

Putting in a Bath Room

One of the so called conveniences in a city house and which no city housewife would think of getting along without, is a good, airy and sanitary bathroom. That such a convenience is more of a necessity for the city wife, than the country wife is hard to believe. It is not always as convenient to install a bathroom in an old house, as to have one put in at the time of building, but very few farm or country homes have not some small room, usually not very much used, but what would be even more valuable were it converted into a roomy bathroom.

WALLS AND FLOORS

The bathroom should be light, well ventilated, and with every facility

of water being drawn into pitchers. The best lavatories, or wash bowls are those of porcelain, or enameled iron, with back and overflow all formed as one part of the fixture. The basin taps, for hot and cold water are the best, when simplest in design.

THE CLOSET

The water closet is the most important plumbing fixture of the house. A good closet should be simple, neat and strong, of a smooth material, and with ample water in the bowl. Among modern closets, none is more satisfactory than the so called flushing rim, siphon-jet closet, which can be had in a single piece of porcelain. Porcelain is commonly used because no other material can be

How Mrs. Kirby Improved her Farm Home

MRS. KIRBY surprised her family and neighbors one day by saying that next summer she was going to keep boarders from the city.

"Why?" she echoed. "Well I get lonesome to see new people for one thing. Then I want to get things fixed up on the farm and haven't the money. In this way I can get the farm improved, see a few folks and make some money."

So Mrs. Kirby started—in June. She was a widow with two sons and she had a little nest-egg of \$300. This sum she determined to spend to fix up the farm.

The first thing to do was to transform a small building, once used for a storeroom, into an icehouse. The village carpenter was seen and engaged. She purchased tools for her boys, and they gladly helped in the work. In a week it was done. They got the sawdust from a near-by mill. The men who had cut ice for the creamery had stored some extra ice away, and this Mrs. Kirby bought and stored in the new ice-house.

RUNNING WATER PUT IN THE HOUSE

The question of running water for a bathroom, laundry and kitchen came next. The old pump in the yard had done long and trusty service. The water had been brought to the barn by windmill some years ago. In the house the family had carried the water from the pump outside, while all the wash-water had been thrown out at the back door. A plumber was next seen. The amount in the bank was threatened with serious inroads. Still, paying guests demand running water. Besides, how the family would enjoy running water the year round. A tank was placed in the top of the

milk cows were added to the stable, which in June would furnish an opportunity for making butter to store in the ice house for summer use. There should be all the milk and cream desired for the table, for wise Mrs. Kirby knew that with plenty of cream on the table her means might be much simplified.

Abundant clover in the neighborhood had made it quite profitable to keep bees, and as honey and warm biscuit are an important asset in country suppers, the apiary was put into good condition.

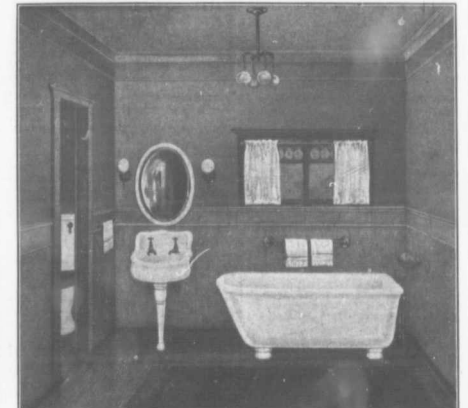
In the front yard the trees were trimmed, and to get sunshine in the house two old trees were cut down. This suggested to Mrs. Kirby to examine the parlor fireplace, which had been unused for years, boarded and papered over. She found it could easily be repaired. The old trees were cut into suitable lengths for the fireplace, to be used in the late summer evenings.

HOUSE AND GROUNDS BEAUTIFIED

The boys, with the help of one man, were set to grade the front yard, pull out the myrtle and put the perennials in a side garden. A lawnmower was bought and a walk was laid to the road. A tennis-court, a ball-field and a croquet-green were laid out.

It had not of late been customary to use the front veranda, for every one was busy in summer time. But the new enterprise demanded a place for visitors to sit in easy chairs, and the veranda was extended across the side of the house and made fourteen feet wide, which admitted of tables, chairs and hammock.

Paint was now an absolute necessity. So the house and the barn were



A simple, neat and inexpensive Bathroom. Its sanitary fixtures will appeal to all.

for cleanliness. Floors and wainscoting, when possible are best of tiling, or composite materials, but painted walls are much less expensive and give excellent results. Linoleum is a most excellent covering for the floor, as it is practically impervious to water. It should be laid before the fixtures are set, in order that there may be no joints. A cement floor is also excellent, and not as expensive as its first suggestion would indicate. When it is desired to lay a cement floor upon wooden joists, proceed as follows:

A CEMENT FLOOR

Nail a 2 x 4 to the side of each of the floor joists, flush with the bottom. Upon the top of these stretch wire lath, after the joists have first been covered with tarred paper to prevent them absorbing moisture; and upon this lay cinder concrete, made of one part Portland cement, three parts loose sand, 6 to 8 parts crushed and screened furnace clinkers; filling to a level at least 2 inches above the tops of the joists. Upon this is placed the floor finishing. Cinder concrete is used because it is so much lighter than that made of stone. Paint the walls of the bathroom, if tiling cannot be used. Wall paper is not desirable in a bathroom, nor is wood panelling.

BATH TUB AND LAVATORY

A porcelain lined or enameled-iron bath tub is the best medium-priced tub. For supplying the tub with water, a combination faucet or tap is best, allowing the hot and cold water to enter the tub separate or at a temperature to suit the bather. The taps should be placed high, to allow

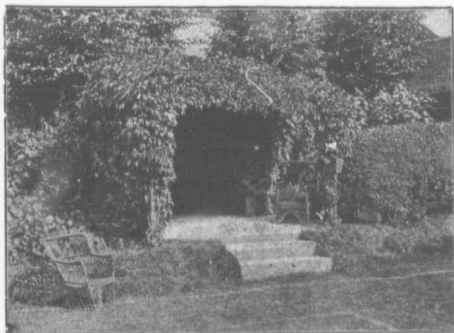
kept so clean and sanitary. Even this is an imperfect protection from dirt and disease, unless the bowl is so flushed as to clean it completely and absolutely. Water should come from the rim of the bowl, so that every part of it is cleaned perfectly.

The flushing tank for a water closet is always distinct and separate from the main water supply. As a rule, a plain, hard wood tank, or box, copper lined, is supported by iron brackets from the wall about 7 feet above, or immediately over closet, and communicating with closet by a pipe.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS

The most important need for work in installing a sanitary bathroom and its several appointments, is simplicity, not only in details, but in a general scheme. It not only saves cost, but is a great advantage to have the fewest possible joints requiring inspection and care, and to secure the most frequent possible use of every inlet into the drainage system.

It is almost unnecessary to speak a word of caution, regarding the throwing into the closet, of hair, matches, cloth or anything of a solid nature. A burnt match seems a small thing, but if lodged in the trap in a closet, it often is the cause of a large amount of trouble. Tissue paper only, should be used. Its cost would be considered indeed small if a part of the plumbing system had to be taken out, to remove any obstruction caused by newspaper. It is often more convenient sometimes to have the closet with a separate entrance from the hall and entirely independent from the bathroom,



The inviting and cool porch where Mrs. Kirby's guests enjoyed their leisure moments.

house, into which water was pumped and piped to the kitchen, and a new bathroom was constructed from the least needed upstairs room.

Then came the question of a cess-pool. A septic tank was thought of, into which the sewage disposal could be made, whence it could pass through pipes for irrigating the garden. The soil was dry and porous, and this would solve the difficulty of keeping the vegetables and fruit trees watered. It was done, and \$200 out of the \$300 was spent.

HER KEEPING PROVIDED HONEY

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IMPROVEMENTS INSIDE THE HOUSE

Inside the house Mrs. Kirby determined to have as little wall-paper as possible. Green and cream tints were secured in preparations resembling kalsomine, and experiments were made. After a time Mrs. Kirby voted herself a real decorator. Where the old papers on the walls contained no aniline dyes, and were sufficiently smooth, they were gone over with the mixture quickly and evenly, leaving a beautiful, clean-tinted wall as durable as when first papered and much more sanitary. All the closets had to