

mothers would willingly undertake the burdens of past years were there any reason to hope that a second trial would be more successful than the first. How plainly they can see, when it is too late, that their own happiness and that of others might have been increased manifold by a different administration of the power committed to them! The true wife and mother sits queen on the quiet throne of home, cherishing and diffusing an influence, deep, sacred and lasting, and requires much co-operation, wisdom and grace to assist, direct and sustain in the discharge of her arduous duties. Our desire, in future articles, will be not only that, by our hints and suggestions, the burdens of the household may be lessened as they come up day by day, but that every member of the family may become happier, and wiser, and better.

TASTEFUL DWELLINGS.

BY D. D. T. MOORE.

As the vernal season opens, the door-yard, garden, etc., ought to receive special attention, being so cleaned up as to present at least a passable appearance. Many complain that they have not time to do this in the busy season, and therefore neglect the matter when it should be done; and too often the procrastination is continued for months, thus rendering the surroundings of what might easily be made an attractive home appear decidedly uninviting, if not actually repulsive. And yet it would take but little time and effort to make a change from slovenliness and dilapidation to neatness and order, while the improvement would be so great as to be noticed and admired by the casual observer, inciting not only attention but favorable comment and imitation. * * * But, aside from any thought of what other people may say on the subject, it should be done for the satisfaction of one's own family—the wife, daughters and others who appreciate neat and tasteful surroundings. It will not only be gratifying to the females, however, but have a tendency to make the boys and young men become attached to the homestead, thus proving an important factor in restraining them from seeking unsafe amusements and companions, or leaving home for uncertain occupations in city, village or elsewhere.

Are not the considerations just named of sufficient importance to induce farmers to clean up and adorn the grounds around their homes every Spring, even though a little extra effort and expense may be required to accomplish the object? We think so, and therefore urge every one who has a "stake in the hedge"—a home in the country and a family, however small—to give the matter early and proper attention. If you desire your family to be happy and to keep its members "at home on the farm," you will perform the christian-like work of rendering that home attractive to both occupants and visitors—and you should do it without unnecessary delay or procrastination.