

From the Days of the Directory

these graceful chairs, tables and couches come across the sea to adorn the luxurious rooms of Twentieth Century America. For the whole story, see Miss Elene Foster's "Bedrooms of Today and Tomorrow," Page 8 of The Tribune Institute, Part IV of today's paper.



Directoire table and chairs from Chamberlin Dodds. This table is a triumph of the joiner's art. The round part at the top is made of hundreds of tiny bits of walnut, inlaid in herring-bone pattern and curved to form a perfect circle. The trimmings are gilt, and there is a delicate gilt rim around the circular marble slab on top. The chairs, which are also of walnut, are distinctly Directoire in type, as is shown by the gracious sweeping curve which extends from the top of the back to the front of the seat.



If Toile de Jouey like this was used in Directoire bedrooms, let us hope that the occupants thereof were not given to insomnia. Printed in dark purple, upon a white background,—a cheerful mingling of grave and gay, wild and pastoral. The shepherd pipes to his shepherdess and a collection of assorted domestic animals all sociably gathered in the graveyard. The hawk carries off its squirming quarry, while the survivors remain calmly oblivious. The hounds pull down the stag just outside the garden gate—and all on the hangings of your Directoire bed.

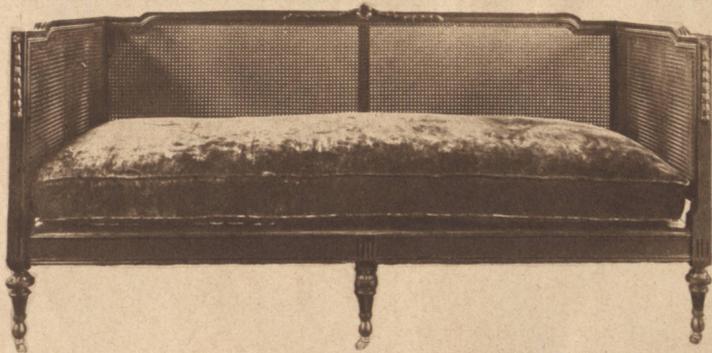
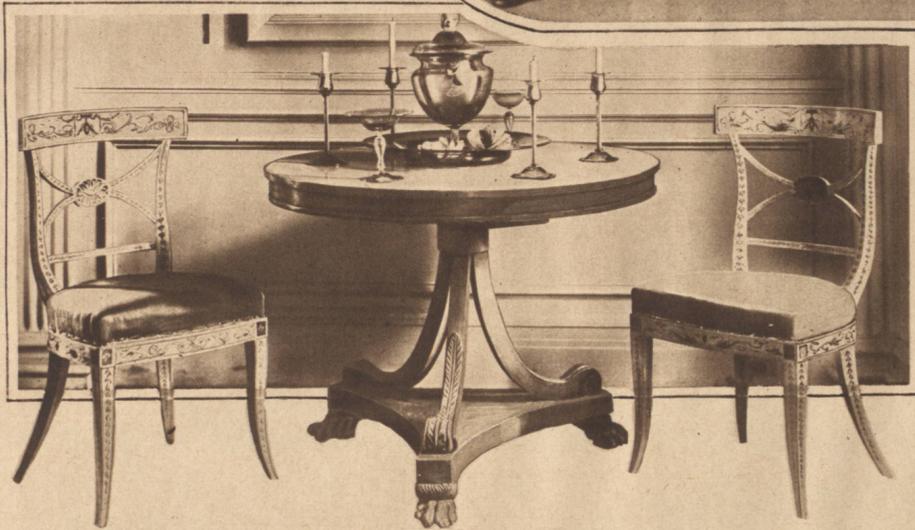
Directoire chairs and table from Chamberlin Dodds. These lovely old pieces are enough of themselves to justify the present craze for painted furniture built on eighteenth century lines. The table is painted in a dark reddish mauve, mellowed and deepened by time. The leaf ornaments on the standards and above the claw feet are of gilt. The chairs show the Chippendale lines, and the frames are painted in wonderful old greenish ivory tint, while the designs upon them are a mingling of Pergolesi and Angelica Kaufmann. The seats are upholstered in satin of a pale, milky green.



Day-bed from W. & J. Sloane. Neglige from Franklin Simon. This is the twentieth century day-bed,—a modern version of that graceful old contemporary of the *chaise longue*, and the fair damsel reclining upon it is just as unmistakably a product of her time. The day-bed occupies a prominent place and serves a useful purpose in the furnishings of the modern house, even as it did in the eighteenth century. Wholly Chippendale in its graceful outlines and wicker panels, this modern reproduction serves a double utilitarian purpose in providing a drawing-room settee which at any moment, in the event of an unexpected overflow of guests, can be utilized as an emergency bed.

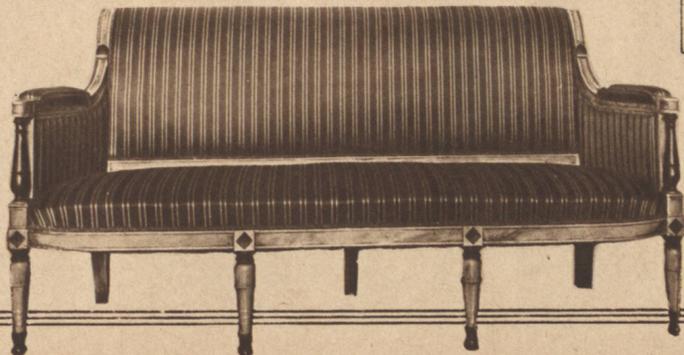


Bedroom desk from Herter Looms. This dainty bit of furniture belongs most definitely to the twentieth century. Also it belongs to the lovely bedroom pictured in the lower part of the page. It is an admirable example of modern painted furniture, being done in lavender and pink to suit the prevailing tones of the room. Pieces like this are made especially to suit the room in which they are to be placed, and are painted to harmonize with any color scheme.



Cane-seated day-bed from Chamberlin Dodds. This is an admirable modern reproduction of a day-bed of the time of Louis XVI. It is an exact copy of the original, and is made of walnut, with the gilt ornamentation that belongs to the Directoire period. It is long enough and deep enough to make a comfortable bed in case of need, and the big, soft velvet-covered mattress provides the most comfortable of lounging places during the day time.

Old Directoire sofa from Chamberlin Dodds. This charming sofa is no modern reproduction, but a real exile from France and a survivor of the art to which the days of the Directoire gave rise. Like so much of the furniture of this period, the frame is made of walnut, with gilt ornaments. The striped silk covering is what it originally wore in the palmy days when it was a part of the furnishings of some French palace or chateau.



Bedroom from Herter Looms. Twentieth Century American is the style of this exquisite bedroom, which is fully described in Miss Foster's article. The colors are soft, dull lavender, faded pink and pale gray. These appear in walls, rugs, draperies and furniture. Quite fittingly, the latter is all modeled on delicate eighteenth-century lines, which alone seem fitted to harmonize perfectly with the delicate colorings and restful atmosphere demanded by the most fastidious modern taste.

Console table from Chamberlin Dodds. This old walnut piece is Directoire, therefore its legs are straight and its lines symmetrical, while the gilt of its ornamentation is severely restrained within the limits of good taste. Many atrocities have been perpetrated in the name of the console, but one can see how this style would fit in exquisitely with the best modern ideas of furnishing.



A piece of characteristic English chintz. There is no chintz like English chintz, and the modern decorator is its prophet. This piece is so characteristic that it is a shame we cannot reproduce it in all its rich, mellow coloring. The groundwork is deep ivory, upon which are dazlingly brilliant bunches of the flowers that grow in any English garden. This is the sort of chintz that might have hung in any one of the little rooms that were always around a corner or down a passage in "Bleak House." You find it today in English country houses, as firmly rooted in the national ideal of home comfort and cheer as it was when George the Third was king.

