

HOUSE FURNISHING AND DECORATION.

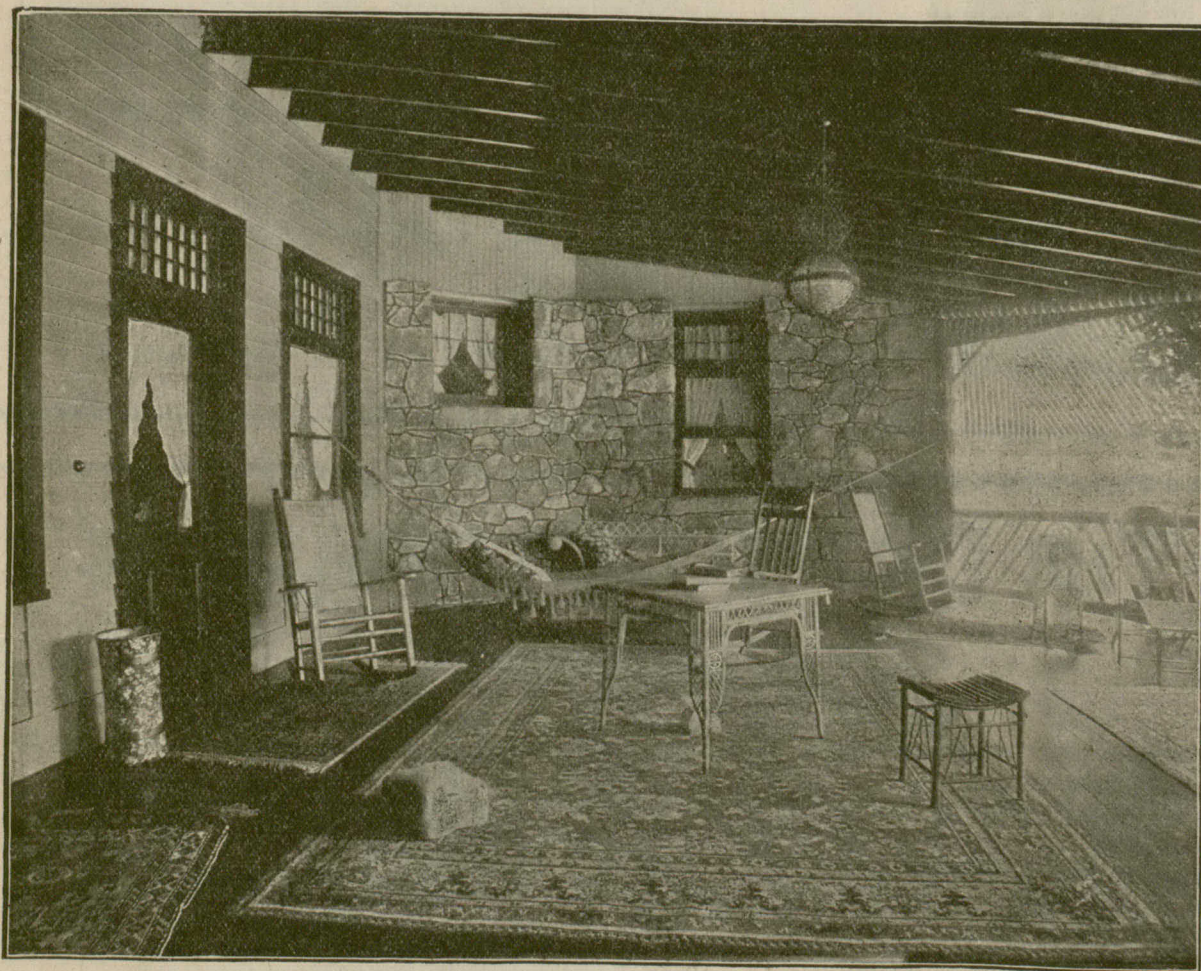
Outdoor living takes on a particular significance in tropical climates. The continuity of warm weather naturally im-

presses itself upon all the indoor fittings of the house, and many devices are resorted to for securing comfort. Furniture and hangings are now so extensively imported from the East that they can be readily used to supplement our own manufactures for the interiors of houses. Especially for the equipment of a piazza are these East Indian furnishings desirable. This portion of the house, if planned to

A comfortable foothold for a piazza floor can be given by the cotton rugs, always choosing the darker colorings. The Moodj mat can be used when the more delicate wood-fibre rugs are unsuitable.

Some kind of construction for holding a pitcher of water, fancy work and a magazine is essential in fitting out a veranda comfortably. A tray stand from the dining-room may often-times be pressed into outdoor service, or a tabouret may be spared from the parlor. A small kitchen table makes an admirable piazza convenience by covering it with two coats of varnish stain, lowering it three inches by cutting down the feet and laying a pretty cloth upon the top. A settle and table combined (the single size) is durable for out-of-doors, and its descent from the cabinet-makers of colonial times unites a historical value with the utilitarian. Tea tables of bamboo and matting are to be found this season with shelves and pockets of different sizes. The lightness of weight and quaint shapes commend them for a piazza property.

If space must be economized to the exclusion of a table, hanging shelves may in part take its place. For this purpose



A COMFORTABLE PIAZZA.

meet the needs of the family in an attractive way, may become the most enjoyable sitting place downstairs.

The first quality to aim at is an appearance, if not the reality, of space. In the illustration one can almost feel the sweep of air across the wide piazza. Even its inclosure between side walls, and the solid architecture of the open-beamed ceiling, do not detract from this element. Furniture that is easily handled and cool-looking is a second requisite. Variety can be reached by the use of bamboo, splint-work, rattan, willow and reed. From amongst these materials there is a wide range for the lover of the picturesque who will wish to select one of the Portuguese seats that fits into a corner and is warranted rainproof, an hour-glass shaped chair in rattan and one of the high-back willow settees.

the better plan is to use any corner or niche in the line of the house for some built-in shelves that will resist the effect of sudden wind storms.

Awnings and Japanese shades form a pleasant screen from the sun's rays, and vines will prove an addition worth the care they demand to bring them to perfection. A trellis can sometimes be added to a small veranda to increase its size, and annual climbers be adopted for a temporary screen while the hardy vines are attaining their growth.

Ornamental lanterns for the piazza can be made by an amateur worker with bent iron, or lights may be supplied by the Japanese paper lanterns. Flags and pennants are a vivid decoration for the side walls if their colors do not conflict with cushions or hammock pillows.

ALICE M. KELLOGG.