time, after much daily practice both with the copy and without, I could hardly tell father from son.

When the maple leaves turned, in the fall, and the little home in the tree was left empty and desolate, I had it brought down to examine. It was a curious and remarkably well-made nest, being a perfect cup of clay, a little thicker around the top, well moulded, and covered inside and out with dry grass. This snug cottage of clay has been the scene of some of the sweetest experiences of all lives, great as well as small. For the happiness it has held I will preserve it and thus moralizing I placed it on a bracket in memory of a delightful study of the Bird of the Morning.

Olive Thorne Miller.

ORNAMENTAL AND USEFUL KNICK-KNACKS.

Hints for what is ornamental and useful, and for what can be easily and inexpensively made, seldom come amiss. Bazaars are perennial, and birthdays, as well as the Christmas and Easter seasons, often make those whose purses are short long to know how to make what will cost little and yet be pretty and useful. I lately saw a very pretty contrivance, a good illustration of which is seen in Fig. 1, for a small ordinary camp-stool, from which you have taken the piece of carpet usually nailed across it. In Fig. 2 you have an excellent illustration by which you can easily see how the thing is done. It would be useless my giving you measurements of the silk or whatever you use for the bag, as the quantity will depend on the width of the material and the size of the wooden framework, but you can, as you see in the illustration, should make a runner in the bag, and stretching the tape or cord you place it tightly across, secure it with nails to the woodwork. If you, on the other hand, wish the bag to close up, and this to be done without folding the stool, you must make the bag much deeper, and placing a second runner within about 5 inches of the top, be able to draw it up easily. A green stool, with green plash bag, lined with pale pink or heliotrope lining, would be very pretty. Of course, satin or some cheap material could be used, and when finished off with bows at the corners be still very pretty. These bags, I may say, seem very well indeed at a bazaar.

Cases for the Graphite, Illustrated London News, or any large paper, can be easily made. Two pieces of millboard, about half an inch larger than the paper it is intended for, are covered with any material selected, the word Graphites, etc., being embroidered in large letters across the upper cover. The two sides are then sewn together to a narrow piece of the same material, so as to allow for the thickness of the paper. A stout elastic is placed inside, and the paper can thus be slipped in and out easily. Postal Guide and Brander covers can be very easily made in the same way.

People who live in the country often like to give or send cut flowers to their friends, and the difficulty about baskets often presents little. It is not seldom very inconvenient to lend them, and if the borrower lives at a