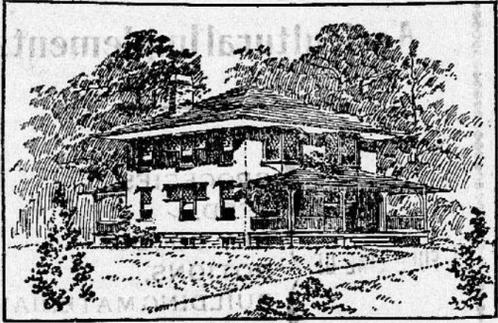


AN INEXPENSIVE COTTAGE

PLEASING TO THE EYE AND CONVENIENT IN ARRANGEMENT.

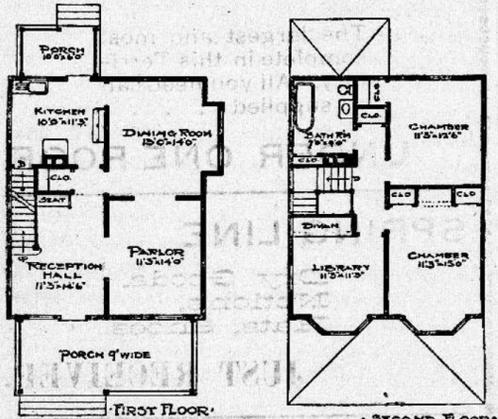
THE cost of the cottage pictured herewith could be safely fixed at from \$2,500 to \$3,000, according to locality. The spacious front porch gives entrance into a large, comfortable and amply lighted reception hall. There is a parlor of generous size, and so proportioned as to admit good space for furnishing. The dining-room has



A PRETTY, INEXPENSIVE COTTAGE.

a bay, and the advantage of the plan can readily be observed, when it is noted that the first floor can on state occasions be practically made into one. The reception hall has a comfortable hall seat and a good-sized coat closet under the stairs. The kitchen leads to the front door without the inconvenience of passing through the dining-room to answer the sum-

mon of the door bell. One chimney for entire house is a feature of economy. The kitchen is planned to give all required space and has the cellar in convenient access. The second floor has two large chambers with ample closet space, the main chamber having an arched recess for the bed. The library has a large divan in an arched nook. A linen closet



INTERIOR ARRANGEMENT OF COTTAGE.

overhang with painted soffit, gives a highly reflected light to all rooms, and a pleasing shadow line to the elevation. The roof is to be stained a green or red. All exterior work should be painted cream white with sashes of dark green. The chimney is red brick in colored mortar. The plans were drawn by C. E. Schermerhorn, Philadelphia, for Good Housekeeping.

SHADE TREES IN CITIES.

Many Are Poisoned by Leaks from Gas Mains or Injured by Electric Currents.

Among the dangers to which shade trees in cities are exposed one of the chief is illuminating gas, escaping from mains and dealing death to the trees in its vicinity. The gas escapes in small quantities, so small as to attract no attention, and finally so permeates the soil as to cause gas poisoning. There is absolutely no remedy for a tree in the advanced stage of gas poisoning, and nothing of any practical value for incipient cases. Soil charged with gas is likely to remain in that condition for some time and to constitute an unwholesome environment for trees. Practically the only remedy is the prevention of gas leaks. How that is to be accomplished is a hard question to answer.

The danger from electric wires and currents Prof. Stone, of Amherst, considers less serious, but he thinks that the ever-increasing mass of wires on streets and highways is responsible for the mutilation and disfigurement of our trees and streets. The best possible place for overhead wires is in the rear of buildings on private property as much as possible. The alternating current is less disastrous to plant life than the direct current, and when either is utilized at a certain strength it accelerates growth and strength. All the injurious electrical currents as a rule are local, i. e., the current causes an injury at or near the point of contact of the wire with the tree. There is a great range in the current which is required to injure a plant, and it is impossible to state except in particular cases what a current of a certain strength is capable of doing, but with the very high electrical resistance of trees and plants in general it is evident that under ordinary circumstances there is little likelihood of their being killed by electricity with present current employed for commercial purposes.—American Gardening.

Artificial Auroras.

At the Royal society rooms recently Prof. Ramsay showed an experimental proof of the electrical nature of the northern lights. Between the poles of a powerful electromagnet he suspended an exhausted glass globe, containing at the top a metal ring. An alternating current discharged through the ring in the globe produced an annular glow, and when a current was sent through the coils of the electromagnet the glow was deflected downward in streamers resembling those of the aurora borealis. The spectrum of the natural aurora shows the presence of krypton, and in Prof. Ramsay's experiment krypton was produced in the discharge through the rarefied air within the globe.

IGNORANCE OF BIRDS.

It Is Almost Universal, Although More Noticeable in Some Varieties Than in Others.

Birds, with all their acuteness, often fail to move out of their accustomed groove. The chirping sparrows have persisted in building their nests in the roof gutters of the next house, ignoring the fact that rain is not unknown in this climate, and that a heavy shower will flood their tenements and drown their offspring. Not only this, but next year and the year after they will do the same, failing to learn by experience how to accommodate themselves to British weather. Jackdaws, when untainted by civilization dwell in holes in the rocks, but quickly adapt themselves to new circumstances. The writer has been almost smothered by smoke caused by a nest which completely blocked his chimney, ten feet from the top. As the chimney had only been built a few months, it is obvious that as a site it must have been unfamiliar to the troublesome birds. Now, that time is far distant when first chimneys were invented and the first jackdaws descended their blackened depths; yet a long experience, while it has shown the birds the convenience of chimneys for holding their abominable sticks, has not taught them that their premises cannot be insured against fire. Perhaps, after all, the brains of jackdaws are sharper than is supposed. The nests are placed in the chimneys just when the fires are being given up for the summer, so that the jackdaws enjoy the use of the chimneys more than the man who pays for their erection.—Bird Lore.

Fish Family Is Numerous.

The true fishes are estimated by Drs. Jordan and Evermann to number 12,000 species, belonging to 200 families. Of these, 3,300 species have been distinguished in the waters of North and South America.

SECRET OF GOOD BREEDING.

It Is an Inborn Possession Which Is a Treasure of Untold Value.

From time out of mind we have heard the question discussed as to the cause and results of good breeding. Many hold that gentleness and ladies, in the true sense, are born, not made, that environments have no part at all to play in one's character; others think directly the opposite—that training is everything, and that without it there is absolutely no chance for refinement and courtliness, says the Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Good birth is undoubtedly an important factor of good breeding. One's ideas, ambitions and aspirations, judging from one's surroundings, should be of the same order. But there are many exceptions to this rule. Many a gentleman has been born in filth and squalor of degenerate parents and yet has managed to rise above his surroundings and prove himself a gentleman. Again, many a son born of parents of wealth and refinement and noted for their good breeding has gone down to the path of sin to the bitter end, has sunk to the depths of degradation and iniquity. These persons could probably boast of culture and centuries of noble ancestry and yet received the best of training and yet had failed to attain the grade. The causes of these are not rare; they may be met with any day.

But before going further into the discussion it would be best to discover what constitutes good breeding, of what it consists. Wealth is not an important element; in fact, it may be placed entirely out of the list of factors as a hindrance in many cases instead of a help. There is generally current a mistaken belief that wealth is all that is necessary to one's refinement, and on this ground many little acts and deeds are excused or overlooked every day that were they accompanied by the offender's wealth would bring him condemnation and censure. Wealth covers many sins, and yet, in its place, can be used in countless good and useful ways. Physical beauty also cannot be termed a mark of good breeding, but the best bred people are always the most beautiful to the person who can appreciate them. Another quality which can easily be dispensed with is haughtiness, an acquisition which has carried many a person past Scylla and Charybdis while plunging about in the social stream.

The most potent factor of good breeding, the prime element, the first principle, is nothing more nor less than a condensation of the Golden Rule—unselfishness, kindness of heart. Nothing else can ever gain superiority over this great and noble trait of character, and without this no person can possess real refinement, perfect dignity and really good breeding. Nothing can supply its loss and nothing can buy its possession. Unselfishness is inherent, innate and inborn; it is a mysterious something that cannot well be defined and yet may be found in the poorest and humblest as well as in the loftiest and noblest of all God's creatures.

Good breeding is plainly a matter of instinct, an inborn possession that is one of the greatest of treasures. Many possess it, but a great many more fail to attain it, through lack of the necessary qualities essential to its acquisition.

We can more readily pardon the person who is perhaps not conversant of the usage of the various and sundry apparel necessary to social functions than the one who is dressed strictly in accordance with court etiquette and yet cannot so conduct himself in a manner befitting his station and the place at which he lends his presence. Clothes, unfortunately for some, are not all that they require to deserve the title of lady or gentleman, but there are a great many who fail to see the matter in this light.

Blah in Batter.

Let the fishmonger fillet the fish out each fillet into three pieces, dry them well in a cloth, and dust over with flour to remove all moisture, for the batter will not adhere if any remain. Put one-quarter pound flour in a basin, pour into the middle of it a tablespoonful of salad oil, add a pinch of salt, and slightly mix together; add, by slow degrees, quarter of a pint of tepid water; beat well, and when smooth and bubbles rise it is enough. Whisk the whites only of two eggs until very stiff, and to the batter just before it is wanted for frying. Have ready a saucpan of hot fat and some paper on a hot dish to drain the fish. Slip each piece of fish into the batter, take out with the spoon, and throw into the fat when the steam rises. Several pieces may be done at once, but if too many they will stick together. Pile on fish and garnish with fried parsley. The parsley must be quite dry, throw it for one second into the boiling fat; it will then be green, and chop; drain on paper-sprinkle with salt and arrange round the fish.—Boston Globe.

Beiping Him On.

Bobbie—Sit down. Sister'll be in as soon as she gets done primpin'. You're goin' to propose to-night, ain't you? Mr. Smithers—Well, I don't know about that, Bobbie. I don't know that she would have me. "Oh, yes, she will. Don't you hang back for that." "And so you think she loves me, do you?" "Nope, but she'll marry you, all right. She says she's getting to be such an old maid that she's afraid to take any more chances. She let her best chance slip, and will have to take anybody she can catch now. You've got a cinch."—Kansas City Journal.

Tomato Fritters.

Stew a quart of tomatoes until reduced to a pulp; then set aside until cold. Season to taste with salt, paprika and celery salt. Add the beaten yolk of an egg and sufficient bread crumbs—entire wheat or white bread—to make a mixture thick enough to hold together when dropped from a spoon into hot fat. Fry same as croquettes.—Washington Star.

Crest Healed.

Hazel—Yes, I enjoy the society of Mr. Westside. He keeps me interested. He is always saying something that one never hears from anybody else. Helen—Really? Has he been proposing to you, too?—N. Y. Sun.



WHISTLE IT DOWN.

Whistle it down, my bonnie lad, The anger that rises hot; For the harsh words uttered not, Think of some pleasant thing, my boy; Don't stop to sulk or frown; Just whistle, leap up to your lips, Even while, whistle them down. Whistle as loud as ever you can, For the harsh words uttered not, Think of some pleasant thing, my boy; Don't stop to sulk or frown; Just whistle, leap up to your lips, Even while, whistle them down. Whistle as loud as ever you can, For the harsh words uttered not, Think of some pleasant thing, my boy; Don't stop to sulk or frown; Just whistle, leap up to your lips, Even while, whistle them down. Whistle as loud as ever you can, For the harsh words uttered not, Think of some pleasant thing, my boy; Don't stop to sulk or frown; Just whistle, leap up to your lips, Even while, whistle them down.

AN OLD-TIME "POUND."

Description and Picture of One of the Few Still Standing in the New England States.

Our ancestors had a great many unique customs, reminders of which have come down to us in the shape of an old-fashioned church here, the remains of a grist mill run by wind power there, and (to come at once to the point of this article) the ancient "pound" which is shown in the accompanying illustration. This relic of past days was discovered by Miss Spry Eyes, as the writer and his family were riding down through the southern part of Maine to the sea-coast that has become so famous as a summer camping-ground for the people of New England and of many of the middle states.

Miss Spry Eyes' discovery proved to be a circular pen of rough rocks high up in a hillside pasture, with an opening on the side nearest the road. "A 'pound'!" cried the rest of the party, though not one had ever seen such a structure before.

It was short work to hitch the horses by the roadside and clamber up the hillside to the well-preserved old monument of our ancestors' rigid views concerning civic duties. The pen was perhaps 20 feet across and eight or nine feet high. It had evidently been made of the rough rocks that were everywhere in evidence in the vicinity. That the work had been carefully done was evidenced by the well-preserved walls, which must have withstood the effects of at least a hun-



AN OLD POUND IN MAINE.

dred and twenty-five winters. It was certainly intended that when an animal had been lawfully "impounded," he should be kept in the pound until his owner be able to liberate the prisoner until the pound-keeper's fees had been paid; so thoroughly was the wall and well-ironed door, or gate, constructed.

The "pound" in question is the only one known to the writer to be still standing in the Pine Tree state, though there may be others in remote places that have not been visited by him. They certainly are very rare in New England, though common enough in the old days when every town had its pound and its pound-keeper, to which and to whom were driven all "horses, asses, mules, sheep, goats and swine" that anyone might find wandering upon the highway or trespassing upon his premises. The keeper of the pound who was annually elected at the March "town meet'n," was obliged to receive all animals brought to him, whether actually caught trespassing, or wandering at large, and it doubtless often happened that animals were driven to the pound out of pure spite, but the pound-keeper could not take cognizance of this, even though he might suspect it. 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