



SIDEBOARD IN THE QUEEN ANNE STYLE.

From *Bicknell's Specimen Book of 100 Architectural Designs*.

MOTHS IN FURNITURE—IMPORTANT.

Taken as a whole, throughout the country, housekeepers suffer more annoyance and destruction of furniture, carpets, and woollen garments by *Moths*, than from any other pest. The little red ant is a great nuisance in some localities, but it is not destructive and not very prevalent. Moths are universal, and whole sets of costly upholstered furniture fade away, losing their beauty and substance, even after days, weeks, and months of watching, beating, and picking, with painstaking care. Latterly, establishments have been opened in leading cities to kill moths. First it was done by removing the upholstery from the wood and thoroughly *baking* it. More recently liquid preparations have been used. But the necessity of transporting furniture to these establishments, and the large expense, have been serious obstacles. Some parties advertised to sell a moth-killing secret for a certain sum of money. We are happy in being able to announce to our readers an easy, simple process, that we have tried the past season, with what appears to be a complete success. (We mentioned it to a furniture dealer and repairer to-day, and he said he had practised it for some time, and that it was a sort of "trade secret.")

The process: A set of furniture that seemed to be alive with the larvæ, from the month it came new, and from which hundreds of these pests had been picked, and brushed, was set into a

room by itself. Three gallons of benzine were purchased, at 30c. a gallon, retail. Using a small watering pot, with a fine rose sprinkler, the whole upholstery was saturated through and through with the benzine. *Result:* Every moth, larvæ, and egg was killed. The benzine dried out in a few hours, and its entire odor disappeared in three or four days. Not the slightest harm happened to the varnish, or wood, or fabrics, or hair stuffing. That was months ago and not a sign of a moth has since appeared. The carpets were also well sprinkled all round the sides of the rooms with equally good effect. To have known this two years ago, would have been worth at least \$50.00 in the saving to a single set of furniture, and would have saved many days of most annoying labor. If this is not worth, to multitudes of housekeepers, many times the cost of the *Canadian Mechanics' Magazine*, we shall be greatly mistaken.—For furs, flannels, indeed all woollen articles containing moths, benzine is most valuable. Put them in a box, sprinkle them with benzine, close the box tightly, and in a day or two the pest will be exterminated and the benzine will *all* evaporate on opening.

CAUTION:—Benzine, in fluid or vapor form, is very inflammable; therefore, when using it, have no fire or burning light in the room—not even a match on the floor to be trod on. With this precaution it is safe. With the windows open its odor even will soon disappear.