

THE HOME SURROUNDINGS.

THIS Canada of ours is a charming country, with its rich and varied autumn hues, and picturesque views, and pleasant homes ; but alas how little has been done by man to take advantage of his privileges. Driven by sheer necessity, our farmers begin life by working early and late, and lose sight of almost everything except the intensely

this regard. Canada is before the world as the foremost of British Colonies as the most important part of Greater Britain. Let us then stir up our self-respect, and add to the stern necessities of life a little of the ornamental, that our exterior may keep pace with our real worth and progress. This it will be the object of our Horticultural



FIG. 1237.—MRS. MACKLEM'S FRONT PORCH, CHIPPEWA.

practical. To mow the lawns is a waste of valuable time that should be given to hoeing potatoes ; a lawn mower would be wild extravagance ; and to prepare a flower garden would be entirely out of the question. Even the front lawn of the farmers' home is too often strewn with chips and brush, and the walk left to follow the cowtrack in utter disregard of all æsthetic rules.

It is time that a change was made in

Societies to attain, and many of them are already doing themselves and the country credit by the enthusiasm being aroused in beautifying the public parks and the home surroundings.

We have received from a member at Chippewa, a photograph showing a little view of the front porch, prettily decorated, evidently the work of a lady's fingers. Mrs. Herbert Macklem is the one, and she writes :—