

it." He meets the need of each soul, and His revelation is different to each, as each soul's needs are different.

"God is so good, He wears a fold
Of heaven and earth across His face,
Like secrets kept, for love untold,
But still I feel that His embrace
Slides down by thrills through all
things made,
Through sight and sound of every
place,
As if my tender mother laid
On my shut lids her tender pressure,
Half waking me at night, and said,
'Who kissed you in the dark, dear
guesser?'"

HOPE.

The Souls of the Children.

"Who bids for the little children—body
and soul and brain?
Who bids for the little children—fair and
without a stain?
Will no one bid? What, no one—for their
souls so pure and white,
And fit for all good or evil which the
world on their pages may write?"

"I bid," cries Beggary, howling. "I
bid for them one and all!
I'll teach them a thousand lessons—to
lie, to skulk, to crawl!
They shall sleep in my lair, like maggots;
they shall rot in the fair sunshine;
And if they serve my purpose, I hope
they'll answer thine."

"And I'll bid higher and higher," says
Crime, with wolfish grin;
"For I love to lead the children through
the pleasant paths of sin.
They shall swarm in the streets to pilfer,
they shall plague the broad highway,
'Till they grow too old for pity and ripe
for the law to slay."

"The prison and the gallows are plenty
in the land;
'Twere folly not to use them, so proudly
do they stand.
Give me the little children—I'll take them
as they're born,
And feed their evil passions with misery
and scorn."

"Give me the little children, ye good,
ye rich, ye wise,
And let the busy world spin round, while
ye shut your idle eyes;
And your judges shall have work, and
your lawyers wag the tongue,
And the jailers and policemen shall be
fathers to the young."

—Charles McKay.

Faith's Stairways.

Long years ago, on a day of thick fog
and pouring rain, I ascended a moun-
tain by an old bridle-path over the slip-
pery rocks. A weary, disappointed com-
pany we were when we reached the cabin
on the summit. But toward evening a
mighty wind swept away the bank of
mist, the body of the blue heavens stood
out in its clearness, and before us was
revealed the magnificent landscape
stretching away to the sea. That scene
was at the time, and has often been
since, a sermon to my soul. It taught
me that faith's stairways are over steep
and slippery rocks, often through blind-
ing storms; but God never loses his
hold on us, and if we can endure to the
end, he will yet bring us out into the
clear shining after rain.

So it's better to hope, though the clouds
run low,
And to keep the eye still lifted;
For the clear blue sky will soon peep
through

When the thunder cloud is rifted.
—Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D.

The Humorist.

By W. H. Wilson.

Thrice happy is the man who sees
The quaint, ludicrous side of things,
For in the stress of daily life
This insight heals a thousand stings.

The sorrows of a suffering world
Are lightened whereso'er he goes,
For people hear his genial laugh
And cease to think about their woes.

Long live the man whose heart is fresh,
Who smiles beneath the darkest skies;
Who to this weary world reveals
The humor that around us lies!

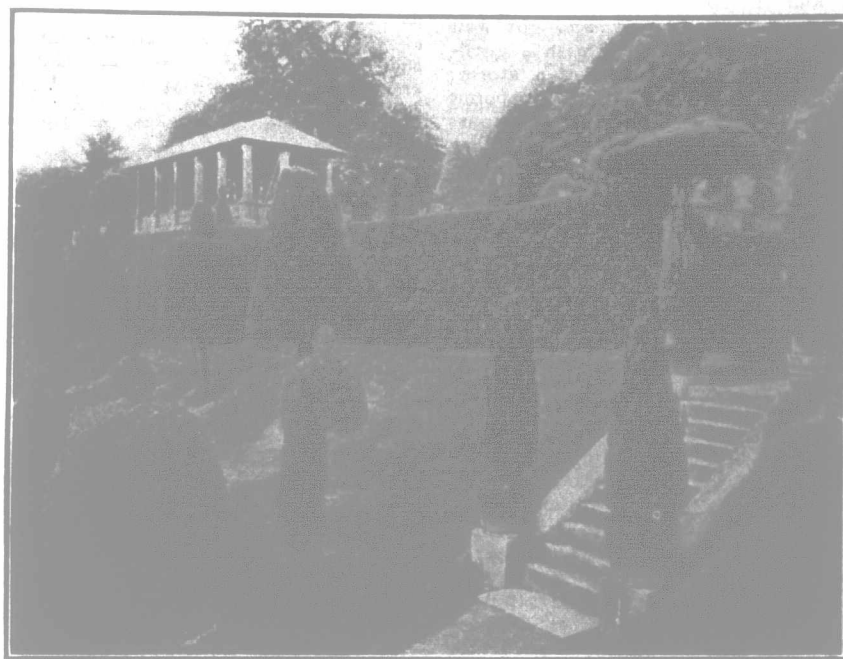
—Four Track News.



Lawn Planning.

A glance at the accompanying lawn
pictures will show, perhaps, more forcibly
than any amount of talking, the fatality
of making any mistake in lawn-planning.
The Italian, a severely formal type, while
suitable enough for some situations in
public gardens or on immense estates, is,

What enticingly cosy nooks suggested be-
neath the big trees on the left! Note,
too, the masses of shrubbery bunched up
towards the house to conceal the founda-
tions and form a sort of softening con-
nection between the house and the rest
of the landscape. The fine house in this
case, of course, adds to the effect, yet a
tasteful vine-covered one of fewer pre-



Formal Italian style of lawn decoration. Not to be recommended for a farm.
Stiff, and hard to keep in order.

as will be seen, entirely out of place for
the sole lawn on a farm. It is a style
of which one must tire woefully in time,
looking, as it does, as though forever on
dress parade—nothing cosy or restful
about it. Who, for instance, could ever
think of going out in a "Mary Ann"
wrapper to peel a big dish of potatoes
in the shade of one of those stiff, digni-
fied "Queen Ann" trees? Or who
could ever feel like tumbling down in his

tensions, whether brick, stone, frame, or
log, would, in such a situation lose little
in point of attractiveness.

An ideal way of securing a desirable
situation when building a new house is,
when practicable, to choose the location
in a hardwood grove, then clear out the
trees as desired. If, however, there be
no grove, it can only be said that trees
grow as rapidly in artistic as in in-
artistic positions, and it remains for us



Simple and restful. Note the broad spaces and shaded nooks. The massing
of low shrubbery near the house is very effective.

to see that the best and most home-
like results possible are attained in the
planting.

Planning the Garden.

The following, by Eben Rexford, the
most eminent florist in America, contains
a few hints well worth noticing at this
time of the year:

"January is not too early to begin
making plans for next summer's garden.
Go over the catalogues, and decide on
what you will have, and then set about
deciding where you will have it. Take
into consideration the size, the habit, and
the color of the plant before you locate
a bed for it. Keep the large plants in
the background, graduating them accord-
ing to their height. Hit-or-miss ar-
rangements are generally most unsatis-
factory. The little plants get where the
big plants ought to be, and inharmonious
colors get jumbled together in a fashion
absolutely painful to the eye that is
keenly sensitive to color-harmony. There-
fore, consider your material well before
you decide where you will put it. It is
an excellent idea to make a diagram of
your garden. Where you have an out-
line of it on paper, it materializes, in a
sense, and you see things more clearly
than when you carry the plan in your
mind. Therefore, make a sketch of it,
and when you have made this sketch
over, as very likely you will more than
once, before seed-planting time is here,
you will have something definite to work
to. This, you will find, greatly simpli-
fies matters. We have all seen the
amateur gardener, who begins in some
part of the garden and makes a bed for
Petunias or Asters, or some other plant,
and then goes on to make a bed for
something else, and so keeps on without
giving any thought to the garden as a
whole. The result is always unsatis-
factory. It lacks coherence, unity and
general harmony. Every bed seems
striving to be independent of every other
bed, precisely in the same manner in
which each was planned. It is simply a
collection of beds, and not a garden in
the true sense of the term. Always con-
sider the garden as a whole, rather than
the units of it separately. Bear that in
mind, and you will avoid many of the
mistakes amateur gardeners fall into.
This will oblige you to locate each plant
with due regard to its neighbors, and to
the place it is fitted to fill, and no
colors that clash, no plants that are out
of place because of size, will annoy you
when too late to remedy matters."

Seasonable Hints.

Don't be in too great a hurry to take
your Fuchsias, Geraniums, Gloxinias, etc.,
up out of the cellar; leave them there
resting until on in March. They will do
all the better during summer for their
period of "hibernation."

If you have Cyclamens in bloom now,
see to it that they are never permitted
to dry out. A Cyclamen corm which
has once become thoroughly dry, whether
in bloom or out of it, is usually quite
worthless afterwards. Other plants,
which will be the better of more water
than is given by the regulation "water
when dry" rule are Asparagus, Ferns,
Begonia, Petunia, Leopard Plant, San-
severia, Calla. In the case of all of
these, the drainage must be good, and
no water left standing in the saucer.
The Umbrella Plant, being a water plant,
cannot have too much water, and is suc-
cessfully grown by placing the pot in a
vessel filled with water. Never spray the
foliage of hairy-leaved plants.

If earthworms in the soil are in-
juring the plants, drive them out by us-
ing lime water, a teaspoonful of the
lime water to a pint of clear water, ap-
plied once a week. The lime water will
help also to sweeten the soil, if it has
become sour. Two or three applications
of weak soda water, put on at intervals
of ten days, has also been recommended
for the latter purpose.

Name of Plant Wanted.

"Muriel," Mount Wolfe, Ont., writes:
"Would you kindly inform me what is
the proper treatment during and after
the flowering season of the plant com-
monly called the 'Companion'? Should
it be placed in the cellar after flowering?"

Ans.—We do not know the plant you
mention under the name given. If you
write us a description of it, we may be
able to tell, or, perhaps, some reader
may be able to give the more scientific
name. Practically all flowering plants
require to be rested after flowering, put
in the cellar and given very little water
for the space of two or three months.