intended for a sleeping room having a pink chamber-suit in it has a frame of unpainted white pine. It is covered with crétonne in a floral pattern, the covering being brought smoothly over the frame and tacked to position with fancy tacks, so that no woodwork is visible.

A very artistic idea is developed in another having each panel covered with crétonne printed with a pastoral scene, while the frame is concealed by similar material printed in a small floral design. Crétonne in very pretty designs may be purchased for a moderate sum, and its artistic possibilities are now so fully realized that its use for draperies, furniture-coverings and even wall-hangings is general. In country houses it is especially useful, though its use is by no means limited to such dwellings. Picture a sunny room in a cottage. The furniture is enamelled in white, with lines of gold here and there. Some of the chairs are of the rush-bottom style, which after long neglect are again admired. A couple of them are rockers, and into these are tied pretty cushions of crétonne. A screen entirely covered with crétonne stands in front of the wash-stand. The carpet is a plain ingrain which displays to good advantage the pretty rugs, and the walls are covered with paper harmonizing in its ground color with the white furniture and in figure with the dainty crétonne. A more prettily furnished "best room," with the same expenditure, 'twould be difficult to imagine.

