

themselves a decoration. The wall-paper, therefore, should be of a quiet design.

In living rooms and parlors, where pictures, brasses and pottery are prominent, a modest wall color is a necessity. In dining-rooms the question of a background for the objects on the walls need not be so carefully considered. A dining-room may be well appointed with nothing displayed in it but the glass and silver.

In bed-rooms light-flowered or striped papers, with colors suggesting brightness, repose and daintiness, are very important. In a room that is long and narrow, a large-figured or flowered paper only emphasizes the length. Treat it with vertical stripes of two tones softly merging into each other. A flowered or figured material over the windows at the end will shorten the room bringing the most distant point nearer to you.

Always bear in mind that the wood-work frames the wall covering and that its color must never be ignored. Red wood-work and paper combined would never do, as that would be too heavy, but red paper would do if the wood be white.

When both the walls and wood-work of a room are of one tone,—a green for instance,—the ceiling should be slightly tinted with green, but merely enough of it used to carry the tone away from the white. If, on the other hand, the walls are green and the wood-work is white, then the ceiling should be white. Height is diminished by bringing the ceiling color down to the picture moulding. The ceiling can then be finished with a wash or covered with a paper. In some rooms a flowered paper is used in this way, the color of the paper below repeating that of some detail in the ceiling paper. This treatment is best suited to bed-rooms, bath-rooms and parlors.

What I am going to say now is really not included in home decorations, but it relates to the home and so many are guilty of such things, it would be well to speak of it. I know a Mr. and Mrs. X who were boarding in a country place with their two children. Although the home was very desirable in many ways, yet it had one great drawback. The mistress of that home invariably closed every door as she went from room to room, and the other members of the home had to do the same. Mrs. X often found it necessary to go to the kitchen and every time she went she had to open and close four doors. We all know it is necessary to keep the kitchen door leading into the dining-room closed, as we don't want the many odors from cooking to go through the house, but is it necessary to keep all other doors closed? When our friends call to see us is it not unpleasant to usher them into cold, musty parlors, where the glorious sun very seldom gets a peep behind the blinds? Throw open your doors, and up with the blinds, and your home will not only seem much more pleasant to your guests and the household members, but it will help wonderfully to "brighten"