

CHAPTER XIII.

WALL DECORATIONS, CALENDARS AND SCREENS.



THE woman of fine taste does not permit the walls of her house to seem bare and out of harmony simply because she cannot afford expensive pictures to hang upon them, because she knows that ingenuity and good taste some-

times produce more effective results than a large outlay of money. Pretty banners and panels which may be hung where they will illuminate a sombre tone or refine a too brilliant effect in coloring; screens and numberless other fancy articles may be fashioned by any lady who embroiders or paints, sews neatly and once in a while drives a few tacks, and several very attractive specimens are illustrated in this chapter.

The plain calendar of some time ago has grown into a beautiful bit of decorative art and may be made to accord with the most elegant surroundings. All sorts of odd conceits are seen in it, and the more unique the more are they valued. Individual fancy may be fully indulged in the selection of colors and materials for them. Fancy ribbons very often cover the foundations, and if

these ribbons show a decided pattern it may be followed with tinsel thread, which achieves a gorgeous effect. Cord or narrow ribbons may be bunched in profusion upon them, but the disposition should be artistic. As a gift to a friend of either sex the calendar is much favored.

Calendar Panel.

FIGURE NO. 1.—This beautiful panel is cut out of thick cardboard and smoothly covered with corded silk. Sprays of blooms and their foliage are painted on it in oils or water colors, and just above the sprays a small calendar is invisibly fastened. Near the upper corners bunches of loops and ends of ribbon are tacked, and from them extend two ribbons that are used to suspend the panel. The colors of the ribbon and silk may be chosen to please the fancy, and the two may be alike or different, as preferred. The sprays may be embroidered, painted or applied, with good effect. Sometimes plush, velvet or satin will be used to cover the panel.

Banner-Screen.

FIGURE NO. 2.—This beautiful screen is made of a handsome piece of Ottoman silk

on which are applied with gilt thread the golden buttercup in satin and its pretty green leaves in velvet. The veining is done with green silk. A row of gold cord borders the edges of the banner and is arranged in a trio of short loops at the upper corners and in long loops and ends at the lower corners, the ends being tipped with gold-colored pompons.

with silk on the other, and edged all round with silk cord of the same or a contrasting shade. Through one corner is drawn a loop of cord that serves to suspend the square, and the opposite corner is rolled over so as to deeply reverse the lower part of the square, making a compartment for the reception of pencils, pens, etc. At either side of the roll



FIGURE NO. 1.—CALENDAR PANEL.

Such screens may be developed in any colors, and the decoration may be flowers and leaves of any variety cut from velvet, silk or satin. If preferred, the design may be done in Kensington embroidery.

Ornamental Calendar.

FIGURE NO. 3.—A unique style of calendar is here illustrated. A square of cardboard forms the foundation, which is covered smoothly with plush or velvet on one side and

is fastened a silk cord which is carried forward diagonally and tied in a bunch of loops and two ends some distance below, the ends being tipped with tassels. A bunch of loops and two ends of cord are also fastened where each cord starts from, the ends also being tipped with tassels. Above the roll a graceful rose-spray is hand-painted, embroidered or appliquéed. The calendar is fastened underneath to the bottom of the roll from which it depends.

Pocket-Panel.

FIGURE NO. 4.—A Japanese screen forms the back of this unique wall-pocket, and to its lower part are fastened two rows of long, fluffy tassels, the tassels in the upper row fall-

appliquées. Very artistically made bows of ribbon are fastened to the ends of the crescent, and thick silk cord is used to suspend the pocket, being passed through rings fastened at the upper corners of the screen and

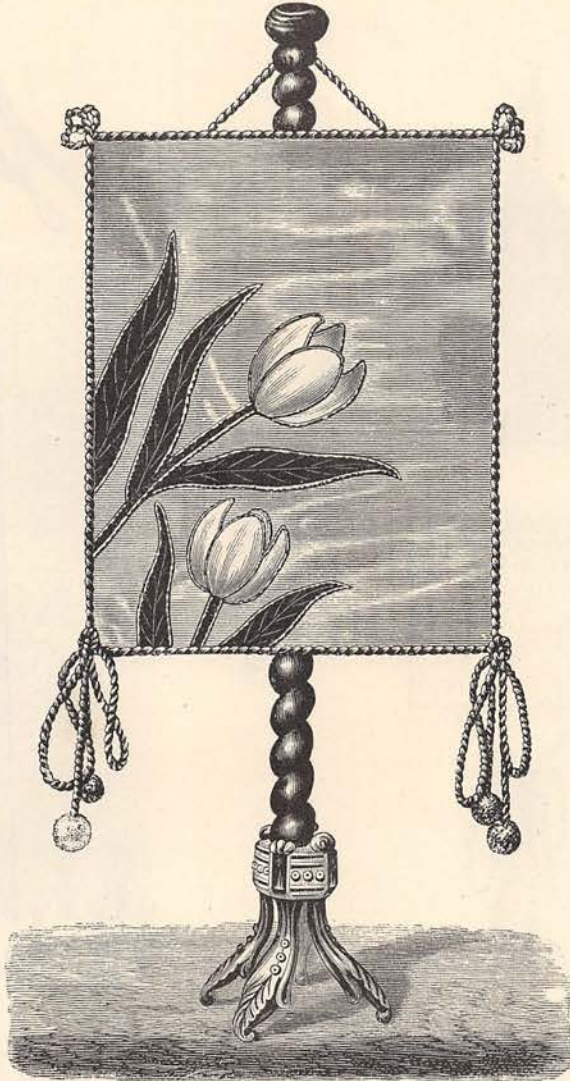


FIGURE NO. 2.—BANNER-SCREEN.

ing between those in the lower row. The front of the pocket is formed of a crescent-shaped section of cardboard covered with plush and decorated with a graceful design selected from Kursheedt's Standard floral

ties very effectively. Ribbons may be used to suspend the pocket and, instead of the floral appliqué chosen in the present instance, embroidery or hand-painting may decorate the crescent.

Decorated Panel.

FIGURE NO. 5.—This panel is of dark-green plush and has embroidered upon it a full-blown pink rose with long branches and buds

Banner-Screen.

FIGURE NO. 6.—In this engraving is illustrated a very handsomely decorated banner-screen of wine-colored satin. It is decorated

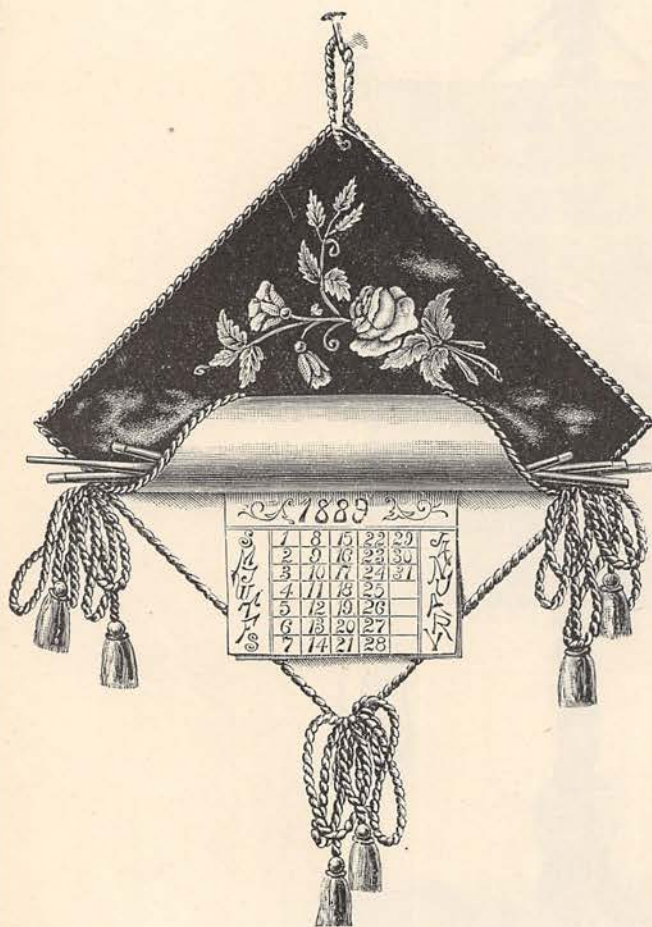


FIGURE NO. 3.—ORNAMENTAL CALENDAR.

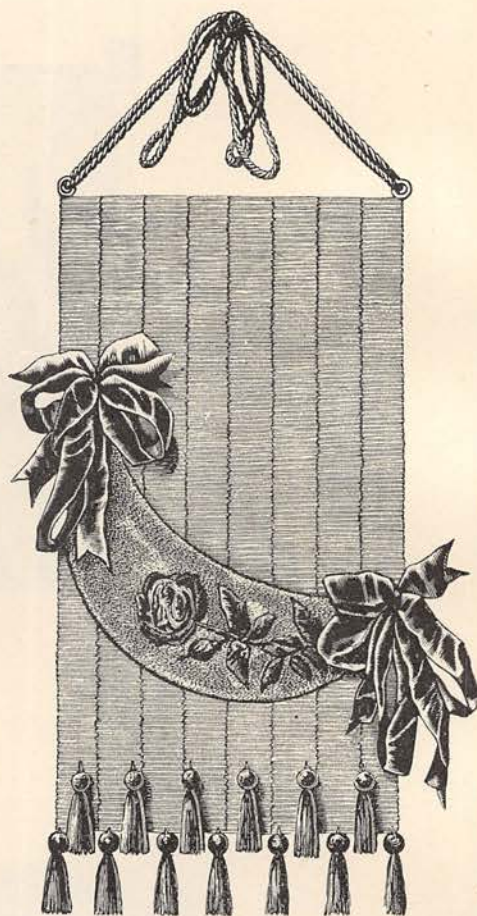


FIGURE NO. 4.—POCKET-PANEL.

in their natural shades. The frame consists of a narrow puff of pale-pink satin inside and a broad brass moulding. The latter may be purchased, but the puff must be added to the plush portion.

along the lower edge with a fringe of fancy ornaments of chenille, silk and metal; and in the upper right-hand corner is fastened a full rosette-bow of ribbon. A wise-looking owl, perched upon a bough of dogwood, is em-

broidered in his real hues in South-Kensington stitch, the bough, with its pretty leaves and blossoms, being also embroidered in natural tints in satin stitch. Velvet, plush, silk,

easily accomplished, may be employed in making pretty screens and panels. At any shop dealing in fancy work materials, chains and rods and all the fixtures for mounting



FIGURE NO. 5.—DECORATED PANEL.

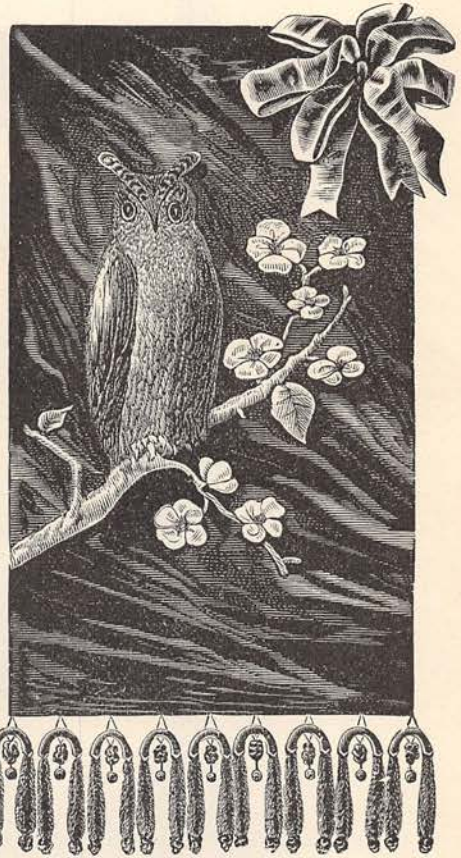


FIGURE NO. 6.—BANNER-SCREEN.

or any fabric preferred may be used for the banner, and, of course, any fashionable color may be selected. Fringe, tassels or any preferred ornaments may be fastened to the edge. South Kensington painting, which is

may be obtained at slight cost, and ribbons, pieces of velvet, plush, satin, etc., that are saved from larger articles may be employed in their development. In another chapter instructions are given for painting the owl.

Transparent Screen for Fire-Place.

FIGURE NO. 7.—The frame of this effective screen may be of any preferred wood and as fanciful as desired. Two panes of clear glass are fitted into it, and between the panes a group of handsome fern leaves is most artistically arranged, brilliant-hued butterflies

Banner-Screen.

FIGURE NO. 8.—This elegant banner-screen is made of plain silk, and is shaped at the bottom so as to be shortest at the center and deepest at the sides. Following the outline of the lower edge is a rich decoration formed of upright strips of velvet ribbon that are of



FIGURE NO. 7.—TRANSPARENT SCREEN FOR FIRE-PLACE.

adding beauty to the picture. A large bow of wide ribbon is arranged in one upper corner of the screen. The ferns may be of all varieties or of one particular kind, and grasses, cat-tails, etc., may be grouped with them if desired. Skeleton leaves may be used, but they are not so effective in the transparency as the bright green leaves.

equal length and pointed at their lower ends. The strips are applied and decorated with fancy stitches in many-colored flosses and also in *filoselle* and tinsel, and each point is tipped with a pretty plush ornament. Pretty sprays of daisies are embroidered or hand-painted on one side, and the banner is fastened with invisible stitches to the bar of a

gilt stand. Cords run through rings in the ends of the bar are tied in a bow at the top of the stand, the ends being tipped with fluffy tassels. The colors of the silk and the ribbon may be chosen to please the taste, but black velvet ribbon is very effective on all colors. Plush, velvet, *crêpe* or any preferred

with fancy stitches to the bottom of the screen, with very pretty effect.

Decorated Banner.

FIGURE NO. 9.—This engraving illustrates a handsome banner of heavy silk. The garland of pansies is selected from Kursheedt's



FIGURE NO. 8.—BANNER-SCREEN.

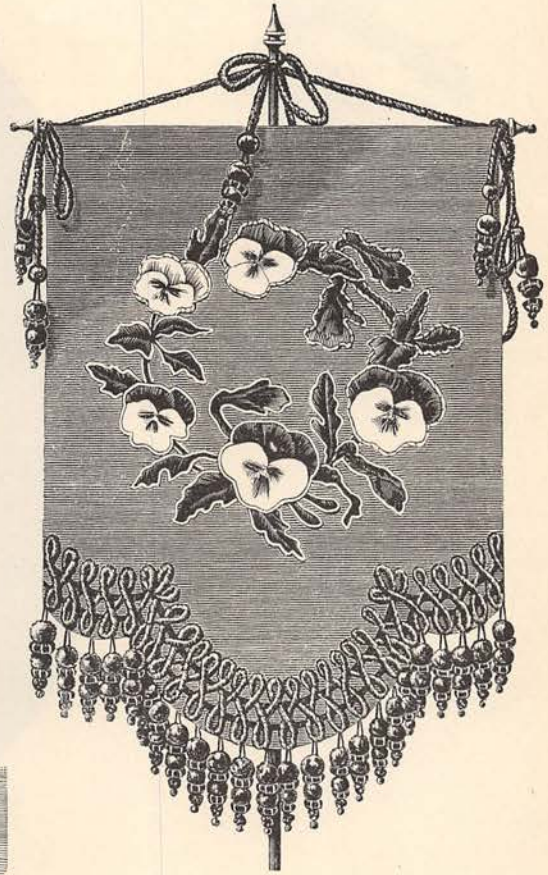


FIGURE NO. 9.—DECORATED BANNER.

material may be used for the screen, and on the first two fabrics fancy, *moiré* or satin ribbon may be used. Any preferred design may be embroidered, appliquéd or hand-painted, as preferred. Instead of the velvet ribbon used in this instance, a band of plush, velvet or some fancy ribbon may be applied

Standard floral appliqués, and is applied as described at Figure No. 10. Two rows of velvet ribbon are arranged about the lower edge, which shapes a deep scollop at the center and a smaller scollop at each side. Over the ribbon is gilt braid, arranged in a scroll design; and depending from the lower

edge is a row of tassel ornaments. Similar ornaments are fastened to the ends of the cords attaching the banner to the stand.

Method of Applying Floral Appliqués.

FIGURE NO. 10.—One of the most effective methods of applying floral garnitures is here



FIGURE NO. 10.—METHOD OF APPLYING FLORAL APPLIQUÉS.

Among the unique things in decorative art is

"A subtle spider which doth sit,
In the middle of his web, which spreadeth wide,"
and, though he is not a living specimen of his kind, he is so real-looking, and his fairy web so like his own filmy home, that the illusion

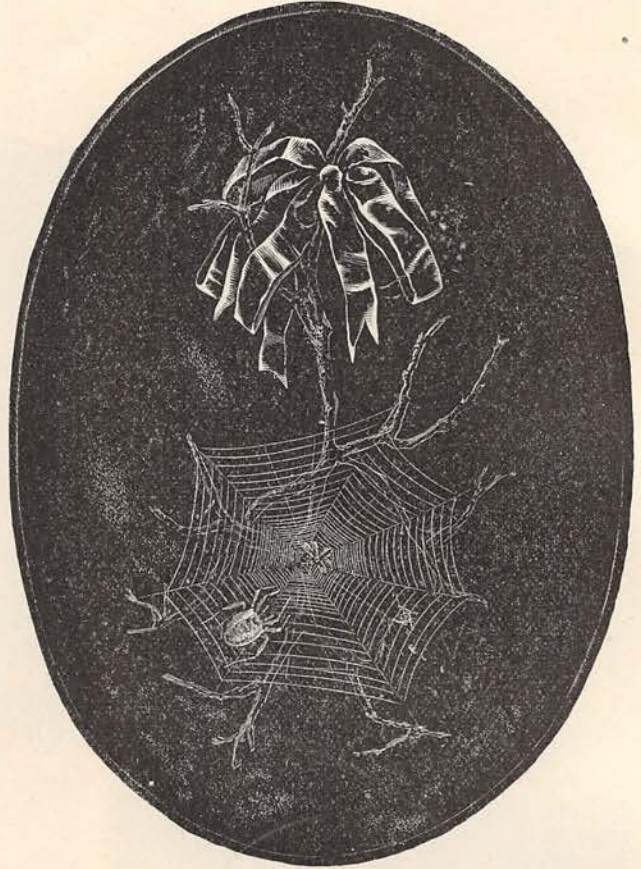


FIGURE NO. 11.—ORNAMENTED PANEL.

shown. The garniture is basted flatly on in the position it is intended to occupy, and then several strands of arrasene or silk floss, whichever be preferred, are arranged above the margin and held down with over-and-over stitches of gold thread. Of course, the threads are arranged while making the over-and-over stitches and require no needle, as they may be held in the left hand.

is only dispelled after an examination of the delicate work. Then, too, the ever-curious fly is walking into "the prettiest little parlor that ever you did spy," never dreaming that his wily coaxer has in anticipation a most delicious feast to be enjoyed as soon as he is within grasp. One of the most realistic arrangements of the decoration is shown in the panel illustrated at Figure No. 11.

Ornamented Panel.

FIGURE NO. 11.—An unique mode of ornamenting an oval or square cornered panel covered with plush, velvet or any decorative material, is here illustrated. A prettily shaped branch may be cut from the silver maple, apple, sugar maple, cherry, walnut,

fly. These may be of metal or may be made of embroidery, as preferred. The branch is then fastened to the panel under a many-looped bow of pretty satin ribbon.

Wall Decoration.

FIGURE NO. 12.—A good way to arrange peacock feathers, as well as to make an

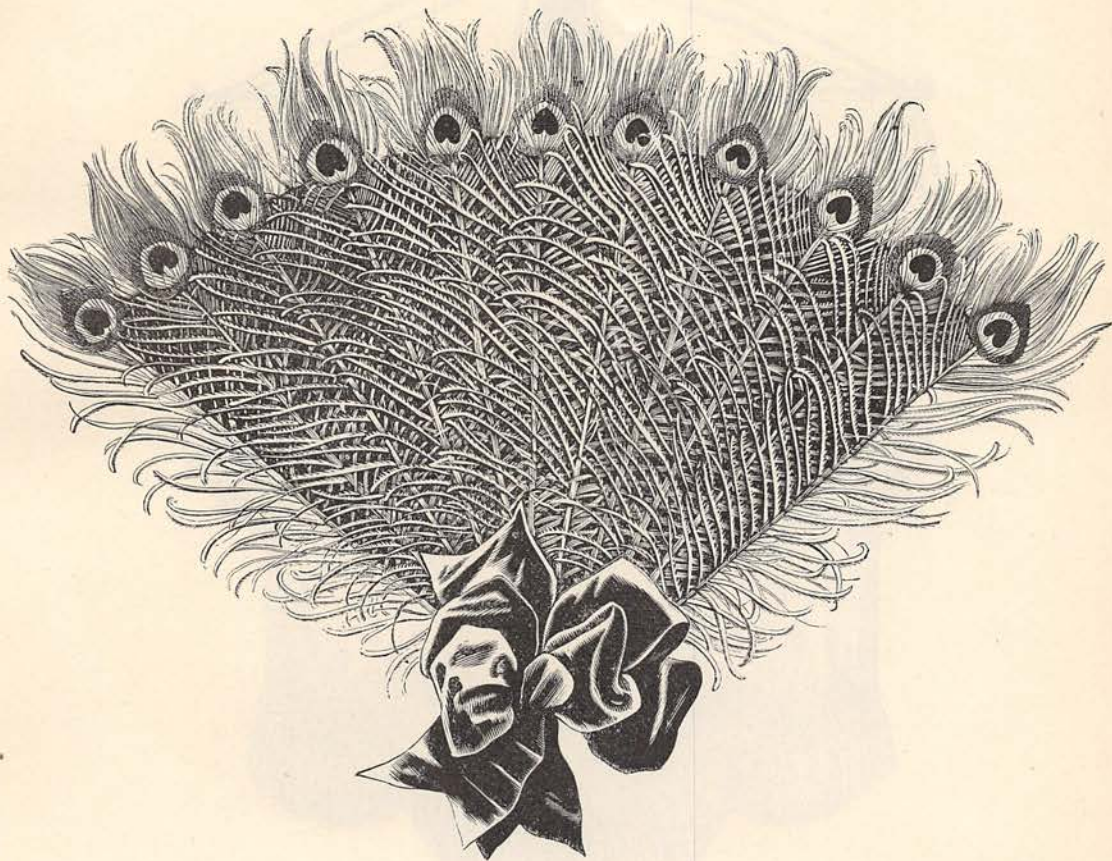


FIGURE NO. 12.—WALL DECORATION.

peach or any available tree. From twig to twig are arranged lines of fine silk that all meet at one point, and between these lines are cross-lines of silk, which, if carefully arranged and selected in the proper color, will result in a very realistic-looking spider web, in which are placed the veritable spider and

artistic decoration, is here shown. A foundation of the desired size and in fan shape is cut in pasteboard, and this is smoothly covered with sapphire-blue velvet. The feathers are then laid on in a careful manner. The stitches may be long, but they must be firm, and nearly always they can be hidden by the

next feather. The bow is of sapphire satin ribbon and is an especially pretty finish. Over a cabinet or a low bookcase, or on a door, this is a desirable decoration. Velvet,

a handsome lamp-screen, which will prove as useful as it certainly is ornamental. The frame is of brass, but may be of rattan or some fancy wood, or silvered or gilded metal,



FIGURE NO. 13.—DECORATED LAMP-SCREEN.

plush or silk may be used for the background, as preferred.

Decorated Lamp-Screen.

FIGURE NO. 13.—This engraving illustrates

as preferred. The rings suspending the screen are usually of the same material as the frame. The screen is of heavy silk and is cut out in three large scollops at the lower

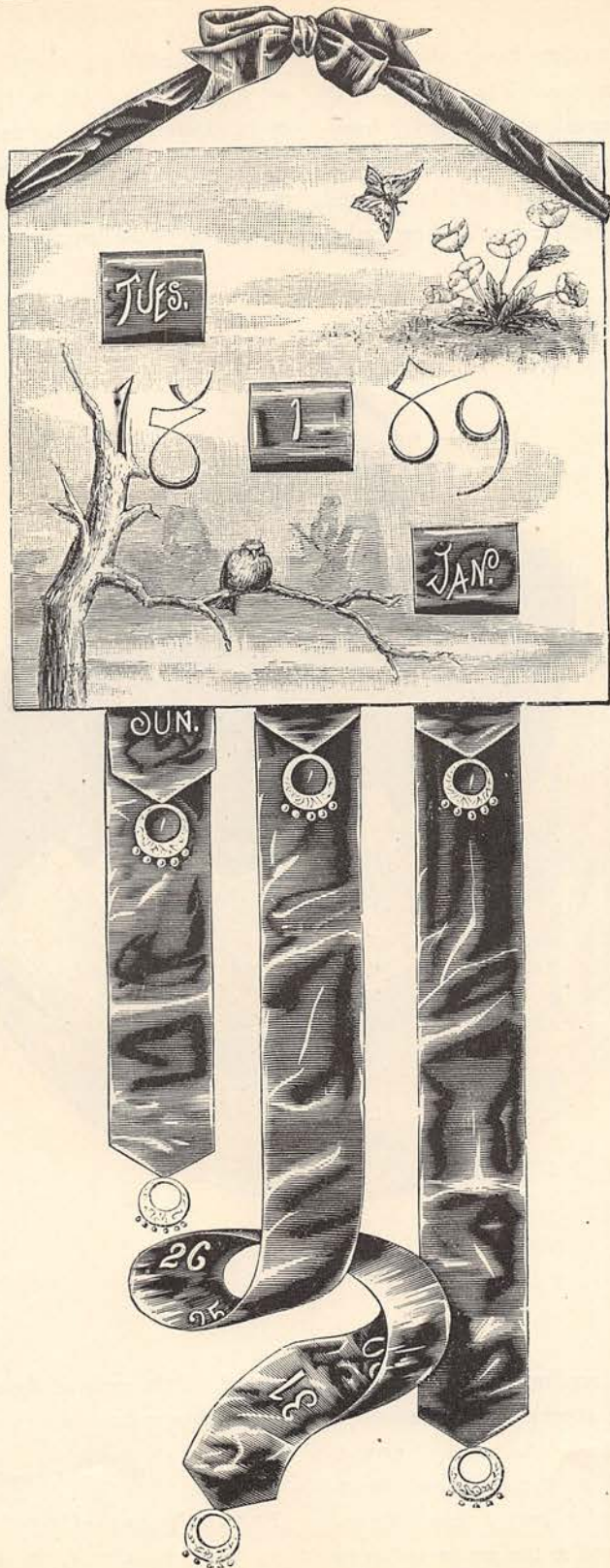


FIGURE NO. 14.—RIBBON CALENDAR.

edge, the middle scollop being deeper and larger than the other two. The upper half of the screen is decorated with a pretty hand-painted design, but may be embroidered or plain, as desired. The lower half is covered with satin, which is gathered at its lower edge

divide the scollops into three pockets, which are quite ornamental in appearance. A row of handsome fringe borders the lower edges of the scollops. To the ends of the cross-bar of the frame are knotted cords, which are carried up to the lengthwise bar and similarly



FIGURE NO. 15.—WALL-POCKET.

to the edges of the scollops, and also at its upper edge to form a pretty frill, the upper edge being loose from the screen, except where it is fastened at the ends and twice between the latter under pretty ribbon bows. The satin is then sewed to the screen so as to

knotted, all the ends of the cord being tipped with handsome tassels.

Ribbon Calendar.

FIGURE NO. 14.—One of the prettiest devices for a calendar is here shown. A square

of ivorine, celluloid, thick parchment-paper, three ribbons run through them. One ribbon, Bristol-board, etc., may be used, and on it with the abbreviated names of the days of



FIGURE NO. 16.—DESIGN FOR WALL-POCKET.

are painted the year and the designs pictured. Slits are cut in the positions illustrated and the week painted upon it, is drawn through the two slits near the upper left-hand corner,

so that the ends come at the back. The middle ribbon has the days of the month upon it. The ends of these ribbons are pointed and tipped with fancy ornaments,

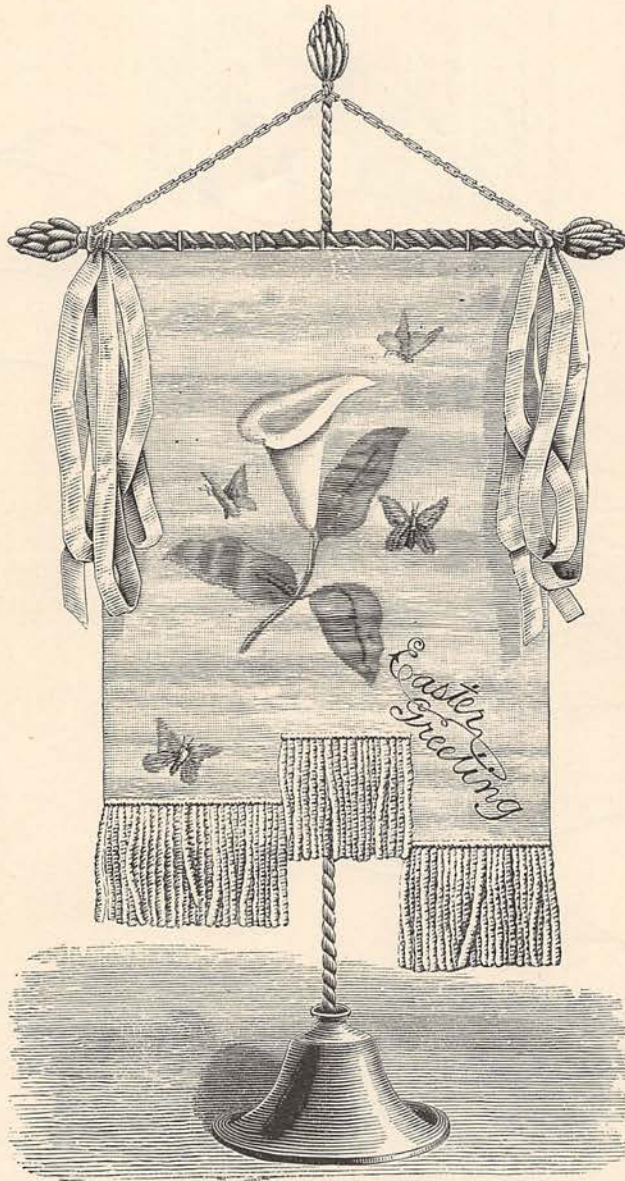


FIGURE NO. 17.—BANNERETTE.

which may be of metal, chenille, etc., and of any preferred shape. The calendar is hung

by ribbons, which pass forward from behind the upper corners and are tied in a bow. Any preferred design may be painted on the square, or a motto or some suitable quotation in fancy lettering may be substituted. The ribbons may be of different colors or all of one color, as preferred.

over stitches. A row of gold cord edges the circular piece and is tied in many loops at the point of suspension, the ends of the cord being tipped with gold tassels. The circular piece has on it a design representing the goddess of the morning floating in the air and dropping flowers from her rosy fingers instead

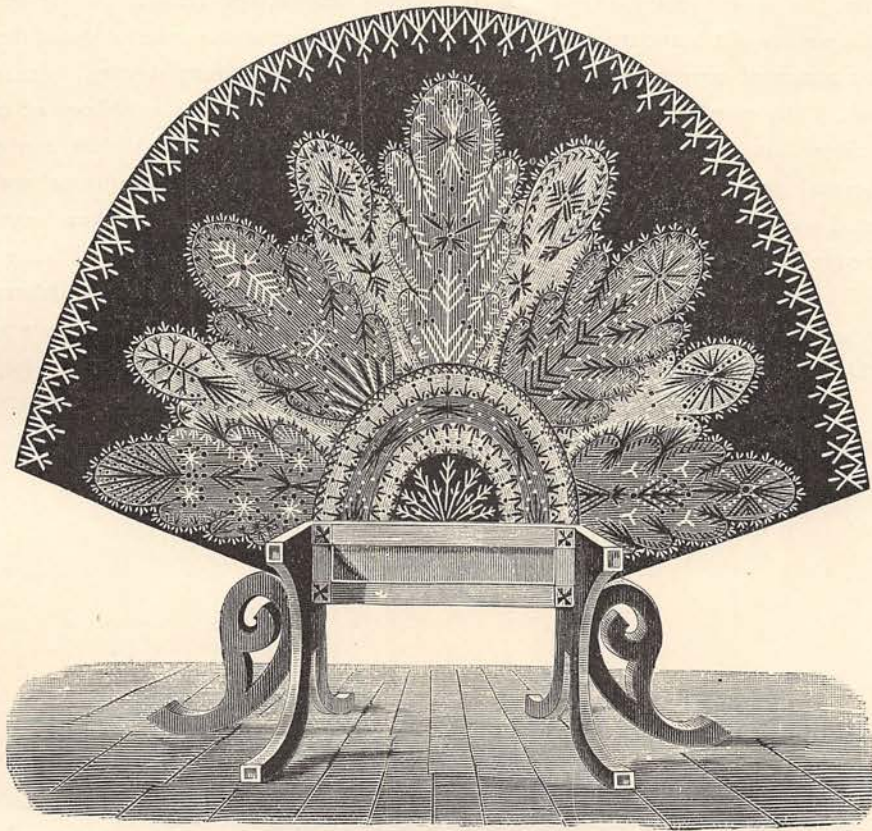


FIGURE NO. 18.—FIRE-PLACE SCREEN.

Wall-Pocket.

FIGURE NO. 15.—This novel style of wall-pocket has a crescent and a full circular-shaped piece of cardboard for its foundation. The circular piece is covered with crimson satin and the crescent with gold satin, and the parts are joined together with over-and-

of sparkling dew, and this may be traced with pen and ink or done with the Kensington stitch. The design is shown in full size at Figure No. 16. Plush, velvet, silk, crétone, felt, etc., may be selected for such useful ornaments, and any pleasing contrast may be developed.

Design for Wall-Pocket.

FIGURE NO. 16.—This design is in the full size for the wall-pocket illustrated at Figure No. 15. It may be done in South-Kensington outline-stitch or painted, or it may be a pen-and-ink sketch, as preferred.

Bannerette.

FIGURE NO. 17.—This handsome ornament is made of white corded silk lined with apple-green satin. It is of pretty shape and is suspended upon its gilt standard by tiny gold rings and a bunch of narrow white ribbon at each corner. The words "Easter Greeting" are embroidered in one corner, and a calla lily and several golden butterflies are artistically painted upon it. Bullion fringe outlines the lower edge. There is much scope for the exercise of individual taste in making these decorative screens, and as accessories of the library table they are most ornamental.

Fire-Place Screen.

FIGURE NO. 18.—A very handsome screen to put in front of an unused fireplace is here

illustrated. The stand may be purchased at any furniture warehouse, and may be of any preferred variety of wood or cane. The screen is shaped from cardboard and smoothly covered with velvet, plush, or any desired material. A border of fancy stitching is made about the rounding edge with floss or embroidery silk in one or several colors. The lower part of the center is prettily embroidered in a simple design, and outside the design, in the curved outline of the upper edge of the screen are applied, with fancy stitches, three rows of simply embroidered plain ribbons of contrasting colors. The outer ribbon conceals the lower extremities of conventionalized leaves in two shades of silk, the darker leaves overlapping the lighter ones, and all being applied by fancy stitches and further elaborated by other stitches of various kinds, the result produced being mosaic and very handsome. Yellow daisies growing among the grass constitute an effective design for such decorations.

