

and out of it made wooden shoes, spoons, lucifer matches, etc. They next built a fowl house, and a hut to protect a kid presented to them by an old Danish colonel. Now arrived a cow, the gift of some ladies, and of course a shelter was soon provided for her. In this way opportunities of usefulness multiplied, and stimulated to exercise which tended to mental and moral health, as well as to bodily strength and vigor. All this time family worship went on, morning and evening the Bible was read and hymns sung. A certain portion of time, also, was spent in acquiring the elements of education. Thus proceeded matters up to the 25th January, 1834; personal influence, employment, order, religious and secular instruction, all acting on the wild and fierce natures of these young savages, and quietly reducing them, through the consummate tact and loving nature of the young Kandidat and his mother, to something like human beings.

HOUSE BUILDING.

Matters having assumed a somewhat settled condition, the inmates began to realize the blessing of a comfortable home, and expressed a wish to undertake the building of a larger house, so that others might share in like benefits. On the 11th of March, 1834, the whole party commenced to dig the foundation and prepare material for "The Swiss House," which was ready for occupation on the 21st July, when all the boys left the Rauhe Haus, and under the superintendence of a young Swiss—Baumgarten—took possession of what might properly be called their own house, celebrating the occasion in true German fashion, by a grand festival. And now a family of girls, at the urgent request of many citizens, were received into the vacated cottage, though, in some respects their moral character was even worse than that of the boys. Mr. Wichern got his sister to take charge of these; and soon a larger house became necessary—one having a kitchen, wash-house, infirmary, etc. The foundation stone of this was laid on the 31st May, 1835, and in October, Wichern and his family, in their turn, moved out of their quarters to occupy the more spacious dwelling which bore the name of the "GREEN FIR," in honor of the Christmas tree. A workshop was next built, which was ready in 1836, and was called "DER GOLDENE BODEN," affording room for the carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, etc.