

and was much interested in these trees, so like the Old Country limes. Dogwood is plentiful here, and the sweet flowering currant and gooseberry. The ground has been carpeted with lilies and the ladies' slipper, both of which grow here in profusion."

All over these districts are places dear to artists in search of material. They will always be heartily welcome in any locality and will be able to find pleasant stopping places or good sites for homes.

A Country Estate.—The finest country place in British Columbia, or for that matter in Canada, is the new home of Hon. James Dunsmuir, at Hatley, Colwood. This charmingly situated residence, in appearance a baronial castle, fronts the Straits, and, seen from there, presents an imposing and beautiful appearance. The style of the house is Fifteenth Century Domestic Gothic, and has been cleverly adapted to modern requirements. It is eminently suited to its surroundings. Along the south front extends a paved stone terrace with balustrade, from which stone steps lead down to fountain and lily bed and thence to the gardens. The use that can be made of native materials is interesting; native cedar interior and granite boulders exterior makes a fine combination.

The setting of the house will be in every way benefitting. The noble trees and magnificent driveways and a chain of little lakes and streams give opportunities which the landscape architect will realize.

The architect of this castle—Mr. S. Maclure—has most flattering appreciations of these districts as sites for country homes. He says that many other properties here, especially along the water front, are possible building sites of great beauty and effectiveness. The foreground of water and the background of dark hills and the environments of beautiful trees and flowers make wonderful setting for homes.

Garden Possibilities.—Mr. McLean, the landscape architect, is enthusiastic on the region as to its possibilities for gardens. He is kind enough to write his opinion, as follows:

"As regards the possibilities of the districts of Colwood and Metchosin for the formation of gardens, few finer places could be found. The soil is of a light porous loam, formed by the breaking up of the country rock, easily worked and very hard to beat for the successful growing of plants, especially herbaceous ones, as can be seen by many of the varieties of wild flowers. Where rock is present a fine scope is given for that most delightful form of gardening. Apart from the numerous wild rock plants, nearly all the alpine will flourish and do well, and the cost of upkeep of such gardens is practically nil and the general effect can hardly be surpassed.

"And as to the vistas and peeps which make a garden so interesting, the whole country abounds with them. The only thing is to