

THE GARDEN NUMBER

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THE FEBRUARY ISSUE WILL BE

THE ANNUAL GARDEN NUMBER

This issue will be devoted entirely to the Garden—will tell you just what to do and when—a series of letters from the leading **Nurserymen** and **Seedsmen** giving practical advice based on their personal experience as to how to obtain the very best results in the garden. The advice contained in these letters will prove of inestimable value not only to the amateur but the professional gardener as well.

The many letters of inquiry and complaint regarding planting and the poor results obtained in this line which have been received by **House and Garden** during the last year or two, determined us to find for our readers a satisfactory explanation of these failures and secure for them the advice of practical specialists.

This we have succeeded in doing and the letters which we will publish in their entirety, will be timely and distinctly valuable, setting forth as they do, theories which have been proven and facts which are indisputable.

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FURNACE POINTERS

PROPER placing of the registers in the rooms as regards the exterior openings, such as windows and doors, after taking into consideration the direction of the prevailing winds in winter and also with some consideration of the length of pipe required in the cellar to reach the riser, is a prime consideration. Badly placed and too small registers account for more than fifty per cent of furnace troubles.

Second, the furnace must be properly placed in the cellar and the pipes leading to the risers must not only be proportioned to the size of rooms to be supplied, but also to the length of run in the cellar and the amount of rise which can be given them; the longer the run and lower the rise the larger the pipe.

A third item is that the opening which is to supply fresh air, whether taken from the basement or, what is preferable, from the outside, must be of at least threequarters the capacity of all the pipes leading from the furnace, the other twenty-five per cent being a rough allowance for the expansion of air brought in cold and raised to ninety or 100 degrees. The cold air duct, preferably a galvanized iron pipe of heavy weight, should be carried above ground, so as to avoid any chance of evaporating any seepage water, but not alongside the furnace, where it may become warm and set up a "back draft."

It will readily be appreciated that furnace heating is an art, not a science, and even the most successful occasionally make mistakes .- New York Herald.

EEL-GRASS AS AN INSULATING AND DEAFENING MATERIAL

THE "Old Pierce House," at Dorchester, Mass., is an admirably preserved specimen of the earliest New England architecture, and a monument to the solid and substantial building of our forefathers. Built in 1635, it has never been owned or occupied by any but a lineal descendant of its builder, the present owner being of the eighth generation from the original Robert Pierce. Some time ago, in making repairs, it became necessary to open the walls of this ancient structure, when they were found to be stuffed, between the studding, with eel-grass, placed there, no doubt, for more complete protection

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from the rigorous climate of the New World. Notwithstanding the almost innumerable alternations from dry to damp and damp to dry to which it must have been subjected during the more than two and a half centuries that it has remained in these walls, this eel-grass was found to be in a perfect state of preservation. The walls of the "Babcock House," at Milton, Mass., built 1723, are similarly packed with eel-grass, which is also untouched by decay. The cause of this preservation, so remarkable when we compare it with the quick decay of the herbaceous growths of the air, is found in the chemical constitution of the eel-grass, which contains silicon in place of the carbon of common grasses; and this also accounts for the fact that the eel-grass is not inflammable. In this connection it may be well to observe that the presence in the eel-grass of a large percentage of iodine, common to all seaplants, renders it free from the attacks of moths and vermin, to destruction by which wool felts and all other materials of animal origin are peculiarly subject. The long, flat blades of eel-grass, crossing each other at every angle, form the innumerable minute dead air spaces which give to it most of its great insulating power; and their elasticity contributes the resilience which furnishes the rest.-American Architect and Building News.

ENGLAND'S SMALLEST CHURCH

MUCH of Lady Wentworth's childhood was spent at the Lovelace country seat at Ashley Combe, near Porlock, Somersetshire. Ashley Combe theoretically is rated as a village, but Lovelace Castle and the houses of the tenantry who minister to its needs are the only buildings for miles around. The castle stands on the side of a hill, looking out over the Bristol Channel, and the estate stretches for miles along the steepcliffed shore and back over the downs into the country Richard Blackmore made the setting for his "Lorna Doone" -the Doone Valley, Dunkery Beacon and Bagworthy Water. Within the borders of the estate is Ashley Combe Church, the smallest church in England. It is complete in every detail with a rudely carved altar cut from a single block of granite; a tiny chancel separated from the body of the church by an oak chancel screen so old that it is

tied together in places to prevent it falling apart; the Lovelace family pew, a high-sided, box-like arrangement, all of black oak and cushionless; behind this a half dozen pews, each seating three persons, on either side of the narrow aisle, and then the diminutive belltower over the font beside the entrance. The whole building is barely sixty feet long.

LEADING NATIONS IMPORT MUCH LUMBER

FEW people have the slightest conception just how important a part timber and unmanufactured wood play in the trade between the world's great nations, and doubtless it is news to many to learn that the lumber importations of the various countries amount to \$285,-600,000. This is according to estimates for the whole world compiled by Dr. Ernest Friedrich, of the German commercial high school at Leipzig.

Notwithstanding the fact that it finds its own supply dwindling, the United States furnishes about twenty per cent of the lumber imported by other countries. Austria-Hungary furnishes nineteen per cent, Russia sixteen per cent, Canada thirteen per cent, Sweden eighteen per cent, and Norway and Roumania a small quantity.

The countries importing wood are those on the highest economical plane, which were themselves in earlier times densely wooded, but whose forests have been denuded to a greater or less extent to make room for agriculture and other industries, says Vice-Consul James L. A. Burrell, of Magdeburg, in a report to this government. Only four per cent of the territory of Great Britain is covered with forests, and during the year 1906 that country imported lumber to the value of \$135,561,750. Germany has still twenty-six per cent of its territory covered by forests, but imported in 1906 lumber valued at \$61,285,000. Belgium and the Netherlands, that have but eight per cent forest lands, Denmark, that has seven per cent, France and Switzerland, with a small percentage, are all compelled to import lumber.

Besides these countries, those lands lying on the dry western side of the subtropical zone lacking forests are forced to import wood. Egypt imports wood and coal to the value of about \$16,660,-000 annually; Algeria, Tunis, Spain,

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Portugal (with only three per cent forest land), Italy, Greece (with nine per cent forest land), the eastern part of Asia, British South Africa, the western part of Chile and Peru, the Argentine Republic, and Australia, all poor in wood, are dependent upon import.

THE SO-CALLED " ALASKA" WHEAT

THE United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, has issued the following circular:

A variety of wheat, under the name of "Alaska," is being widely advertised as capable of yielding at the rate of 200 bushels to the acre, "under ordinary soil conditions." and even better, "under extra conditions." It is stated that this variety was found growing wild on the eastern coast of Alaska, and claims of the most extravagant nature are made for it. In consequence of this notoriety, the department is receiving many requests for seed.

This type of wheat has been known for many years, both in this country and in Europe. It has been tried at several State experiment stations in the Western United States during the past fifteen years, but nowhere have the yields been big enough to merit attention. The wheat has grown to a very limited extent on certain heavy undrained soils in France for many years. In such locations it is said to yield rather better than ordinary wheat; but, as it is one of the poorest wheats known for making flour, it is never grown where the ordinary varieties of wheat will thrive.-Home and Farm.

HEFT YOUR HENS

HENS, being clothed in feathers, have at times a deceptive appearance. For instance, a flock of hens may look uniform in weight, yet such might not be the case. If they have been always treated in a kind and gentle manner, it is sometimes possible at feeding time to pick up a hen here and there; by this means it is easy to tell whether there is much variation in weight. Some hens may be light, others surprisingly heavy. It is well to keep a watch on the last and see if they are laying well. If such is not the case, it would be best to dispose of them or kill them for the table. A hen that is too fat is a source of loss if kept

in the flock, for she takes up room and consumes feed that might go toward a more active hen that would be a good layer.

If one cannot catch the hens readily at feeding time, it is best to go to the roosts and lift them, one by one, replacing them carefully. This method will at once reveal which are the heaviest. It will be very little trouble if done in a gentle way. It won't do, however, to scare the hens by awkward or rough treatment and get the whole house in a turmoil. Trap nests are fine things to have in helping decide about the heavy hens as layers, but if one is a close observer and knows his fowls well, they are not necessary.

Sometimes in testing the hens in this manner some may prove extra light in weight. It may be best in that case to shut these up by themselves, if good hens, and feed them a little more heavily than the rest of the flock until they have regained their weight. If, however, a hen proves to be very light, seemingly weighing only about as much as the feathers would, there is nothing that can be done for her. She has the disease called "going light," and the quicker she is killed and buried the better. It is fortunate, however, that this trouble is rather rare.

A hen now and then will show at once to the eye that she is too fat. Such a bird should be disposed of at once, for she will not lay, or if she does lay an egg now and then, it will be abnormal in size, either very small or very large, such as one with a double yelk. In taking the trouble to learn the relative weight of the hens one will know just how to treat them.—H. E. Haydock, in The Country Gentleman.

ROSE GROWING IN CALIFORNIA

THE growing of roses of all varieties in commercial quantities has not been a great success on the Pacific coast during the years that have passed in the history of the nursery business. Multiplied thousands of young plants have been bought of propagators in the East, lined out in nursery rows, grown a year, then sold to planters; while other thousands have been sent to amateur growers directly by mail. The transportation charges are usually about as much as the original cost of the plants and packing; in one case the writer



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THE ALCOLM believes that America's greatness has been achieved not because of our politician-ridden form of government, but in spite of it; that the great corporations of the country to-day represent the genius of our civilization, spell the secret of our progress and measure the standard of our prosperity. It believes that the menace of the country to-day is the political demagogue — and it recognizes few politicians who do not fall in this class. It believes that the line of development has been sharply deflected from the trend of politics, and that the great corporations, the trusts, represent to-day all that is greatest and best in America's world of affairs.

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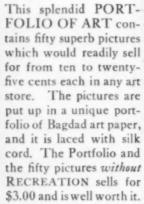
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knows of they were twice as much as the plants cost, because of the heavy material used to make the boxes. One nurseryman near this city bought 30,000 of this class of stock from Ohio to grow into large plants. When rooted and established, no locality in the world produces bushes so large nor flowers so fine as does California. Banksia plants may be seen in this State with bodies eighteen inches in diameter, with tops completely covering two storied houses, Lamarque, the Cherokees and Mme. Alfred Carriere about half as large. A bush of this last named variety, trained in tree form, had a top of ten feet spread with a trunk twelve inches in diameter at the base.

The difficulty has been in rooting the cuttings in sufficient numbers to meet the demand for plants. The low relative humidity has seemed to be the problem to solve. It is true that working on manetti stocks, the cuttings of which root readily, is practiced by many of our nurserymen, but it is a laborious and slow process which so increases the cost of production that they cannot compete with Eastern growers of glass house stock, who sell at least ten plants to Pacific coast planters for every one disposed of by our own growers. Then again, budded stock is not in favor because of the tendency of the stock to sucker and crowd out the bud.

All sorts of methods have been resorted to by nurserymen with varying degrees of success, and the problem after years of toil and experiments has been successfully solved by C. E. Howland, president and manager of the California Rose Company, Pomona. At present they have twelve acres solid devoted to roses one year old, and a beautiful sight it is to see that field in full bloom. They have 400,000 cuttings in frames with a 98 per cent strike, and are at work now on the last 100,000 batch to complete their half million for the year.

The method employed is simple but requires the closest attention to details from the making of the cutting to the hardening off process. Hotbeds of manure 18 inches deep are covered with two inches of soil, then with clean sand to a depth of three inches. The frames are covered with sash which are kept closed night and day, except to syringe the stock every morning, and then but one sash is lifted at a time, until the plants are rooted when the hardening off

process is begun. When this is finished the little plants are exposed to our bright sunlight and left in the beds until the following March or April, then lined out in rows. The shading of these frames is unique and peculiar. A burlap covering is stretched on poles about eight feet above them, and blinds of the same material are let down on the east side the first part of the day, on the west side the last part of the day. The frames are but six feet apart and each one has its own shades. The glass is kept clean to admit all the light that comes through the shading. The beds are sunken in the soil instead of being elevated above it .- P. D. Barnhart, in Florists' Exchange.

A GIANT MOTH TRAP

N Europe, as well as in America, this is a remarkable year for insect pests. In Saxony they are suffering from a plague of caterpillars, which are destroying many of the forest trees. These caterpillars come from the eggs of a brown moth, which an electric-light trap has been devised to catch. This consists of two large and powerful reflectors placed over a deep receptacle, and powerful exhaust fans. The whole has been erected on top of the municipal electric plant at Zittau. At night two great streams of light are thrown from the reflectors on the wooded mountainsides half a mile distant. The results, according to a press despatch, have been astonishing. The moths, drawn by the brilliancy, come fluttering in thousands along the broad rays of light. When they get to a certain distance from the reflectors the exhaust fans take up their work, and with powerful currents of air swirl them down into the receptacle. On the first night no less than three tons [?] of moths were caught.-The Country Gentleman.

CONCRETE TELEGRAPH POLES

THE Pennsylvania Railroad Company has erected on a long stretch of its right of way between Pittsburgh and Chicago concrete telegraph poles to replace the usual wooden poles. An exposed section has been purposely selected to test the ability of the concrete pole to withstand high winds and most unusual conditions. — The American Architect

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GROWING ASTERS AND DAHLIAS

EIGHT years ago I was laid up with nervous dyspepsia, and took up growing flowers as a hobby. I have been selecting and improving them ever since.

After about three years my stuff began to attract local attention, until now I can sell at good prices everything I can grow. I have selected common asters until I have them at present in small bud (not showing color) standing forty inches high and some stems thirty inches long. These flowers ought to measure five inches across. I have only two colors that I have grown as large as this, as these have been worked on the longest; my other colors are about eight inches behind and probably four inches across for the best.

I am within three miles of three large nurseries, and to see the way they grow seed is a surprise to any one who knows the value of selection. They all grow asters as you would grow wheat; leave every blossom and don't pinch one bud or root out one plant—everything goes. What can you expect from that work?

I am growing asters, candytuft, gladioli and dahlias. These bulb plants show profit from both ends. I have 12,000 blooming gladioli out and 1,800 dahlias. Gladioli have shown \$200 returns in blossoms on one acre. Dahlias will go this fall at twenty cents per dozen on home market, two cents each in Cleveland, and I can cut 450 to 1,000 per day to the acre. Asters-my best-bring sixty cents per dozen down to thirty cents for the smaller sorts. I have had on my place no less than 250 sorts of dahlias; of these, I am growing for cutting but ten kinds; am trying this year sixty kinds, of these I shall probably keep two.

For my use I look for—Ist, color; 2d, shipping qualities; 3d, stem; 4th, early blooming; 5th, strong plant. Asters from my best seed will bring to those within reach (or sixty to one hundred miles with morning trains) of the city market at least \$800 per acre. I have realized at the rate of \$1,300 per acre.

My seed is all grown under canvas and only two blossoms to the plant. My dahlias are weeded clear of yellow centers, limp stems, weak plants, etc. The gladioli are cleaned of all poor stuff as fast as I spot it; so you see I couldn't sell this stuff at nursery prices.

No farmer is making the most of his opportunities when he overlooks the

growing of out-door flowers. Their day is fast coming in this country.-R. E. Huntington, in The Country Gentleman.

DYING VILLAGES

"HE Oyster Bay Pilot reports a story that the New Bedford (whaling bark Andrew Hicks recently killed in the Arctic a whale in whose blubber was imbedded a harpoon iron of the old bark Alice, of Cold Spring, L. I. The Alice was "one of the famous vessels of the Cold Spring fleet, and in her voyage to this port brought home whale products aggregating a value of over \$150,000."

That was long ago. Cold Spring has now neither whaling fleet nor any other industry. Since its flourishing summer hotel was bought and torn down by a wealthy land-owner it has been a dying village, without any industries, cramped in its growth by the country estates about it.

Fortunate are those villages near New York that have not become fashionable. These only retain their sturdy, selfsufficient village life. Some hamlets are entirely extinct, like Lakeville, erased to make a millionaire's pleasure park; some are restricted in their growth, like Great Neck and Manhassett; some like Greenwich and Tarrytown, have found to their cost that 500-acre and 5,000-acre "estates" do not pay as much taxes as the same area in half-acre homes; some have become mere castle-gate appendages of local Lady Bountifuls, whose imitation of English country life is not complete without peasants to bow to them and a made-to-order poverty to alleviate. In others the selfish summer residents fight and usually thwart every effort to start village factories that may give employment to local labor.

The appreciation of country life is an excellent thing in the rich; but the 1,000acre estate within forty minutes' motorcar run of Wall Street cramps or crushes the suburban village and interferes with the proper growth of the city itself .--New York World.

The Colorado Douglas spruce, Pseudotsuga Douglasii is quite hardy in the Northern Atlantic States, but not so the one from Oregon and Washington. New Mexico and Arizona also give a hardy type, the tree flourishing there in the mountain regions.

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Editor

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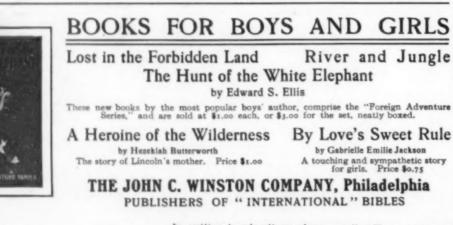
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AN ALLEGED PROTOTYPE OF THE VENUS DE MILO

SINCE Melos first yielded up its priceless treasure of the world-famed Venus de Milo, now in the museum of the Louvre at Paris, it has been the dream and despair of sculptors of every nation on the face of the globe to restore the arms that are wanting to the statue. It would appear that the problem created by the absence of these two arms is about to be set at rest through the discovery by the eminent French archæologist, Santorin, during the course of his excavations in Greece, of an antique statue, which, though wanting the head, is declared to be in other respects an exact replica of the Venus de Milo plus the arms .-- N. Y. Times.

A NEW SWINDLE

A NEW swindle is reported from Algona, Iowa, as being worked on the farmers there.

A well-dressed chap, wearing glasses, went through the country, stopped at several places and stated that he was authorized to test cows for tuberculosis. He then went on with the test, or mock test, perhaps, and told the farmer that ten of his fourteen cows, the pick of the herd, were tubercular and that he should dispose of them. The farmer felt pretty badly over the matter and asked if he should kill them. The fellow said he need not kill them, but if he got a chance to sell them to some one who would take them out of the state he might do that and get something out of them. The fellow then went on to test other herds. It was the second day after this incident that an elderly man came along looking for cows that were for sale. He came to this farmer and stated what he wanted; the farmer was anxious to sell those ten cows and let the stranger have the cows at \$15 to \$16 a head. The buyer took them off, and then the farmer and his neighbors began to think that perhaps the young man and the old man were in some way connected with each other .- The Country Gentleman.

In the japonica section of *Hydrangea Hortensia*, which contains those with flat heads of flowers, two of them, the Imperatrice Eugenie and acuminata, are very good ones. The former is rose colored, the latter blue.

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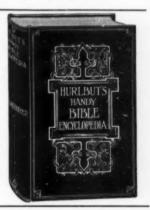
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HOUSE-BUILDING IN SIAM

CURIOUS method of housebuilding is practised in Siam. When the soothsayer has found a suitable spot for the site of a house, and declared it in every way felicitous, the family who wish to build a house gather together the necessary materials, then invite all their relatives and friends. On the day fixed, all these arrive in a crowd armed with picks, bill-hooks, knives, hatchets and saws. Some dig the holes in which to plant the supports, others cleave the bamboo or prepare the woodwork. Before night the light habitation is completed, but everything is uneven, notably the steps, the windows and the doors. The columns are ornamented with red and white rags, which are supposed to bring happiness; the unevenness of doors and windows is supposed to avert the coming of evil spirits. -Illustrated Carpenter and Builder.

DANCE MUSIC IN BUILDING OPERA-TIONS

THERE is a moral in the following anecdote related by Tit-Bits which we commend to the attention of enterprising band-masters, organ-grinders and builders who are behind time on contracts. This story is told of an eccentric Hastings parson: One day, on visiting the belfry, he found a whitewasher whistling a dance tune as he worked. The parson reproved him sharply for choosing such music for such a place. "Beg your pardon, sir," said the man, "but I forgot where I was," and then to show he was sorry he started whistling the "Old Hundredth." His hand, however, kept with the music, and so the "Old Hundredth' made the whitewash brush go wonderfully slow. "Oh, get back to your dance tune," the old parson shouted, "or the job'll never be done!"

VALUE OF THE SWEET PEPPER BUSH

ALL who are acquainted with shrubs know how bare of flowers most collections of them are in August and September. It is but a few of the later flowering sorts that bloom then; and were it not for the wealth of flowers displayed by annuals, perennials and bedding plants the paucity of shrub blooms would be more noticed than it is. A shrub often overlooked is the sweet (Continued on page 14.)



THE GARDENS OF THE MISSIONS

T this festival season, when throughout the North and East the land is wrapped in a blanket of white and vegetation is taking a rest, it is delightful to wander in gardens of green, amid a blaze of color and among citrus trees hanging heavy with their golden fruit. Among such gardens those about the old Missions of California afford much interest. The earliest of these was planted in 1769 by Father Serra, his coadjutors and their bands of neophytes. Mr. Charles Frederick Holder, than whom there is none more intimately acquainted with the history of the missions, writes most entertainingly of them, and of the vines, plants and trees with which the gardens were planted, many of which had been brought with loving care and tender regard through long and tedious journeys from old Mexico and even from Spain. During succeeding years these gardens and the missions themselves have passed through many vicissitudes and consequent disintegration and decay. Now, however, they are being restored, and will soon bloom and blossom as in the olden days, when the Fathers walked therein and dreamed of the Mother Country and of the vastness of the work before them.

SENTIMENT AND SYMBOLISMS OF CHRISTMAS GREENS

Why decorations of cedar and fir, of box, holly, mistletoe and laurel came to be so universal and how the giving of gifts and the singing of carols at Christmas time became established customs form a long and stormy history. Marie von Tschudi says "Poet and antiquary have united to praise and do it reverence, and sentiment and symbolism have fought side by side for this wearing of the green." She takes us over the long road of history which gave them to us and tells us the most interesting points of the story.

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS IN CHRISTIAN COUNTRIES

As the manner of observing Christmas differs in different countries as each race or nationality differs from the other, an infinite variety is therefore imparted to the celebration of this most sacred of all Christian days. H. M. Phelps describes some of the characteristic customs associated with this holiday in England, Germany, Italy, Spain, France, Russia and in Switzerland, Norway and Australia.

A MODEL RESTAURANT IN BERLIN

Mr. William Mayner contributes an interesting description of the workings "behind the scenes" as it were, of this great Berlin restaurant, "Kempinski's." The illustrations accompanying the short article show not only the many dining halls of the establishment but also the halfdozen kitchens and serving-rooms, as well as special departments where food is being prepared by wholesale to supply the six to ten thousand daily guests.

ARRANGING CUT FLOWERS ARTISTICALLY

William S. Rice claims that to be able to arrange cut flowers artistically one must possess a sympathetic quality for the growth or "gesture of the plant," or an intuitive feeling for the art of grouping or composing. That few people possess these qualifications, accounts for the too frequent failure of such decorations in our homes. Few of us give thought as to how the flowers grew on the parent plant or whether the vase or other receptacle is harmonious in form and color with the flowers it holds. The Japanese can teach us how to catch the real spirit of nature in our decorative uses of cut flowers.

DECORATIVE DETAIL IN A FRENCH APARTMENT HOUSE

Refinement of detail for decorative uses receives little attention from the average American architect, whether from lack of time or patience or ability. In the illustrations shown the most minute detail seems to have been most carefully considered, the result being beautiful and satisfying. The work is by M. Eugene Chifflot, of Paris, France. It is described and discussed by Frances B. Sheafer.

THE COUNTRY CLUBS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

At this season of the year when the Eastern golf links are deserted, the far Western golf courses lure the enthusiast, for there is no cessation there in the play. The midwinter is when the season is at its height and to meet this inrush of visitors every city, town or village boasts of its country or out-of-doors club. Day Allen Willey gives information about many of the better ones, and that the reader may be better informed gives numerous illustrations of them.

THE PRACTICAL USE OF THERMOMETERS

Samuel K. Pearson, Jr., of the Climatological Service of the Weather Bureau, contributes an instructive paper on the proper temperature which should be maintained in the several parts of the house. The indoor atmospheric conditions are considered and the amount of humidity proper for specified degrees of temperature is discussed. This article was announced for the December issue but was crowded out.



pepper bush, Clethra alnifolia, which makes its display from the close of July until early September. It is sometimes met with, but rarely seen at its best, because it is not planted in wet grounda position it prefers to all others. When on dry ground the flower spikes are but half the size they attain when it is well suited; besides this, the leaves are not nearly of as healthy an appearance. It is a native shrub, found on the borders of lakes and pools; and its presence is made known often before the plant is seen by the fragrance of its flowers. These flowers are white and are borne in spikes resembling in shape those of the spiræas-Florists' Exchange.

SAVING ELM TREES

CITY Forester Clarke of Northampton, Mass., says that boiling water is the best remedy for the elm leaf beetle.

They can be destroyed by simply spraying them with boiling water. This kills them instantly and does not injure the trees. No scraping off of solid bark should be done, as it removes the tree's winter protection and is of no use whatever, as the beetles fly, the worms crawl, and the pupæ or yellow, half-formed beetles seem to have a sort of snail power to also get down to the ground in enormous numbers, and if not scalded to death are soon complete beetles, which live throughout the winter.—*The Country Gentleman*.

THE TOMB OF RENE OF ANJOU

KING RENE'S body was recently exposed by an accident in the cathedral at Angers. In repairing the choir, workmen broke through the roof of a vault in which were two coffins. The wooden cases had rotted away, and the leaden cover of the one containing the old king of Naples and Duke of Lorraine and Anjou had been torn off. The skeleton had a crown of thin gold about its head, and in its hands the scepter and globe, which, being of bronze, had turned green. The other coffin, containing his wife, Queen Isabella of Lorraine, was intact and was not disturbed. After the inspection the vault was sealed up again. Over it there was formerly a splendid tomb, destroyed in 1794, but the vault escaped injury, in consequence of the woodwork and stalls concealing it.-Exchange.

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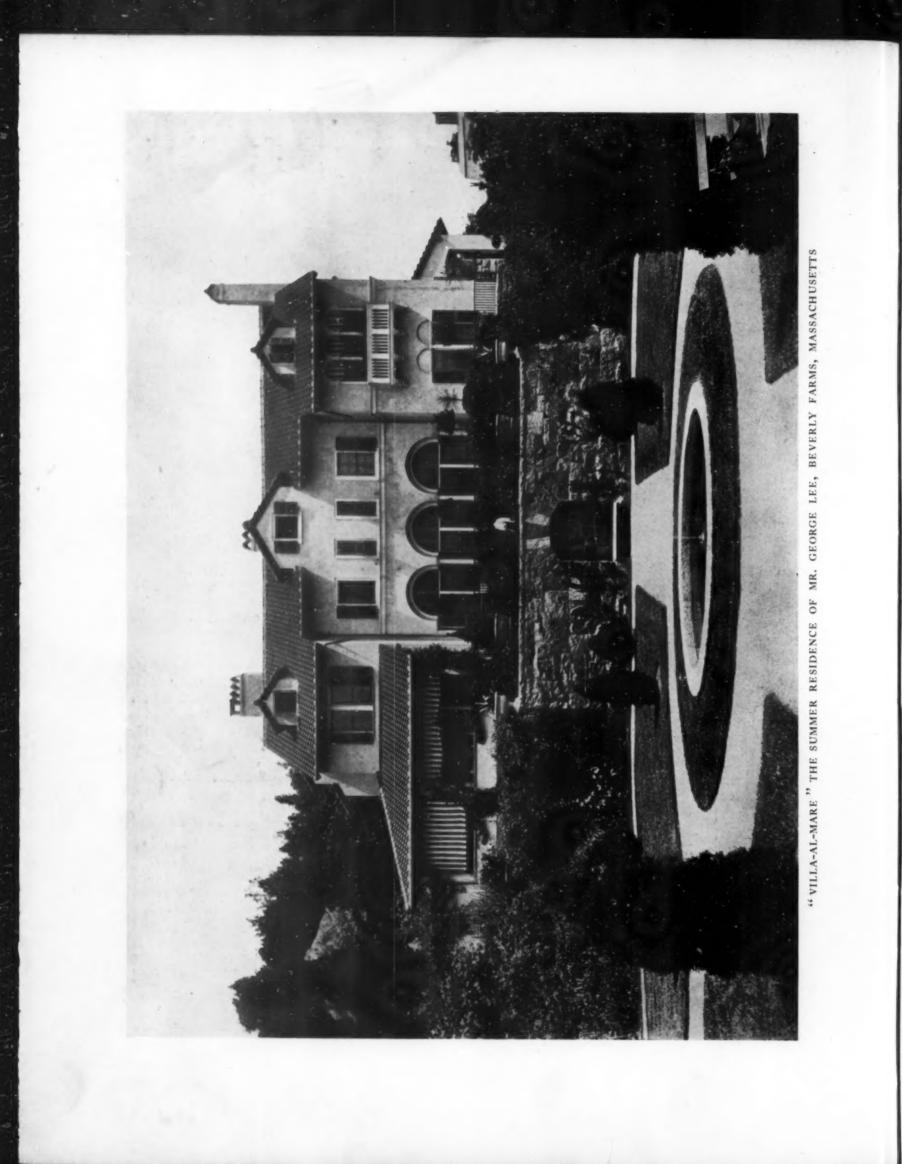
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VOL. XIV

DECEMBER, 1908

No. 6

"VILLA-AL-MARE"

The Summer Home of Mr. George Lee, at Beverly Farms, Mass.

By MARY H. NORTHEND

A DRIVE on a pleasant summer's day along the north shore of Massachusetts Bay, from Beverly to Magnolia, discloses a veritable panorama of beautiful pictures to the eye of the appreciative beholder.

Driving slowly along, one passes through a stretch of shady woodland, coming out upon a roadway, to the right of which sparkle the blue waters of old ocean. Farther along, a precipitous crag looms up unexpectedly on the right, while to the left lie sunny meadows, bordered by shadowy pine trees. Still farther on is a prospect of sandy beach and grassy woodland, on one side, while on the other, the eye is attracted by gently sloping hills, covered with stately, wide-spreading old trees. Everywhere is seen this combination of sea and and, and everywhere, too, are to be found houses, varying in type of architecture from the simple cottage to the pretentious mansion. They are, for the most part, ensconced in the heart of the woods, or erected on rocky headlands that border on the ocean, and are rarely plainly discernible from the roadside; a graveled driveway entrance, ornamented on either side by stone or granite gate posts, alone betraying their presence within. Glimpses of gables and towers, balconies and broad verandas are often obtainable from between the trees, and they give a hint of the beauties that lie hidden beyond.

About a third of a mile beyond the Beverly Farms railroad station, one comes upon the crossroads, to



THE GARDEN AND STABLE

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THE LIVING-ROOM LOOKING INTO THE MUSIC-ROOM

the left of which is noticed a stone wall, along the top of which extends a latticed rail, which partially conceals a most attractive home in the Italian style of architecture. This is "Villa-al-Mare," the summer residence of Mr. George Lee, a member of the firm of Lee, Higginson & Company, well-known Boston bankers.

Mr. Lee's father, Colonel Henry C. Lee, was one of the four pioneer summer residents of this now famous resort. He erected a home here, more than sixty years ago, a short distance from where "Villa-al-Mare," now stands.

At the time Mr. Lee purchased the land which his charming summer residence now occupies, it was a most forlorn looking spot; in fact, it was a sand pit, which had been excavated until it had become unsightly. No expense was spared in its transformation, and that the outlay of money was well worth while, is attested by the fact that to-day there is no more artistic or charming place along the Shore than this picturesque Italian villa, and its attractive grounds.

The house has a stucco finish, with a red tiled roof and was designed by W. G. Rantoul, architect, of Boston. It stands back from the main road, on a slight elevation, and commands a magnificent view of the nearby ocean, dotted here and there with the white sails of various crafts. In the distance is Misery Island, the mecca of sea-lovers, and the site of many interesting bungalows, one of the most attractive of which is owned by Mr. Lee, and is known as "Ye Court of Hearts." The little steam launch that constantly plies its way between the island and shore is plainly discernible, as is West Beach, a favorite bathing place of the younger members of the exclusive set.

Passing between ornamental gate posts, up a short flight of stone steps, and along a circuitous path, bordered on either side by velvety lawns and great masses of shrubbery, one comes to the entrance front of the house, where, mounting a few more steps, he finds himself within a quaint, pillared porch, ornamented by pretty bay trees set in artistically chiseled Italian marble pots.

The broad entrance door opens directly into the hallway, which is not large, but is most attractive. Magnificent tapestries and beautiful paintings adorn the walls, and on all sides are mementos of sunny Italy, with which Mrs. Lee has delighted to surround herself, in loving remembrance, no doubt, of the land of her birth. A broad oaken staircase rises from the center of the hall to the second floor.

To the left of the hall is the music-room, which is Italian both in detail of the design and in its furnishings. The walls are finished in white and gold, and are topped with a shallow vaulted ceiling, beautifully tinted in delicate colorings, several of the panels are the work of Mr. Lee, who is an artist of ability. "Villa-al-Mare"



THE DINING-ROOM, SHOWING PART OF THE PEWTER COLLECTION

At one side of the room is a large open fireplace, above which extends a wide marble mantel, exquisitely carved. At either end of its broad shelf is a bronze candelabrum, of artistic design, while in the center are two fine examples of the Italian potters' art. The furniture harmonizes perfectly with the style and decorations of the room, among the pieces being a piano at one end, a mahogany writing desk at the opposite end, and a very fine marble topped table, which occupies a position in front of the fireplace.

Beyond this room is the living-room, a large and most attractively furnished apartment. Great French windows open directly onto a broad veranda. from which is obtained a fine view of the quaint terrace and the charming Italian garden just below. A wainscot some six feet in height runs around the walls of the room, from which a plain field rises to the edge of the wood cornice. The ceiling is crossed with heavy beams. The furniture is of the Italian type; and here, too, are found many mementos of Mrs. Lee's native land. A large Oriental carpet of exquisite coloring, in rich soft tones lies in front of the fireplace, and but partially covers the polished floor of the room. Easy chairs, placed artistically about, as well as a large couch, provided with soft pillows, lend an air of comfort, while the brass teakettle on the hearth suggests afternoon teas. A fine Venetian mirror hangs above the broad mantel,

which is flanked on either side by curious old lanterns, resting on slender standards. At one end of the room is a tall, beautifully carved cabinet above which hangs a fine old Italian painting. Directly opposite is another cabinet, smaller in size, which was found in an old monastery, the carvings on which are representations of scenes of the "Quest of the Holy Grail." Above this cabinet hangs an exquisite painting, a Tiepolo, and scattered about the walls of the room are fine old masterpieces, including some of Sir Joshua Reynolds'. A few modern paintings are also to be seen.

From the end of the living-room one enters the den, a cosy apartment, commanding a view of the garden, and glimpses of the ocean between the trees. Its high vaulted ceiling is tinted a delicate shade of blue, and is studded with golden stars. Around three sides of its wainscoted walls extend low, broad, cushioned seats, piled with sofa pillows. Ancient pikes, swords, lamps of foreign workmanship, and various curios of great interest as well as of artistic value are scattered about, and form a most unusual collection of relics. A quaint chandelier hangs suspended from the center of the ceiling directly over a low round table, while a rug, very rare and antique, lies on the floor before the fireplace, which is severely simple in design. Uniqueness is the keynote of this den, and it is certainly most attractive.

House and Garden



THE MUSIC-ROOM WITH PAINTED WALLS

Re-entering the living-room and turning to the left, one passes through a wide doorway and enters the dining-room, a rich and impressive room, furnished in beautiful old mahogany. This wood is also employed in the construction of the heavy beams which cross the ceiling, and in the high wainscot which runs around the room. A narrow frieze of conventional design in fresco is carried around the wall under the beam work. In this room is displayed Mr. Lee's wonderful collection of old pewter, said to be the finest in the country, many of the unique old pieces being impossible to duplicate in any part of the world to-day. It is displayed on the long narrow shelves of three buffets, which have been built in the walls, and it is most artistically arranged. Among the pieces having interesting histories, is a set of plates, on the back of each one of which is written various seat numbers, as "Seat One," "Seat Two," and so on, through the set. They were obtained from an ancient monastery, and the numbers indicate that each monk had his own particular seat at the table of the refectory. Pewter to-day represents a lost art, and rare indeed are genuine old-time specimens. It fell into disuse through the cessation of demand for it and merchants grew to consider it unworthy of even storage room. Consequently, some years ago, tons upon tons of it were melted down and sold to the junkmen as old scrap. This destroyed the bulk of the best productions of the old masters, and specimens of the real article to-day are sold for fabulous sums. In view of the scarcity of this old-time alloy, Mr. Lee's collection is truly remarkable, but it must be remembered that it took years of patient research before the collection was obtained.

A feature of the dining-room is the broad fireplace of brick and granite, which combination is most artistic. A narrow mantel shelf, also of granite, extends above it. Two large lamps with Colonial shades are placed at either side of one of the large buffets, and are most attractive adjuncts to a charming whole.

Reluctantly leaving the charming interior of this picturesque home, one opens the large French windows in the living-room, and steps onto the broad veranda, decorated with bay trees in quaint tubs. From

"Villa-al-Mare"

here the view is superb, and for a moment one forgets the interior beauty of the home. One end of the veranda has been enclosed for an outdoor living-room, and most enchanting is the prospect to be contemplated as one lounges in a great easy chair, and feasts his eyes on the beauties of art and nature charmingly intermingled in the extensive grounds of this estate. A few steps below the veranda is the terrace, rendered attractive by masses of shrubbery and potted plants, its stone rail ornamented with a marble urn at either end, containing cacti, and in the center decorated by two terra-cotta pots of foreign design, each holding diminutive trees.

At the left of the entrance front of the house, steps descend to the garden, which

seems like a bit of sunny Italy transported to our bleak New England clime. In the center a fountain softly splashes its spray heyond the marble curbing to the circle of close-clipped sward which



THE DEN

surrounds it. On all sides are beds of brilliant flowers. Here is noticed a patch of red, there, a mass of yellow, while beyond are beds that are a delightful tangle of riotous colors. Scattered about are bits



THE ENTRANCE TO THE GROUNDS

of rare marble, tree vases and well-heads, all from Italy.

The grounds at the rear of the house have been purposely left a tangle of wild roses, sweet-smelling clover, and clematis, while over and about all, woodbine trails its pretty tendrils. Great old trees stand like sentinels on guard, and form an effective background for a very effective picture. A short distance from the rear of the house are the stables, where are kept a string of thoroughbreds. It is reached by a graveled driveway, on either side of which are well-shaven lawns, and at intervals are placed pots of flowering shrubs. It is truly an ideal home, and it is little wonder that the owners delight to come here early in the spring and linger on throughout the crisp October days.

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Washington-A Residential City

By JOHN W. HALL

I F one who has not visited Washington in the last forty years—yes, within the last twenty years —should revisit the Capital City, it is a safe proposition that, aside from a few ancient landmarks scattered here and there, the first impression would be of a city builded anew. It is not necessary to go further back than twenty years, yes, ten years, to take up a line of expansion and development not theretofore manifest, if even contemplated except in the original plan of the city. In reality it is difficult to comprehend Washington as of twenty years ago and the Washington of to-day—to comprehend the recasting of the entire architectural aspect of the city.

Washington is not a business city, from a commercial view-point. It should not and never will be a business city. It is not a business city for the reason that there is no geographical lines for such; it will not be a business city for the same reasons coupled with the happy handicaps of a lack of transportation facilities and its proximity to such great commercial marts as Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. It should not be a business city for the reason that its present great development is, and its future development must be, in the direction of an ideal residential city. The original idea and plan of the city contemplated homes, not business; colleges, not foundries and factories; cleanliness and whiteness, not dirt and smoke.

For many years the moral, if not the official, influence of the city has been antagonistic to the introduction of manufacturing or other industrial enterprises.

A very recent effort to boom the city as a "Greater Washington" along industrial and commercial lines proved abortive. On the other hand, the entire citizenship of the National Capital gives a hearty welcome to the coming of those who are home builders; it gives a generous appreciation of the many institutions of learning, science and art which are constantly being located among them.

Every nation of the world has dwellers within the gates of Washington. Its permanent resident population is made up of people from every state and territory of the Union, and from the tropical and arctic possessions. With a citizenship so thoroughly cosmopolitan, the form of municipal government is admirable and highly conducive to home making. The administration of municipal affairs is in the hands of three commissioners, named by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, one of whom is taken from each of the two great



THE HOME OF MRS. Z. B. LEITER

Washington-A Residential City

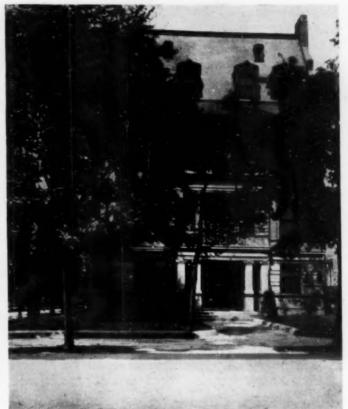


THE HOME OF SENATOR KNOX OF PENNSYLVANIA

political parties, and the third from the army—from the corps of army engineers—and is therefore as near non-partisan as it is possible to be. The Congress enacts laws for the government of the city—sits in the capacity of a city council—and the commissioners formulate such police regulations and carry out such plans of public improvements as are warranted by congressional enactment. There being no elective franchise in the District of Columbia, its attractiveness as a place of residence is enhanced by its removal from unseemly partisan policies, such as prevail in most of the cities. The controlling authorities are removed from political influences and therefore devote their energies to the city's development along practical and uniform lines.

In Washington the streets and crossings are never congested and travel consequently hindered by heavy and noisy trucks. The street cars of the city are all operated by the underground electric system and there are no unsightly, dangerous overhead wires. These are conditions not found in cities where the greatest ambitions tend to development along commercial and other business lines—where hustle and bustle are the characteristics most heralded to the world—and which add so much to the desirability of communities for purely residential purposes.

No city in the world is more fortunate in having its streets and avenues laid out with broad roadways, and of uniform width. No other city in the world is more amply provided with shaded streets. The



THE HOME OF SENATOR FORAKER OF OHIO

distance from the curbing to the building line, on all avenues and on most of the streets, is such as to permit of two rows of shade trees, and when in full foliage give complete shaded sidewalks and driveways. Another feature, and one which is appreciated by all city dwellers, and which is not found in cities devoted to commercial enterprises, is the vast number of well-shaded parks dotted here and there all over the city. These parks vary in size from the small triangle of a few yards at the intersection of streets and avenues, to those covering one and two city blocks. They are always well kept, and add attractiveness even to attractive surroundings by taming the white with the green. An incident to Washington's attractiveness is the rigid enforcement of an anti-smoke law. On a sunny day there is only now and then visible a streak of smoke against a sky of Italian blue, except about the railroad terminals and when the new union station, which is nearing completion, is in use the smoke nuisance from the engines will be abated.

It is no exaggeration to say that Washington is today one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It is safe to say that in the very near future it will be the most beautiful city in the world. It has only been within the last few years that the Congress, the lawmaking power for the District of Columbia, which, with the city of Washington, is under the same municipal direction, has dealt with the city in a manner indicating the intention of the National



THE BRITISH EMBASSY

Government to co-operate with the local authorities in making Washington a great Capital City—a city beautiful. Since that policy was inaugurated by the Congress, changes have been most marked.

Economic conditions are now enriching Washington with many magnificent structures in the way of public buildings, such as the Senate and House office buildings, the new home for the Department of Agriculture, the municipal building, and the new union railroad station.

These buildings are to cost from five to ten million dollars each, and they are all being constructed of white stone and marble. Washington is to be a city of white — marble and granite as building materials, are fast supplanting brick in the construction of even the less pretentious homes.

It is but natural that the seat of government of the richest nation in the world should become the social center of that nation; such is Washington becoming. Climatic conditions are the most favorable, and hither are coming people of wealth and social recognition from all sections of the country and their coming means the continued development of the city it means the building of more and finer homes.



HOME OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE BACON

The supply of homes, such as are in demand under changed conditions, is limited, and even now, in districts outlying the original city limits, edifices of the most magnificent design, planned for social purposes, are in course of erection or in contemplation. Nearby suburban places are being invaded by many who are building homes for winter rather than summer occupancy.

Among the older mansions in Washington is the



A BLOCK OF WASHINGTON'S LESS PRETEN-TIOUS HOMES

Washington home of Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania. It is one of the most commodious and is regarded as the best built private house, of its day, in the city. It is known as the George W. Childs mansion, and was purchased by the Senator from the widow of the famous philanthropist. The library of Senator Knox is one of the most elegant and best equipped of the many rich private libraries of the city. The furnishings are of green and gold and this is carried out in the bindings of the books. The Senator has all his books rebound in accordance with the style which has been selected. This is dark green seal with small gold letters and his monogram, "P. C. K.," artistically twined on the front cover.

As illustrative of the

Washington-A Residential City



WASHINGTONIANS USE PARKINGS INSTEAD OF PRIVATE GARDENS

character of homes now demanded and building, that in course of completion for Assistant Secretary of State Robert Bacon may be instanced. The house is Colonial and simple in design, but much care has been given to the interior arrangement and to its decorations. The exterior is of dark red brick and Indiana limestone. Over the door is a porch supported by large wooden columns. The house is five stories and has a frontage of sixty-nine feet and a depth of forty-two feet. On the first floor is a large reception hall, which will be finished in wood. To the right of the hall is a library, the dimensions of which are twenty-five by

forty feet. Book shelves will entirely cover the walls of the library. The other rooms on the first floor are a kitchen, servants' hall, and service rooms.

A broad staircase leads from the first floor to the second and is one of the handsomest features of the house. It is of carved English oak. A conservatory, in which there is place for a large fountain, will open from the central hall on the second floor. A large salon finished in Louis XVI. style will be directly over the library. On the opposite side of the house will be the dining-room, thirty feet long by twenty-five feet wide. The walls will be of paneled oak and the ceiling will be finished after the English geometrical style, and will be ivory in color. A

large carved stone fireplace will add to the elegance of this room.

The third floor will be given over to sleeping apartments, dressing-rooms, baths, and closets. On the fourth floor there will be two bed chambers, and seven servants' rooms. The fifth floor will be devoted to servants' rooms and storage space.

Large numbers of handsome homes, building with a view of social functions, as is the Bacon residence, are being built. One of the latest to the long list is that of Perry Belmont, of New York, the foundations of which have just been completed. It is to be in the style of Louis XIV. and will cost a half-million dollars. A unique arrangement is that the private part of the house

will be on the first floor, with rooms for entertaining above. The architecture of the building is made impressive through the simplicity and dignity of its lines. The house will be three stories in height, with two stories underground, the basement and subbasement. The kitchen and other service rooms will be in the basement and the heating plant in the sub-basement, leaving the entire upper part of the house for living purposes. The exterior will be constructed entirely of Indiana limestone.

A feature of the house is found in the plan of the first floor, which is raised a good distance from the



A VISTA OF WASHINGTON'S SHADED STREETS

ground. Entrance is made by way of a graceful porte-cochère, which is located at the south end of the house.

Instead of several reception rooms, an office, and a dining hall, as is often found, the whole private part of the house is on the first floor. On this level will be the library, private reception, and drawing-rooms, private dining-rooms, and the sleeping chambers. A prominent feature of this floor will be a large library, located on the west side of the house. Adjoining this will be the private office of Mr. Belmont. The arrangement of the rooms is original and worked out with great care.

The second floor will be reached by a grand stairway, of a beautiful design, and constructed of marble and bronze. One of the most important features of the house, the picture gallery, eighty by thirty-three feet in dimensions, will be located on this floor. The only other rooms on the second floor will be the large dining-room, to be used for entertaining, the salon, and a circular reception-room. A pleasing feature in the plan of the second floor will be that the arrangement of rooms permits several vistas through the entire length of the house. The third floor will be given over to servants' quarters.

It is Mr. Belmont's intention to bring to Washington his entire collection of fine pictures which are now hung in his houses in New York and Newport. This collection was left him by his father, August Belmont, and is regarded as one of the finest in the country. The pictures will be hung in the gallery of his new residence.

The designs for Mr. Belmont's new home were made by E. Samson, the famous Paris architect, and will be the first work of Samson in this country. Surrounding the house there will be a narrow strip of parking, which will be made into a formal garden and laid out by Duchesne, of Paris.

Detached houses in Washington are but few—a great majority of the best homes being built in blocks. There are but very few private gardens, efforts in that direction being confined chiefly to the broad parkings. Not infrequently, however, are the effects of softening sought by the use of ivy and some varieties keep green for the greater part of the winter.

Not all of Washington's population is of the millionaire class — smart set — who are centering in the city with social ambitions. Thousands of retired, well-to-do, business and professional men, army and navy officers, statesmen, etc., recognizing the peculiarly favorable local conditions — the desirability of the city as a place of residence are undoubtedly adding to the phenomenal growth of the National Capital.

What Paris is to France, and what London is to England, the same will Washington soon be to the United States.



ONE OF THE NUMEROUS PARKS IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTIONS OF WASHINGTON

Aubusson Tapestries

By GEORGE LELAND HUNTER.

PART II

(Continued from the November Issue.)

AFTER the conquest by the Romans, Aubusson became a military station and a fortress of the second order. In the middle ages, the castle of the House of Aubusson took the place of the fortress. Of the castle few traces are left.

In the year 418 A. D. the land of the Lemovices, that in four and a half centuries had become more Roman than Rome itself, was granted by the Roman Emperor Honorius to the invading Visigoths-barbarians from the forests of Germany and Russia-as their "mark." Hence its Latin name Marchia Lemovicina that in French became La Marche. Auvergne got its name from the Arverni, and in the seventeenth century Aubusson tapestries were often called tapisseries d'Auvergne, while tapestries made in Felletin were called tapisseries de La Marche. The modern name for the political division in which both towns are situated is the Department de la Creuse, named from the river that flows through Aubusson, which is said to possess, like the Bièvre of the Gobelins, and the Bronx of the Baumgarten atelier at Williamsbridge, certain mysterious qualities that endear its water to the dyers of silk and wool.

The first definite documentary evidence that has yet

Felletin and Aubusson as tappisserie ou tapis dit Feletin, d'Auvergne.

In 1601 Henri IV. encouraged the industry greatly by forbidding the importation of Flemish tapestries into France. It will be remembered that it was he who brought Flemish weavers to Paris and installed them at the Gobelins. This atelier founded by Henri IV. was one of several united by Colbert in 1667 in the reign of Louis XIV. to form the "Furniture Factory of the Crown," which is the lineal ancestor of the present Gobelins. But the Parisians were not content to share prosperity with Aubusson. They wanted a monopoly of the Paris market. They wanted to tax the Aubusson tapestries on entry to Paris, and to allow them to remain there on exhibition only a fortnight. Evidently they feared the competition of the hardy mountaineers of Auvergne and La Marche. Fortunately the Government did not share their local selfishness, and a royal decree dated February 1, 1620, confirmed Aubusson and Felletin in their rights.

An indication of the high quality of the work being done at Aubusson in the first part of the seventeenth century is the fact that in 1625 a tapestry merchant of Aubusson received an order to supply the cathedral

been discovered of tapestries woven in the Aubusson district is in the will dated 1507 of the Duchess of Valentinois, who had the somewhat doubtful distinction of being the widow of the notorious Cæsar Borgia. In the will are enumerated numerous tapestries from the looms of Felletin, mostly verdures, several of them being described as tappicerie de Felletin à feuillages.

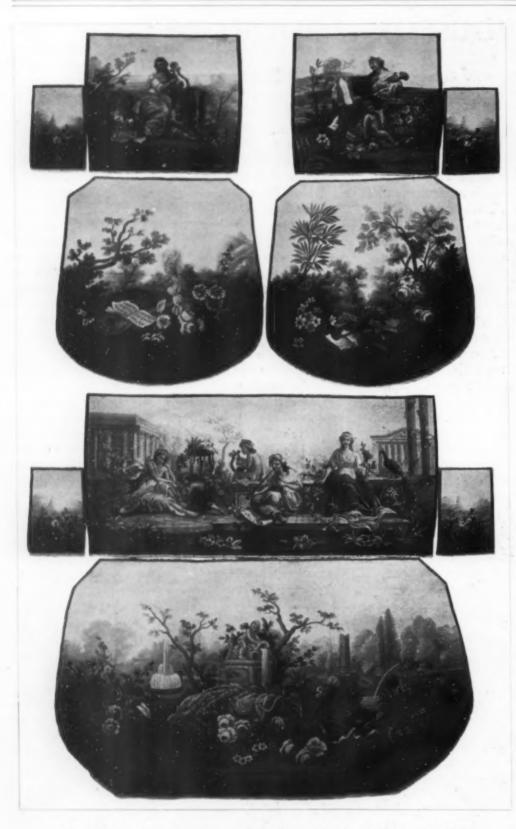
In the year 1581 an ordinance of Henri III. speaks of tapestries from



Louis XV. Aubusson sofa coverings. Design of the eighteenth century

of Reims with four figure tapestries on religious subjects the Assumption, the Virgin with the infant Christ, St. Nicaise, and St. Remi.

Contemporary evidence about tapestry weaving at Aubusson in the seventeenth century is also to be found in the article on the Haute Lisse in Savary's Dictionnaire du Commerce published in 1641. He says: "There are also two other French tapestry factories, one at Aubusson in Auvergne and the other at Felletin in La



Seats, backs and arms for two arm chairs and a sofa of an Aubusson set called "The Muses"

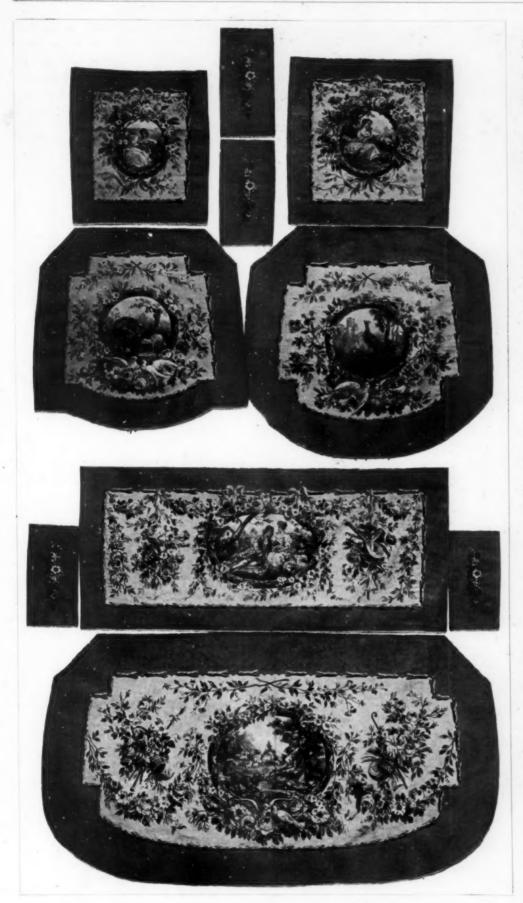
Marche. It is the tapestries made in these places that are called *tapisseries d'Auvergne*. Felletin makes the best verdures, and Aubusson the best figures. It is a long time since anything but the *basse lisse* (low warp loom) has been used either in Auvergne or Picardy." part of its population. Together with other Protestants two hundred of the best weavers of Aubusson had to leave France. Pierre Mercier with nine others went to Germany and was successful in establishing himself there.

By 1664, however, the industry appeared to be in a bad way. According to the report made to Colbert, the number of weavers had decreased to 1600, there was a lack of good cartoons, the wool was coarse, and the dyes were bad. The tapestry merchants and weavers of Aubusson requested the services of a good painter and an able dyer. They were not willing to have all the royal favors showered on the Gobelins and Beauvais, while Aubusson got nothing. I suspect that they may even have exaggerated their woes in order to move the royal compassion.

In response to their petition, the king the next year authorized them to use the title "Royal Manufactory." It was also ordered that "as the perfection of the said tapestries depends especially on good designs and the dyeing of the wools, in order to improve the said works and to treat favorably the workmen, a good painter chosen by the Sieur Colbert, should be maintained at the expense of the king to make designs for the tapestries manufactured in the said town; and there should also be established in it a master dyer to color the goods employed in the said manufactory."

Why the promised painter and dyer were not sent at once we do not know. Perhaps the fact that Aubusson was a Protestant town may have had something to do with it. At any rate, a few years later, in consequence of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1665, Aubusson lost an important

Aubusson Tapestries



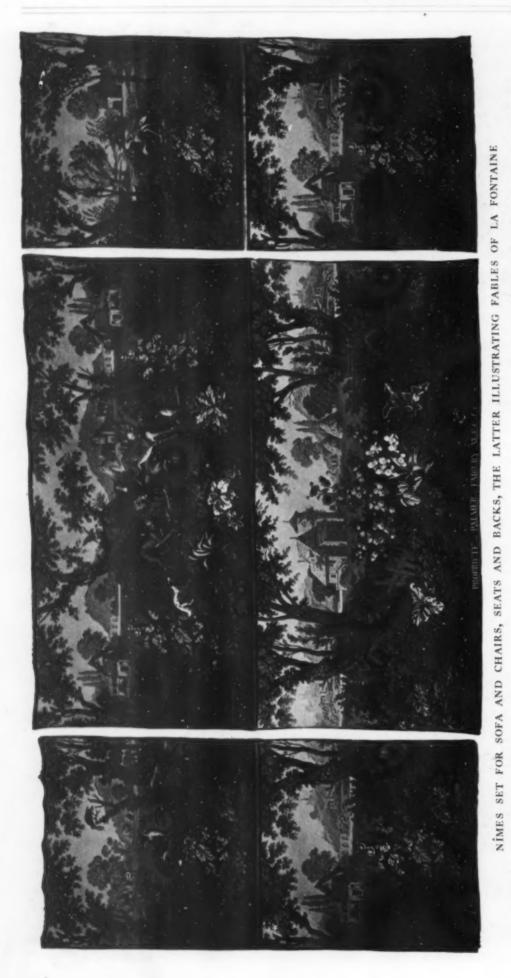
Aubusson sofa coverings, style of Louis XVI., and part of an Aubusson set, the chairseats illustrating two of La Fontaine's fables. Designed by the famous Oudry, director of the French National Tapestry Works at Beauvais in the first half of the eighteenth century

In the last years of the reign of Louis XIV., when work came to a standstill even at the Gobelins, it is probable that there was but little activity at Aubusson.

The promised painter and dyer were finally sent in the year 1731, in the reign of Louis XV. The painter was Jean Joseph du Mons; the dyer was the Sieur Fizameau, who was succeeded shortly by Pierre de Montezert. An ordinance of 1732 provided that the work of Aubusson should be distinguished by weaving the name of the town and the initials of the weaver into the border. After the arrival of Du Mons and largely as the result of his efforts, the industry became again prosperous.

During the French Revolution, weaving was practically suspended both here and at the Gobelins. The condition of Aubusson a little later can be seen from a report made to Napoleon in 1804. It gives the number of workmen on flat rugs, hangings and furniture coverings, as 240 to 250, and on pile rugs as fifty to sixty. The looms, except those for pile rugs, were at the houses of the workmen. Linen came from Flanders, silk from Lyons, wool from Bayonne. Work was partly by the piece, partly by the day, and wages were from a franc to a franc and a half a day. The total production was about \$30,000 a year. Tapestries in fine wool were from \$10 to \$18 a yard, in silk from \$24 to \$30.

At the present time no less than 1800 men and women are employed at Aubusson in making rugs and tapestries by hand, the total product being about \$200,000 yearly. The best foreign customers are the United States and



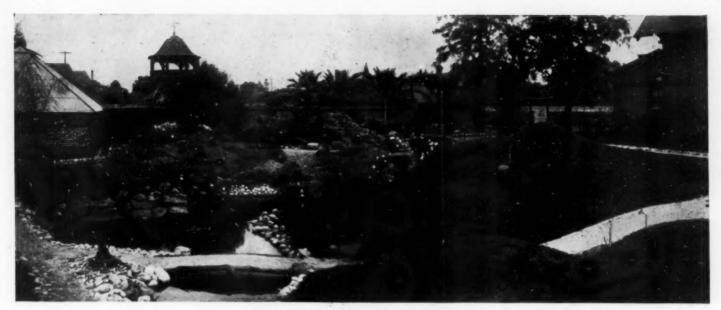
England. The weavers are contented with from \$1 to \$2 a day according to ability. In 1804 they only got from twenty to thirty cents. The painters who produce the colored cartoons, some original and some copied or adapted from the antique, receive from \$80. to \$120 a month. For training school Aubusson has a "National School of Decorative Art." Apprentices are received in the different ateliers at the age of thirteen and by the end of the first year are paid the sum of two or three cents a day. Their assistance in the simpler and easier work is important in keeping the cost of production down.

At the Paris Exposition of 1900 the exhibits of two Aubusson manufacturers were of such excellence as to be awarded grand prizes the same award as to the Gobelins, the product of which is reserved for the French Government.

Among the tapestries that helped to win these grand prizes, were reproductions of one of Oudry's eighteenth cen-tury "Hunts of Louis XV.;" of the panel Venus and the panel Jupiter from Audran's eighteenth century series "The Great Gods;" in silk and gold of the Chateau de Blois and the Chateau de St. Germain, from Le Brun's seventeenth century series "The Royal Residences." Of these reproductions the jury said: "They are so like the originals as to be mistaken for them." Of an Empire set of furniture coverings, part antique and part Aubusson restoration, the jury said: "Only the most experienced eye can tell the new from the old."

Which perhaps suggests that it is just as well for Americans to purchase what are avowedly reproductions at a fair price, as pretended antiques at a fabulous price.

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A General View of the Garden

An Oriental Garden in California

By KATE GREENLEAF LOCKE

O N a wide and beautiful street in the city of Los Angeles, California, stands the home of Captain and Mrs. Randolph Minor. The street is bordered with pepper trees, palms and grevillias and in itself resembles a section of some tropical, well-kept garden. Mocking birds sing in the branches that overhang the sidewalks and flowers blossom on the edge of the grass-plots. Thus the foreground leaves nothing to be desired in the setting of the house and its place on a corner of the lot carries out the perfect symmetry which characterizes the scheme of this house and its garden. There can be no question that the feeling for

the work of our landscape gardeners. As we are a conglomerate nation we have naturally woven into our arts and our crafts the things which are most desirable and worthy in the arts and crafts of those other nations from whom we draw out citizens. We are to-day taking large draughts of inspiration from the Japanese and this is for our improvement, but alas that such an advance for us, should be reaction; there is also no doubt that we are commercially demoralizing the art of Japan. This burning question, however, is aside from the subject of gardens. One has but to note the lines of Captain Minor's house to feel agreeably its solid mass of

symmetrical proportions, the perfect and carefully studied balance of lines and spaces which is becoming daily more closely interwoven with art in this country is caught from the Japanese; we are feeling it in the treatment of landscape pictures by our leading artists, we are seeing it in the designs of our great architects and it is most evident in



A JAPANESE GATEWAY

rich, dark color, to realize that some quieting and restraining influence has been at work to sober it and to mold it in the extreme refinement of art. As a matter of fact Mr. and Mrs. Minor have resided for a long period in Japan; as an officer in the United States Navy Captain Minor was stationed there, and they have brought away with them the feeling

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THE RESIDENCE

which is engendered by the art of that country. This beneficent influence is felt more distinctly yet in the interior of this most fascinating house, for here are quiet, cool spaces of color which rest the eye and the nerves. The narrow line which lies between restfulness and barrenness or severity in decoration and furnishing is never overstepped, nor is it stretched to its utmost limit as we often feel to be the case in an actual Japanese interior. With the unfailing instinct of an American woman for that which is comfortable and convenient, Mrs. Minor has adapted to her uses those things which give an almost startlingly artistic effect at first glance, and yet which resolve themselves into some pretty convenience upon further acquaintance. In a corner of the living-room the broad expanse of a gold screen glimmers dully with a low pot of yellow daffodils in front of it. There is no interruption to this golden surface except when at its foot the carved and grotesque lines of the teak-wood stool are etched against it, and the upstanding spears (supported on a shallow dish in that magical way known to the



THE MIMIC LAKE SURROUNDED BY WHITE AND PURPLE IRIS

An Oriental Garden in California

Japanese) of green and vellow form a glowing bit of color on the gold. Against a clear gray wall sets a pink azalea and the brilliant color and rich embroidery of a scarf on the grand piano is the only note of strong color against this quiet background in one end of the long room. There is no crowding of rich ornaments, no jostling and jumbling of effects such as often mars the decoration of many handsome rooms. And the great palms which divide the room into sections stand in a stately way unworried by their surroundings. This is an ideal adaptation of Japanese effects to our needs and uses and as no essential has been sacrificed in the adoption it would be



A CORNER OF THE HOUSE FROM THE GARDEN

hard I think to offer to it an adverse criticism. The Oriental idea which is embodied in this home is felt most keenly in the fact that it presents a front of dark, unruffled composure to the street and does not hint of the riot of color, the quaintly grotesque effects that have been produced within its walled surroundings. The glass in front is opaque and permits only a dull glow into the living-room from that side of the house, but at its back it opens with long windows and glass doors into a wide veranda going to the garden; here are the artificial hummocks, the mimic charm of enchantment—the enchantment which the gnomes give to Wagner's operas, or the dwarfs to Rip Van Winkle, and its hillocks or little *yamas*, its dwarfed trees, its bridges and temples make one feel that here the "Little People" have been at work.

It would seem, then, very natural that the dweller in the Great West accustomed as he is to landscapes of vast extent and effects of magnificent proportions, should seize upon, and surround his home with, the restful features characteristic of Oriental gardening.



THE GARDEN IS SURROUNDED BY A BRICK WALL

ental plaisance. Temple lanterns of bronze and temple gates ornament the narrow winding paths. Lotus flowers cover the pools and clumps of jonguils, hvacinth, and white and purple iris are planted in profusion. The path which leads to the orchid house at the extreme end of the enclosure is contrived to wind about in the bewildering way which so strongly contrasts the Japanese feeling with the direct, orderly and openly artificial methods of Italian gardening; a Japanese garden is distinctly artificial but is so cunningly contrived to imitate nature that it becomes invested with the

lakes, the tiny bridges

which make of it an Ori-



Painting by Will Larrymore Smedley

EARLY MORNING IN THE BEECHWOOD

TREES

By WILL LARRYMORE SMEDLEY

PROLOGUE:

Your neighbor takes no heed of what you think; He will pay little attention to what you say; He confesses some interest in what you write: But the same truths clothed in the dignity of print will compel his admiration and sometimes -a second thought.

HE general interest lately aroused in regard to our forests is a splendid and necessary movement in the right direction and before the scarcity of paper and the contingent high price serves to put the publication of a magazine on the plane of extreme luxury for both publisher and purchaser, I wish to add another plea for our steadfast friends who can neither write nor fight for their lives but give their bodies for the making of the very paper on which we plead for their preservation.

Some of us have had the problem of the trees very near to heart for many years and we fully realize how immensely important it is that the iron shall be kept hot until the great tool of public opinion shall be

fashioned into shape to do a work for the general good. It seems strange that in a country where every one lives at high speed, where the average intelligence is much above the ordinary, and where every contrivance imaginable is in use to eliminate time, where the cry is continually for speed and yet more speed in behalf of personal gain, that the wheels of consistency should turn so slow when the country at large is to receive the benefit; and this, too, in a land noted for its promptitude and accuracy; rather the contrary is true, for it seems necessary to go through exhortations, entreaties, explanations interminable to accomplish anything at all for the benefit of the people collectively, in this Government exclusively for and by the people.

It is regrettably true that Congress has the power to better the conditions with regard to the forests as they now exist, but that body is not noted for its activities in the interests of the people and in reference to the trees it has been particularly lax, often stubborn, and at times a genuine stumbling-block in the path of our

national and individual welfare. Lately the Speaker of the House has done little less than violate his oath of office by interfering with measures beneficial to all of us. Perhaps if legislators were under bond to do what they are paid to do, there would be less shirking, less language, and more rejoicing among the people who pay for what they do not receive. If the man in business is under bond to perform faithfully the duties which appertain solely to merchandise or money, why would it not be just and proper to hold under bond-a good big one-the men with whom are intrusted the administration of affairs both ethical and physical which have to do with the comfort and happiness of eighty millions of us? Perhaps if our citizens were compelled to consider the greatness of the honor and responsibility conferred upon them in being chosen a public servant and had to further reflect that the maintenance of that honor as well as their continuance in office depended entirely upon their honesty and skill in serving their constituents (is the term used correctly ?), perhaps then we should be represented in a measure to correspond with our taxation; and would it not be better still if our official representatives were chosen for a short term from among our many intelligent citizens who could afford to volunteer their services on the basis of no salary? There would surely be fewer public offices and they would be better filled.

It would be a great and lasting blessing to future generations and a large relief to the present one if we could have immediately, a law compelling every one who cuts a tree to plant at least two or more-the more the better; even then, granting that every one planted would thrive, it would be several decades before there could be trees of any considerable size; my own experience in the study of trees leads me to say that the big fellows of the more common species, the birch, oak, beech and others are already extremely rare; what will be the result in ten years if the large ones continue to go down and no young trees are planted? After that time no one in the next generation will know what a tree three feet in diameter looks like! It must be realized, too, that while steps toward the conservation of the present forest resources are highly important, yet they are nowhere to be compared to the necessity of planting now and keeping on planting, the trees which are to be the forests of a few years hence. Once upon a time we thought there would always be the Big Woods and that we could enjoy the luxury of glowing coals indefinitely; but now the great fireplace with its smoking backlog is only a memory, and its more modern cobblestone cousin with its little heap of smouldering rent receipts a mocking travesty upon the times of roasting nuts and popping corn in the ashes. Once-and not so very long ago, half a century, to be exact-we thought the forests would last forever, and now we are figuring on how long it will take to grow them! In fact a

forest in strictest sense is already a thing of the past. and yet the very thing we should do to protect our immediately available wood supply is the one thing we are not doing; everyone should make it a point to use no wood where other material would do better; there is now as much wood misused and wasted as used; one might mention hundreds of ways in which thousands of feet of good material could be saved every day; for instance, the packing case problem is a big one and extravagantly wasteful; why are not such commodities of every day commerce made so that they may be opened without destroying and thus used repeatedly? it would be a saving in many directions. Then fancy being buried in a mahogany coffin that will turn soon to dust along with our bones. when in a few years to come the living will have to take their comfort in chairs made of structural iron and their piano cases will be made of tin with pressed flower ornamentation. This paper is not a lesson in mental arithmetic, but any one interested in knowing how much good perishable material we senselessly put in the ground each year may find out by ascertaining the average death rate and multiplying by the number of feet of lumber to each box in which neither soul nor flesh may rest. Both our trees and our dead would last longer and be more honored if we used better judgment and more cement in the proper place. Again;-to build a boardwalk a mile long at the present time when lumber is at a premium-knots thirty-five dollars per thousand feet-and needed elsewhere, is a crime. I have in mind a case where fifty thousand feet of boards and sills, enough to build several comfortable cottages, went to rot. It may seem like privation to do without wood, for so many things as we have heretofore been accustomed, but it is better far to have it only when we need it absolutely than to do without altogether, as we shall have to, soon.

Manual training teachers have the opportunity to exert a great influence in the direction of economy by impressing upon their pupils, not only the importance of the careful use of tools to create a minimum of waste, but also the significance of the very slow process of growing timber and its relation to the very rapidly increasing demand. Careless workmen in the building trades could save many thousand feet of lumber by learning how to read drawings correctly and not cut into precious material without having a complete drawing to start; in such case a man who had not learned his work as a trade would be less likely to spend two thirds of his time correcting the mistakes he makes the other third. Also, where coal can be had for fuel, wood should most certainly not be used; it is both more expensive and scarcer than coal. All this effects a saving, and saving is next to creating, which is better than legislation-and a lot quicker.

Trees, as well as land, air and water, are common property; they are only a part of the furnishings of the great globe on which we were put to live along with many millions of other living things; every individual form of all creation is dependent on these trees for subsistence and existence and it is not the right of any individual or set of individuals to either use or destroy without replacing the things which form so great a part of the common good. Every well or spring is dependent on the forests which act as a great regulator of underground water veins; the lakes with their fish; our vegetables and fruits look to the wood in more ways than one for nourishment while they look also to the birds for protection from the ravages of insects, and the birds in turn depend on the woods for their homes. Only a few weeks ago I paid a high price for potatoes riddled with holes by insects which have been the food of certain birds; but in the locality where the vegetables were grown the trees have been cut away and those birds nested elsewhere. I know a stream which thirty-five years ago afforded power enough to run a mill but to-day there is not enough water in it to furnish a Christian baptism-it was fed from woodland springs among the hills which now are bare. The flora of the woods, too, is rapidly disappearing, many species being already extinct; but without thought the work of destruction goes on unchecked because those who have no title to the land can do nothing to stop it and those who have the title, will not. No trees, no birds, millions of insects,-worthless crops, fruit and vegetables:-Again; no trees, plenty of frost, arid acres, maximum of natural erosion, extreme heat, cold and wind,-and we have a place that is neither fit to live nor die in.

It should be positively and quickly shown to all who hold the control of land that the very lives of all of us depend to an enormous degree upon the quiet work of our silent friends, the trees, that grow upon such land; the practice of cutting timber for firewood when the material is needed so urgently in other directions, is little short of criminal and should be stopped. In England a man who cuts his trees is held in contempt, but here-well, we do anything here on any pretext, for we are a liberty loving people in a republic where some get the liberty and others get the love. Only recently I pleaded with a high salaried official to save a great beech, but his commercialism, or rather vandalism, was stronger than his esthetic sense, if perchance, he had any esthetic sense, and down came the great monarch that had given pleasure and profit to thousands, and it will take onehundred and forty-seven years to build another like it even if any of us knew how. Unfortunately such authority is often in a position where the ignorance and willfulness of one individual can affect the comfort of many intelligent, practical and appreciative people; his work, like that of many others of his kind, is an insidious disease and is accomplished under the pretext of duty for the sake of private gain.

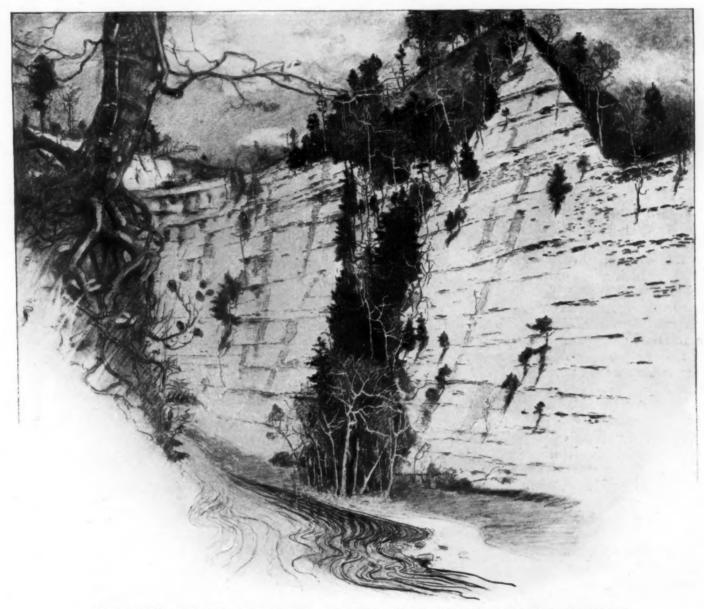
Most men see no use for the trees outside their value as lumber or fuel but these are only two of their virtues out of several hundred we might catalog; perhaps only one of every five thousand ever give a tree credit for anything else but shade; one may as well say water is good for nothing but to drink. Few ever think of the forest as being a great radiator that gives off heat at night when the temperature lowers to the danger point of freezing the fruit buds; it acts at all times, both summer and winter, as a great equalizer of temperatures. In spring, temperatures are always on a delicate balance near the freezing point and at such times a forest close by a fruit farm will often save the crop. It is a fact that since the denudation of the hills the loss to fruit growers has been great and that our climate has become extremely variable, with the result that our apples and doctors' bills come high. My experience while living in the woods has taught me that the temperature among the trees will average about eight degrees lower in summer and five or six higher in winter, than it is outside -a fact well worth considering from several points of view

Beside the many economic values of the rapidly disappearing forests, as a means of relaxation and relief to wornout nerves and mind under the strain of life as practiced by United Statians, it can not be estimated, much less overlooked. Is it naught to us that in a few years we shall have nothing but treeless hills and sun-dried valleys to look upon? Who knows but the extinction of the race of giants who lived on this continent many ages ago was due to forest destruction? If we are trying to extinguish ourselves in the same manner there is no room for doubt as to the success of the experiment.

The policy of mankind seems to have been destruction from the very start; from the moment he found himself capable of doing things, he has done them,-regardless; he has not improved on Nature at all, merely changed the general forms of material. Some of us, perhaps a large number of us, think that the Earth was built right to begin with, but man's ability coupled with the perversion of natural forces and the dispersion of natural resources, has not noticeably improved upon the Great Builder's original plan; and we now find ourselves where we must concede that we have either wrought intentional havoc or acknowledge that we did not know how to use the material we found here on our arrival. We have already reached the point with regard to many things where it is not a question of, "What is the price?" but, "Does it exist?" and the only reason why we have not set up a wail sooner is because many of the things which have disappeared from mortal view were of no apparent use to man, but now that material we use and misuse every day is getting scarce, we become alarmed and with good reason; perhaps a scare will do us good.

What we most need is a thorough stirring up of a wholesome sentiment for the trees; it would go a long way toward strengthening their usefulness to us, but the great difficulty lies in getting people properly interested.

It is said that the elder Jackson, that ardent lover of nature, loved the trees so much that for the protection of one favorite, he set aside a certain amount of land for its perpetuity. He had settled in the vicinity when the whole region was a vast woodland that reverberated with the songs of wild birds, and he had seen the forest gradually fade away until the big tree stood quite alone. To-day immediate gain is considered far beyond future losses so that economics or sentiment scarcely enter into the question at all. It seems to me at times that it was not altogether such a bad thing in the days of King George when we had to ask him if we might cut a tree, and it is quite plain to me that some such arrangement at the present time would be a very good plan. Moreover, we ought to be ashamed of the fact that foreign countries are away ahead of us in understanding the conservation of natural resources. One of the most interesting conversations I have had recently was with a gentleman who stopped at my door-a connoisseur of rags and old rubber-and talked to me on forestry; to say he was better informed on the subject than most city mayors is not over-complimentary to him-but he was a German. But with all the difficulties besetting the subject a few are at last beginning to point their ears in the direction of protest and appeal so that perhaps the near future will see some beneficial action; if no move is made now to relieve the situation and provide for future contingencies, one thing surely will happen: We will one day wake up to the realization of the fact that we have sold our own hides and have done the skinning ourselves.



AN EROSION IN NEW YORK STATE, 500 FEET DEEP, DUE TO LOSS OF THE TREES

Cupboards, Cabinets, Corner Closets for the Display of China

By LILLIAN HARROD

T is hard to realize how much room goes to waste in every house that has not been most carefully planned. If we try, we can find here, there, and everywhere, odd niches for china cupboards or for books. When we compare the two, it really seems as if the modern houses contain far more nooks of this kind than did the old-style Colonial mansions, whose severely simple rectangular parallelograms allowed for just four rooms and a hall upon each floor. There were no alcoves, and there were no jogs. Save that fireplaces were made necessary by the climate, and staircases had to be used in order to reach the upper floors, our grandmothers would have lived in an absolutely closetless condition!

To be sure a jog was sometimes inserted, to permit of a buffet. This was usually placed in a corner. The shell-pattern was most desirable, but is rarely seen except in old houses. This buffet was a cupboard, or set of shelves, generally used for the display of glass, china, and silver-plate. Old-time books, such as the Bible and the almanac, occasionally found their way to the lowermost shelf, or sometimes even a work-basket might creep in there unmolested. The buffet was always painted white, and there seems never to have been more than one in a home, although I really do not think that anything in the statute books of that period actually forbade a person to have more. The old blue laws were very meddlesome in matters concerning personal liberty, but they did not aspire to allot a stated number of buffets and cubby-holes to each house.

Sometimes the open shelves were superseded by



A QUAINT CABINET OF RARE CHINA

Cupboards, Cabinets, Corner Closets for the Display of China

cupboards with doors designed to keep out the dust. Indeed, the lower part of each buffet was generally a closet, designed for storage of treasures, and therefore dear to the children's hearts. It has been truly said that the Salem cupboards are endless in number and variety, and that they possess, to this day, a charm which is peculiarly their own. Through the closed doors under the buffet, one can still smell a spicy fragrance that suggests a rich plum cake; and mingled with this appetizing odor, comes the unmistakable aroma of preserved ginger, brought home in the hold of some foreign-faring vessel, when commerce was at its height.

The shelves above show the real, honest, blue



TEAPOTS DISPLAYED ON OPEN SHELVES



A square closet for china, the door of diamond panes of glass with wood muntins. Residence of Mrs. George Adams, Salem, Mass.

Canton china, with its thin and delicate edge. There are squat pitchers, and great cups that are large enough to serve as bowls. Broken pieces of the best china were bestowed upon the children, who looked upon such a treasure as the greatest possible gift, and played house with it most enthusiastically.

There were cupboards with tiny diamond panes that glistened with frequent washing. Inside these could be caught tantalizing glimpses of great, round blue jars, protected by a network of bamboo, and containing the delectable and amber-hued ginger. Cheek by jowl with the ginger-jars, reposed flat boxes of guava jelly and miniature casks of tamarinds, which, when properly diluted in water, made a very pretty drink in the old days, before there were soda-fountains to dispense all manner of tempting liquid allurements. In close juxtaposition, stood cut glass decanters, full of amber liquor, which, in those days was considered an appropriate refreshment to be offered to any guest, even to the minister upon his frequent calls. With it were served thin, crisp seed-cakes, cut in the shape of oak-leaves, and carefully kept in a plump jar beside the cut glass



A very beautiful old shell top buffet in the John Hancock Tavern, Hamilton, Mass.

decanters. The attractions of the old-time buffet were sufficiently varied in their scope to appeal to almost everybody. There were closets with semicircular shelves of rich dark wood, against which were shown rows of sparkling glass, graceful pitchers, delicate wine glasses, and sandal-wood fans. It is hard to leave these artistic old collections, to consider their mode of display in our modern homes.

The one idea, to-day, seems to be to intrude all sorts of odd niches into our rooms. It is really a very good idea, too; as it breaks the monotony of the lines with that little artistic touch which adds so much to the beauty of a room. The disposition of corners and cupboards is now studied as carefully by the architect as is the house itself; and the results are infinitely pleasing.

Sometimes we see an alcove, where a marble statue or a bronze ornament may stand, outlined against a fanciful window just behind it.

Beside the fireplace, there is fine opportunity to introduce shelves for books; but these should never be too high or too deep. If too high, the hand cannot reach, without effort, for the favorite author; if too deep, we waste room. Sometimes the same cupboard can extend into both rooms, on opposite sides of the partition, which serves to cut the closet in two, thus allowing an opening, with its set of shelves, upon each side.

Did you ever think how convenient it is to have the hollow in the partition made into a closet for kindling-wood, on one side of the fireplace, and closed with white wood doors? This keeps the litter made by kindlings quite out of sight, and gives more room about the hearth.

An imitation of the old-time buffet is excellent. The original model can be so changed that, while the upper part is rounded, and furnished with shelves to show fine china, the lower part can be glassed in, to save the china from gathering dust,



A very rare and beautiful china cabinet, with old Chinese and old English ware

Cupboards, Cabinets, Corner Closets for the Display of China

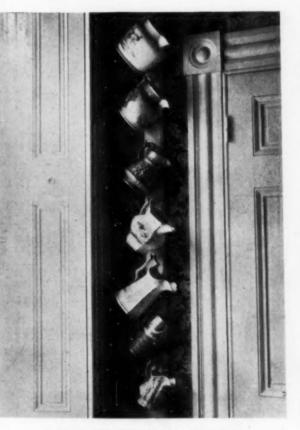


A china cabinet made of Italian walnut inlaid with ivory

while displaying all its fine texture and admirable coloring. We all have some fine pieces of china. Some do not seem to realize its worth or its beauty; but others do, and enjoy showing it, where it can be safely encased from harm.

Another excellent idea is that of a built-in sideboard, which has the upper part enclosed in glass, leaving upon each side a narrow shelf-case, where either books or china can be shown in an original fashion. Another novel idea is that of introducing into the fireplace a magazine closet that is not too large, while a closet of larger size, reaching from the floor to the top of the fireplace mantel, can be used for books.

Sometimes the shelves set in open recesses are



A LINE OF FINE OLD PITCHERS

hollowed in, giving a better chance for ornaments, and allowing more room, so that they are not so easily displaced and broken. Often china closets are placed in each side of the fireplace, with ornamental glass doors, frequently showing leaded panes, which lend a characteristic feature to the room, without being very expensive. A window-seat, or ingle-nook, at one side of the chimney, is always attractive. There is no more charming method of filling such a niche. If you care to put in a fan light above the seat, it will be so much the more ornamental. A very new idea puts over the fireplace a glassed-in cabinet, in three sections, which is very effective. Such graceful touches lend individuality to any room.

An oak dresser in a house on Chiswick Mall, England



BY A DECORATOR

THE dining-room in the house for which The Decorator was supplying the scheme, opening directly from the living-room described in the October HOUSE AND GARDEN, was of southern and eastern exposure and showed good proportions. An alcove window set at the southern end gave most excellent opportunity for a proper and attractive disposal of plants and was made a pronounced feature of the decorative scheme of the room. Paper of charming color and design covered the wall from the plate rail to cornice. Against a clear white background brown twigs and branches of the pine showed strongly through clustering green needles, interspersed at intervals by small brown cones. The color of twig and cone matched perfectly the tone of the oak and the rich green of the pine needles was a trifle deeper in color than the plaster panels below the rail. A light cornice of the



COTTAGE SIDEBOARD, WITH PLATE RACK

The lower walls were under his suggestions painted in oil, and given a flat finish. The color chosen was soft green harmonizing perfectly with the green used in the adjoining room.

The standing woodwork of oak was finished with a color reproducing the rich nut brown of English oak, the stain and finish bringing out the grain of the wood effectively. This included a plate rail set at a height of six feet above the floor line. oak set at the ceiling angle and stained like the woodwork gave solidity and finish to the entire wall treatment. This paper is one of the season's best

designs of domestic manufacture, and retails for forty cents a single roll.

At the windows next the glass, curtains of ecru net were hung. These curtains were interesting and unusual and as the decorator said "composed

A House of Six Rooms Furnished for \$1,500



expressly for this room." All edges were finished with a turned three inch hem. Partly on this hem and partly extending on the single net of the curtain, was the design of pine twigs, needles and cones taken from the wall-paper, worked in loose, free stitches in heavy silks of brown and green shades. The effect of this design was wonderfully artistic and went very far toward completing the

finished beauty of the diningroom. Over-draperies of thin crinkled silk in the lightest shade of green shown in the wall covering supplemented these and were well pushed back, simply outlining the window. These curtains were made-as were those of the embroidered net-to reach only to the sill and were finished with a three inch hem. Double sets of slender rods were used, the curtains run on these by a casing at the top allowing no heading to show.

The furniture selected was of oak stained and finished like the standing woodwork. The pieces chosen were simple in line and though not heavy, were well constructed. This furniture comprised a round table, two arm chairs and six side chairs, a low buffet and small serving table (illustrations of which are shown). These seemed all that was necessary and with the simple plain lines and unworried color effect, the room was delightfully attractive.

On the opposite side of the room from the casement windows a mantel was placed, faced about with unglazed gray green tile. The narrow oak shelf set high in line with the plate rail, was supported by iron brackets. This shelf held some tall brass candlesticks, two at either end. In the center was a great boat-shaped beaten copper bowl with brass mountings, no other brass or copper pieces were used. Some quaint and unusual pieces of pewter were, however, arranged along the plate rail. The floor was stained a darker shade of brown than the woodwork and given a polished wax finish. The wood used for the floor was pine, and it was treated with two coats of floor finish and a final coat of wax, well rubbed. This treatment resulted in a surface beautiful and much more durable than where the wax is applied directly to the wood.

A Japanese rug of cotton having green and gray figures on a white ground supplied an attractive and inexpensive floor covering which composed well with the other fittings of the room.

The mass of tall palms and delicate green tracery of fern leaves against the glass of the southern windows seemed the crux of the color scheme. The buffet and servingtable covers, as well as the center-piece used on the round table, were of heavy linen embroidered in the pine needle and cone pattern. On the table square was placed a low black teakwood stand, holding a quaint Japanese flower pot in which grew a dwarfed pine tree.

The arrangement of furniture was as carefully studied



SADDLE-SEAT DINING CHAIRS

as that in the adjoining living-room. The buffet was placed between the two casement windows, the serving table between the alcove window and the swinging door into the pantry, the table not quite in the center of the room but nearer the window holding the ferns.

The lighting of the room was simple and effective. The table lights clustered under a spreading open weave bamboo shade which was lined with soft green silk and threw the light pleasantly upon the table. The side lights above the buffet were of the least expensive design. On such ordinarily the bulbs turn up, here they were reversed and little frills of green silk were placed over the ground glass shades, adding a touch of elegance which suited the room.

The owners of the house were so delighted with the finished room, both by its distinctive charm and the small cost of everything, that they requested the decorator to select and purchase for them the china and glass ware setting a limit of \$50.00 on the amount The small cups which matched this, could be utilized either for chocolate or after-dinner coffee. With the six dollars which remained of the fifty after making the above mentioned purchases, he chose one-half dozen Limoge salad plates. These showed conventional designs in which the dominant color was green, but as they were odd pieces, he was lucky enough to procure them at the price named.

In designing this wholly successful room The Decorator had well in mind three points, its color relation to the adjoining living-room; its simple formality, as suggested by the Japanese feeling in its decoration; and the utility as well as beauty of each article used in its fitting.

The stairway placed in a small hall directly back of the living-room, he found a difficult architectural feature to reconcile. After careful study of the floor plans, and such photographs as were supplied him by his client, he determined to remove the wide door leading from the living-room into this passage, plac-

ing a curtain at

the opening. A

commodious

landing at the turn of the stairs

showed a win-

dow under

which he placed

a wide seat, and heaped upon it

half a dozen

comfortable pil-

lows covered

in greens and

The walls,

woodwork, and

curtains were

like those in the

living-room.

This treatment

of a bad feature

resulted in mak-

browns.

to be expended. Glasses selected were of good quality and showed a tiny banded pattern at the top. These included water, claret, sherry and liqueur glasses.

As very many unnecessary pieces are usually included in the regulation sets of china, The Decorator determined to find something in open stock which would come within the



DUTCH PEDESTAL EIGHT FOOT EXTENSION TABLE

amount allowed him for these. Eliminating tea cups, sauce and sugar bowls, cream jugs, tea and chocolate pots, he found made a decided difference in the cost and he was enabled to select something to replace the necessary pieces which, while harmonizing with the whole, would show a different design which seemed desirable. He found a charming little tea set, including the tea pot, sugar bowl, cream jug and eight cups of delicate Japanese ware in dull green, the design of pure white storks showing exquisitely against this ground. This selection augmented the Japanese suggestion, already felt in the decoration of the room.

The chocolate pot selected was dull green in color, the beauty of its slender shape, entirely undecorated. ing this room more spacious and attractive. The cost of decorating and furnishing was as follows:

Five rolls of " pine cone " wall-paper @ 40c\$ 2	
Japanese rug, 9 x 12 27	00
Embroidered net curtains, \$12.00 per pair 24	00
Thin crinkled green silk for curtains @ 90c 8	20
Embroidered centerpiece, buffet cover, serving table cover. 30	00
Oak table	
Oak buffet 35	oc
Serving table	00
	00
	50
	00
Chinese jar 2	00
	75
D I I I	00
China and glassware 50	00

Garden Notes

Winter Protection for Plants

BY ELLEN P. WILLIAMS

THERE is much to be done in the garden before the winter covering is put on. One must take up the dahlias, gladioli and other not hardy bulbous roots and store in sand in a cool cellar after giving them a thorough drying in the sun and shaking off all the earth.

Cut down the perennial and pull out all the annual plants and burn, as they are often filled with insects and plant disease. The covering of plants is principally to protect them from thawing and freezing, which does the real harm.

I would like to condense the rest of my subject into: "Oh, just cover up everything with manure, leaves and stable litter." But one must do this with care, for some things like to be entirely covered and others wish to show their green tops all winter. The latter, such as hollyhock and foxglove, must have their protection of leaves or manure tucked around under their leaves and not on top, as they will dampen and rot off if their crowns are covered.

The galladia cannot stand any manure. I would let the plants that stay green all winter, such as sweet william, rock cress and basket of gold, show a little and breathe in the open air. All iris love a generous covering of manure and dead leaves.

Bulbs like a covering of two or three inches of stable litter, for leaves pack too closely and may smother the bulb.

I would wait until the first very cold snap to cover the iris and bulbs, when the mice and moles have made their winter quarters elsewhere and will not settle among them to feast all winter.

If your box or evergreen hedges are exposed to heavy winds and winter sunshine, put up boards on the north and west sides. Snow melting and freezing on their boughs will burn them brown.

In covering the roses, I think it really does no good to give each one a coat of straw, unless very tender roses. I would cut a foot or so off the high ones to prevent them from being whipped by the wind which would loosen them at the roots. Put around the hybrid perpetual roses a dressing of stable manure. The hybrid teas or everblooming roses should have, besides the manure, a foot or more of stable litter around them.

Snapdragon and wall flowers can be protected by a covering of stable litter and boards.

If you have a cold frame to carry tender plants through the winter, you will be able to save many seedlings that are too small to stand the cold. The cardinal plant is better for this protection. Lilies like a mulching of leaves.

Beautify the Dark Corners

By ROBERT H. STERLING

IT is the exception, if about the house or yard there is not one or more dark corners—corners where direct sunlight never enters, and it is often a problem when planning the spring work in the garden, how to prevent such places from detracting from its general appearance. Without the sun-rays it is out of the question to grow flowers, but by a little effort and attention these dark, shaded corners can be converted into the most attractive features of the yard. In the garden of the forest there are many sunless nooks, and when the city or suburban dweller rambles therein on a summer day it is just such places as are sought. They are cool, romantic woodland dells crowded with mosses, ferns, lichens and many similar plants.

With a little assistance the places about the garden where "nothing will grow" can be made almost—but not quite—as attractive to the eye as the natural dells which are so eagerly hunted. Go to one of these natural, sunless gardens of the woods and gather a number of choice fern plants. You will find here probably some vigorous plants of the coarse fern, or brake, whose fronds are oftentimes four and even six feet long. These will make a very effective background.

Take them up with their full mass of roots and allow the black, spongy mold in which they grew to cling to the roots. Wrap the roots carefully to protect them from the light and to prevent, as far as possible, the evaporation of the moisture; soak them thoroughly in water and set in the ground as near as possible to the depth they originally grew. After transplanting flood heavily with water; continue to supply plenty of water—lots of it —and there will be developed as fine specimens of ferns as grow naturally in the forests.

In the woods where the ferns are gathered, there will most likely be found an abundance of flat stones covered with silver-gray lichens. If a liberal supply of these be taken also, a beautiful background can be made for the tiny dell—the heretofore dark, damp and sunless corner which has been a source of annoyance.

The beauty of the corner can be enhanced additionally by hanging a bucket or pot above the bed of ferns, in which should be set a trailing fern. Pierce the bottom of the bucket or pot with extremely small holes, so that the water will merely trickle out, or, at the most, fall in a very fine spray. Let the hanging position be such that the water will drip on the fern bed, and while watering the fern in the pot the same water is utilized for the bed plants.



The Editor, Margaret Greenleaf, wishes to extend a personal invitation to all readers of House and Garden to send to the Correspondence Department, inquiries on any matter pertaining to house finishing and furnishing. Careful consideration is given each inquiry, the letter and answer being published in due time as matters of interest to other readers. Where an early reply is desired if a stamp and self-addressed envelope are enclosed, the answer will be sent. No charge whatever is made for any advice.

CORRESPONDENCE

SUGGESTIONS FOR A HALF PARTITION IN A STUDIO

H AVING noticed in HOUSE AND GARDEN that you give suggestions on furnishing, I wish to ask your help in the arrangement of my studios which are 24' x 30' and 24' x 24'. The walls are divided by a running board in white and all the woodwork is white. The walls above baseboard in dull yellow and below in dull green paper.

I want to discard the curtains which now separate the two rooms and put in a half partition. The ceiling is too high—18'. I want a window seat built in the space in the corner. I send a rough draft of the plan. I hoped that I might use green burlap in the panels, with oak strips for dividing the panels, and to make the seat. I have four large windows, all on north side. These I will hang with rough yellow silk. Rugs are large and in brown, green and yellow shades. The floors are dark green. Pedestals for large casts, are green also and the desk, chairs, bookcases, cabinets, etc., are in oak. The room was decorated before I took it.

I would like you to suggest curtains to hang between the rooms. Perhaps you could find something I could stencil and something for the seat cover. I should like a kind of mattress for the seat that can be aired. What color and fabric should I use for the seat and curtains, and what pillows would you suggest? I want some wash curtains for a cabinet. I thought I could stencil these. Please suggest fabric.

Of what would you suggest my having the panels made between the oak strips? As I cannot afford the oak it might be some cheaper wood or other material. I have the pegged furniture and will have the strips and pieces across the top pegged to complete the idea. I have a great many pieces of bric-abrac for still life work and these must be kept on a white shelf around the room. I am sorry the shelf is white but find that it is impossible to change it, as it is of pine and cannot be finished like the partition. I will appreciate any help you may be able to give me. Answer: We are much interested in the studio you describe and are glad to suggest to you the material from which to make your partition. There is a plaster board made which will be found entirely serviceable and very inexpensive for such use. We are sending you the name of this material and its manufacturers by post. This may be painted or tinted or covered with burlap as desired. It comes in panels of a variety of sizes.

We feel the one difficulty in your studio would be the white shelf, therefore, we suggest that you paint this with ordinary oil paint in a color exactly matching the green of the paper below it. We send you samples of green arras cloth which we would suggest as the material best suited for your portieres for stenciling, and also for covering the mattress pad and pillows. This may be procured in a variety of shades. If you would send us a small sample showing the color of your green paper, we could match this for you and would recommend green in preference to brown or yellow that you may avoid any restless effect with your walls. There is a coarse linen made which takes stenciling well, from which you might make the curtains for your shelves, using the same design on a reduced scale as you do for the door hangings. For your pillows, two should be covered with the material used for your pad and in additional ones, you might introduce dull blue and old red agreeably.

EXTERIOR COLOR FOR A SMALL STUCCO HOUSE

I am building a house of cement or stucco and would like your advice as to the coloring for the outside. The upper portion of the house will have the half-timbered English cottage effect. This is of chestnut and I would like suggestions for the treatment of all the wood trim as well as the color for the stucco. Is it possible to obtain stains which will color the cement and should it be mixed before the blocks are made or the cement applied ?

Answer: There are stains made which give good and durable color effects on cement or stucco. These should be applied to the finished surface. A soft yellow tan which shows the coloring seen in the old mission adobe houses is an excellent tone to choose, unless one prefers the natural soft gray which the plaster shows. Your woodwork should be treated with a stain, nut brown in color. This will give the chestnut the color that exposure to time and weather would produce.

CHARMING COLOR SCHEME FOR A REMODELED HOUSE

In remodeling an old house, we have decided to use white on all woodwork except in the living-room and are anxious to have that stained mahogany, but hesitate because a number of people have told us it would prove unsatisfactory and that it would fog, show finger-marks, etc. A decorator has suggested doing the room in Flemish oak with the furniture of course, in keeping, but the idea seems to me wrong as on one side would be the dining-room, on the other the music-room, both entirely Colonial in style. Kindly give me your opinion; also tell me how the treads of the stairs should be finished when the side rail is white, and the hand rail of mahogany. I notice in "Colonial Halls" in your October issue, the tread matches the hard wood floor while in some old houses that I know, the treads are all white. Personally, I prefer a style of woodwork, furnishings etc., rather dark in character, but in doing over a house in which the wood is oak or pine, though perfectly plain, there seems to be only one treatment open, white paint, particularly where one owns a quantity of genuine old mahogany.

Will you also suggest the wall covering and hangings for the first floor rooms throughout as shown by the rough plan enclosed? You will send, I know, something that will be harmonious, as we enter the front door and look through the several rooms.

I wish to thank you for your assistance and assure you of the help you have been to would-be decorators.

Answer: We take pleasure in supplying you with the following suggestions for the interior treatment of your remodeled house; the charming plans interest us greatly. It is quite possible to use a mahogany stain and finish which will be satisfactory if your wood is of a kind to take the stain appropriately. Oak, however, should never be stained mahogany as stains should be used only where they reproduce a possible natural color in the wood, that is, to explain, oak could never by any chance take on a tone like mahogany but any shade of brown, mossy green or the silvery weathered effects would show well, as these tones result naturally from time and exposure.

If the wood of your living-room is of oak we would suggest that you, by all means, use the ivory white there, since it is your decision to use it in the other rooms of the house as the rooms are so nearly allied. For the hall and music-room which open well together, we are suggesting a yellow tan Japanese grass-cloth, rather neutral in tone, as this will make an excellent setting for mahogany furniture and harmonize well with the ivory white enamel we are suggesting for your woodwork in preference to the white. The tapestry material we send you is advised for door curtains and any upholstery you may require for your hall or for chair seats in the music-room.

For the living-room opening from your music-room a favrile bronze two-toned paper is advised. This makes a beautiful wall covering and is especially effective with mahogany furniture and ivory white enameled woodwork. Samples of drapery materials for completing these schemes are sent to you. These will be found to harmonize with the coloring of the adjoining rooms.

For the morning-room, which we see is of northern exposure, a yellow scheme is sent. For the diningroom where the woodwork is treated with the ivory enamel, a tapestry paper is submitted with drapery materials in plain colors. The ceiling tints to be used throughout the house are also forwarded. It is a very essential point to remember in using these schemes that to complete them, the ceiling colors must not vary from the samples recommended.

For the finish of the kitchen and service department of the house, a good tough varnish which is not affected by heat and moisture is advised for use over the natural wood.

In regard to the treads of the stairs where the spindles are white and the hand rail mahogany, we would say it is largely a matter of choice whether the stairs be painted white like the spindles, stained mahogany like the hand rail, or finished as the floor from which they ascend. The latter is our personal choice. If your floors are of oak they could be stained a medium brown and treated with a good finish. We are sending you sample panels showing the color and finish we would recommend.

COLOR SCHEME FOR THE FIRST FLOOR OF A SMALL HOUSE

I am having a small cottage built, the first floor of which has reception hall, front room and diningroom arranged so that they may be well thrown together and used as one room. Would it be best to have the wall-paper for all the same design? Kindly tell me of the most attractive and neat pattern for wall friezes and ceilings. Would you advise a drop ceiling and solid color for wall or a design of some character, something soft and restful?

In the October number of HOUSE AND GARDEN I was delighted with the article by Louise King on "Modern Wall Coverings," and will you kindly tell me where I can buy such paper as she describes? Please suggest something for a blue bedroom. Please let me hear from you at once. I send a selfaddressed and stamped envelope. I would like a violet design and light sky blue ceiling for one bedroom. Do you think it would look well? The design for the lower part of the room to be a bed of violets and shade off lightly with a scattering design half way up.

Answer: We have taken pleasure in forwarding you the requested suggestions and addresses. Since the height of your ceiling is but nine feet we would not advise a drop ceiling. It will not be necessary to use the same wall covering for the three rooms which throw together, but careful selection of harmonizing colors should be made. For the reception hall we advise a yellow tan paper which can be finished with the pine cone frieze, the lower edge to be cut out and applied as shown in the sample we are sending or it can be finished by a picture rail at the lower edge over the joining, however, where the ceilings are low, as in your case, we would suggest that the frieze be cut out as shown and the picture rail placed at the ceiling angle.

For your dining-room a sample of favrile green paper with the underlying suggestions of old red and blue is submitted. For your living-room the twotoned grass pattern in soft tan paper should be finished by the tree frieze, samples of which are sent. Samples of draperies suitable for these various schemes are also forwarded.

We are sending you some bedroom papers showing a mingling of violets and pale blue. The ceiling may be tinted a pale blue if you desire. We have never seen a paper of the design you describe. It would have assisted us in making the scheme had you mentioned the character of wood used in the house, as this is usually a very necessary part of the color scheme.

Timely House Suggestions

LEILA MECHLIN

THIS is the month of all others when the house is put most strongly to the test—the time of home-comings, holiday cheer, and largehearted hospitality. The big things should be laid aside and the little things, which mean so much, given attention. If there are any great changes to be made, or troublesome repairs needed, postpone them if possible until January, at the earliest, and give this month to comfort-making. To be sure, it is absolutely essential to attend to the drains, to see that faucets do not leak, that chimneys do not smoke, and that radiators serve their purpose without grumbling or snorting, but more than this put aside, or temporarily forget if possible.

In the first place there is the guest's room to be

thought of. Has it comfortable chairs, a desk, good light, sufficient heat, and adequate ventilation? Does it seem livable, hospitable, attractive, or has it an air of distant chilliness, of having been pressed unwillingly into service? There are lots of little things that can be done directly, and with small cost, to alter such conditions. Try curtains at the windows—muslin ones with creton hangings. Try, too, perhaps the effect of a window seat with cushions. Put a vase for flowers and some magazines on the table, and don't hang the pictures you have no other place for on the walls. There was a time when the best of everything was placed in the unused parlor and the guests' chamber, but alas! even then the best was not always lovely.

And then give some thought to the chairs, not only in the living-room but all over the house. See if one in six will pass muster from the standpoint of comfort; if so, you are doing well. Why a pleasure loving people like ourselves should put up, unmurmuringly, with so much discomfort from this quarter is a mystery, unless, like the poor woman of tradition, we have "never known any thing better." To be sure, the fault is somewhat with the manufacturers but it is also very much with the users for the supply is in response to demand. Of course, comfortable chairs can be had but for the most part they are expensive-wickedly expensive. However, there are remedies and make-shifts; care in selection means a good deal and cushions cover a multitude of painful humps and hollows.

How about the settle that was to go by the fireplace this winter, is that yet in place? Built-in furniture has its advantages and when properly designed and placed, nothing is more comfortable or attractive. Look about a little and see if things are arranged in a way inclined to encourage sociability and ease. See if the chairs are grouped conveniently, if the windows are accessible, and the tables serviceable.

It is at this time, also, that the children's room should be given thought, not only on account of this being the children's season, but because now will come stormy days and long evenings when it will be much called into use. It should be bright and sunny, and its furnishings, while simple, should be genuinely attractive. Have a good warm carpet on the floor-one that will stand wear, and lend a note of lively color. Do not curtain the windows or elaborately decorate the walls. Provide a few good pictures and let the children take a hand in their choice. In the way of furniture have a substantial table, a book case, and several stout chairs which may at will serve various uses. A rocking-chair that can be converted into a horse or a chariot, an automobile or a stage-coach, is an invaluable asset. Don't make the room too childish. There is nothing that little people enjoy more than, metaphorically, standing on tip-toe-playing grown-up.

Timely Garden Suggestions

The Christmas decorations will pleasantly demand consideration. Have them by all means, but use judgment in arrangement. Evergreen ropes placed against the walls, or festooned, will form very effective borders and panels, and boughs well disposed will make a decoration of much charm. Place them with regard to the architecture, and use them primarily as decorations. Have a few strong, dominating lines and avoid a confused mass of green stuff. If the room to be decorated is large and its furnishings heavy, laurel ropes and holly wreaths will be found in better accord than the soft crow-foot or branches of running pine. Have in mind the Japanese use of boughs, and remember that the walls are really backgrounds. Never is there a time when red is more attractive or significant than now and a bit of ribbon can be made to help out the note lent by the berries.

Don't forget the Christmas candles, either. What is prettier or more festive than they! Put red shades on them and on the electroliers, and in laying in the supply include some fragrant bayberry dips. Light and color appeal keenly to the senses and nothing gives more pleasure to the festive spirit.

Turning to more mundane matters, it may be well to suggest that at this time it is wise to see to the weather-stripping, to have the cracks around the window frames filled, and in other ways guard against draughts. The chimneys should, of course, have been cleaned in the autumn, but if they have been overlooked have them done at once. The laundry also should be inspected, the dryer put in order, the faucets renewed, and pantry, preserve and linen closets should be ordered, before the arrival of holiday guests.

Timely Garden Suggestions

JOHN W. HALL

I is never too early to begin preparations for the spring work in the garden, and the first thing to be realized is that, whether growing flowers, fruits or vegetables, it is impossible to get results provided there is a lack of proper soil. The physical fitness of the soil is essential—a prime basis of operation. That having been secured the essential elements of plant growth can be supplied. If the soil is too loose, too gritty or sandy, too adhesive and retentive, failure with the garden is certain. A good soil for all practical purposes is a medium clayey loam with sufficient vegetable fiber in it. This condition is seldom found naturally but it can be brought up by intelligent manipulation.

If the soil is gritty and sandy it must be made more retentive. The sandy soil is usually deficient in

organic matter and therefore requires a large quantity of manure. Pulverized or shredded cow manure is best for this soil. If the soil is stiff, retentive clay, the object must be to make it more friable and porous. The use of a dressing of air-slacked lime at this time will add to its friability, and when gardening proper is begun the liberal use of a good pulverized cow or sheep manure will insure the rapid and vigorous development of plant life.

In rural and suburban areas the compost heap is a matter for consideration for all phases of gardening, and now is the time to make it. Perhaps the best way of making a compost heap is to cut sod about an inch thick; place a layer of the sod, grass down, sprinkle lime on to assist in decomposition, and then add a layer of manure. This process to be repeated until the heap is made to contain the desired quantity of compost or until all available material has been used. If the sod is allowed to freeze before being heaped the freezing will destroy or drive out all insects. When desired for use in the spring the compost heap will be in prime condition; upon being cut with the spade it will fall apart thoroughly pulverized and be ready for distributive uses.

One of the important things now to be considered is what to do with chrysanthemum plants from which to procure cuttings for next year. Many labor under the mistaken idea that it is all sufficient to store them in any odd corner. That course will not do. Good, strong, healthy cuttings are necessary for success and preparations for such must now be made. As one season—that of the flower—closes, another season that of the plant—opens. In storing chrysanthemum plants put them where they will remain entirely dormant until time for propagation. If possible to do so, all tendency to growth development before spring should be avoided. The stock plants need a period of complete rest in order that there may be thorough recuperation.

Assuming that cold frames have been provided there is nothing better than carefully planting the stocks in rows in reasonably rich, soft soil. The plants should be permitted to freeze moderately and then protected during the colder months so that the thaw will be gradual. In this way sturdy cuttings will be ready at the proper time to be put out. Do not use side shoots; the tops make much the more desirable plant.

If the early varieties of *Azalea indica*, like Deutsche Perle, are desired for Christmas they should go into a warm, moist house. Bud development may be materially aided by spraying freely. *Azalea mollis*, double cherries, lilacs, and any other forcing shrub, can now be started in a brisk heat and kept well syringed. Lilacs started in the dark come in quicker but the flowers are inferior. These plants should be removed to a cooler house when in bloom, fifty degrees at night is sufficient at the start.

There are many beautiful varieties of the begonia. Now is the time for propagation. There is nothing more pleasing for pot culture or for planting under benches and in rockeries.

Every year witnesses an increased desire for plants in pots at Christmas time. The poinsettia with its rich red, and blending of red and green, appeals strongly to the sentiments of warmth natural in the breasts of all civilized people. Also for this use the ardisia has charming qualities, while the berried solanum meets with favor though not so popular. Both the red and white varieties of azalea receive kindly attention.

Mice should be kept from stored plants and bulbs. A very effective way is to take some strychnine and dissolve it in hot water, having enough water to cover the kernels of grains or corn which should be put in the solution to soak while the water is yet warm. The corn will soften and absorb the strychnine; after the absorption dry the corn perfectly and use as needed. The mice will nibble out the kernels but only a few will live to finish the meal.

If not already done immediate attention should be given to the vines about the garden. They should be carefully and securely tied up to prevent damage by the weight of snows and sleets. Cover the bulbbeds with a heavy spread of mulch which may be made of the leaves which have fallen about the place. Protect half-hardy roses. Heap coal ashes about the roots and wrap straw about the plants. See that all avenues of drainage about the yard are open.

Garden Correspondence

W. C. EGAN

DYING OF BERBERIS HEDGES

MY hedge of *Berberis Thunbergii*, some years old, is dying out in spots and some of the other plants have a yellowish look. A gardener tells me it is because the drainage is not good. He may be right, as the water often stands on the surface near it. What can I do to remedy the matter? Shall I replace the dying plants? M. F. C.

The gardener is right. All of the Berberis family like a dry situation. I advise you to tile drain the soil. If this is impossible for any reason, you must replant on a raised bed. Take up and destroy the plants you have. They are probably all weakened and it is better to start with fresh young stock. Remove all roots and bring in enough fresh soil and well-rotted manure, which, when well mixed with the old soil, raises the bed fully twelve inches. Get young, bushy plants a foot or so high and plant them eighteen to twenty inches apart. In time the overarching branches will spread over the bed and hide the fact that the bed is raised. In the meantime, plant at each side masses of spring flowering bulbs, crocus, scillas and chionodoxas will do well there for some years and cost but little.

DISEASE OF THE LEAVES OF THE HOLLYHOCK

Can the disease that attacks the leaves of the hollyhock be overcome? I have some fine double ones but they became so shabby in foliage last year that I came near abandoning them. S. E. P.

I do not think the disease can be wholly overcome. By commencing when the leaves first appear, to spray them with a Bordeaux solution and continuing it at intervals during the season, spraying both the under and upper surface of the leaf, you may hold the disease in check. The doubles are more subject than the singles. Often in farm gardens one may find healthy single hollyhocks of good color. Get some of them and plant them in a section of your garden where your other plants have not been; but first burn your old plants. There is a race of hollyhocks that bloom the first year from seed, that seldom show signs of disease until late in summer.

PLANTING SHRUBS ALONG FOUNDATION WALLS

I wish advice regarding shrubs to be planted along foundations with southern exposure. What would you suggest? Would the barberry be suitable? Also what would you suggest for clumps of shrubbery? F. B.

Your climate and the exposure admits the growing of many of the choicer shrubs, excluding mainly those that require much moisture. Barberries thrive best in well-drained soil, which your foundation walls afford, as they convey extra moisture quite rapidly to the tile below. There are several barberries, but those most suitable are the common Berberis vulgaris in its green or purple leaved form, which is a tall upright grower with arching branches, or B. Thunbergii more spreading in habit and more noted for its fall coloring. One shrub of this, will in time, if in good soil and close to a wall, cover the wall twelve feet or more wide and four high. Spiræa Van Houteii, one of the new bridal-wreaths, will do well there as will the golden bells, Forsythia. fortunei. The Japanese Rosa rugosa, and its hybrids, especially the charming Conrad F. Meyer, would give flowers and good foliage all the season through.

Any of the above would also make good clumps.

If you wanted a large bed, giving good foliage and fall coloring, both in leaf and berry, plant Euonymus Americana, or the European form in the center, then the green-leaved form of Berberis Vulgaris, and for the outer rim use Thunberg's barberry. Plant the latter five feet from the common barberry and the balance four feet apart. Plant crocus, scillas, cottage tulips or any spring blooming bulb thickly among them and in the spring sow seeds of Phlox Drummondi, California poppy or Sanvitalia procumbens all over the bed. This is for a ground color while the shrubs are small.

As a rule the soil close to a foundation wall is poor, generally being that excavated from the cellar, impregnated with bricks, mortar and refuse. If you want your shrubs to do well, you must remove this, and give them good soil.

MAKING WAR ON THE MOTH PESTS

A^N energetic warfare has been waged against the moth pests in many cities, and the spread of this nuisance has made prompt action necessary to save the street and park trees.

The recent progress in wholesale spraying against the gipsy moth has been most striking. E. P. Felt, State Entomologist of New York, says in a recent issue of the Country Gentleman that the capacity of the ordinary spraying outfit has been immensely increased by replacing the usual six horse-power gasoline engine, weighing some 1800 pounds, by a ten horse-power engine made especially for automobiles, and weighing only 400 pounds. Furthermore, a heavier and more powerful pump has been employed, the whole weighing no more than the usual spraying outfit. The machinery is mounted on a stout wagon, with a 400-gallon tank. A heavy inch and a half hose, some 400 to 800 feet long, with a smooth 1-in. nozzle, is used for work in the woodlands. A pressure of 200 to 250 pounds is maintained.

The hose is handled much as though a fire were in progress. Ten men, at intervals of six or eight feet, carry the end of the hose, the nozzle being in charge of a superior, with instructions to keep it moving all the time. The pressure is sufficient to throw the insecticide forty to fifty feet, and the resistance of the air breaks it into a fine spray.



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conditions. The cost of treatment in this manner is reduced to about \$10.20 per acre where the woodland is fairly clear of underbrush. An interesting modification of this apparatus has been employed for spraying strips along the roadside. It consists simply of a giant extension nozzle mounted on a universal joint so that the tip may be elevated forty or fifty feet from the ground. This last named apparatus, with a favorable wind can cover a strip 400 feet wide. - Landscape Gardening. PRIMITIVE JAPANESE ARMOR HE Imperial Museum at Uyeno Park, Tokyo, has recently sent

The foliage is well covered if the nozzle

is handled intelligently This giant outfit usually requires four horses, and

is capable of spraying fourteen to six-

teen acres a day, much depending upon

to the Metropolitan Museum in an exchange an important collection of primitive Japanese arms and armor. It includes the best of the duplicates gathered by the authorities of Japanese archæology during a period of many years and is therefore an acquisition of uncommon value. And especially is it timely since the Museum's newly developed exhibit of Japanese armor is inadequately represented in "primitives." The objects now received include, best of all, one of the very large two-edged copper spear-heads (tsukushi-boko) characteristic of the region of Tsushima. They are exceedingly rare and of great antiquity, dating probably earlier than the Christian era, and prior to the period of burial mounds. The remaining objects are later, but antedate the year 700 Å. D. They include armor and spear points of bronze and iron, early sword blades, three important sword guards, one of which is encrusted with gold, fragments of early scale armor, and of a corselet: there is also a primitive helmet. Among horse trappings are a stirrup, bit and cross-shaped (bronze) ornaments.

At the present time, then, the Museum's materials for illustrating early stages in the evolution of Japanese armor are reasonably complete; for, in addition to the foregoing objects, there are represented:—a well-preserved corselet of the "Jimmu Tenno style," several models of burial mound images (which came to be placed in the barrow in lieu of the attendants, horses, etc. of

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the dead personage) and a number of interesting horse trappings, including a saddle-bow encrusted with gold. The Japanese civilization of this early period, judging from these objects was clearly of a high order, closely paralleling for example, that of contemporary Western Europe.—Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

HARD WOOD FLOORS

THE selection of flooring requires intimate knowledge of the fibres, grains and colors of the various woods; even the different characteristics assumed at the various times and conditions of growths: the colors, as new lumber, sun and kiln dried, and in wearing old age; the usage to which it is to be put must be a prime factor; its price and the ease of obtaining it must not be ignored.

About a dozen families of trees give nearly all the flooring. The two hard pines (Pinus rigida and Pinus resinosa) known in lumber-yards as Georgia, Carolina, or Southern are more trod upon in America than any other wood. From them come the oil of turpentine and resin of commerce, by "boxing' the trees, blazing with a cup-shaped hollow at the bottom of the blaze in which the crude resin accumulates. From this the oil is distilled and the residue refined into the clear amber resin. Contrary to general belief, boxing adds to rather than detracts from the value of the wood. By extracting the sap year after year the growth is retarded, and the grain made more compact, finer and harder.

Boards for flooring should be selected entirely from the heart of old trees. Georgia pine is of a light straw-color and takes on an excellent polish, is hard, but elastic, and makes a good floor for dancing; its unfortunate feature is its proneness to sliver; this can be obviated by the way in which it is sawed.

White-wood or bass (*Tilia glabra* of Europe and *Tilia Americana* of this country) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior* of Europe and *Fraxinus Americana*) cost about the same, but neither is worth considering. The wood is soft, is not pretty, slivers readily, and does not keep its shape under atmospheric changes.

Oak (Quercus alba, Q. rubra and Q. vivens) of either one of the three mentioned varieties makes an excellent floor. Low-Cost Suburban Homes-25 Cents

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The red oaks, unfortunately, are the ones generally selected. The wood from them makes the homeliest and roughest of the oak floors; the grain is the coarsest, and they stand moisture least well. However, remember that we are comparing oak with oak, and no oak floor is to be lightly condemned. The socalled Spanish oak is the best of the red oaks. It grows in all the lower Allegheny regions. The live-oaks and postoaks make light-colored, hard, easilypolished timber. But the white oak stands head and shoulders above all the others. It is the lightest in color, hardest, grained closest, and is susceptible of the highest polish; from this comes the finest of the old English black-oak furniture: it withstands alike all climates.

Birch (Betula alba and B. papyracea) makes an entirely satisfactory floor for dancing, as well as for kindred uses. It is easily brought to a smooth surface and a fine polish, is of a rich amber color of an even shade, and, in addition, has that rare elasticity and resiliency that makes it alike delightful for walking and dancing.

What is said of birch applies equally well to hard maple (*Acer rubrum* and *A. dasycarpum*), both the white and red varieties, the white being that chosen for floors, it being the lightest colored of the wood so used. It is very hard, takes readily a fine polish; the boards are not liable to warp, but, unfortunately, require the very closest care in the drying to prevent shrinkage when laid. It is lasting, and is but little affected by water. Only beech, hickory and white oak approach it in lightness of color.

Hickory (*Carya alba*, *C. glabra* and *C. amara*) has too sterling qualities, generally appreciated, to need detailed discussion of its intrinsic worth, yet it is sadly neglected when the question of flooring is under consideration; perhaps that is due to the difficulty with which it is laid. It is an open-grain wood, but takes polish with ease. From the various trees of the *Carya alba* is obtained the hickory nuts of commerce; while the *Carya glabra* yield the so-called pig nuts, and the *Carya amara* gives only a small bitter nut that is all but worthless.

Beech (Fagus sylvatica of Europe and F. ferruginea of America) makes almost an ideal floor, light-colored and hard, and has the rare quality of wearing smoother with age; at times it is found beautifully bird's-eyed. In the Southern

States it grows in the greatest profusion in the swamps and lower woods, but is unappreciated, only enough being preserved for use in making plane-stocks and other tools requiring a hard, durable wood that does not shrink, warp or split.

The cherry-woods, especially the Prunus Pennsylvanica (red) and the P. serotina (black), are esteemed highly in cabinet-making, and are equally beautiful and desirable for flooring. The garden cherry, P. cerasus, is often used as a cheaper substitute, but can be readily detected by the odor and taste as well as by the general appearance. This is not an ideal wood for dancing floors, but for dining-rooms it cannot be excelled. Both the red and black varieties are beautifully grained, and often can be found curled, and even bird's-eyed. To properly select the boards, and lay the body of the straight-grained and the border of the curled, nothing could make a prettier floor.

Now it is clear from the above that the uses, the furnishing and the windowspace of a room should determine the kind of wood to be used.

The laying requires not only a good carpenter but an expert judge of woods, and of the individual boards, because only by carefully selecting and placing like planks can we get a permanently even surface. Suppose a plank of heart and one of sap should be placed side by side: no matter what the wood, when a rainy season may come the sap will swell more and rise above the heart. Even when they come from like relative positions in two like trees their texture may differ so widely as to make them undesirable companions.

In spite of the nicest workmanship and the best judgment in selecting, some inequalities of surface will be present till removed by the most thorough sandpapering. This should be done with enough care to avoid scratching; then comes the polishing or finishing.—*The American Architect and Building News*.

THOUGHTS ON WORK AND WORKMEN

A^T present many of the larger railroad systems have reduced their dividends to their stockholders, and in some cases the stockholders are in hard lines, for there is no greater mistake in business matters than the belief that the stockholders of railroads are all millionaires: Many of them, indeed, are parties



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roads doing as stated may be mentioned the New York Central, the Pennsylvania system, the Norfolk & Western and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Rail-The workingmen on most of roads. the railroads are practically receiving the same wages per hour, but the working forces have been reduced. The same state of affairs exists with manufacturers. Another noticeable fact is that workingmen are doing more work per hour than formerly, when all winds blew their way. It was so then that if an employer complained, and justly, the workman simply put on his coat and went across the street and got another job; but under present conditions he knows that if he fails to hold his job there is a man on the sidewalk, at the foot of the ladder, ready to take his job. In truth, it is plain that there is a good deal of "human nature" in men. Whether wages will drop in the near future, it is hard to determine. We think and hope not. But there seems to be a more satisfactory condition of affairs at present in the building trades than for some time previous, and mainly because mechanics have a feeling sense of the realities of the times, and contractors are doing better than a year ago, in spite of the so-called depression, for things are working smoothly and pleasantly between employers and employees.-The Western Architect and

of limited means, who depend largely upon the dividends for their support, and among them are many widows and

dependent children. Among the rail-

GREATEST LUMBER CUT

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MORE lumber was cut in the United States last year than in any other year in its history. The enormous amount of 37,550,736 board feet was produced, and the mill value of this was \$621,151,388. In addition, there were produced 11,858,260,000 shingles, valued at \$24,155,555, and 3,812,807,000 lath, valued at \$11,490,570. On the whole, it is safe to say that the present annual lumber cut of the United States approximates forty billion feet, and that the total mill value of the lumber, lath, and shingles each year produced is not less than \$700,000,000. These figures give some idea of how vast is the lumber industry and how great is the demand for its products.

A glance at the kinds of lumber

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produced shows very clearly the passing of white pine and oak, one the greatest softwood and the other the greatest hardwood which the forest has ever grown. Since 1899 the cut of white pine has fallen off more than forty per cent, while that of white oak has fallen off more than thirty-six per cent. To-day yellow pine leads all other woods in amount cut, while Douglas fir-and this will be a surprise to many-comes second. Since 1899 the cut of Douglas fir has increased 186 per cent. Louisiana is the foremost yellow pine State, with Texas, Mississippi and Arkansas following in order. Washington produces by far the greatest amount of Douglas fir.

A comparison of the lumber-producing States shows that since 1899 there have been many changes in their relative rank. Washington, which in 1899 stood sixth, now leads, while Wisconsin, which eight years ago led all others, is now third. In the same period Oregon, Louisiana, Mississippi, Idaho, and California made great strides as lumber-producing States, though, on the other hand, the amount produced in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Indiana, and Ohio fell off anywhere from twenty-nine to fiftyfour per cent.

The highest-priced native woods are walnut, hickory, and ash, and the cheapest are larch and white fir. From the fact, however, that since 1899 the average increase in the price of lumber has been forty-nine per cent, it will not be long before cheap woods are few and far between.

Figures upon the lumber cut of the United States in 1906 are contained in Circular 122 of the Forest Service, which can be had upon application to the Forester, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

BOOKS ON CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

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ITEMS FROM AUTOMOBILE TOPICS

A nice question is up for decision in a Wisconsin town. It appears that a policeman came along and impounded an automobile which he found standing by the curb apparently deserted. When the owner came to reclaim it he found that the pound-master believed that he was entitled to \$20, the law prescribing a fee of fifty cents per animal in pound and the car being one of forty horse power.

Significant words were those uttered by Calvin Tomkins, president of the New Jersey Water Ways Association, spoken at the Good Roads Convention held at Atlantic City. The State, he urged, should not wait for' national action in this matter, but should enter upon a system of inland waterways and highway improvements. He recommended that the Delaware and Raritan Canal be deepened; that advantage be taken of natural conditions to develop an inland waterway along the coast from Cape May to Gay Head; and that, no less important, a network of good roads be woven all over New Jersey between her cities and connecting their park systems with one another, as well as providing access to the natural beauties of the State.

"Sane motoring" is a phrase we are beginning to hear considerably about. It means a lot. Opinions as to what constitutes "sane" motoring will differ widely, of course, but it will scarcely be contended that the reckless driver is included among those who motor sanely.

The best proof of the prosperity of the Middle and Far West, notwithstanding the year of financial and industrial depression we have passed through, is found in the large and steadily increasing volume of trade in automobiles which is transacted in that section.

Two things are to be avoided in replacing spark plugs, one being too tight adjustment in a hot cylinder, which makes it almost impossible to remove it afterward; the other being the breaking of the insulation, if of porcelain, through contact with a wrench. Socket wrenches if made too narrow in the neck, will often cause fracture of the insulator unless held perfectly in line.

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