

brown wood, covered all over with gold marks and figures. There were two large doors in front, and when these were opened you saw twenty-four little drawers inside. We were allowed to take these drawers out one by one and look at all the things in them. There were Chinese paintings on rice paper, pictures of birds and fishes and flowers, and very wonderful ladies with long eyes and scarcely any feet at all, bowing and smiling to gentlemen with tails to their hair and little buttons on the tops of their heads. There were flowers made of the tiniest, daintiest white shells, and other flowers made of humming-birds' feathers, and others again made of spun glass, like silk. There were bags of Japanese embroidery, covered all over with stitches so small that you could not see them properly without a magnifying-glass; and pieces of coral, red, pink and white, which Lucy's sailor papa had brought from the South Seas, and shells of all the colours of the rainbow, and little cars drawn by elephants, cut out of a single piece of ivory. There were idols, too, made of gold and silver, and models of heathen temples, and pagodas with bells hanging to their roofs, and many, many other curious things which I cannot tell you about just now.