

ter. They are easily propagated by layers about midsummer. Of this we purpose to speak in season.

Lychnis.—For the borders this flower is greatly esteemed; the scarlet and the white, especially the double varieties. They require to be frequently transplanted.

Phlox.—A very handsome flower; blooms early and continues in bloom till frost. There are several varieties. The general rule for the flower garden is applicable to the Phlox. It delights in a rich, light soil.

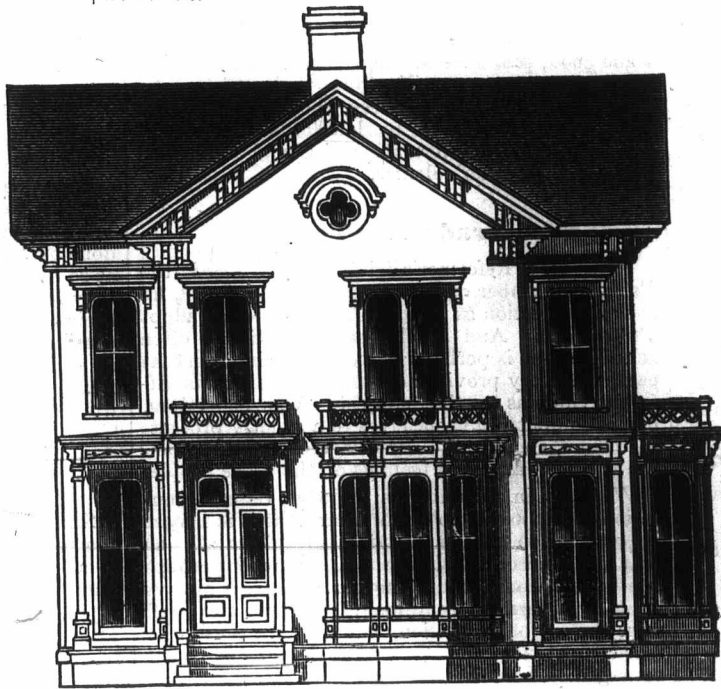
Primrose (Primula).—The favorite flowers, Primrose, Cowslip and Polyanthus, are of the one family. No more delightful scene lingers in our memory than a sunny Primrose bank and the rich pastures dotted with Cowslips. From the common Primrose have originated all the double varieties; from the Oxlip are descended the Polyanthuses. All—Primroses, Cowslips, Polyanthuses—are worthy a place in any pleasure ground.

London Pride, were it but for old acquaintance sake, must not be omitted. It is one of a hundred species of one family, the Saxifrage. This pretty little flower is especially valuable for rock work. Violet.—Though last in our brief list, not least admired is this sweet, modest flower. Of the varieties, including the Heart's-ease or Pansy, give us those of delicious fragrance, white and blue and purple. Their favorite place is a sandy loam and a little shade.

A House and Plan.

Some of our subscribers have asked us to furnish them drawings and plans of houses, barns, horses, sheep, implements, &c., &c., just such as they want. We cannot always afford to suit all as soon as they may wish, as engravings take a great deal of time to prepare them—first the plans; then the artist's work, first to draw, the next to cut—and artist's work is expensive. It has cost us many thousands of dollars to illus-

in the peak of the rear roof, and turns in over the dining-room closet. The stairs to cellar lead down from the rear hall. There is a reservoir tank placed under the rear roof, above the pantry, and supported by the studding, which rests on brick walls below. The tank is four feet by seven, and is four feet deep. It is lined with sheet lead, and is filled by a lift and force pump, placed on the sink table. There will be a thirty-gallon boiler attached to the cooking stove, and supplied from the tank. Hot and cold water will be delivered at the sink, wash bowl and bath tub. The tub will be enclosed by doors, which can be closed for a shower. The wash bowl will have marble top and back.



[FRONT ELEVATION.]

The family sitting-room has an open fire-place, which can be used for wood or coal fire, and a most excellent thing for the health and comfort of the family. This room will be peculiarly cheerful, with its open fire and fine bay, with the dining-room and nursery so convenient of access.

Each of the chambers has a fine clothes press, and the front chamber has an alcove for bed over the front hall, a neat arch, (represented by the dotted line, continuing the line of wall over entrance to alcove. All of the windows, except those of cellar, are provided with inside blinds, the windows opening on porches extend nearly to floor.

The main entrance has outside and vestibule doors, one of the outside doors being opened, as shown by the elevation. There will be balconies over front steps, and each of the bay windows.

The arrangement of rooms, etc., will be found convenient, and the outside, although plain and unpretentious, will be quite pleasing to the eye.

French Letter to American Farmer.

FARM-YARD VS. COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER.

In the debate relative to farm-yard *versus* commercial manures, one element is overlooked, viz.: that no uniform application of either fertilizer is possible. Flanders owes most of her prosperity to the intelligent preparation and application of farm-yard manure, for the soil of that country is silicious and naturally poor. Schloesing maintains that the organic matters—humus in a word—act as a cement in the case of light soils, and Risler believes, in concert with carbonic humic acid, decomposes the silicates. Saxony possesses a soil much resembling that of Belgium, and barley and rye are the chief crops cultivated, the climate being dry. To keep up the fertility of their soils, the Saxon farmers employ much bone-dust, guano, superphosphates, &c., but in a specially associated manner. When the rye is in flower, yellow lupine is sown; at reaping time, the lupine has well taken root, and grows vigorously after the rye has been removed. When the plants are in flower, generally about August, they are ploughed in, the commercial manures distributed, and the soil, thus prepared, is re-sown with rye. In dry climates and for light lands this mode of manuring is to be recommended.

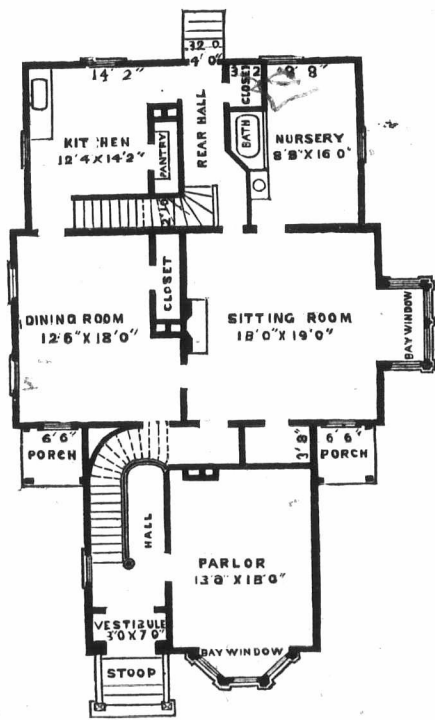
PARSNIPS FOR HORSES.

In Bretagne, horses are fed on parsnips instead of oats, and no complaints are registered as to falling off in condition. M. LeBian feeds his carriage horses exclusively on parsnips, and the animals that he now exhibits in Paris are superb. He gives each horse 40 pounds of the roots daily, distributed in three feeds; the expense of cultivating one cwt. of parsnips is one franc, so that the daily ration of each horse is about seven sous; now 14 pounds of oats a day cost twenty-nine sous, or four times dearer.

VALUABLE FACTS ABOUT MILCH COWS.

It is commencing to be a recognized truth with farmers, that to possess good milch cows, they must be maintained in a good condition. Some do not hesitate to recommend rations as liberal as are given to fat stock. It is known that the yield of milk and butter increases with the opening of the season for green fodder, and hence the secretion of the mammary glands becomes augmented. The green food does produce more milk, but not any action on the glands. The difference resides in the azotized, or albuminous matters, being more digestible in the form of green clover, lucerne, etc., than in that of hay, straw, husks and roots. The winter rations are relatively poor in blood-forming materials,—that is to say, nutritive matters. A large quantity also of the albuminous matters of hay and straw are not utilized by the organism, not being dissolved by the digestive tube, as the nutritive substances are contained in cells, whose coats are rebellious to the action of the digestive juices. The more the forage is tender and young, the more the albumen is soluble and assimilable, the more blood is formed, and consequently the greater the secretion of milk. In winter it is evident that if the yield of milk is to be increased, an augmentation must take place in the food calculated to form it, and the animal maintained in a satisfactory condition without being fat.

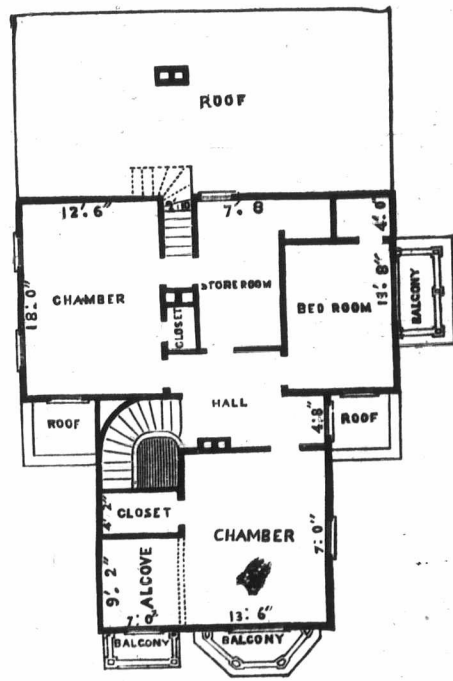
The *Strathroy Despatch* says:—On April 16th, a car load of potatoes, 400 bushels, was shipped from this market by the G. W. R. to Washington. It was the first load of potatoes ever shipped from Strathroy to the Capital of the United States.



FIRST STORY PLAN.

trate this journal. Our desire is to satisfy as many of our applicants as we can. We now give you front elevation and plans of a neat small house, the plan of which can be enlarged if necessary. The cellar may be put under the kitchen or under the whole building.

Two flights of stairs lead from the main to the second floor. One from the kitchen gets head room



SECOND STORY PLAN.

The *New England Farmer* (April 14) says:—“Large numbers of French Canadians are leaving the Provinces for the United States. Two hundred have gone from the neighborhood of Richmond during the past two days.” [We are informed by the Immigration Department for the Province of Ontario for the year 1876, that the expenditure on the account of Immigration during the year was \$43,563.01. We place these two reports in juxtaposition.]