



Rosies.

BY AGNES I. HANRAHAN.

There's a rosie show in Derry,
An' a rosie show in Down;
An' 'tis like there's wan, I'm thinkin',
I'll be held in Randalstown.
But if I had the choosin'
Av a rosie prize the day,
'Twould be a pink wee rosie
Like he plucked when rakin' hay.
Yon pink wee rosie in my hair—
He fixt it, troth—an' kissed it there!
White gulls wor wheelin' roun' the sky,
Down by—down by.

Av, there's rosies sure in Derry,
An' there's famous wans in Down,
Och, there's rosies all a-hawkin'
Through the heart av London town!
But if I had the liftin'
Or the buyin' av a few,
I'd choose jist pink wee rosies
That's all drenchin' wid the dew—
Yon pink, wee rosies wid the tears!
Och, wet, wet tears!—ay, troth 'tis years
Since we kep' rakin' in the hay,
Thon day—thon day.
—In "Aroun' the Boreens."

The Ideal Basement.

LOOK well to the foundations," is a bit of advice that may very well be applied to house-building as well as to most other things.

Once upon a time very little attention was given to the basement, but now it is recognized that a "good cellar" is one of the most valuable parts of a house, and the best builders invariably extend it under the entire house. This gives plenty of space for the furnace and fuel room, a vegetable and fruit room, laundry, milk room and a small room in which fruit jars, cookery, etc., may be stored, and which is connected with the kitchen above by a dumb waiter.

How high should the basement be? is a question often asked.—As a rule, seven feet clear is usually sufficient to allow for no dodging. As there must be plenty of window-space to give light and ventilation, a distance of 30 inches should be allowed above ground, the wall, of course, being made frost-proof. If, for any reason, it is desired to have the floor closer to the ground excavations will have to be made before the windows.

For building basement walls there are several good materials—concrete or concrete blocks, stone (if plentiful in the locality), hollow tile, etc. The posts for supporting the first floor timbers may be heavy wooden posts (the cheapest), iron columns, brick piers, or iron pipe filled with cement concrete with iron cap and base.

A plan for ensuring that the cellar walls shall be absolutely waterproof is given by Charles E. White. "Builders who are most careful in their work," he says, "usually provide a drain-pipe around the outside of the foundation at the bottom. This is made of what is known as 'agricultural tile,' laid with each piece of the tile slightly away from the next one so that surface drainage which runs down the outside of the wall sinks into this drain-tile and is carried away before it can get into the basement. . . . To make the outside of the basement damp-proof it is sometimes advisable to waterproof it by using some brand of waterproofing paint. This is usually a tarry-looking substance, and when applied to the wall it makes a water-tight job. If there is any danger of water getting through the basement floor it is necessary to make use of waterproofing mixture at this point also, as water turned aside by the waterproof walls might flow under the walls and come up through the basement floor. The best way to waterproof a basement floor is to lay a thickness of about 3 inches of concrete, and on this apply tar

felt such as is used for roofing. When 'mopped' to the concrete work with waterproofing compound the tarred felt makes a waterproof skin, then 3 or 4 inches of concrete with a finished surface is laid on top."

The ideal basement for the farm home contains: a furnace and fuel room, vegetable and fruit room, dairy, laundry, and a little room for food supplies. If the cost must be lessened one or more of these must, of course, be omitted.

1. *Furnace and Fuel Room.*—The portion of the basement set apart for the furnace should be near the centre of the house, so that the heat will be distributed as equally as may be to all the rooms; but one end of the room itself should run to an outer wall to admit of lighting and connection with the wood or coal shed. A large bin near the furnace, and connected with the fuel shed by a chute or opening in the wall, will hold the fuel immediately needed. As the furnace-room should be dust-proof, to prevent the dust from going up to the house and into the other rooms of the basement, the walls should be either plastered or made of wooden sheathing with tightly-fitted building paper between, and the ceiling should be plastered and protected above the furnace by sheets of galvanized iron or asbestos. The fuel chute also should be sheathed with iron sheeting to make it durable. The ashes may be stored in ash-cans in the furnace room until filled, when they are lifted out of the basement by a crane for the purpose.

2. *Vegetable and Fruit Room.*—This room must, of course, be quite frost-proof; but also it must be protected from too much heat from the furnace pipes.

should be provided with a dark cupboard in which to store canned fruit and pickles. Its one other article of furniture is a cupboard whose walls and doors are made of stout wire netting to admit air yet exclude a chance, wandering fly or mouse. Here may be kept butter, cookery, and such cold meat, etc., as cannot be conveniently kept in the refrigerator. A dumb waiter should run from this room to the kitchen above.

All the windows of the storage rooms need shutters to permit ventilation, but exclude the heat of over-hot sunshine when necessary.

4. *The Laundry.*—Unless a first-class system for draining off the water used in laundering and dairy work can be put in, it is better not to have these rooms in the basement. If, however, a system of water supply and water disposal is put in, the basement is an excellent place for both of these work-rooms.

Excellent lighting is, of course, required for the laundry, and ideally it is furnished with stationary enamelled or porcelain-lined tubs, a stove, washing-machine (hand or power), sink, soft and hard water, clothes-horse and ironing table. The floor should be very smoothly finished cement, and provided with a rug to stand upon when ironing.

5. *Dairy.*—Like the laundry the dairy needs excellent lighting and a very smoothly-finished cement floor. It does not need to be very large, but should afford room for the separator, cans, churn, butter worker and sink supplied, if possible with hot and cold water. If hot water cannot be supplied at the sink it may, of course, be heated on the stove of the adjoining laundry. Broad shelves will do away with the need for a table.



An Attractive Country Home.

At one end, as will be seen, several feet of the basement wall is exposed, but its unsightliness is screened by vines running over a trellis.

The ideal temperature for both this and the little food-supply room is as nearly as possible to freezing without freezing in the least; the cooler the room the less likely to thrive are the bacteria that spoil foods and vegetables. The vegetable and fruit room should have slat bins which will admit as much air as possible to the potatoes, apples, etc.; also there should be shelves which will permit spreading out those vegetables and fruits which, when piled in heaps, are likely to decay. This room should be very dry, quite light and very well ventilated, as dampness and darkness are favorable to bacterial development. . . . The same rule applies to the little (3) food-supply room, but it

Besides the drainage pipe at the sink there should be another to carry off water from the floor. Always this room should have a door leading outside, as it will be necessary to carry the separator and other utensils out to sun them after scalding. The dairy should be as dry as possible to prevent the tins necessarily stored there from rusting.

6. *Entrance Hall.*—If space can be spared in the basement it is an excellent idea to have an entrance hall leading from outdoors on the side of the house nearest to the barn. This hall should be provided with hooks for coats and hats, and, if large enough one side of it may have racks upon which to store window

and door screens, etc., in the winter. Its chief purpose, however, is to provide a way by which entrance for either men or women working about the barn or in fields or garden, may be provided. "Smelly" coats and boots may be left here. A bit of a wash-up at the laundry sink will make one feel refreshed and comfortable, and a pair of clean slippers will be the added touch before going up the cellar stairs into the house. Really refined folk will always choose to enter and clean up a bit in this way before going into the living rooms, and the lessening of the work in cleaning up the house will be very apparent. Indeed, such basement entrances are becoming quite a matter of course in the new or renovated farmhouses, for anyone short of a savage recognizes how disagreeable it is to have coats smelling of horses and boots laden with manure and smells brought into the kitchen where cooking must go on. When such an entrance is not placed via the basement it is invariably added to the kitchen.

It is to be understood, by the way, that the above hints apply only to the ideal basement. If the cost must be greatly reduced, modifications can be adopted.

Next week the question of the upper regions in the new house will be taken up.

The Green Estaminet.

By A. P. H.

The old men sit by the chimney-piece and drink the good red wine
And tell great tales of the *Soixante-dix* to the men from the English line,
And Madame sits in her old armchair and sighs to herself all day—
So *Madeleine* serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

For Madame wishes the war was won and speaks of a strange disease,
And Pierre is somewhere about Verdun, and Albert on the seas;
Le Patron, 'e is soldat, too, but long time prisonnier—
So *Madeleine* serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

She creeps down-stairs when the black dawn scowls and helps at a neighbor's plow,
She rakes the midden and feeds the fowls and milks the lonely cow,
She mends the holes in the *Padre's* clothes and keeps his billet gay—
And she also serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

The smoke grows thick and the wine flows free and the great round songs begin.
And *Madeleine* sings in her heart, maybe, and welcomes the whole world in:
But I know that life is a hard, hard thing and I know that her lips look gray,
Tho' she smiles as she serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

But many a tired young English lad has learned his lesson there,
To smile and sing when the world looks bad, "for, *Monsieur*, *c'est la guerre*,"
Has drunk her honor and made his vow to fight in the same good way
That *Madeleine* serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

A big shell came on a windy night, and half of the old house went,
But half of the old house stands upright, and *Mademoiselle's* content;
The shells still fall in the Square sometimes, but *Madeleine* means to stay,
So *Madeleine* serves the soldiers in the *Green Estaminet*.

From Punch.