

### PROSPERITY OF THE EMIGRANTS.

The emigration from suffering Europe to the United States, is greater now than it ever was before. During the first four months of this year the unparalleled number of over 60,000 emigrants arrived. The proportions in regard to nationality are as follows: for every 100 Germans there were 71 Irish, 46 English, 30 Swedes, 3 Norwegians, 5 Danes, 6 Hollanders, 3 Belgians, 15 Swiss, 5 French, 13 Italians, 7 Russians, 3 Bohemians and Greek.

Those who understand a trade find work at once; many having been provided before their arrival, while the applications of manufacturers and builders are so numerous that the supply of hands, large as it is, is not equal to the demand. The trades which require labor and have thus far not been sufficiently provided for are quarryman, stonecutters, puddlers, moulders, and all branches of iron manufacture. On the first of May more than 100 applications were on file at Castle Garden from manufacturers which had not been supplied. The application of parties desiring German or Swedish servant girls, number by the thousand.

That we are great gainers by such an influx, is evident from the fact that only that element of a people emigrates, in which there is the pluck and energy to do so, and who have also the means to pay their way to this country, and usually more, to a greater or lesser degree; while those who do not work but live from the product of labor of others, and, therefore, are useless in society, being mere consumers and not producers, stay at home and have to support that other class, who are unable or unwilling to work and therefore too poor to emigrate.

### DESIGN AND WORK IN CABINET FURNITURE.

Our present illustration is a piece of parlor furniture called a chiffoniere. It is used for many purposes, as the wants of a family may require, including a stand for a small selection of books. The article is intended to be made of mahogany, and consists of a carcass, enclosed by two doors, and having a drawer the full length between the blocks over the carved trusses, and over this carcass is an upright back with two shelves for books, supported by small turned pillars. This article is at present shown as a piece of furniture suitable to the cottage or a tradesman's dwelling, and one which the ordinary intelligent and handy amateur might readily construct; and for the benefit of such as may enter upon the task, I will describe its construction in detail.

It consists, first of all, of a base  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, of  $\frac{1}{2}$  wood, dovetailed together at the corners, with the blocks in front,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in breadth,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, rubbed on afterwards. If veneered, the front of the base between the blocks would be veneered, and the two blocks on the inner side also veneered. These, when dry, would be cleaned off and the blocks rubbed on; then the ends of the base and the blocks would be covered each with one piece of veneer, and after this the front of the blocks with veneer of richer quality, such as on front of base. Lastly the upper edges of the base would be veneered along with the ends of the blocks—the front of the base being previously filled in with a piece of pine 2 inches broad and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. This base is 4 ft. long and 22 in. Over the blocks, and consequently  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches in the middle. Now a carcass is made, having two gables, either solid or veneered, 2 ft. 8 inches long and 18 inches broad. Those have a bottom  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick and a shelf or forelegs underneath the drawer and over the doors; this fore-edge is hid, however, by the drawer front projecting downward to a level with the bottom of the end blocks. These blocks are treated like those on the base, and rubbed on after the carcass is put together. The bottom referred to is dovetailed into the ends of the gables, and the shelf under the drawer let into the gables by a raggled dovetail. The top of the gables are let into a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  top by short tenons or pins. This top being veneered on the edges, and covered with one piece on the top. The drawer front is 5 inches deep, and has a torus head along the under edge. This carcass has a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch lining back cheeked into gables. Midway in the height, inside this carcass, is a shelf resting on lillies, screwed to the gables.

Over this carcass is an upright back of 1 inch framing, with two long panels between the shelves. The 2 panels are let in from the back, and the framing in front is without moulding or chamfer of any sort. The two shelves are of 1 inch wood, either solid or veneered both sides and edges; the lower one is fixed to the back with screws from behind, and the upper one is fixed with screws passing through it into the upper edge of the back. The shelves are supported by slender pillars of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wood turned, excepting bases and tops. Behind the bases are short

railings abutting on the back of balusters 2 inches long and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick, and underneath the shelves are corner brackets of open fretwork, fixed behind the pillars. Over the other shelf is a coping or railing of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch fretwork 3 inches deep, and raised to 6 inches in the centre. This is fixed on with short dowels. It may be mentioned that the doors on the carcass are 1 inch thick and panels  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, with double ogee moulding planted on the face. The carved trusses are 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad on the face, and have behind them a thin pilaster, the full length of the doors. It may be mentioned that this article is French polished, and that piecemeal, the panels, trusses, brackets, pillars, frames, etc., being polished before fitting in their places. The carving and fret cutting are done by tradesmen, apart altogether from the cabinet maker.—A. CABE, in *Design and Work*.

### DESIGN AND WORK IN CABINET FURNITURE.

I have this week to bring to the notice of readers a form of dining table which is coming into favor, as it ought to do. The ordinary parlor table is usually made circular or oval, with a massive pillar and block, supported by three or sometimes four carved claws, projecting from the bottom of the pillar. This form of table is at best an awkward affair, as when in a position for use it takes up a great deal of floor space, and when turned up on an edge, and placed against the wall like a target it is quite useless, and certainly not ornamental, and if not well made at first, the claws are forever getting loose, and threatening a catastrophe.

The table here shown is a vast improvement upon the former both in appearance and utility. Fig. 1. is a perspective view, with the leaves hanging down. In this position the table is but 20 inches broad. It may stand against the wall, taking little room, and is still of much use as a piece of furniture.

Fig. 2, shows the underside of the table, with the leaves spread out, and the dotted lines show the inner feet turned out in the position to support these leaves.

It will be observed there are eight legs, all turned, excepting the square parts at the lower rails (we call them stretchers). Four of these legs are in the corners of the frame, and remain fixed; the other four are attached to short rails top and bottom, and being hinged, turn outwards. These legs are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. square, and the rails to which the top is joined are  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. broad and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick. The end rails, A A, are let into the corner feet; the long rails, B B, are simply placed behind the corner joint, and screwed to them. Then the short rails, C C, are let into the corner feet and screwed to the long rails, B B which make a thoroughly secure job. The four inner feet are mortised to rails the same in girth as the rails C C, and are hinged to them at the dotted lines. The stretchers are 2 in. broad and  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick. The long ones are double, and screwed together where they enter the legs, and are hinged at a point exactly vertical with rails above. This arrangement will be understood at a glance by the practical reader.

The top of this table is of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. wood, the central part being 4 ft. long and 13 in. broad inside the legs, and is fastened to the top from the inside with screws. The leaves are joined to the centre by the method known as the Pembroke table joint, which shows a quarto-round with two listels, and the hinges underneath are quite invisible. This joint is very common on the older tables. It is a very nice job to do well, and it is a notorious fact that very many of our modern cabinet-makers are entirely ignorant of this method of hinging.

The corners of the top are cut off at an angle of 45 deg., and the cut is 12 in. long. The rails are hinged to the frame with iron hinges known as back flaps, and the stretchers with brass hinges of the same description, and sunk flush.

This table may be made in mahogany or American walnut, and is a pretty, substantial, and durable piece of furniture. It may be used with both leaves down, one up, or both up, and is altogether better adapted for use as a parlor dining table than anything yet contrived for that purpose. If made as it ought to be, it will last for an age without liability of a breakdown. I have made small card tables in American walnut of same design.—A. CABE in *Design and Work*.

TO CLEAN WALL PAPER.—Soiled wall paper may be made to look almost as well as new, in most cases by the following expedient: Take about two quarts of wheat bran, tied up in coarse flannel and rub it over the paper. It will clean the whole paper of almost all descriptions of dirt and spots better than any other means that can be used. Some use bread, but dry bran is better.