

AN ENDLESS TASK.

BY THE REV. WILLIAM COWAN, M.A.

"It is an endless task to be refuting error. Plant truth and the error will pine away."

IT is an endless task to spend thy days
 Refuting error; though thou reasonest long
 What hast thou gained, vain man, save idle praise,
 If thou dost but convince me I am wrong?

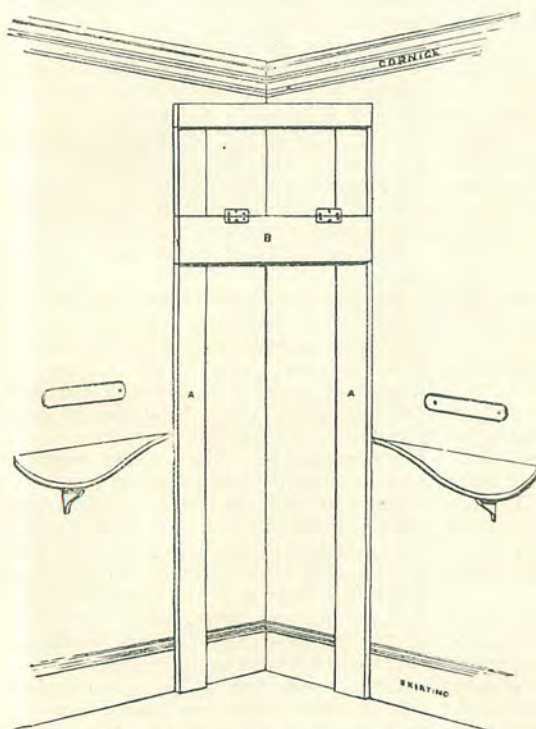
Plant truth within the garden of my mind,
 And it will grow in strength from day to day,
 And through the fibres of my life will wind
 Its influence till error pine away.

A CORNER DRESSING-TABLE.

A CHARMING corner may be managed, especially if the room space is small, of which I send a sketch, by which one may enjoy the luxury of a long swing glass, which every lady knows is a most perfect dressing-glass. The cost is very small and the effect elegant. First of all choose a piece of clear silvered plate-glass about 1 foot 9 inches wide, and 4 feet 3 inches long. Have it framed in the simplest reeded white enamel moulding. I had one supplied to me and sent into the country for £1; this is the only costly item. Then get two pieces of deal the height of the corner to be fitted, and measuring $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ inches; nail these to the wall, setting them the exact width of your glass when framed. Nail across these upright supports a piece of 3-inch or 6-inch flooring-board just the width. It will require chiselling out a little of the uprights just to receive this

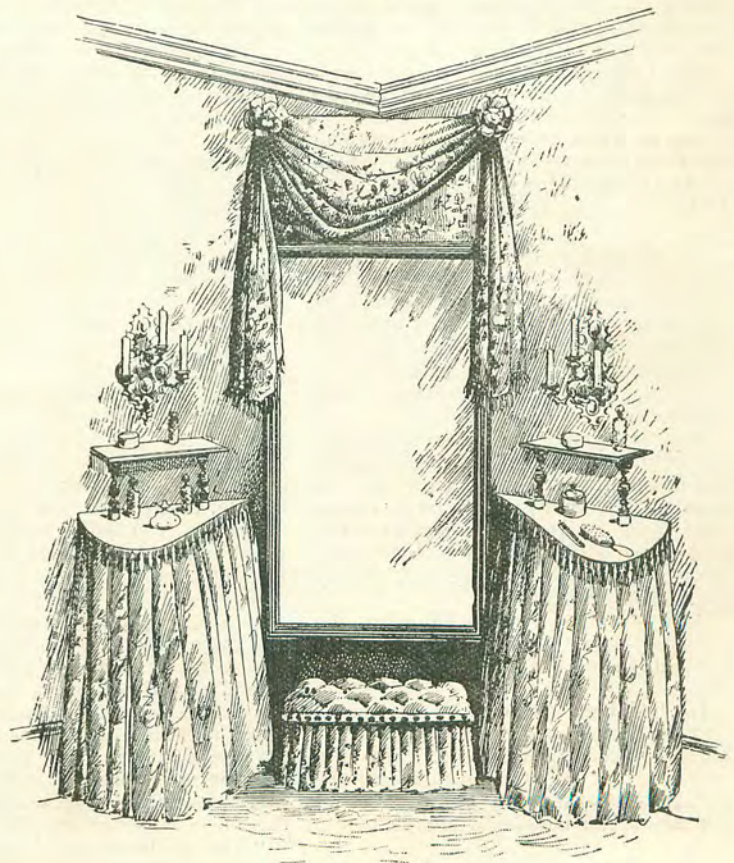
and give a flat surface for nailing—a smaller piece nailed across the top of the mirror back is a good strengthener. The skirting board is sufficient for the bottom. Screw on the two butts or hinges ready to receive the glass, which now can be raised to the bar and screwed to the butts; it will then move forward or hang perfectly straight; an iron or brass fastener can be fixed to the side to keep it in any position required. Now you want two brackets—pear shaped fits the sides of the wall best, and leaves free a nice little place between to stand a box. A Colman's mustard-box serves this purpose; stuff the top well with flock and wadding, button it down, cover it with the same material as the rest of the drapery, or, if sateen is used, cloth to match is preferable, as it is to put the feet on, and cloth would wear best. Stud it round with brass

ornamental nails, hang a fringe to match below the lid opening. This box holds best boots or slippers; drape your brackets and over-mirror with plain pretty colour sateen, finish with a cheap cotton fringe to match or a mixture of white. The smaller shelves supported by turned pillars are easily fixed to the wall; slips of wood nailed first to the wall form a ledge to nail the shelves to, and the pillars support the front and make it very firm. These are most useful for small toilet articles and scent-bottles. The pillars can be had of any wood-turner— $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. White china three-light candle sconces make a beautiful finish. Enamel what wood shows white. The whole costs about 5s.—the sconces 2s. 11d. and the plate glass £1. Done well it is more tasteful than anything procured at the shops, and quite a novelty.



FRAMEWORK TO HANG MIRROR.

A.—Deals $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch \times 2 inches, nailed as uprights from skirting and cornice.
 B.—Deal 1 inch \times 3, nailed firmly to the uprights, and fitted with a pair of small butts to hang mirror-frame.



CORNER DRESSING-TABLE.