

Highland Park News

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DECORATION.

"Manibus date 2011a plenis."

Mid the flower-wreath'd tombs I stand
Bearing lilies in my hand,
Comrades! in what soldier-grave
Sleeps the bravest of the brave?

Is it he who sank to rest
With his colors round his breast?
Friendship makes his tomb a shrine;
Gaplands veil it, ask not mine.

Que low grave, you trees beneath,
Bears no roses, wears no wreath;
Yet no heart more high and warm
Ever dared the battle-form.

Never gleamed a prouder eye
In the front of victory,
Never foot had firmer tread
On the field where hope lay dead.

Than are hid within this tomb,
Where the untended grasses bloom—
And no stone, with feign'd distress,
Mocks the sacred loneliness.

Youth and beauty, dauntless will,
Dreams that life could ne'er fulfill,
Here lie buried; here in peace
Wrongs and woes have found release.

Turning from my comrades' eyes,
Kneeling where a woman lies,
I strew lilies on the grave
Of the bravest of the brave.

T. W. HIGGINSON in Scribner's for June.

THE dramatic and musical entertainment given on last Friday evening for the benefit of Trinity Church, was an unqualified and gratifying success. The musical numbers, both vocal and instrumental, were most pleasingly rendered, while the two-act drama entitled "Among the Breakers" was appropriately cast and performed in a manner which brought to light an amount and quality of histrionic talent far beyond our most sanguine expectations. The evenness with which each character was sustained and the smoothness and freedom from those painful halts which too often accompany amateur efforts, evinced careful preparation and a thorough conception and mastery of the plot. Below we give the cast, and in doing so would assure the ladies and gentlemen who, on this occasion, so delighted their friends, that as often as they choose to appear before the public, "on the stage," they will confer a real favor upon their auditors and bring commendation and credit upon themselves.

DAVID MURRAY, Keeper of Fairpoint Light,
LARRY DIVINE, his Assistant,
HON. BRUCE HUNTER,
CLARENCE HUNTER, his Ward,
PETER PARAGRAPH, a Newspaper Reporter,
SCUD, Hunter's Colored Servant,
Miss MINKIE DARR, Hunter's Niece,
BESS STARBRIGHT, cast up by the waves,
MOTHER CARY, a reputed Fortune-Teller,
BIDDY BEAN, an Irish Girl,

Mr. John H. Leslie
Mr. Charles J. O'Brien
" Edward H. Beebe
" George S. Hall
" Chas. L. Bingham
" Schuyler M. Coe
" Mrs. W. S. Lasher
" Miss Carrie Hall
" Miss Sallie Woodworth
" Miss Alice Allen

ENTERTAINMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

We understand there is a movement on foot among the ladies of the Baptist church to supply one of the greatest needs of the Park, during the hot months, i. e., a delightful rendezvous, where, on Tuesday evening of each week, lovers of good ice-cream, of pleasant company and surroundings, in fact lovers of all descriptions, may refresh themselves after the heat and toil of the day, thereby bestowing a benefit both upon themselves and a good cause. We are not yet informed as to the place where this Elysium is to be located, (possibly upon the pleasant grounds adjoining the Central Hotel, possibly in the Baptist church,) but further and more definite notice will be given. We express the sentiment of the entire community, no less than our own, in thanking

these ladies for this prospective enjoyment, and in promising them a liberal patronage, as a reward for their enterprise.

SUBURBAN ARCHITECTURE.

This subject, practically considered, should be classified under several different heads.

First.—As the object of a dwelling, is to provide for the comfort of our families, fitness and convenience should be the prime study.

Second.—We should be careful to adapt our plan to the particular lot to be occupied, which should suggest a style of architecture to harmonize with the surroundings.

Third.—Carefully arrange your plan so as to utilize the architectural beauties, while preserving intact the general harmony of appearance.

These principles we consider the ground-work of rural architecture.

There is in the West a rapidly growing tendency to domestic rural improvement and embellishment of suburban homes, the pioneer's log cabin and crude but having accomplished their object, and it is with a view to awaken a more lively interest in that branch of art that this communication is prepared.

Mankind possesses an inherent love of the beautiful, and the mind naturally inclines to the study and imitation of nature in creating or adopting styles of architecture and in applying this to the situation selected the experience and taste of a competent architect should be secured, who should first view the premises and study the social and domestic requirements of the family to be provided for, all of which should be fully made known to him, just as you would explain the symptoms of a sick person to your physician. Without a full knowledge of the wants of the family, an architect cannot be expected to give satisfaction, but after having secured all the requisite information, then the responsibility rests with him to produce all the conveniences and pleasant combinations that the amount of money to be expended can produce, always being careful not to exceed the stipulated cost, even at the sacrifice of ornamentation and if necessary, room.

The frequent complaint that architects exceed their estimates or stipulations as to cost in building is not always well founded. The person about to build, frequently sketched out a plan which if carried out in detail would cost more money than he is able or willing to expend, then he applies to the architect to perfect his plan and designate a pleasing elevation, all for a certain specific sum of money. When he is informed that he has laid out too extensive a plan for the amount named, the usual reply is, "then you must make it plainer, but we cannot get along with any less room, but we want a good looking house." In all cases the owner should take the responsibility as to cost, or direct in what way he will have the plans modified, so as to keep within his limit of expenditure, and then if he employs an honest man the result will be satisfactory, and no disappointment will follow the completion of the work. On the other hand, if he employs an unscrupulous or incompetent man dissatisfaction will ensue from first to last.

Having said this much of the relation of owner and architect, we would add that these reasonings hold good as well for a moderately expensive cottage as for a stately and costly villa, as not unfrequently the small excess in cost of the former embarrasses the owner more than the expensive villa does his more opulent neighbor.

The rapid growth of our suburbs has created a large and increasing demand for architectural designs of the kind under consideration, ranging from the simple cottage to the stately mansion. This growth and spirit of improvement is the result of the more frequent inter-communication between the cities and rural districts, and the increased traveling facilities in fre-

quency, rapidity and cheapness, so that what was so recently a secluded and unpretentious hamlet has become a conspicuous and hourly-observed situation, and its dwellers, in acquiring a higher culture, experience the need of these improvements in architecture, which latter, by the way, should always be combined with the embellishment and decoration of the landscape gardener.

In planning a suburban home, all the points of the compass are at your command. It is thought by many that the first consideration should be to locate the parlors in the most desirable part of the house with regard to aspect. It is our opinion that the family rooms—those where most of the time is spent—should have the most cheerful and varied aspect, while the parlors, which are generally least used, should be considered second. A library can, with propriety, be secluded, as it is designed for other and different uses, and largely for occupancy in the evening. For domestic convenience the kitchen should be located on the same floor with the dining room, which latter apartment should have a pleasant, light and airy location, with pantries convenient and commodious. It is better to have the laundry, with all the requirements for washing, drying and ironing in the basement. In arranging the chambers and sleeping apartments, care should be taken to study how the room can best be furnished so as to have a place for bed, dressing case, etc., etc., also to have a free circulation of air across and through the house.

These suggestions may seem simple, but we have seen so many buildings constructed wholly without reference to these most obvious requirements, that we cannot omit mentioning them. The planning of a sleeping room so that you have no place for a bed except directly in front of a window, door, or fire-place is as frequent as it is absurd, and is an everyday occurrence both in city and country. A cellar should be well ventilated and thoroughly drained, so as to carry off all dampness and waste.

The first story of a house over a cellar so constructed, is preferable to a house without a cellar, although some writers have argued to the contrary. A cellar is almost indispensable to accommodate the heating apparatus, and the latter, if properly constructed and arranged, will keep the former in a wholesome condition. Heating and ventilation are subjects which we hope to treat fully and specially hereafter.

Outbuildings, fences, bridges, summer-houses, grape-ries, etc., should bear the impress of harmony instead of being (as is too often the case) antagonistic in style to the dwelling. In fact every appointment of a suburban home should harmonize with all the others. The landscape should be so arranged that open vistas, affording pleasing views should be made, while other places should be screened by a proper arrangement of trees, trellises and shrubbery.

Treatises and books on the subject of suburban residences and landscape gardening have been extensively published. These are very useful as accomplishing what they are mostly intended for, viz.: to guide in style, and furnish, as it were, a text from which to evolve a plan, and render one's ideas intelligible to the architect or landscape artist whom it is proposed to employ.

The error lies, and is very often committed, in getting up what is called the "working plan" from these books directly. They are not designed for that purpose and invariably, when so used, create disappointment, confusion and pecuniary loss, for such plans by the side of those worked up and detailed by a skillful artist are as a wild piece of ground grown up to trees and underbrush, compared with a similar piece after years of cultivation by the landscape gardener—one embodies true merit and graceful outline, while the other appears ungraceful, disproportioned, angular and ugly. This is a part of our subject which is all important and requires careful consideration, and more space than we can allot it here.

In considering our general theme we are easily and naturally led to a comparison of different places, to reflections upon a choice of suburbs, the lay of ground, their peculiarities of soil, the healthfulness and social advantages of different localities, all of which we may do to some extent hereafter.

SUBURBAN.