



A GIRL'S SANCTUM

When a girl leaves school she feels the want of some quiet nook where she can retire in her leisure, and express those day dreams which are the precious possession of youth.

It is not necessary for it to be one of the largest and handsomest rooms in the house, those naturally fall to the lot of the senior. Some unused bedrooms, or even attic, answers the purpose perfectly well, and is transformed by clever fingers into a charming retreat, the admiration of all who see it.

Though miracles are sometimes performed by amateurs with a few rolls of paper and a large can of enamel paint, I must confess I have not much faith in the latent genius possessed by the majority of girls as far as wall decoration is concerned, and think \$5 well spent in employing a local painter to paper the walls and ceiling, to paint the wood work, and stain the floor a suitable shade. This sum is not an extravagant one, but it suffices for an apartment of moderate size. Five dollars more will purchase sufficient Chinese matting or an ingrain art square. Be sure that the latter is composed entirely of wool, and avoid those abominations in which a very small quantity of wool is supplemented with a large proportion of flax, as these wear badly and soon lose their beauty. A good carpet will turn and wash like a blanket, and can have its position altered when necessary. A dozen yards of crimson makes a brave show when cut up for box and cushion covers, but do not be persuaded into purchasing an excess at 15 cents a yard, which, however nice, is a delusion and a snare, for it soon gets limp and faded, and inevitably gives a tawdry appearance to any room in which it is placed, and is one of those cracks in furnishing to which the novice is often prone. Drape in its proper place is distinctly decorative, and gives dignity to a room, but that does not mean that you are to swathe the mantelpiece with a flimsy fabric, which may at any moment blow into the fire, or twist folds of velvet and miniature curtains round painted plates, but the screen depicted thereon should burst too suddenly upon the naked eye, or the bits of colored-powder round the chair backs, where, by the widest stretch of the imagination, they cannot be considered either useful or ornamental.

Nowadays few things escape the delecting gaze, from mantel and the mirror to brackets and bellows, and if some clock is not put on the former, we shall soon see the oval box covered with tulle and embroidery, and the pocket decked with pouch and tassel.

It is convenient to fill the chimney recess with bookshelves painted to correspond with the other woodwork, and neatly edged with leather and by brass nails.

A pretty over-mantel, and a small hanging bracket with a lampshade are other useful additions. As it is not a safe over-lamp with superfluous rack, and will probably be glad to assume an available form, I would suggest a stand to the lumber room before purchases are made. For example, place tables with a single drawer, often used for servants' bed rooms, make quite portable writing and ornamental tables, if they are not stained or cracked, from shop handles substituted for the legs, wooden knobs, and a square of Japanese paper glued to the top. A plain wooden table stained in four legs, and water covered with a pretty cloth, is not an expensive item. Neither is an old fashioned pine washing stand, with a narrow shelf, and a large cupboard to match, which can be painted white, green, sparrow egg blue, amber, primrose yellow, or other suitable color, and have brass fittings screwed in, when it takes quite a new look. It can be decorated in various ways, but most

easily by inserting Japanese letter or stamped anagata in the panels of the doors and surrounding these by a hand-painted design, which may be traced by transfer patterns, or a stencil plate can be used instead. Trunks with loose cretonne covers fastened to a feather pillow, form useful receptacles and seats, with the addition of two or three rush or flag-mat chairs, so durable and light that they are in great popularity in the best houses again. A basket chair and a cushioned couch, are also precious possessions, while the bamboo furniture so largely imported of late lends itself to decoration, and is made in a variety of ingenious and useful contrivances, which recommend it for such an apartment. Other is it expensive—another point in

the most attractive girl, and would form a pleasant surprise which many mothers would be glad to prepare for a daughter.

For the small cottage. There is the tiny sitting room. Shall we cover the floor after staining it in the mode suggested with warm, cozy-looking rugs with as much red in them as possible? A room I once saw at Dinard, and which was admired as much by French as English visitors, had its walls covered with a white paper, and above a frieze of cream and yellow roses, all the chairs were arm-chairs and of wicker, the cushions covered with red Turkey twill, and the wicker sofa upholstered with the same. A Japanese screen covered with red twill, over which music had been stretched, was near the fireplace. A Japanese cradle of cream

linen toilet covers, glasses full of sweet scented flowers, plain bamboo or wood furniture as little of it as possible, and two favorite pictures on the walls, what can one want more?

ILLUSTRATIONS

Who will not, over the ease, space and air of leisure in the old-fashioned hall or sitting room which again captivates people of taste. New houses from Spokane to Florida are built in this low studded ample fashion, with beams showing overhead, and there are many comfortable old houses whose owners will delight to preserve their old world air, while adding the pleasant touches in keeping with their style. It will not be found expensive to throw the square entry in one with the room, by an archway, with spindle wick beading, letting in a flood of light from the wide casement on the stairs which is the favorite picture escape and sanitary addition to gloomy halls. The recess by the fire is the delight of old and young, a very haunt of story telling and quiet musing. The solid carved table, chairs and stools cost no more than the gimcrack furniture stamped jute and cherry stain, which is neither pleasing nor comfortable. Once fitted in this most homelike and charming of fashions, a man may feel that his home is in order for the rest of his life, and years will bring a deeper satisfaction in its abounding comfort, instead of bala for repairs. It is suggested when handy mechanics are not able to carry out new ideas that the spindles and turned posts of old bedsteads may be used for the headings to archways and as table legs or settee posts, when they are of good account. The design is adopted from one by the Messrs. Liberty, one of the first artistic firms of London.

The corner nook on this page is all one can desire for a study or a girl's own book. The curtain hung to one of the new brackets which swing close to the window or away from it is an invention every eye will feel like having. The wide, low divan, with its large, firm pillows look like rest whether covered in red or blue linen, or even Eastern stuffs.

The dwarf bookcase may be a packing box, covered with leather paper, and the paint given in a warm pink or just painted brown. Even the delightful window may be attained by a wood framework laid against the ordinary two or four pane window. The drapery may be velvet stripes applied on dyed serge, and the spindlework around the upper shelf made of empty spools. So the outlines are firm and ample, the effect must be covert and delightful.

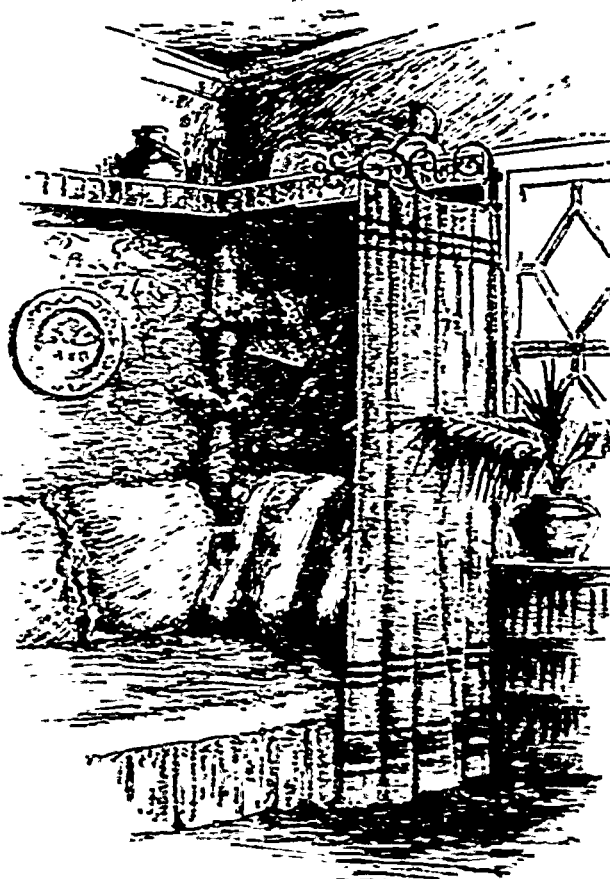
The arrow-like hammocks in blood red, amber and warm India dyes make admirable hangings for other purposes, caught up in posterns and set drapery over doors and windows.

Do not put furniture upholstered with large designs into a small room, or cover the wall with large figured paper. They make it seem smaller.

In close proximity to these luxurious bedrooms beds are now frequently seen little water-beds for the speed change to drink from. These beds are painted with enamel to match the beds, and have the dog's name painted upon them.

These beds are rather to be ground with ordinary home paint of any desired tint, or the design can be painted on the wall without any preparation. The paper with the edge look best.

A novelty which we shall be seeing a good deal of before Christmas is a heavy arched or central table, chiefly painted blue and soft green shades. These are designed for window curtains; they are double width, very durable, and are to be used with satin or match, supplemented with ball fringe. The combination produces a very harmonious result, and if the curtains are draped up to the overhead valance and left to hang in graceful folds, the effect is very good.



A HAUNT OF DAY DREAMS

its favor—for a pretty little Japanese interior can be fitted up for a comparatively moderate sum, and being light and airy, packed for those who are in a hurry, and are obliged to sleep by deposit.

I can suggest make-shifts, however, where the price is not an elastic one, and would naturally prefer, as I dare say my readers would, the charming scheme I have a mind. The paper is of an uncommon pattern, suggestive of an orange flower, the design representing an as a native brought leaves, flowers, and ripe fruit. The paint used is a deep yellow shade, and the most pretentious carpet has a weaving of cream matting. Pretty arrangements for writing and books, and the fireplace, which has numerous brackets for them and other conveniences made of painted wood, while the curtains are suggestive of Japan.

Such a room could hardly fail to please

and provoke them, as from like the one famous in an English writer of "The First of June," stood on the grass. The green painted pots with plants were placed at the corner of the fireplace in summer time. Although the room was charming and worthy of imitation.

A more cottage-like style of furnishing may, however, be preferred. Well, then, a cherry paper, a cherry chair, are easily to be had, and cannot but seem to be a good idea, and so forth. A "bamboo" may be used in the place of the cherry, and the cherry may be covered with serge or red to the feet and back of the chair. The room may have a way of looking pretty, however, and the country scene may be painted on the wall, and the windows with cherry trees framed in red are a joy to look upon. Some white cherry curtains at the windows, a flower paper (cherry matting) over the doors, and side or low table, upholstered