

### The Beauty of Our Country Homes.

[FROM "HOMES AND HOUSES," BY D. G. MITCHELL.]

Before we leave wholly the exterior of the house, I think a word or two may be worthily said of the immediate surroundings—in way of shrubbery, turf or graveled areas.

The French love very much to set off their house walls—even in the country—by bringing up broad stretches of graveled surface to the very mason work. This treatment may make more clearly discernible the nicety of architectural execution; but it appears to me sadly garish and unhome like. With a school or public building, where many feet tread close upon the walls, there is apology for it; but with a home—stead there is none. The ordinary English manner of bringing up graveled or paved surface to the house walls only where such surface is positively needed for approach-ways, and of covering all other parts of the closely out-lying ground with turf or low shrubbery, is far more agreeable to the eye, and serves better to associate intimately the country house (as every country house should be associated) with its own bit of surrounding landscape. Few exterior charms about a home can compare with that which impresses you somehow with the notion that the house is a positive belonging to its situation, and is so adapted to it and allied to it by the caressing green things around it, that it seems (if I may be allowed the exaggeration) to be only a most happy and natural crystallization of a man's home wants into that shape under the influences of the scene and of the surroundings. In this most desirable and artistic "keeping" of home and landscape may be found a valid argument for that use of homely material, in way of rough boulders, which is now fortunately gaining favor. It would be consummate folly to go far out of the way to seek such; but if they are at hand along all adjoining roadside, can there be a better and happier mating of the home to the landscape than in laying hands upon this natural wreck of the hills, and by deft adjustment of their varying shapes and colors building up sheltering walls that shall keep all the lichens which dapple the country fences, and shall invite the vines?

To return now to the matter of approach—there should be a neat graveled way to principal door and to the service entrance. Beyond this, and as regards secondary entrance—such as that to a verandah from a bit of lawn surface the question is to be determined by those common-sense rules which dominate, and always should, all matters of taste. If such an approach is to be so commonly used as to impair the turf, by all means provide against it by a graveled walk; if otherwise, or the surface is only to suffer occasional summer service, nothing can be richer and more fitting than a carpet of turf—always provided that the same be kept evenly shorn. In no event, however, should such approach of lawn surface to the very step involve a fatiguing watchfulness lest children may despoil it or chance visitors impair it; there should be no yielding of the door-side comfort or convenience to any whim of gardening taste. The neatness or the order that forbids free coming and going to either porch or door is one that cramps home enjoyment—to which main end all gardening and architecture about a country house should persistently point.

### Allen's Planet Jr. Drill and Hoe.

We consider this the most complete little implement we have yet seen for garden purposes. The drill itself is a good one, but the weeder we consider the victor, as it can be run along the drills and take the earth from or place it against plants, or leave the ground level and well prepared. It does the work as well as can be done by hand, and finishes a row as fast as a person walks. Those who use such an implement must be able to raise crops at such prices as would be ruinous to those who depend on the old slow system of weeding their crops. S. L. Allen & Co., Philadelphia, supply them.

The Agricultural Exhibitions of 1875 will be held as follows: Guelph, Sept. 14, 15 and 16; prizes offered, \$8,000. Provincial at Ottawa, Sept. 21, 22, 23 and 24. Hamilton, Sept. 28, 29, 30 and Oct. 1; \$8,000. Western Fair, London, Sept. 28, 29, 30 and Oct. 1; \$12,000.

### Patrons of Husbandry.

#### Granges Organized Since Last Issue.

The first name in list is the Master of the Grange; second, Secretary.

155. Elimville, Huron. Leonard Hunter, Ex-ter; S. P. Halls, Elimville.
156. Alliance, Middlesex. George Lethbridge, Strathburn; John C. Dobie, Strathburn.
157. Farmer's Union, Lambton. Francis Hearney, Watford; Robert Cran, Watford.
158. Woodhill Grange, Peel. Thomas Ward, Woodhill; Geo. H. Ward, Woodhill.
159. Granton, Middlesex. Philip Mowbray, Granton; James Grant, Granton.
160. Egremont, Grey. Jas. Rogers, Dromore; Thomas Fergus, Dromore.
161. Sulford, Oxford. William B. Nellis, Sulford; James Dumpty, Sulford.
162. Livingston, Bruce. George Armstrong, Teeswater; Robert Watson, Teeswater.
163. Kilbride, Halton. John Agnew, Kilbride; Thomas Rastel, Lowville.
164. Queen's Valley, Grey. Thomas Ellis, Kimberley; John Hurlburt, Kimberley.
165. Olinda, Essex. John H. Stewart, Olinda; A. S. Fox, Olinda.
166. Apple Grove, Elgin. David King, St. Thomas; George Potticay, St. Thomas.
167. Sydenham Valley, Kent. Wm. Bolton, Dresden; D. F. Danard, Dresden.
168. Birr Grange, Middlesex. Joseph Ferguson, Birr; Robert Hobbs.
169. Chatham Centre, Kent. David Pickett, Appledore; Thos. McKerrall, Appledore.
170. Phoenix, Middlesex. Hector McFarlane, Glencoe; B. J. Donaldson, Glencoe.
171. Langstaff, York. John Duncan, Richmond Hill; C. L. Hollingshead, Richmond Hill.
172. Thames Road, Huron. Robert Gardiner, Farquhar; George Hickney, Farquhar.
173. Knowlton, Brome. Levi R. Whitman, Knowlton; A. E. Kimball, Knowlton.
174. Caledon. Wm. Clarke, Caledon; Wm. Bell, Caledon.
175. Dublin. John Bradley, Campbell's Corners; Peter McLeod, Campbell's Corners.
176. Darlington Centre. Wm. Cryderman, Hampton; C. W. Smith, Hampton.
177. Mono Road. Thos. Anson, Mono Road; Robert Shields, Mono Road.
178. Rosebud. Alex. Hume, Watford; H. J. Leacock, Watford.
179. Inman. Joseph Munby, Dunville; Richard Hicks, Dunville.
180. Millereck. Wm. Hewgill, Heathcote; Samuel Goodfellow, Heathcote.
181. Midhurst. John McGowan, Midhurst; Geo. Sneath, Midhurst.
182. Gowanstown. Wm. Turnbull, Shipley; Robert Wilson, Shipley.

#### Artificial Manures.

SIR,—Owing to the worn-out condition of a great portion of the land in this section, and the impossibility of obtaining barn-yard manure in sufficient quantities to renovate it thoroughly, several members of this and the neighboring Grange are this year experimenting on a small scale with artificial manures of different kinds, to endeavor to find out which would be the most profitable to employ on a more extended scale next year. I have been requested to ask you or some of your numerous correspondents as to the value of salt as a renovator, the principle by which it acts on the soil, and the quantity to be used per acre; also, the price per ton of refuse salt at the wells, and the best manner of shipment.

JOHN JACKSON,

Secretary Grange No. 66.

Newburgh, May 22nd, 1875.

[The above is received as part of the paper is being printed. We have not space for reply in this supplement. Perhaps some other Secretary, Patron or reader of this paper will reply in time for next issue; if not, we will give some information on the subject.—Ed.]

### Superphosphate.

Superphosphate of lime is coming into demand rapidly in Nova Scotia. The Brockville Chemical works have shipped five car loads of ten tons each, for that part of Canada. Last year they only shipped one car load to that place. We should like to hear from our Nova Scotian subscribers the results of their trials, as to the quantity used and the method of application, as many of our readers would like to hear more about its use.

Our readers who have the pleasure of a lawn, and have no mowing machine except the scythe to cut it with, may be pleased to know that Levi Cossitt, of Guelph, Ont., makes a lawn mower that does its work quite as well and is less liable to get out of order than some American mowers we have seen, and for which nearly double the price has been paid. We have a sample machine at our office. Let us support Canadian mechanics. Before purchasing, see Cossitt's; they are procurable in each town.

### Commercial.

#### Produce Reports.

The early prospects of another season of abundant produce in Great Britain is from all present appearances to be verified. The very favorable weather for preparing the soil, in the fall of 1874, and its excellent condition when receiving the seed, was succeeded by a season generally favorable throughout the winter and spring months, and by the latest reports passed through the wintery ordeal uninjured, so that the first promise has had no check. From France the "advice" continues to be couched in satisfaction. From other parts of the continent of Europe the reports are on the whole favorable, though there is a desire on the part of farmers for more moisture for the growing crops.

From the United States we have reports that much of the fall wheat is winter killed in the West; in the South there is good promise of heavy crops. It is estimated that one-third of the fall crop in the Western States is killed.

The Canadian wheat prospect is, we believe, on the whole, favorable, though reports are conflicting. The reports, even from the same county, being in some instances quite contradictory. Having a more prolonged period of undisturbed snow than our southern and western neighbors, our fall crop has been freer from injury.

#### Produce Markets.

In England the favorable weather for the growing crops has caused a depressing effect on the price of breadstuffs. The large stocks of grain and flour in the hands of producers and merchants aid this downward tendency. With a season like the past, not over charged with too much moisture for the English markets, there would be another year very favorable to English purchasers. But what is yet in the womb of time is a matter of mere speculation. English prices are low. Wheat—a downward tendency. Such are our English advices, and they have their effect on the American markets.

#### NEW YORK.

May 24.—Flour dull, prices still in buyers' favor; receipts, 1,000 bbls; sales, 11,000; quotations unchanged. Rye flour steady, at \$4.40 to \$5.50. Wheat dull, slightly in buyers' favor; receipts, 47,000 bush; sales, 50,000 bush, at \$1.17 to \$1.18 for No. 2 Chicago; \$1.35 to \$1.40 for winter red western; \$1.41 to \$1.43 for amber. Rye firm and quiet. Corn slightly in buyers' favor, and in limited demand, at 84c to 85c for western mixed; 86c for do. yellow. Barley quiet; nominally unchanged. Oats, steady, at 75c. Pork, firm, at \$21.50 for new mess. Butter, 15c to 22c for N. Y. State and Pennsylvania; 22c to 25c for new do.

#### CHICAGO.

May 24.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat, opened firm but closed dull; No. 1 spring at \$1.05; No. 2 do at \$1.00; spot at \$1.01 1/2 for June; \$1.04 for July; No. 3 do at 97c; rejected, 96c. Corn, quiet and weak; No. 2 mixed, new, 68c; regular, 69c; spot, 68c. Rye, dull and unchanged. Barley, firm and in fair demand; No. 2 spring at \$1.37, spot; \$1.40 for May and \$1.10 for September. Pork, advanced and in fair demand at \$20.75 to \$20.85 for spot. Corn, easier, at 69c for June. Lard, lower, at 15c for July.

#### DETROIT.

May 24.—Flour, dull and unchanged. Wheat, weak, buyers holding off; No. 1 white at \$1.27. Corn, quiet; No. 1 mixed at 75c. Oats easier; white western at 70c.

#### LIVERPOOL.

May 24.—Flour, 21s to 22s; red wheat, 8s to 8s 8d; red winter, 8s to 8s 4d; white, 8s 11d to 9s 2d; club, 9s 2d to 9s 6d; corn, 32s 6d to 33s; barley, 3s 6d; oats, 3s 4d; peas, 41s; pork, 75s; lard, 64s 6d; beef, 72s 6d; bacon, 51s 8d to 53s 9d; tallow, 41s; cheese, 63s new.

#### MONTREAL.

May 24.—Flour—superior extra, \$5. Strong bakers', \$4.60. Spring, extra, \$4.17 to 4.20.

#### TORONTO.

May 25.—Wheat, fall, \$1.00. Spring, 96c to 98c.

#### LONDON, ONT.

May 25.—Wheat, per cental—White, \$1.50 to \$1.65; Red Winter, \$1.40 to \$1.50; Spring, \$1.45 to \$1.52. Barley, \$1.30 to \$1.55. Peas, \$1.25 to \$1.35. Oats, \$1.32 to \$1.35. Rye, \$1.10 to \$1.20. Beans, 90c to \$1.25. Keg butter, 14c to 16c; roll butter, 16c to 22c. Cheese, 11c to 14c. Hay, \$12. Potatoes, per bag, \$1.10 to \$1.30. Wool, 30c per lb. Clover seed, \$5.50 to \$6.00. Timothy seed, \$3.00 to \$3.25. Flour, \$2.25 to \$3.00. Oatmeal, \$2.75 to \$3.00. Cornmeal, \$1.75 to \$2.00. Rye Flour, \$1.75 to \$2.