



## The Appeal of the Primitive

Why do we love to have around us the things peasants have made for their own use?

Because these embody the wholly sincere and childlike expression of a simple joy in the beautiful things of life.

Read "SPRING—and The Peasant Cottage by the Shore," by Miss Elene Foster, if you want to understand the fascination that dwells in the primitive. (Tribune Institute, Page 6, Part IV.)

*Tyrol peasant chair from the Erskine-Danforth Corporation.*

This is a typical peasant chair,—as typical as the cat. It is of the Tyrol, as it happens, but it might as well be from Italy or Brittany,—or any country where home crafts are practised and where the craftsmen decorate their work as seems best to them.



*Dresser, tea table and candle stand from the Erskine-Danforth Corporation.*  
Sturdy and utilitarian in form, peasant furniture blossoms out with naively brilliant ornamentation that has the strong appeal of all that is cheerful, honest and primitive. The dresser here might have come from any farm kitchen in Brittany, Bavaria or Italy. Strongly built, painted dark oak color and decorated with a striking design in brilliant colors. Of the same order are the tea-table, with tray top, and small round candle stand.



*Bedroom furnished by the Erskine-Danforth Corporation.*

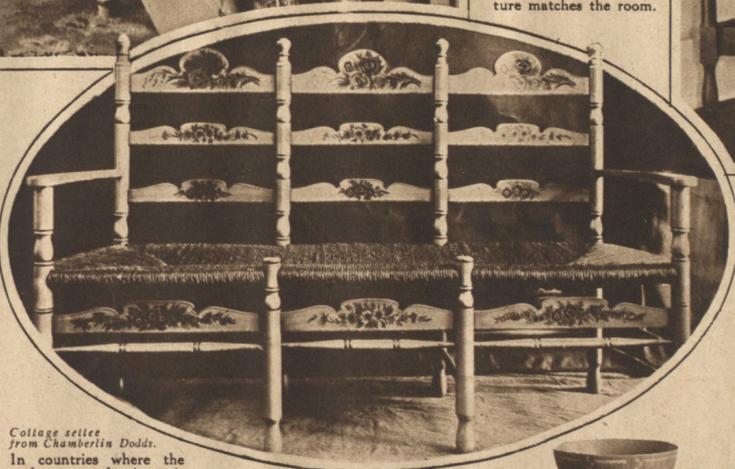
This alluring glimpse of a modern bedroom reminds one of a garden of spring flowers on a cloudy day. The walls, rug, furniture and background of the chintz hangings are in varying tones of soft gray, relieved by the gay flowers on the chintz and furniture. Most of the furniture shows the straight, simple lines so well liked in American homes, but a touch of quaintness is added by the four-poster twin beds, the Tyrolean peasant chair by the desk and the small mirror above the chiffonier.

*Corner cupboard from the Erskine-Danforth Corporation.*  
Corner cupboards are always with us, for they are the most useful little space-savers ever invented. But not all corner cupboards are equipped with a drop-leaf like a little apron, that in time of need can be raised into a very respectable small table. This cupboard is painted dark and stenciled with bright colors, but the design is eminently adaptable for any dining-room where the painted furniture matches the room.



*Old English glazed chintz.*

If you want to realize the full possibilities of the straight window blind, try mounting English glazed chintz on the spring roller instead of the customary heavy linen. The light comes through it with an effect much like stained glass, and it adds the last touch to the decorative scheme of a room. This piece shows rich tones of rose, green and blue against a background of golden tan.



*Cottage settle from Chamberlin Dodds.*

In countries where the real peasant furniture is found, this little round ornament on the top rail of a chair means that it is the priest's chair,—always to be dusted off hastily and set forward when His Reverence approaches the house. Just what it means on the back of this settle is not clear,—unless the priest is expected to occupy three seats for the greater honor. But the settle itself, with its fanciful rails and gay painted flowers, might well be the ornament of any bungalow living-room,—as its forbears were of the farmhouse keeping room.

*Table from the Erskine-Danforth Corporation.*  
This is a modern reproduction of an old peasant table and so well is it carried out, both in design and ornamentation, that it has all the character of peasant work. It is a drop-leaf dining-table, painted in dark oak and stenciled with a bold, brilliant design that looks as if it had grown in Italy.

