Commencement Their
Subject: Cost in Household Furnishing
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At its Household Furnishing

The house in which we live does not constitute the home, but can we not say class, it as the second most important factor which go to make a home happy and cheerful. On the good taste displayed in furnishing the different departments depends the air of comfort, beauty, and elegance. They will wear and the constant pleasure or comfort that will be felt by the inmates. An able artist has said, "It is a large part of the art of decoration to know what you have in a house."

Beauty of decoration does not consist so much in the coarseness of the material which comprises as on the taste displayed in its design, and its appropriateness to its position. In order to arrange the furnishing, painting, etc., the several departments we must look at the general effect.

After the house which is supposed to be just as artistic and comfortable as it can be, is built, the next consideration is to take up the different ways and means of furnishing it.

In painting the inside woodwork, great varieties of color may be used, it is a rule that the door should be painted darker than the walls and the window sashes come lighter shade.
Paint may also be used on the ceiling and walls, different purposes of the rooms requiring different shades. A dark red, mahogany, dark green, or some solid color is best for the library and dining room; while lighter shades may be used to an advantage in the parlors and other rooms. It has been found that red colors remain stationary, yellow ting things nearest, and blue makes the ceiling appear farther away.

The wall paper used should either harmonize or contract with the painting and carpet. Short patterns are better for the living rooms, while large patterns may be used for halls and stairways. The brightest colored paper should be placed over or near the ceilings. Light blue is most appropriate for the ceilings because it appears to heighten it.

The carpet is one of the most important furnishings of a room; it is in the room what the background is in a picture, and like it, a carpet should be such that one forgets to notice it. Therefore we should avoid gaudy colors such as blight green, sable blue, as they are not pleasant to the sense, and do not wear as well as others. The carpet should be a neat pattern, it should now!
have natural imitations of fruit, flowers and shells, it should be a shade darker than the wall paper and should present the main body first, from which the rest of the room should be a shade lighter, contracting rather than blending shades are desired.

Curtains may be of many different kinds as regards material and color. Light material is admirable for the parlor and bedrooms; but for the dining room and library, heavier curtains are more desirable as they are more in keeping with the place.

The art of decoration and furnishing consists more than the mere knowledge of style, furnishing takes genuine and taste or rather taste and unless this is brought to bear upon it, the handsomest furniture a room can have might as well be a few old chairs and table for all the real harmony of effect and delight it may produce. One of the most important aids in furnishing is a good knowledge of color, complement of contrast, and those which harmonize, a point which sometimes people think that all the coloring in rooms should harmonize to give a good effect. Chair, carpet,
customs, woodwork, and wall-paper. This gives a stiff rigid appearance to the room. It is generally admitted that furniture looks better on a light dark background and pictures look better on a light one. To do this a shade, two or three feet high may be painted some dark color, such as dark brown, bronze, green, rich brown or deep wine color. While the walls should be some light shade. This gradation of color from deep to light is borrowed from the great architect nature. Take for an example the tree, the root and trunk are dark and substantial giving the evidence of strength and durability, the branches covered with green leafy foliage are a lighter shade and the blossom with their brilliant hues are confined to the top.

All rooms on one floor should correspond in idea and color, and should not be furnished in a medley style, and this should not be to solicit a change in the color.

Let us now consider the houses in detail giving a few hints about each department. The first place these to furnish will be the hall. The slightest glance within the hall should give a character of cordiality and hospitality, and
this character can be shown as well by the decoration and furnishing, as if the host stood there in person with outstretched hands to welcome the guests, the idea is the hall should impress the mind upon entrance, with the idea of shelter, shadow and rest. It must be apparent that it is the doorway of the home. The guest may come from the outside wind and snow, cold and wet but the minute he steps within the hall, all his fatigue and cold vanished, because he knows he has found a place of shelter, and a place to rest. The right furnishing can make it just such a place, the tint of the walls should be that of the wood while the woodwork, doors, stairs, and mantel should be dark or stained, the dado should be dark either plain or paneled, stiles, this the smooth wall surface should be papered in a subdued tone. The ceiling is free and should be finished with some formal but with any lines decorative fancy and should be somewhat lighter in color than the wall. The floor of the hall should be good hard wood in various shades; geometrical designs and should not be dazzling. With a few rugs laid here and there, it presents a much more cheery appearance than a carpet.
The staircases should be covered with some rich color harmonizing with the other furnishing. The door to the hall should have the windows stained or some deep creamy curtains draped or as a backs the light, giving the room a soft and shady appearance. The furniture in the hall proper should consist of a hat and coat rack, an umbrella stand in one corner, a seat and a looking glass and a table below the looking glass. Beside the glass may be hung a small flat pin cushion, a watch or clock, pictures and a little sack for holding letters. If the hall is large, moderate size pictures add great beauty, chrome will give a great deal of pleasure, colored pictures are also quite desirable, but good taste should seek out the pictures best suited to the place.

Whatever light airy elegance and beauty is within the power of the furnishing of the house it should be cherished in the drawing room or parlor as a soft and gay appearance is demanded for this room. The poet say "The

drawing room should present strong male color leaving the delicate tints for the more feminine character of the drawing room. In the

very delicate tints for the parlor the dark
hardwood finish seems out of place, the satin woods, the creamy polished maples and others of the kind, serve the purpose best and give a lighter effect. The dado and wainscot look prettier if represented in paper with a narrow thinking hard sound the floor. The carpet should be a little darker than the other furnishing and should present an unnoticeable appearance. The walls should be papered with some light shade. The heavier curtains and the window should correspond with the carpet, one being with some dainty cream or white curtains, giving the whole room a light appearance. The hall decoration should be complete with picture and numerous other faithful hangings hung in a pleasing manner. The furniture should consist of four or five small chairs, plucks or leather cushioned with two or three rocking chairs, a sofa, piano or organ, a center table with various food used making a pleasing effect. There is, is the place for elaborate mantel piece, its ornaments few, but possessing dignity. It is not necessary that the fire place should be large. The plan as a whole should present a beautiful light and comfortable appearance; a place of sunshine and happiness.
It seems expedient that most of the other rooms of the house should be furnished after the conventional system of society, not so with the sitting room. The furnishing in this room should possess both beauty and utility. Here thin fabrics are to be chosen that will endure, the carpet should be some rather dark pattern that will not soil easily, and it should not cover the entire room. The woodwork should be painted some dark color that will not fade and become dirty; the drapes should be about 3 ft. high, and the wall paper should be a shade or two lighter than this. The ceiling should be very pretty and not painted and light shade, and the top curtain should be muslin easy washable. The furniture should consist of a low broad lounge not too good for little feet to kick, a large low table with the necessary books, papers, work, backed and set, a sewing machine, comfortable chairs and especially easy chairs for father and mother. This is also a place for horse, plaid and picture stylish and beautiful appearance, nothing should be in fine for daily use. This room should be a pleasant
inviting room for the family. Just as here where the family gather for the evening chats and it should be one of the cosiest nooks because of its relation to the beautiful home. I hold that a library is essential to every home, just as many homes do with out them. Day after the drawing room is given up in part to a library, but how much nicer it would be to have even a small library, where we can seek a place of rest and quiet where we can pick up a book and enter into conversation with our book friends. Then the carpet should be dark and small figured. It is found best to have the shelves built into the walls making the floor more easy to carpet, and then it gives a much more stately appearance. The shelves should be of some dark color. The windows should be large and curtained with some heavy rich material. The chairs should be large and comfortable, and the only wall decoration beside the paper should be a few portraits of some poets or historians or some great author's book placed on the top of the shelves may add greatly to the appearance of the room. Besides the chairs there should be a large table on
on which books can be placed and writing done.

The dining room ranges next to the sitting room as heart of the house, for it is in this room, in all ordinary households, that the family assemble three times a day. They find there should be a place to eat, enjoy meal and comfort. In this room there is to be airs fanciful fabrics, the color must be substantial such as rich crimine, deep purple, and kindred tints. The mere suggesting of poverty should be avoided here in this room than in any other. The floor of this room should be of hard wood, painted and oiled the necessary color or colors. The walls of the dining room should proceed a rich warm color, and great care should be taken in selecting it. If there be gilding in the paper, it should come here. The dado and other woodwork including cupboards, are not nice painted a dark shine or brown, The dining room table should be heavy and substantial, and the chairs dining and comfortable with broad seats and high backs. The walls should be decorated with paintings of curious mature portraits.
are very much suited to the place. They should be one bay window in this room with shelves for house plants. The curtains should be dark in material hung so that they can be draped back to admit sunlight.

The first thing to be looked to in a bed room is a plentiful supply of fresh air. The windows should be large so that plenty of fresh air can be received during the sleeping hours. The next requisite is to gain plenty of sunlight, while the next thing in importance is to pay proper attention to the floor. It should be hard wood painted around the edge so that the carpet can be removed easily and cleaned. The walls and ceiling should harmonize with the carpets and should be of some delicate tint with a splash of blue or pink, the woodwork should also be light and cheery. The curtains should be of some light washable material draped at one side. It is very pretty to have the bedrooms quit so much ahead when low beds with plenty of light covering and soft and hard pillows is the best. It had, simplicity is the best ornamentation. Brass bedsteads are being used a great deal.
and are very hardwearing and substantial. The
the other furnishing of a bedroom are a<br>glaze, in a bedroom, not a washstand with<br>the necessary articles, a boudoir is very appro-
priate and often spaces the bed in the daytime.
A few pretty chairs are also necessary. In<br>addition to all this there must be a wardrobe<br>for the clothes. As for the pictures in the bed-
room they will usually be those that have some<br>special value to me independently of their beauty.
Lastly we must say that although fur-
nishing is largely left to women, it is<br>really not trifling matter. Its study is important<br>and is as much a study as any politics. The<br>private home is at the foundation of the<br>state, and the history of furnishing indeed<br>involves the history of nations.

The art of furnishing comprises much<br>more than arranging pictures, chairs, tables<br>etc. in the best possible way, it comprises<br>a large part of the art of making a home<br>attractive and pleasant. It all, the building<br>of a house can help a great deal in beauti-
ful decoration, because if a house is not<br>built in the right way, with all the nec
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cassay closet, cupboard, mantle piece, small round, half, etc., it is impossible to give it the beauty it might have had.

Furnishing also implies economy coupled with taste, some one has said. 'Vest after all as we have said is the offspring of genius and tact and is a great secret of the art of furnishing and although that is a thing to be cultivated just as much as any teaching that the gardeners teach us from its faceless wilderness to full beauty, yet no rule can ever supply its original deficiency.'

Reference/ Broke,
Queen of Honeys.
Art Decoration Applied to Furnishing Beautiful Home.