

ing but little or nothing of the country on the other side, designated it as Transylvania, or the "Land beyond the Forest"—just as we sometimes talk of the "Land beyond the Clouds."

The old-world charm still lingers around and about many things. It is floating everywhere and anywhere, in the forests and on the mountains, in mediæval churches and ruined watch-towers, in mysterious caverns and in ancient gold-mines, in the songs of the people and the legends they tell. Like a subtle perfume evaporating under the rays of a burning sun, it is growing daily fainter and fainter, and all lovers of the past should hasten to collect this fleeting fragrance ere it be gone forever.

Some one has rather aptly defined Transylvania as a vast storehouse of different nationalities; and in order to account for the *raison d'être* of so many different races living side by side in one small country, a few words of explanation are absolutely necessary to render intelligible the circumstances of daily life in Transylvania, since it is to be presumed that to many readers the country is still virtually a "Land beyond the Forest."



TOWN OF DEES, TRANSYLVANIA.

Situated between $45^{\circ} 16'$ and $48^{\circ} 42'$ latitude, and 40° to 44° of longitude, the land covers a space of 54,000 square kilometres, which are inhabited by a population of some 2,170,000 heads. Of these the population of different races may be assumed to be, pretty nearly, as follows: Roumanians, 1,200,400; Hungarians 652,221; Saxons, 211,490; Gipsies, 79,000; Jews, 24,848; Armenians, 8,430.

In the centuries immediately preceding the Christian era the land belonged to the Dacians, who were in course of time subjugated by Trajan, Transylvania becoming a Roman province in the year 105 A.D. It remained under the Roman eagle for something over a century and a half; but about the year 274 the Emperor Aurelian was compelled to remove his legions from the countries over the Danube and abandon the land to the all-