

way seeds will sprout in sand, which admits sufficient air for the purpose, while they will not sprout in puddled clay.

Thus the question is answered and the children learn the lesson that seeds must have sufficient *moisture*, sufficient *heat*, and sufficient *air* to permit germination. From the class-room the children go into the school garden, and each puts into practice in his bed these and other lessons learned. In the garden they also learn the use of the hoe, rake, and spade; how to prepare the soil for their seeds; how to plant the seeds; how to care for the plants as they grow, both vegetable and ornamental; what kind of cultivation is necessary before and just after a rain; how to make soil mulch in order to check evap-



Home Built by Hampton Elys at Onondaga.

oration of moisture, etc. This is the class of work being done at the Whittier.

What would it mean to the farmer if his children received such training in every district school? Why, his children would carry these lessons into the home on the farm, and put into practice the teaching received in the school-room and garden. They would help him to revolutionize his poor method of farming. They would show him how to plow deep instead of scratching the surface of the soil, how to break well, and how to prepare a good mellow soil for his seeds. If some of his land was too close to admit sufficient air, or too open to hold sufficient moisture for plant growth, they would show him how to work organic matter into these soils by applying stable manures, and by growing cow-pen, clover and other manurial crops to turn under, and by thus changing the texture of the once worthless