using the shapes are as varied as leaf decorations for open jam tarts; no two people will place them exactly alike. In addition, a morsel of angelica is quite a boon, especially if only a yellow custard be at hand. And yet another mode. Some of the apples may be stewed in quarters and a border formed of them. They want careful treatment, and firm apples should be selected to avoid breaking. A pile may be put in the centre, and for a plain dish will pass muster.

To cheapen the trifle, so as to make it suitable for a children's party, use a greater amount of bread and dispense with the macaroons, add a layer of plain custard, such as cornflour, before putting on the chocolate, and dust over with "hundreds and thousands," or crushed pink sugar candy. There are few children who dislike apples, and fewer still who would turn away from chocolate.

Cherry Roll with Chocolate Icing.

This is our old friend "Swiss roll" with a new face. The well-known foundation of equal weights of flour, sugar, butter, and eggs cannot well be improved upon. Supposing from four to six ounces of each to be used, incorporate with them about a quarter of a pound of glacé cherries, cut in quarters, and enough pink colouring to give a decided pink tinge. If too little be used, the cake will look muddy when done, and imperfect mixing will result in streakiness. These two hints are worth attention when colouring cakes of any description.

Assuming this to be carefully baked as usual on a flat tin, it must be spread with all speed and rolled while warm. You cannot roll it if allowed to get cold, for there will be cracks all over it. But what about the "spreading"? A choice is at your service, but something yellow is required. Lemon or orange curd, marmalades of the same fruits, magnum bonum or apricot jam, all good, and not much of either, must be used, or the cake will be not only rich, but sickly. When quite cold, finish off with the icing given for the jellied cake, and served in slices overlapping each other straight down a dish. The combined pink, yellow, and brown blend very harmoniously. It may be served hot, in the pudding course; this is worth remembering by way of a change, and, given a good oven, it does not take long to make either. In this case, the chocolate custard of the apple trifle comes in handy, and it should just coat the roll. Round it, if time permits, a hot custard, coloured pink, and flavoured with cherry syrup, may be poured; or the syrup from bottled cherries, heated, will be found delicious.

The mixture given for the roll is a good one for hosts of small cakes baked in moulds of fancy shapes. They may be decorated on the tops after baking with cherries or other pink fruits, and small fancy chocolates of various kinds; or yellow colouring and fruits of the same hue may be put in the mixture, and the same fruits used with chocolate outside. With the latter, some of the tiny silver sweets sold by confectioners may be used with certain success, for gold and silver with brown, though not very common, is most effective.

DEBORAH PLATTER.

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MY DOLL'S DRAWING-ROOM, AND HOW I FURNISHED IT.

What mother or grown-up sister has forgotten the delights of a doll's house? One of the most vivid recollections I myself retain of my own childhood is of playing with my dolls and belonging to a little neighbour, who, an only child, had more toys and much more expensive ones than I had. How I envied her the possession of this treasure. I was very ingenious at making toys for myself, though, and found probably more enjoyment out of my manufactures than I could have got from most elaborate purchases.

My father being an architect, perhaps my delight in house-building and arranging was hereditary; at all events, I know I was always making cardboard houses and furniture, and all one summer, until a heavy rain came and destroyed the fragile structure, my little brother and I were employed in laying out grounds to a white cardboard villa set up in our own garden patch. Someone gave me a small round birdcage, which I immediately appropriated as a summer-house, and built the villa to correspond. It was located on the confines of an asparagus-bed, which our imaginations turned into a grove of trees. Many, many years have passed since that happy summer, and my youngest child is the same age. As in my own childhood, toys are luxuries not to be profusely bought, and so when I found my darling was longing for a doll's house I began to plan how I could make one for her at small expense.

One evening of leisure I set to work, and the start was so much applauded that I determined to proceed.

The first thing necessary, of course, was to have the house made. I decided, after a mental calculation of the various articles of furniture I wished to make, that I would not have a four-roomed mansion, but one good-sized apartment, which would hold furniture of a reasonable size and amount. So I explained my idea to a young carpenter, and he soon after brought me a strong deal box, thirty-six inches wide by sixteen inches deep and eighteen inches high.

The box was painted inside and out, and a window was put in each end. There was no front made, as I thought the room would be more convenient without it.

The decoration of the drawing-room was the first matter for consideration. As the walls were coloured terra-cotta, I chose a pale blue paper for the dado, four and a half inches in depth, and a friendly paper-langer of my acquaintance made me a present of various strips of bordering, out of which I contrived a pretty one for the dado of deep red and gold. I papered the ceiling with some of the pale blue paper, and pasted a narrow cornice of gilt paper all round it, which completed the decoration.

I found the painted floor such an excellent contrast to the light furniture I was making, that I decided to have no carpet, only a large hearthrug. It was several days before I was satisfied with an idea about this important feature of the room, but at last I saw some cretonne at a draper's, the border of which was the very thing. I bought a strip twelve inches in length, and cut off the two borders—all I wanted. The one I cut again into ends for the other. Laying them across the uncut piece, I carefully joined the pattern, and feather-stitched them on, beginning at the corners and working towards the centre. I carried the embroidery all round the rug, so that it should not show, at a short distance, where it was joined.

The curtains I made of yellow chiflon, with lambrequins of yellow lace across the tops. Little chains of gold beads held them back, and are hung on brass-headed tacks.

The chimneypiece next demanded attention. I saw, coveted, and readily obtained from a chemist an empty cardboard box of the required shape and dimensions for a mantelpiece. It is a cement lime and glycerine box, I may mention, stands about five and a half
inches high, and has a flap-cover, which forms the mantel-board. It is seven inches wide and two and a half inches deep. I raised the flap, cut away the front, leaving half an inch each side, and covered it with blue paper like the dado, not forgetting the bottom. Then I took the piece I had cut out, and from it made two little flaps about three inches wide, and high enough to just go in and out under the mantel-board when attached to the box. These flaps I meant to look like encaustic-tiled sides. They were first covered with blue paper, which extended half an inch beyond them to be pasted on the sides, not cut entirely away for this purpose. Three strips of gold bordering, stamped with tiny round figures, imitate the tiles very well, and are placed on each flap, which, when pushed back by a small black-varnished grate, give the structure quite the appearance of a tasteful, slow-combustion drawing-room fireplace. The mantel-board I covered with yellow silk with a full fall of yellow lace to match the window lambrequins. The little grate was purchased in London for a shilling, and has a miniature set of fire-irons with it. I also bought a mirror for the mantel-piece, which adds greatly to the appearance of the room. It is nine inches high and the exact width of the mantel-piece. My first intention was to glide the frame with Judson’s gold paint, but I decided to drape it with chiffon, like the windows, instead, and I think it looks more artistic.

Finally, the room began to look charming, although no furniture was yet in it. The first thing that first appeared was a large cabinet, and the chief material was a cardboard box, five and a half inches by four inches and three inches high. I turned the box upside down and cut away the sides except enough to form the four legs. Then I put the cover over the top, and upholstered it over with blue plush. Next covered another box lid about an eighth of an inch smaller, but the same shape, and fastened it underneath, an inch from the ground, as a shelf. A third, also the same size, I covered with the same plush after slip ping away one of its rings, and sloping off the sides. Then I fastened it, standing up, to the table portion, as the back of the cabinet, the top and side rims forming a recess, into which I put a little mirror, and draped it with yellow ribbon. Finding the look rather tawdry I made two chains of gold beads, the size of pearl barley grains, and with one on each side fastened the two parts of the cabinet more firmly by sewing the chains about an inch from the inside edges of the table, and then again to the back, the same distance from the bottom.

With this massive article of furniture I thought two tables would be sufficient. The former I made of cardboard. I cut two rounds, one three inches in diameter, the other four inches. The larger round was for the top, and I covered it with some thick dark brown paper, resembling shark skin in texture. I steamed this off a broken paper case. Any other dark paper would do as well, or the table, when finished, might be painted or enameled, but I liked the rough surface of my paper, because it looked like wood—or so I fancied it might look to a child. Next I made four legs from straight strips of cardboard, three and three quarter inches long, covered them with the paper, folded them over twice to give them more substance, and gummed them to the larger round, half an inch from the edge, at equal distances, and by means of the paper, cut a little longer than the cardboard. These ends were all turned towards the center, and over them was placed the smaller round, and gummed down securely. Last of all I cut a strip of paper and gummed it upon the ribbon the same width and long enough to encircle the table. When dry I spread the inside, that is, the ribbon lining with gum, placed one end against a leg at its junction with the table, and drew it rather tightly around the other legs, and back again over the first, like a bandage. This made a finish to the table, and secured its firmness.

The other table is in imitation of a wicker five o’clock tea-table. I cut an oval top from a discarded sailor hat. The straw was smooth and the edge, and the edge of the wide brim was turned down, which was useful item in its subsequent history. I made the four legs for my table by cutting strips from the straightest part of the hat. These were about two inches wide and about five inches long. I rolled each one, sewed it up about four inches, and then cut across it, lying flat upon the oval top. To bring them into right position I cut another strip exactly the length of the table’s circumference, sewed it into a ring and encircled the legs with it, about half way down. I then fastened the legs to the table, and they stood firmly. Lastly I cut two little round shelves for the bread-and-butter plates from the part of the brim nearest the turned down edge, leaving a piece attached to each as a flap by which to secure it to the ring of straw around the legs.

I next made a writing cabinet from three match-boxes, first removing the drawers of two. Four little legs were necessary to set it up, and these I made from large wooden beads in the following manner. I took the match-box which held its drawer, and with a long needle, threaded with stout silk, I pierced down the first corner, and drew the silk tightly. Then I threaded on two big beads, and a small glass bead back through the large beads and the box, and then down the next corner, as close to the edge as I dared venture, without fear of breaking the box. When all the legs were thus attached, and the silk firmly secured, I gummed the three boxes together. Then I covered all but the front and top with the rough paper described above. I cut out a piece of brown glazed cardboard for the top, and made a row of little pigeon-holes for the back by bending a strip of the same across, gumming it to the sides, and slipping two tiny pieces of the attached to each. Another piece, still of the same brown cardboard, I cut to fit the back of the cabinet and to come up behind the pigeon-holes, and a tiny box above them. It was not complete except the drawers. I made knots for these before slipping them in their places, with three

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gold beads, each about the size of a grain of sago. The needle was passed through the inside of the drawer, the beads threaded on and the needle passed back. It was rather difficult to fasten the thread, as the matchwood is so brittle. I did not cover the drawers, as their natural yellow colour looks well with the brown.

So I will instruct you how to make a sofa. I made mine of cardboard, and covered it with blue plush. The seat is six and a half inches by two inches by two inches. The back is six inches by two inches by five inches. I made the back, and made arms for each end by rolling two strips of cardboard, stuffing them, and then covering the ends with strips of plush, finishing them all over with a band of plush, and a round the cardboard. Then I fastened them to the sofa, and threw across one a little antimacassar. This I will describe later on. I determined that we have variety in my chairs, so this is how I attained it.

No. 1 is very elaborate, of jet beads, strung on wire. I first made a square frame and four legs of copper-wire, twisted. I slipped the beads on the legs, and fastened the ends of the wire by turning them up with a pair of pincers. A square of cardboard, covered with old gold silk, was next sewn to the frame for the back. The material was contoured as follows: I had two gold-headed pins, these I threaded with jet and stuck them into the cardboard as the two main supports, bending their points firmly upon the back, and with two pinces, the supports of beads, threaded on wire, were next put between them. The wire started from the seat, passed up through the beads, back to the frame for an ornamental top, then passed down through the beads again and was fastened off beneath. The four supports were then bound together by two cross-pieces of cardboard, No. 1, and the arms, were firmly put, but to give further security little arms, were bound around the back as well, and brought to the front legs. For the same reason a cross-piece was put round the legs, half-way down. Lastly, a piece of silk was sewn under the seat to cover the ends of the wire, and a little cushion tossed on at the four corners.

No. 2 was made with gold beads and copper-wire, but less elaborately. Strands of fine gold beads were twisted round the frame of the back. The frame was simply two strips of copper-wire bent in an oval shape, one within the other, with the gilt strands twisted over them. The beads for the legs were the largest and the wider, and the chair No. 1, and the other was in the cabinet, etc. This chair had a blue plush seat.

No. 3 was a lady's easy-chair, of blue plush—the seat consisted of a lounging box. I first fastened on the seat, made each of a red wooden bead the size of a small cherry, and a gold bead to hold it on with, just as described in the writing-table. The box was then covered with plush, and stood one inch and three-quarters high on a floor. I cut a back of cardboard three inches and a half long, and rounded at the top, padded it and covered it with plush. It was then put on the chair and fastened to the back. This coarse straw when used will pull out straight. I cut two strips eleven inches long, bent them square, sewed each together, and then the ends to the other. This made a bottom of the chair, and I next sewed the back to the top row. The seat was easily framend by sewing strips of the straw together and fastening them on the ends. For the arms I made two strips at right angles, sewed one within the other, cut them to the required size, and fastened them to the back. Slipping the other ends between the seat and the bottom part of the chair, and stitching them down finished it; but I made a little yellow silk cushion for the back, embroidered with forget-me-nots, which brightened and made it look more comfortable.

No. 5 was a rocking-chair, made from the straw-lath which furnished me my tea-table. The seat was all unlike from flat brim, in a sort of wedge shape. Any curving-straw will answer the purpose, which is to give the seat a flat hanging down, and for the back, which being backless, the wedge-shaped pieces cut out—with their narrow ends only an inch smaller than those opposite, which had the flaps—I laid them face to face on the seat, and sewed them in such a way that the two back ones curved back and the front ones forward. The space between a front and back leg was three inches and a half. Two strips of cardboard, six inches and a half long, were next cut for the rockers and sewn into the loops. The difference of two inches made the curve, but as the chair was inclined to the back, the friction of the back, blackened, made it lose tension, and I turned it at an end of each back, making a loop with a projection of straw, fastened the loop to the strip, and then sewed each to the sides of the chair by loop stitch. I made two of these, so that I had two of them. I then cut out two triangular pieces of straw, rolled the edges of the bases, and sewed them. These were for the arms: I held one (with its edges turned inside) in the angle formed by the seat and back, and sewed it to both. The other arm was secured in the same way. Next I cut four strips from the brim of the hat, five inches long and one inch wide, and the back of the straw, six inches wide, and put it at the back, from one rocker across to the other just inside the loops, and found the balance compensated.

The chairs and tables now being completed, I turned my thoughts towards the final details. I had bought a small piano, quite a pretentious-looking semi-grand, with the splendid polished wood. It was inclined to the back, blackened, and had its top cut off. Its fatal drawback was that it possessed no legs, and these I proceeded to supply. Four empty rees were given me—not ordinary ornamental ones from a tailor, with narrow tops and spindles column. I black-varnished these and glued them to my piano, which now stood proudly on its four new legs. Two round cardboard, cut into the shape of a music-nick, was also black-varnished, and took it kindly. With an edge turned up and stiffened by the application of the varnish, and, being pushed between the front and top of the piano while wet, it became fast without further trouble.

The furniture of the room being now complete and put in place, I proceeded to manufacture the smaller articles, which more than anything gave the little apartment a look of being "the real thing." The mantel-piece looks all very well, so far as it went, but it would be perfect with a clock. And this is how I made it. I bought a penny watch as the preliminary move. Then I pro- provided the back of the mantel-shelf, over which, I put down the back to conceal the stitches of the binding, and a tiny clasp, cut from a child's cheap necklace, was sewn to the edges of the album. The picture having been cut out and placed on the book, was made.

And now, having come to the end of my resources, I spent a very little on ornaments for the room, or contributed some from my shelves and brackets. A couple of photographs for the wall were bound with gold paper, and several tiny midget frames had little landscapes, cut from Christmas cards, put in them; cornices for the mirrors and writing-table, and a pretty little lamp was suggestive of cheerful evenings. Other ornaments were set upon the brackets and table, a couple of cherubs from one about four inches high, completed the appearance of the mantel-shelf.

A tea-set on a little tray which looked like silver, and cost one penny, was now set out upon the table. The "cozy" for the teapot, a last thought, was made from a bit of blue quilted satin. All was now ready for the guests in the room to arrive, first, the mistress of the domain, was arrayed in a tea-gown; the second, a supposed visitor, appeared in a summer walking costume; and a maid, in a dress appropriate to the season, was called to attend upon the ladies gracefully seated near the tea-table, while the clock pointed to ten minutes past five!