

## HOW MAHOGANY CAME INTO USE

Some Theories Anent Historic Chippendale Furniture.

Its Identity Nearly as Mysterious as That of Shakespeare—Beauties of Woodwork.

Of Thomas Chippendale as a man, almost nothing is known. His work is alluded to by more than one writer of his time, but he himself is not mentioned. It is believed that he was born in Worcester, and that his father, a carver of frames, came to London and took a shop in St. Martin's Lane.

The Thomas Chippendale who is mentioned by Sheraton in 1786 is almost certainly his son, who carried on his father's business. It is unfortunate that father and son should have had the same name, as the receipts signed "Thomas Chippendale" may have come from the son. Mr. R. S. Clouston, in the *Compendium*, thinks it probable that the great Chippendale died somewhere between 1762, the date of the third edition of the "Gentleman and Cabinet Maker's Director," and 1765, when Mainwaring alludes to him as "a late very ingenious author." This seems to have been universally understood to mean "recent," but from the fact that nothing more is heard of Chippendale or his "Director," it would seem that the word "late" may have been used by Mainwaring in its more correct significance.

### GUESS WORK.

Had Chippendale been alive in 1765, when, after the peace of Paris, the two nations were crossing over and figuring-in, it is more than merely likely that a man of his energy would have taken advantage of the increased intercourse to publish a fresh edition. But anything of a purely personal nature concerning him must be more or less guesswork. Even Horace Walpole, of whom Chippendale was to some extent a follower, mentions neither his name nor his work. Possibly he did not consider the "Gothick" of the Director sufficiently good, for though the Strawberry Hill Library contained both the book by Mainwaring and that by the Society of Upholsterers and Cabinet Makers, Chippendale is not represented. Yet time has avenged Thomas Chippendale for the slight. We would willingly give half Horace's chronicles of titled nobles for some information about the St. Martin's shopkeeper. We would like to know what manner of man it was who broke with the Society of Upholsterers to publish his own book on his own lines, and who, mostly, he it remembered, in the terrible times of the seven years' war, brought out in quick succession three editions of it, and thereby became the first great prophet of the great English furniture renaissance.

ENGLAND AND HER LITERATURE. In the beginning of the 18th century England was still regarded by foreign nations as more or less barbarous. Few indeed even in France, had any idea that we possessed any literature, art, or political ideas worthy of consideration. But in 1777 what has been called "one of the most important events of the century" took place. Voltaire, allied from France, came to England and studied English laws and institutions with a care never formerly bestowed on them by a foreigner, and greatly through his teaching, England took an entirely new place as a thinking country. "From the visit of Voltaire," says Green, "to the outbreak of the French Revolution, this intercourse with Europe remained the chief motive power of French opinion, and told, through it, on the opinion of the world." Nor was this only in political ideas. Shakespeare, Swift, and Richardson were eagerly read, even in the bad translations and Hogarth's "Analysis of Beauty" published the year before Chippendale's book appeared almost at once in French and shortly after it in Italian. This gave Chippendale not only a wider market, but greater confidence. Half a century before he could not have sold a single copy outside England, but, coming with his idea, he was practically sure of a fair hearing.

Chippendale was also fortunate in finding mahogany already in use; a material which suited his style as no other could have done. It is at least doubtful if he would have attained to as great excellence either before his time

or after it. One can scarcely imagine his carving in the realistic manner of Grinling Gibbons, or designing on the severe lines of Sheraton.

### INTRODUCTION OF MAHOGANY.

The story of how mahogany came into general use is well-known. It reads somewhat like a romance when we are told that the obstinacy of Dr. Gibbons in insisting on the manufacture of a candle box "revolutionized furniture," and I am somewhat afraid that the story is open to reasonable doubt. The first mention of the occurrence I have been able to find is in an encyclopedia of 1776, where it is given on the authority of "Henry Mill, Esq., a gentleman of undoubted veracity, for many years in the mahogany trade." In any case this was not the first time the wood had been used. Dr. Lyons has found an mahogany article mentioned in an American auctioneer's catalogue of 1708. In this country, a chair was made of the for William III, and it is at least possible that the wood was brought home and used by Sir Walter Raleigh, I understand that this last is not absolutely denied, as there is some difficulty in distinguishing between very old mahogany and mahogany.

The internal evidence of the story itself does not render it more believable. The wood was, we are told, came to England and it is at least possible that the wood was brought home and used by Sir Walter Raleigh, I understand that this last is not absolutely denied, as there is some difficulty in distinguishing between very old mahogany and mahogany.

Granting that the story is true in its details, it is more than likely that some other captain besides Capt. Gibbons brought the wood to this country "as ballast," or as a "substitute for Jesuit's bark"—for there are at least two stories—and there is no reason to doubt that in 1729, craftsmen may have known something of the properties of the wood.

### USE OF "FRENCH POLISH."

There was, however, no particular reason for its use, but much for avoiding it, as the massive furniture of the period would have been rendered still more unwieldy by its introduction. But when the revolt against the heaviness of Dutch and Louis XIV. furniture began, any cabinetmaker who knew his business naturally turned to mahogany. When it first came into use "French polish" did not exist, and even when that was invented its composition was very different from the "French polish" of today. It was a close secret, but by Chippendale's time it had become known in the mahogany trade, and it was used, though he did not like Hepplewhite, carry lightness to the extreme limits of safety. For a long time it was without a rival, but when satinwood, tulipwood and hawthorn—the latter a good name for mahogany—came into vogue, Hepplewhite slightly mentions it as one of the inferior woods, in which a certain design may, for cheapness, be carried out.—London Globe.

### Disorders of Childhood

It is an undoubted fact that nearly all the disorders from which infants and young children suffer are caused by derangements of the stomach or bowels. As a cure for these troubles, Baby's Own Tablets is gentle, effective and above all, absolutely safe. Mrs. Thomas Cain, Loring, Ont., gives her experience with this medicine in the following words: "I never had any child do me more harm as much good as Baby's Own Tablets. She was troubled with her stomach, and was teething, and was very cross and fretful. I gave her the Tablets, and she was completely cured her, and I can sincerely recommend the Tablets to other mothers."

This medicine promptly cures all stomach and bowel troubles, breaks up colds, prevents croup, destroys worms, allays the irritation accompanying the cutting of teeth. Sold by all medicine dealers or sent by mail at 25 cents a box by writing The Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont.

### Newspapers in Schools

The use of a daily newspaper as a text book in the public schools, which is being tried in a western town, is not altogether a new experiment, nor has it heretofore been altogether successful. The fact is, real interest in the important questions and news of the day comes pretty late in the individual's development, and among cruder people comes almost none. The immediate popularity of almost anything else, including "human interest," editorial discussion of real news—then and there, editorial droolings apropos of nothing that is happening, but only of the age-long theme of personal ethics.—Boston Transcript.

## DINKELSPIELERS.

Der man mit der least knowledge is always der busiest talk pusher.

Dere was two dings dot any man can find in der dark, vun vas a carpet tack un der udder vas a limburger amvich. Chenerally you vill find der mon dot vakes up to find himself a famosness has been sleehing mit vun eye open, yet.

Der world owes every man a lifing, bud some peopel would radder starve den collect der bill.

Every fambly has a skeleton in der cubbord eggescent dem dot live in a New York flat, vare dey haf to keep dere trunks in der cubbord.

Telling der truth to a man dot doan't believ you is der besd sign dot he is no chenchleman.

Der man mit plenty of money has friends to burn, un ven he goes broke he discovers dot he has burned most of dem.

Ven a man goes into politics he goes into a verid vare every body is a friend to eberybody.

A highball in der hand is verth two headache powders in der drug store.

### ELEPHANTS' GHOSTS

Visit Old Haunts

Superstition of the Natives in An Asiatic Region.

In the last number of the Journal of the Straits branch of the Royal Asiatic Society there appears an interesting article from the pen of A. D. Machado on the supposed evil influence of ghosts. He says:

"Some years ago, when I was engaged in certain prospecting operations in the highlands of Pahang, on the borders of that state with Perak, I had occasion to make a somewhat lengthy stay at a place called Kam-pang, on the Tuo River, one of the tributaries of the Beok, in its turn a tributary of the Selat, the principal feeder of the Pahang River. I selected this spot because it had already been cleared of large trees and had only recently been in occupation as a Sakal settlement, from the remains of which we reared our unpretentious little camp. The Sakals, however, strongly advised us to go elsewhere, alleging that this place was haunted by elephant ghosts, and that they had been the direct cause of many deaths, principally among their children, whose remains lie buried there."

"It is necessary to explain that at the back of this place, not fifty yards away, is to be seen one of those peculiar muddy pools for which animals of all kinds frequent for their saline properties, this particular one being known as the Kubang Gajah Hantu (the mud pool of the ghostly elephants). These salt lakes are also known as genais in Malay. When the Sakals refer to this place it is usually with bated breath and a mysterious and awesome gesture. These men declare that almost nightly elephants are seen and heard breaking twigs and branches and wallowing in this pool, and yet in the morning not a vestige of their apoor can be seen anywhere. Of this I am certain: the price of deer and pigs were always plentiful and fresh, but no elephants could have been within miles of the place during my residence in that locality. My mandor's wife, an oldish person, who always followed her husband in his journeys, doing the cooking for my followers, declared that the first night we spent there she and all my men heard continued low-drawn wails, like a long we-e-e-o, which went without intermission until almost daylight. This noise, they said, came from those Sakal children buried there."

"This account is interesting from an ethnological standpoint, in so far as it illustrates the beliefs and superstitions of a race of very primitive people. As for the number of children dying at the time, this would only seem natural when it is remembered that an epidemic of measles was then and there we read in English and continental annals.—Minneapolis Tribune.



### Diedrich Dinkelspiel

A Miss as good as a mile of Misses, ut you luff der rader.

Some self-made men spend der rest of der life talking about home industries.

Ficklesauer says dot a hungry man cannot find der best food, because nudging tickles his appetite.

### GAMBLING AMONG

WOMEN TABOOED

Once a Passion Among English Women Made Unpopular by Late Queen.

Sir Richard Steel, the famous essayist of the Spectator, wrote in 1712, when in England the gambling craze among women was at its height: "Hollow eyes, haggard looks and pale complexions are the natural indications of the female gambler. I never knew one of these women to hold her beauty two winters together." Visitors to the great modern gambling establishments of Monte Carlo and Baden-Baden will see in the drawn, anxious, prematurely aged faces of the women gamblers a verification of these words written about the same class almost two centuries ago.

The craze for bridge which has attacked the fashionable society of Europe and the United States, and which finds so many feminine votaries, is no new madness. The gambling habit in other forms has for centuries prevailed in what calls itself the highest society in all nations, and women have been specially addicted to it. Evidently women often supplement "a youth of folly by an age of cards," and some of the most inveterate society gamblers have been and still are young women.

In France, Germany and the other continental countries the gambling habit has been carried to great excesses in royal and other exalted circles. In France it reached its height in the reign of Louis XIV., that grand monarch and his court set the example of high stakes at cards, and often losing fortunes in a single evening. Gambling in England reached its height in the eighteenth century, when the French Marie Antoinette, the Empress of France, was a devotee of the game. A sad story is related of the beautiful and fated daughter of the famous Marie Antoinette, who, at the age of 23, went to Bath as the possessor of a fortune of £120,000, and lost it all at cards. Suddenly reduced to poverty, she donned a plain white robe and hanged herself with her gold and silver girdle. Horace Walpole describes certain great ladies of his time as "faro dames," so named was their addiction to this game. Gambling in England continued to be a grand passion with women of the highest rank until the accession of Queen Victoria, who resolutely set her face against it, and made it unpopular in royal circles. In this respect Queen Alexandra follows the example of her excellent mother-in-law. She will have nothing to do with cards, and the taste for the game, which was so far as her influence extends, is taboed in high society. Still, this game seems to have an immense fascination, and the bridge which habit is to the increase both in England and the United States, the growing practice of playing for high stakes seems to lend it an additional charm. Under its spell women, both at home and abroad, are in danger of becoming as confirmed gamblers as those grand dames of the past of whom we read in English and continental annals.—Minneapolis Tribune.

Vanity is der name ut der machinery dot makes fir us der eveled head.

Tomorrow is der only day in der year dot appeals to a lazy man.

Der vise man dot naves up for a rainy day always stays in der house ven it storms.

Contentment is ven ve work mit our eyes on der present; Ambition is ven ve work mit our eyes on der future.

Love is der sensation-dot der creeps of a man ven he sees annuder man making goose-goose eyes ad his sweet-heartness.

Sleepnoodle says honesty is der besd policy, because he has tried both.

A fool and his money is der root of much laughter.

A hypocricik is a man dot uses your assistance to speak your name miserably.

Viskey is oft Mother Misery's dardelof son.

Palpitation ut der tongue is a disease dot dot affections many vimmen.

D. DINKELSPIEL, Per George V. Hobart, in the New York American.

### SCANTY AMUSEMENTS

OF GERMAN PEOPLE

Sons of Toil Take Little Stock in Sports and Games.

Amusements play a comparatively small part in the lives of German workpeople, and such as they have are mostly confined to Sunday. Games have not taken hold of them; they go to no football or cricket matches, although there are matches, and other classes in Germany show a growing taste for games and sports. I went to see a football match between Dusseldorf and a neighboring manufacturing town. It took place on Sunday afternoon; the day was fine and the ground very handy to both towns. A similar match anywhere in manufacturing England would have attracted from 10,000 to 20,000 sons of toil, who would have shouted themselves hoarse from beginning to end. At the German match not one man in appearance, when I left the field, toward the close of the game, the spectators, who had slowly increased during the afternoon, numbered exactly fifty-five; they were not workingmen, and they showed no excitement whatever. I noticed a curious difference in the behavior of spectators and players. In England, the former keep up an almost continual noise, shouting at nearly every kick, and cursing to a prodigious roar when a good point is made. The players on the contrary, maintain an almost unbroken silence.

It was just the opposite in Germany; the spectators only raised a feeble sound when a goal was kicked and for the rest were silent, but the players called out incessantly, directing, exhorting and reproaching each other. They played the association game, not very well. The principal game in Germany is kugel, a kind of skittles, and it is played at public houses, but not by workingmen, or seldom by them. They play cards sometimes, but not a great deal. In short, games may be ruled out as an item in industrial life. Theaters and music halls count for more, but for nothing like so much in England and in America. They are less numerous in proportion to population, and are given at decorated music halls, and resemble the English "variety" show, and often includes English performers. The variety stage is, indeed, very large, but consists chiefly of the bourgeois class. The three most frequented by workmen are the small, cheap music halls. The entertainment given at decorated music halls closely resembles the English "variety" show, and often includes English performers. The variety stage is, indeed, very large, but consists chiefly of the bourgeois class. The three most frequented by workmen are the small, cheap music halls. The entertainment given at decorated music halls closely resembles the English "variety" show, and often includes English performers. The variety stage is, indeed, very large, but consists chiefly of the bourgeois class. The three most frequented by workmen are the small, cheap music halls. The entertainment given at decorated music halls closely resembles the English "variety" show, and often includes English performers.

This is the forest primeval. In the Acadian land on the shores of the basin of Minas, the forest is complete the symphony a single musical note at intervals pierced the odorous silence, the call of the bell bird to its mate.

"Oh," cried the girl, longing to hear a human voice, "surely

is here Gabriel!"

"At your service," said a strong, masculine voice as he stepped forth, her so that she dropped her bridle rein over her horse's head. She turned and saw a man in clerical garb, one of the parsons in the province, and looked at him ungraciously, annoyed at his quick application of her

improvised question addressed solely to herself. Giving him a cool nod, she attempted to secure her bridle, which was entirely beyond her reach. Her horse, feeling its freedom, sprang forward, forcing the brook with a rapid bound and galloping up the further side at a pace that nearly unseated her rider.

It would have served her right if the new Gabriel had left her to her fate, but after a lapse of time enough for him to observe her plight, and as she thought angrily enjoy it, he rode up gently, not to hasten the speed of Evangeline's horse, and caught the errant bridle and restored it to her hand.

"Peter Grant, at your service," he said, touching his hat stiffly. "I am on my way to visit a very sick woman. Pardon me," and with a leap his horse shot ahead and was gone.

"He knows how to ride a horse," he is a minister," thought Evangeline. "Peter Grant! Why, we were school-mates, but he has forgotten me."

Then she urged her horse forward, for she, too, was going to see a sick woman, her dearest friend, Aunt Maggie, who had been ill for some time, and she had been delayed and had heard no tidings for some days.

But sure is the power of the powerful youth to look on the bright side and throw off dark foreboding that she found herself wondering how Peter Grant had succeeded in chasing his troublesome red hair of their school days to a bronze brown, and what had become of the freckles that had mottled his face as a youth before he went away to the college at Wolfville.

"I must ask Aunt Maggie about him," she concluded. "He's a good-looking sort, although he did not promise much in the old days, and he knows how to ride and—he did not recognize me—that pleases me."

A few more miles of hard riding and Miss West reached a farm house of the old Acadian type, with 30-year mosses on its unpainted roof and a well-swept of antiquated pattern, picturesquely adorning the yard. Another

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The amenities of social intercourse reflect their settings. If these are elegant the affair will be elegant—the result depending on the setting in exact proportion.

The background of an afternoon function is the tea—if it's dishwater or ordinary tea your reputation as a hostess is ruined. If it's Blue Ribbon Ceylon your guests will be delighted with its deliciousness and tastefulness—and your afternoon an unqualified success.

**Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea**  
Black, Mixed, Ceylon Green "Just Pure Tea" 40c. the pound and worth it.

PLEASE REMEMBER US when requiring LEAD PIPE, BABBIT, SOLDER, PIG LEAD AND TIN. THE CANADA METAL CO., WILLIAM STREET TORONTO, - ONT.

A ROMANCE OF ARCADIA THE UP-TO-DATE EVANGELINE.

Evangeline West was riding on an errand of grave import, but stopped long enough at the foot of a steep declivity leading to a babbling brook to give her tired horse a long cool draught of the clear, swirling water before he forded the stream. He was a lively horse, hired at the railway station, so other means of rapid conveyance being available.

The young woman was home again after several years of absence, during which she had improved her time and opportunities, and she was glad to return to her native land, the land of Evangeline, the Acadia of her heart. She looked far up the woodland brook with a fond appreciation of its enchanted beauty. Evergreen trees, pendent willows, silver birches and graceful elms fringed the banks, speckled trout leaped and splashed unceasingly, and the sparkling water, complete the symphony a single musical note at intervals pierced the odorous silence, the call of the bell bird to its mate.

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