

The Ingle Nook.

[Rules for correspondents in this and other Departments: (1) Kindly write on one side of paper only. (2) Always send name and address with communications. If pen-name is also given, the real name will not be published. (3) When enclosing a letter to be forwarded to anyone, place it in stamped envelope ready to be sent on. (4) Allow one month in this department for answers to questions to appear.]

ABOUT THE WHEAT.

By the way, I heard the other day from a member of one family where the experiment of growing wheat as a centerpiece for the table (as described in this column some weeks ago), was tried successfully, that grain leaves so grown, in shallow pans of water, are excellent to feed to hens to make them lay in winter. I suppose the principle is that the green tender stuff supplies the vegetable food that all fowl need along with their other food to keep them in good condition.—J.

ABOUT PAPERING—A HASSECK.

Dear Junia,—Will you be so kind as to come to the rescue of another interested reader of your valuable information?

I have drawn a rough plan of my house, and am going to ask your advice as to "fixing up" my dining-room this spring. You will see by my drawing it is quite a large room, has two large windows and an archway through to the parlor, which is furnished in green. The archway has two-toned green portieres. The ceiling is rather low, and at present has light brown flowered linoleum on it, which was put there before I came here. The woodwork has been painted, and the floor is covered with a good quiet sage-green and cream linoleum, relieved with a little red.

I would like to have it painted and papered this spring, and am undecided what color scheme to use, also whether or not to remove the ceiling covering. Although it does not look bad, I have a tendency to dislike it. I am making scrim curtains to be stencilled, and am waiting to get a plan of the colors to use, as I want my curtains to harmonize. The window casings run up to a very few inches of the ceiling. Would you advise an over-lambrequin on them or not? Would it have a tendency to making the ceiling appear still lower?

I am intending to buy a pedestal dining-table. Which would you prefer, the square or round style?

Those wishing to make a homemade hassock will find, by following these directions, that they will have a really beautiful and serviceable one at a very small cost.

Take seven "corn-cans." Stuff them rounding full of papers, taking care to pack them hard. Now take a piece of "Plushette," whatever color desired, and cover separately the side of each of six cans three-quarters around, sewing edges with strong cord. Now place the one remaining can in the center, placing the six covered cans around it, and sew firmly top and bottom with strong cord. Next cut a piece of plushette to fit over the top, and sew on; also take a piece of haircloth or oilcloth and sew to bottom. Finish by putting a strand of braid (or shoe lace) up the side of each can across top and sew to bottom. Finish in center of top by sewing on a large covered button or tassel. I made a handsome one by covering three cans in deep red and three in green, and placing them alternately around uncovered can, finishing top of each can same color as sides. Everyone who sees it admires it and asks where I got it. You will find them very durable.

Now, Dear Junia, I see my letter is getting pretty long, so will close, thanking you in advance for your information in regard to fixing up my dining-room, and hoping some of the Nookers will try my directions for making a hassock and report their luck to your page.

ANN HATHAWAY.

Wolf County, P.Q.

Since there is an archway between your dining-room and drawing-room, you simply must have the colors in these two rooms harmonize. Indeed, there is a strong tendency at present to paper rooms so connected with the same paper, thus securing an effect of unity

and spaciousness which would be lost, somewhat, were the wall tones different.

I cannot in the least imagine what the linoleum-covered ceiling would look like, as I never saw one. If, however, you leave it on, you would almost be under necessity of choosing a wall covering to tone with it as well as with the adjoining room; hence a very soft wood or tobacco brown, or a very quiet buff, seem the only tones possible. Wood-browns, as a rule, go well with green, and would also suit the brown in the ceiling.

If, however, you remove the linoleum, making the ceiling cream, you can then choose for the walls a very soft green that would harmonize with the green in your drawing-room, or you might have the walls a creamy buff, with green in border, cushions, curtain borders, etc.

By the way, the narrow wall-paper border is quite of the past, except when used, occasionally, below the wooden moulding after a drop ceiling, and then the "border" is, as a rule, a sort of crown to the "crowned" papers. As a rule walls are finished in but three ways: (1) Paper to the top, with narrow wooden moulding against the ceiling, a method often used when the ceiling is fashionably low as at present. (2) A drop-ceiling, with wooden moulding below next to wall paper. (3) A very deep border, often covering one-third of the wall, especially when the ceiling is high. This broad border may be bought for the purpose, those in foliage and landscape effects being among the prettiest. A less expensive plan, however, is to cover this part of the wall with an ordinary floral wall paper of handsome design and coloring. In either case a narrow wooden moulding is placed below, forming a finish between the border and the wall paper proper which may be plain (but in color to tone with border), striped almost invisibly, or panelled with wood—if one can go to that expense. In the latter case burlap or grass cloth is often used instead of wall paper.

Ordinarily, however, heavy plain ingrain paper, oatmeal paper, water-paint, or very quietly two-toned papers do very well.

Readers will note the constant repetition of the words "quiet" and "soft." The reason for this is that dull, artistic coloring must be insisted upon. Green may be a beautiful grayish or olive tone, or it may be bright, crude Paris green, a thing of horror in the wrong place. Similarly blue may be the quietly artistic "old" or goblin shades, or it may be shriekingly bright and crude "robin's egg" or "royal." One must insist, when buying, on being shown the quiet shades. If obliged to buy the cheapest papers, in which the best colorings sometimes do not appear, it is safest to fall back on unobtrusive fawns, etc., or upon water-paint. Take no risks with harsh or gaudy colorings, either for paper, rugs or upholstery.

In regard to the windows, I should certainly say to use a narrow valance across the top, with side curtains of the same material. Draw the curtains well back over the walls, and have the valance extend all the way across; the curtains, of course, to be only sash length. This will give the effect of the wide windows, now so much liked. You are very fortunate in having rather low ceilings. They are put so now in nearly all of the best among the new houses to give an effect of coziness and do away with the barn-like look that almost invariably accompanied the old high ceilings.

Round dining-tables are more generally favored than square ones.

DATE COOKIES.

[For "Lankshire Lass."]

Two cups rolled oats, 2½ cups flour, 1 cup brown sugar, ½ cup butter, ½ cup lard, ½ cup milk, 1 teaspoon soda. Roll and cut into cookies.

Mixture:—1 lb. dates, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 cup hot water. Cook until thick, put between cookies, and bake. Simcoe Co., Ont. J. D. F.

POINT OF ETIQUETTE.

Dear Junia,—Is it all right for a young lady to thank a young man when he asks her to dance with him, or is it

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