

The foundations, cellars and lower stories of the houses are usually of brick or stone; but the upper ones, wide verandahs, balconies, porticos, etc., are almost always of wood. Very many of the houses have shingled walls, and these are often tinted of a green, or brown, or olive color.

The usual method of heating the houses is by stoves and fireplaces, and rarely by furnaces; and the fuels consumed are chiefly wood and soft coal. The smoke of the latter has not so far proved a material disadvantage, though it is certainly a detriment to the beauty of the town. The lighting almost throughout is by electricity.

In the poorer localities, particularly those occupied by negroes, one is struck by the peculiarity of the dwellings, as many of them stand on stilts—rude blocks of wood or little piles of bricks supporting the four corners, leaving the under-floors throughout open to every breeze that blows.

Of hotels in Asheville there are a goodly number. The Battery Park Hotel is a fine, handsome structure, supplied with all the modern appointments—large rooms, wide corridors, immense balconies. The entrance floor is devoted to offices, dining halls, reception-rooms, parlors, drawing-room, palm-room, etc.—the latter being filled with tropical trees and plants, and rustic chairs. A piano and two large log fireplaces help to make the room homelike. The view from the verandahs and terraces down to the town and beyond to the mountains is particularly fine. The cuisine is good—waiters are attentive—and the charges from \$4 a day or \$25 a week, upwards.

Kenilworth is another fine hostelry, built to resemble the Kenilworth of poetic fame. It stands at a higher elevation and on the brow of Beaucatcher Mountain. The charges are about the same as those at Battery Park, perhaps a little higher.

The Manor is also a famous resort. The elevation is greater than either of the other two, and is situated on the mountain's brow, in the middle of a handsome park. Built largely of stone and ornate in design, it has a fine appearance and commands a magnificent view of the distant peaks. It accommodates a large number of guests, and has surrounding it several pretty cottages supported by the same management for the benefit of the overflow. The rates are \$15 a week and upwards.

All these hotels profess not to take consumptive guests; but there is little doubt that many people go to them in the early stages of the disease, when the symptoms are too slight to be noticed, or even to be suspected by the proprietors. Besides these, there are many other hotels, and boarding-houses innumerable.

The permanent population of Asheville numbers about 15,000. This is probably the highest limit, one-quarter or one-third of