



INTERIOR VIEW OF DINING ROOM.

The residence designed and carried out by the architect, Mr. B. Hooper, A.R.I.B.A., for himself at Roslyn Dunedin. The joists and beams are all solid and genuine parts of the construction of the building. Oregon timber, stained and oiled, has been used for interior finish, while the walls have been treated with two shades of Hall's "Distemper." We illustrate the dining-room.

desired in their original colour, and on work that contains marqueterie or inlaid woods. I can find no record as to who actually secured the prize thus offered, but the general principle of refining shellac as now used was that propounded by Elgar Andes, of Vienna.

(To be continued.)

Brick Arches.

It is usual in so-called "straight," "flat," or "camber" gauged arches (the terms are applied indifferently) to cut and rub the intrados or soffit ends of the bricks to a slight curve to counteract the appearance of sagging, or bending down that all horizontal lines over voids appear to have. This is called, for convenience, an optical illusion, but is in reality merely due to the association of ideas. Persons familiar with building are so accustomed to see upturned curves or arches over voids, and have come to associate this in the mind with strength, that the absence of it appears to convey weakness. A perfectly straight beam always appears to say so to me, but I have asked various people not accustomed to them, and they have all replied "No"; so I



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take it that it is not an optical illusion, but, as I say, merely the association of an idea we are familiar with. It is not advisable to camber the extrados or top part of the arch, because the bed joints of the course immediately over it would appear crippled, if it were so. A true arch should, of course, have its edges parallel curves, otherwise increased stresses result. A gauged straight arch is merely an ornamental feature in a building, and should not carry any great weight, that is, anything greater than can be resisted by the cement joints, because such an arch is really a lintel or brick beam and has no constructive strength apart from the adhesive properties of the joints; therefore there is, or should be, no settlement to provide against.



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