

kitchen, one end of which is transformed into a dining-room by the simple addition of dining-table, sideboard and chairs. Or a wide archway, across which chintz curtains can be drawn when needed, may give some semblance of separation to the kitchen end. The great advantage of this plan is that it seems to keep the work "all together," and that it gives plenty of room at threshing-time. If there are plenty of windows affording cross-ventilation, odors and heat can be driven out in short order, while a big screen (if the curtains are not liked) can always be set up to shut away the sight of the cookstove or baking table.

Speaking of windows, a good point to remember is that *always*, if possible at all, they should afford cross-ventilation, that is, they should not be all at one side or one end, but should be so disposed as to create a movement of air across the room. This holds good for kitchen, dining-room, living-room and bed-rooms, as will be appreciated in hot weather. The best ventilation is always needed to give healthful living conditions, and undue admission of cold in winter can be avoided by having the frames very closely fitted and using good weather-strips.

But why describe further. A glance at the accompanying plans will explain more than a great deal of talk. In both saving of steps has been considered. Note in both the union of back and front stairs, saving both steps and space. In No. 1. Note the end cupboards with sink between and window over it; also rear porch affording a cool place upon which much kitchen work may be done. No. 2 is a plan supplied by the Cornell Reading Course, planned and drawn "frankly for farm life," as the footnote tells us. In it note the position of laundry, kitchen cupboards and sink, also the office at the front, a boon to any farmer who transacts much business and keeps books just as any other business man does. The apartment marked "man's room" in No. 2 is apparently intended as a sleeping room for the help. When not needed for this purpose it might very well be used as a room for working coats and boots, also as a place for "washing-up" in, before coming into the house. Such a spot may, of course, be provided in the basement, as described in last week's article. Also, if the farmer finds a desk in his bedroom or in the living-room sufficient for all business purposes, the "office" in No. 2 may be transformed into a study and library.

The Bath-Room, Etc.

JUST a few more notes in closing: Without-fail put a bathroom somewhere in the new house. It is one of the most important spots in the whole place. Give it a good equipment of all necessities, and, as soon as possible, if this cannot be immediately done, provide it with an adequate supply of both hot and cold water that can be turned on from taps, instead of being carried from the kitchen stove. This can be managed by a tank filled by windmill power or hydraulic ram, or water may be lowered from a strongly built rain cistern on perfectly strong bracing in the attic.

When planning the various rooms see to it that it is not necessary to cross one room to get to another, especially the bedrooms. A little planning will be sufficient to avoid this mistake.

Ceilings are not made so high as they used to be, high ceilings being a waste of heat in winter and necessitating greater expense when papering the walls. Eight to nine feet is a good height. Of course the house with two full floors, and an attic, and the "hip-roofed" style, give the best height for the rooms upstairs, but the sloping ceiling is not utterly taboo. The apparent height may be increased by a broad dormer window, running almost two-thirds the length of the roof; or the trouble may be averted by other window arrangement. The writer of the Cornell bulletin already referred to says: "It is commonly supposed that bedrooms located under a sloping roof must necessarily be low and hot. This is not true. The fact that some bedrooms so located, are stuffy does not argue that all need to be so; it implies rather that there is no cross-ventilation, or that the windows are placed so low as to leave a pocket of hot air confined near the ceiling. Every one knows that hot air rises, and that it will remain until it finds an outlet. This outlet should be furnished by windows placed

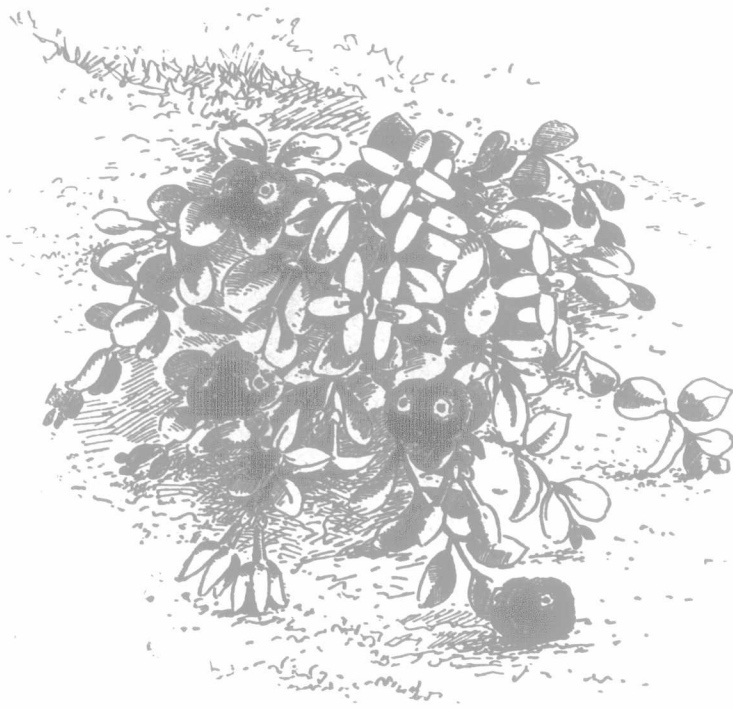
high in the room. If the roof pitch and dormer windows are studied to fit the height of the second-floor rooms, a full second story with high or full-length windows may be commodiously arranged under a long roof, and the low parts may be used for closets."

When ordering the woodwork have it with as few dust-catching grooves as possible. A plain surface perfectly clean is vastly preferable to an ornate one filled with dust, as it must be unless one is always working with it. The best floor is, of course, hardwood—an expensive item nowadays—but many houses make a well-finished cheaper one do. Rounded edges next the baseboard are a consideration in keeping a room clean.

Another point: Plan to have, sooner or later, a broad verandah or porch with a sleeping-porch above, also a back porch or verandah. Sometimes an "arborescent terrace" that is a cool cement-floored, arbor with vines above and about, is especially liked for an outdoor living-room in summer, but a good tight roof has the advantage of making the place usable on warm rainy days.

Canadian Wild Flowers.

Partridge Berry (*Mitchella repens*), also called *Pigeon Berry*, *Twin Berry* and *Squawberry*. Who, in Canada, does not know this beautiful little trailing plant? Go out to the woods in very early spring and there you will find its green vines, bright with red berries if the birds and animals of the woods haven't taken them all off, for the berries remain on all



Partridge Berry.

winter, as well as the glossy evergreen leaves, under the snow. In June and July the flowers come, and very pretty they are, set in pairs at the ends of the little sprays. Quite fragrant they are, too. The stems of the plant trail along the ground to a length of from 6 to 12 inches, and the leaves are set, like the flowers, in pairs, opposite. The plant belongs to the Madder Family.

Hope's Quiet Hour.

The Secret Meeting.

Nathanael said unto Him, Whence knowest Thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto Him, Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God; Thou art the King of Israel. —S. John 1:48, 49.

I thank Thee, Lord, that here our souls,
Though amply blest,
Can never find, although they seek,
A perfect rest—
Nor ever shall until they lean
On Jesus' breast.

A. A. PROCTOR.

I am alone in the house—alone with Christ. There is no need to retire to my cellar-study to-day, for a delicious breeze is coming in through my window; and I can glance out for inspiration and see the waving green leaves of a maple tree against the blue sky.

Is it any wonder that my thoughts turn to that secret meeting under the fig tree long ago? Before S. Philip hurried to his friend with the wonderful tidings that he had found the Messiah, Nathanael had met his Master under a fig tree. He knew that he had met his rightful Lord, but he did not know that the Name of that Lord was "Jesus". As soon as he learned that truth his soul bowed in adoration before the young Carpenter from despised Nazareth.

The story has been repeated millions of times since that day—the story of that secret meeting which meant so much to Nathanael.

Jesus said to him: "Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." The Shining Ladder is set up everywhere, but our eyes are not always open to see it. As I sit at my window I can mount, more swiftly than any aviator, straight to the foot of the Throne. This little room is a real "Bethel"—a House of God, and Gate which opens into Heaven.

It is wonderful to know that God cares about the secret fellowship with your soul and mine. He loves to meet His friends one by one. I am sure the joy of the disciples on Easter Day was a reflection of the joy in the heart of Christ. He showed Himself to the weeping Magdalene, then to the other

force which we call electricity, but it is easy to see its effects.

If your life is at a standstill don't waste time looking at yourself and becoming morbidly introspective. Try the plan of secret meetings with God, and ask Him for the power of the Holy Spirit to work in and through you.

A few months ago one of the "Advocate" readers sent me a little book, "Retreats for the Soul," which was written by a Methodist especially for the use of Methodists. The writer pleads with weary and discouraged souls, begging them to leave the rush of busy life sometimes, and go apart with Christ for a few days to repair the spiritual armour for the battle of life. He says: "It is only when the soul is naked in the presence of God that the stain of sin is fully revealed and we understand how evil it is." We are called to "follow" Christ; and as we read the story of His earthly ministry we find that He renewed His strength by many quiet times of communion with the Father—on the mountain, in the desert and in the moonlit Garden. Sometimes He spent whole nights in prayer. Sometimes He arose a great while before day and departed into a lonely place to pray. My little book says:

"Unless He is our example in this as in other matters, the command to follow Him loses all its meaning. Let us follow Him, not only in the crowded street, or in the daily round of work, but also into the desert and to the summit of the mountain and we shall find that His words are not vain, but precious and true, when He says, 'All things are possible to him that believeth'."

We do not need to go out of the world to find God. Christians were told that they were the salt of the earth, and salt is needed in every house. It is not only under a "fig" tree that the Master meets His disciples; He is to be found also under the trees of the wood or under an apple tree in the orchard. Are we seeking Him every day? Then we can meet Him under the solemn glory of the stars and the lovely blue of the summer sky. Then we can recognize His loving care in the restful green of the grass and the beauty of wonderful flowers. Then we can hear the tenderness of His voice in the song of birds and the happy laughter of children.

You do not need to go far from home to meet the Divine Lover:—

"In wonder-workings, or some bush
Aflame,
Men look for God, and fancy Him concealed;
But in earth's common things He stands revealed,
While grass and flowers and stars spell out His Name."

Many thousands of years ago a man lived on the earth whose name will never be forgotten, though we only know the history of his secret life. "Enoch walked with God; and he was not; for God took him," is the record in Genesis. In the Epistle to the Hebrews we are told that God translated him, that he should not see death, because he pleased God. He walked with God and pleased God! Could a grander epitaph be written of any man? That record may be written about you in the Book of God. You don't need wealth or learning,—not even leisure,—to win the praise of the King of earth and heaven. Before the Carpenter of Nazareth had begun His public ministry a Voice from heaven declared that the Father was well pleased with Him (S. Matt. 3, 17)—all through that life of hard and monotonous work the golden thread of fellowship with the Father had glorified every moment.

Farmers have many opportunities of meeting God in the beautiful out-of-doors. They can speak to Him and listen to Him without topping the plough or the reaper. And then there are the evenings in the garden!

"Oh Adam was a gardener,
And God, who made him see,
That half a proper gardener's work
Is down upon his knees;
So, when your work is finished,
You can wash your hands and pray
For the glory of the garden
That I may not pass away!
And the glory of the garden,
It shall never pass away!"

DORA FARNCOMB.

For the Needy.

Two gifts for the needy reached me this week. Mrs. R. C. S. sent \$2,

and "Reader of a dollar's worth of parcels of S. senger," etc. could have a woman who Quiet Hour Pu day. I had neighbors that selling some o buy food, so I board was y bounty helped woman's grat husband is ov of a hospital. scatter good th

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Rules for corre Departments: (1) paper only. (2) with communicatio the real name will enclosing a letter place it in stamped (4) Allow one n answers to question

Flowers V Foo

FLOWERS seems as be requ must be forward

Not so, so f house are conc possible to tak beauty by put holders, or by inartistically.

"It is almos many holders a few minutes a

Perhaps that yet it is really n of jars and vase always at their who has about Tiny glass basko lilies-of-the-valle other such low- in season; low, in for pansies a clear glass and give the right se sweet peas, nasti pis; a yellow D deep blue glaz ox-eye daisies, Susans), zinn specimens; still dull green or r right for bran japonica, spirea like; while t or green glass varying form co lilies, larkspurs etc., that would in lower vessels.

Of course this an amount of holders—she ha for years; yet had with compar if one keeps o proportion. Put low vessels, ta de'rate ones i sturdy ones in this rule and y astray in flowe sies or daisies dinary kitchen will be delightfu n; sturtiums look glass tumbler; v sorts may be in such sturdy gro golden glow and trees.

As a rule those of herbace are green, not perfectly plain, c stems call for o should be kept out against bei highly decorated just begs for pla ness in the v placed. The eff flowers that eve ruined if they a blue or gree "decorated" with flowers or desig little gray jug fr