# **OUAINT BEDSTEADS AND OTHER FURNISHINGS**

THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

HISTORIC STUDIES IN HOME FURNISHING

BY MARGARET AINSLEE.

Unlike the Hebrews, Greeks and Ro-Unlike the Hebrews, Greeks and Romans, our English forefathers were unused to the luxury of the bedstead. Their makeshifts during the troublous times of the Middle Ages should not have been dignified by the name of "bed," which is primarily an outcome of pence and prosperity. As the country became less turbulent, the warrior did not find it necessary to sieep armed for attack upon the rode hound table or upon the long necessary to steep armsu for attack upon the rude board table or upon the long chest on top of which bags of straw had been thrown; so that as early as the 18th century permanent recesses covered with sacks of straw and curtained off from the main room were constructed in the great halls. Even these primitive con-trivances were considered the inxuries of the nobility, and the "bed reafs" and curtains were handed down from generacurtains were named down from genera-tion to generation as treasured legicies. Although after the Norman conquest their resting places presented a less shelf-like appearance, in some antiquated places they are in use at this day. Frederick they are in use at this day. Frederick Littchfield, in speaking of a recent visit to a farmhouse in Brittany, alludes to the curious beds which he saw there, "consisting of shelves for parents and children, which form a cupboard in the wall and are shut in during the day by a pair of lattice doors of Moorish design." He furthermore states that these perches are reached by means of an oddly carved Moorish chest, which serves as a step. This quaint furniture was doubtless made in the middle of the lith century, and has been many times handed down from father to son. These rudidown from father to son. These rudi-mentary beds were also a feature of colonial furnishings, and a veritable one is described by Alice Morse Earle in her "China Collecting in America" as a part of the appointments of an old New England farmhouse. Buch a bed was called a "slow bank" which term, says the suther. "Is a corruption of sloap bancke," or sleeping bench, and the slow bank was the great-grandfather of our modcabinet folding bed. At one end of room are doors apparently belonging cupboards, which, upon being swung open, disclose the oblong frame of a bed with a network of ropes to serve as springs. This bed frame is fastened at one end to the wall with heavy hinges, and was booked up against the wall in the daytime and at night was lowered to a horizontal position and supported on heavy wooden-turned legs, which fitted

nto sockets in the frame."

For many centuries bedsteads were used only by Kings and Queens, and were stately affairs, richly carved, unwieldly and of enormous size. A typical royal bed of the time of the French remaissance was taken from the chateau of Pau, where it was the property of Jeanne d'Albret, mother of Henry IV. This huge oaken affair is carved with the date 1562. and, judging from the proportion of space occupied by the figure reclining upon it, must really have been an openwork wooden room or box, or else must have exercised a most dwarfing effect upon its inmates. Possibly, like its contemporary, the Groat Bed of Ware, it was porary, the Great Bed of Ware, it was intended to accommodate eight persons. Shakespeare alludes in "Twelfth Night" to the immoderate size of this bed when he makes Sir Toby Belch say: "And as many lies as shall lie in thy sheet of paper, altho the sheet were hig enough for the Bed of Ware in England, set 'em down, go about it."

These huge constructions were gradually made with less woodwork at the

ally made with less woodwork at the sides and with broad, heavy cornerpieces, which in time evolved into the lighter, which in time evolved into the lighter, old-fashioned four-poster, with its nancied tester and draped canopy, known as the "canopy bed." For this style of bed



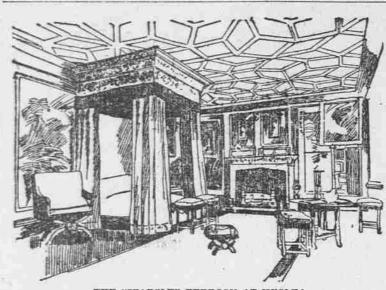
Bedstend of Marie Autoinette.

Chippendale in the latter part of the 15th century devised many forms of nillars His sketches for a state bed, as well as Sheraton's for a canopy bed and the ta-pestried bed of Marie Antoinette, all beeak stateliness rather than comfort. In fact, designs for state beds are inter esting merely as the originals from which our modern beds have been modified. Pos-sibly we may have lost something in dignity, exquisite carving and luxurious

household had fear of the mischief which treacherous or eavesdropping retainers might make. Both church and government took great exception to this with-drawal from public family life; and bish-ops inveighed against "sundrie noblemen and gentlemen and others who doe much delighte to dyne in corners and secret places. In spite of invective against this separation of class from class, the partition of the house into bedroom, boudoir and drawing-room went on, and this division into smaller rooms quickened the general interest in procuring the furni-ture suitable to each room. Sir Henry Wotton, an Ambassador in the time of James I, thus quaintly defends the grow-ing love of plenishing the home: "Every man's proper mansion house and home, being the theater of his hospitality, the seate of his selfe fruition, the comfort-This responsible office fell upon Sheriff James I, thus quaintly defends the grow-

his blood being up, he knocked all precedents into a cocked hat by paying 10,000 guineas for a filly by Persimmon, while later he supplemented these purchases by taking the filly by Trenton, from Sandiway, at 5500. He had previously expended the trifle of 700 for a colt by Orme. These results in themselves would have been sufficient to make the sale memorable for all time but in addition, the colt been sufficient to make the sale memorable for all time, but in addition, the cost by Orme, from Kissing Cup, was knocked down to the young Duke for \$100, after his opponent had retired at a hundred less. For Flying Fox's brother, the commoner, reconsidering his determination, made no bid, and so the Duke got him for \$500 guineas, which was a sad blow for those who had prophesied his fetching five figures.

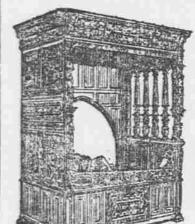
VERY CAREFUL OF A WILL. Extraordinary Precautions to Preserve a Millionaire's Testament.



THE "SPANGLE" BEDROOM AT KNOLE. (The furniture of this room was presented by James I to the Earl of Middlesex.)

his son's inheritance, a kind of private | Paris on the steamer St. Paul with the

The bedstead was accordingly banished to the sleeping-room and replaced in the drawing-room by the "day bed"-prob-sbly a carved oak settle containing clothing within its chest seat, the lid of which was made comfortable as a daytime lounging place by means of movable cush-lons. Next the banqueting table was relegated to the dining-hall and the writing table was substituted in the living-room The primitive table, stretchers with board



Carved Oak Bedstend of Jennie d'Albret.

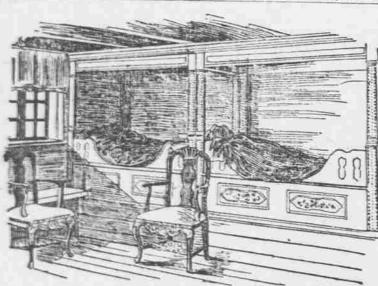
ing of the Elizabethan renaissance, developed into the writing-table and escri-toire in the days of Marie Antoinette and became light and confortable in construc-tion in the days of the spec-hole table designed by Sheraton. These latter were invariably made of mahogany. Sherator depending mainly upon his marquetry for

Mahogany came into general use early Mahogany came into general use early in the 18th century, owing to the persistence of a Dr. Gibbon, who wished to convert some mahogany planks sant him by his brother, a West Indian captain, into a candle box for his wife. The joiner found this foreign wood too hard for his tools; but the undunnted doctor insisted upon the use of harder-tempered tools, which succeeded in turning out eventually a most admirable box. The eventually a most admirable box. The doctor, delighted with the peculiar grain, toughness and susceptibility and high pol-lsh of this richly colored wood, next or-dered a bureau made, which so took by storm the court party that it quickly be-came the rage. Litchfield thinks that the expression, "putting one's knees under a friend's mahogany," probably originated about this time.

Note-This study will be concluded next Thursday.

Fortnes in Yearling Horses.

London Mail. It is no exaggeration to say that the



INTERIOR OF A NORSE COTTAGE.

from the common hall or houseplace.

It was then furnished with carved oak settles, the ubliquitous chest and the livery cupboards for drinking vessels and unused visites which had formerly stood

lous persecution when musters of the for the colt by Orme, from Gantlet, and

hangings, but on the other hand we have nonracing public have but the fainest idea gained in cleaniliness, lightness and free-dom from dust.

Sunngely enough in feudal days the budstead was considered a most suitable furnishing for the parlor. The "parlor" or "Talking-room" was the first offshoot from the common hall or "houseplace."

It was then furnished with carved oak settles, the ublustions chest and the liv-money.)

monracing public have but the fainest idea of the extraordinary value of first-class blood stock at the present day. It will improve their knowledge to learn that at Newmarket recently 12 yearlings bred at the famous Eaton stud by the late Duke of Westminster sold at auction for \$2.30 guineas, giving an average of \$2.30 guineas, giving an average of \$2.50 guineas, fixing an average of \$2.50 guineas.

Excitement was anticipated chiefly by ery cuplocards for drinking vessels and unused visinds which had formerly stood on the dats and was not otherwise encumbered with the thousand-and-one unnecessary addenda which transform our mediant Hving rooms into a combination of conservatory and curio shop.

The next division of house room (about the time of the Reformation) was the "privee pariodr." an outcome of the passing of feudalism, and the days of religious persecution when musters of the

able part of his own life, the noblest of Samuel M. Clement, who departed from princedom, may, the possession there of an epitome of the whole world, may well deserve by these attributes, according to the degree of the master, to be delight-

former royal dentist, Dr. Thomas W. Evans, for the building of a museum and dental institute in this, his native city.

Mr. Clement went as the special commissioner of the Orphans' Court, which sent him in order to have two signatures to the will proved. The witnesses whose signatures are to be proved live in Paris and will not come to this sountry. Hence it became necessary to send the will to France to secure the necessary legal proof before the will can be probated here. The court enjoined Mr. Clement not to permit the will at any time to leave his hands, and there is no man who would be more conscientious about holding the injunc-

tion.
Here is what Mr. Clement took:
Original will in a rubber waterproof
case, tightly sealed,
Photograph of the original will.
Certified copy of the original will.
These three will sleep, eat and ride with
the commissioner for a month, as he
will keep them by his side throughout
the trip, and will have them with him
when he retires for the night, he having
had special pockets made for the purpose.

The object of incasing the will in a waterproof envelope is to prevent it, in the event of disaster, from becoming lost by obliteration from washing of the wat-er. It was deemed advisable to have the valuable envelope put in a safe, as in case of accident there might be some doubt as to its whereabouts.

While the photograph and certified copy might not be of great legal value were the original lost, it was thought the part

of wisdom to have them in reserve. They of the specially valuable after the proof of the signatures is obtained, and might be used to effect in court, The necessity for extreme care is appar-

The necessity for extreme care is apparent. The wast estate of Dr. Evans is in litigation and the heirs would not weep if the will devising funds for a great museum happened to be lost, as there then would be \$5,000,000 to divide. The step taken by the court could not

he avoided, as in order to strengthen the city in its position the proof of the signa-tures had to be secured. Mr. Clement, who is accompanied by

Mrs Clement will return within a month His trip is about the fifth made necessary to Paris by an official representative of the city since the litigation began.

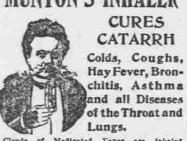
Vote Canvassing in the South.

Indianapolis Press.

Primitive rules as to vote canvassing are observed in some Southern States. At a recent general election in Georgia there were no returns from one of the countles in consequence of a fire in the Court-house, so the vote in the county was ig-nored. At the recent election in Virginia one of the counties was omitted from the canvass owing to the fact that some of the local officials had neglected to open some of the polling booths in it because election day was rainy.

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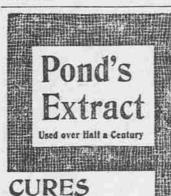


### Fatherless.

There's something about the little black dress that touches a man in a very tender spot. He pats the little one on the head, puts some pennies in her hand, swallows hard and then—starts out to make his own children fatherless. There is no doubt that many a man is taken from his family by neglect of simple precautions which would preserve his health. Disease generally begins nowa-days in "stomach trouble" because the meals are hasty and the food not digested. From that beginning come dis-orders of the blood, liver, kidneys, heart or nerves. The use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, for diseases of the organs of digestion and nutrition will avert the catastrophe of more serious disease. It strengthens the stomach, purifies the blood, nourishes the nerves, and builds men up in both brain and body.

"I can say to you, one bottle of your 'Golden Medical Discovery' has cured me sound and well, after suffering two long years with stomach disease," writes W. H. Braswell, of McAdenville, Gaston Co., N. C. "My health is worth all the world to me. I will praise you as long as I live."

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Water lines schedule, subject to change with

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OCEAN DIVISION - Steamships sail from
Ainsworth Dock at S P. M. Leave PortlandState of California, Sunday, Aug. 5; Wednerday, Aug. 15; Saturday, Aug. 25; Tuesday,
Sept. 4; Friday, Sept. 14. Columbia, Friday,
Aug. 19; Monday, Aug. 29; Thursday, Aug. 30;
Sunday, Sept. 9.

From San Francisco-Leaving Spear-Street
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1; Saturday, Aug. 11; Tuesday, Aug. 21; Friday,
Monday, Aug. 31; Monday, Sept. 10. Columbia,
Monday, Aug. 6: Thursday, Aug. 18; Sunday,
Aug. 25; Wednesday, Sept. 5.

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Steamer Hassaie leaves Portland daily, except Sunday, at 8:00 P. M.; un Saturday at 10:00 P. M. For Saturday at 10:00 P. M. Returning, leaves Astoria daily, except sunday, at 1:00 A. M. Steamer T. J. Potter leaves Portland Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 A. M.; Saturdays, 1 P. M., for Astoria and Long Beach. Leaves liwaco Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 5 to 8 P. M., according to tide

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Steamer Ruth, for Salem and way points, leaves Fortland Mondays, Wednesdays and Friedry at 6:00 A. M. Returning, leaves Salem Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:00 A. M.

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*4:00 P. M.	Albany passenger	*10:10A.M
17:30 A. M.	Corvallis passenger	15:50 P. M.
14:50 P. M.	Sheridan pamenger	\$8:25 A. M

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