

The American Home

WILLIAM A. RADFORD
Editor

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 124 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

The prospective builder should not lose sight of the fact that some day it may be necessary or desirable to sell the house he proposes to build; and, if it is attractive and artistic in appearance and well arranged, it can always be disposed of, and that, too, at a good profit to the owner. The requirements of different families, however they may differ in regard to certain minor matters, are in general about the same. So, by giving careful thought and study to the design of the house when building, it may be made to suit exactly one's own needs and all those of the possible future purchaser.

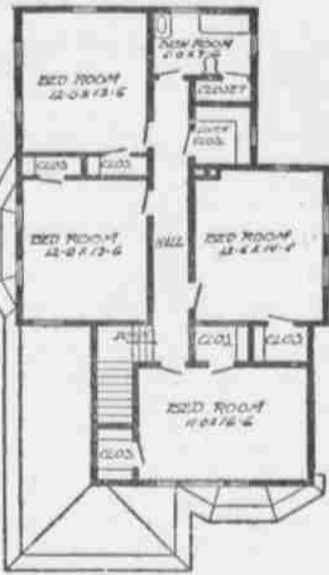
Almost everyone requires a residence of fairly large size; and it is only natural that they should want it to be of distinguished appearance—perhaps one might say imposing; yet still in good taste.

We have heard a great deal of late about the beauty of the square, box-like, handicraft style of houses; and their plain, unadorned walls have been urged upon the home builders as the only proper way to build in this advanced generation of ours. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the people like their houses artistic and well ornamented, with large, generous porches; with sunny bay windows and with eels and projections from the main part, which add both dignity and room. Such houses may be called old-fashioned by the critics, but they have been tested by generations of use and are still the kind of houses that the people want.

There are modern adaptations, it is

only to be enjoyed by those fortunate enough to have a sun parlor of this kind.

But the other features of this residence design are deserving of attention also. There are four large pleasant rooms on the first floor—the parlor, sitting room, dining room and kitchen. There are wide casings between the entrance hall and the parlor; the parlor and sitting room and the sitting room and dining room. An open fireplace occupies one corner of the sitting room. This is designed and built for real service and



Second Floor Plan.

is calculated to make these rooms very cozy and comfortable.

The rooms on the second floor are exceptionally desirable. Four large square bedrooms are provided and there is an unusual amount of closet space. Nothing is more to be desired in a home than ample room to store away clothing, linen, etc., properly. The closet space in this house will ap-

HOW BENTON WON LIFE'S BATTLE

by JOSEPH W. FOLK
FORMER GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI
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INSIDE OF Missouri the home of Thomas H. Benton, United States senator from 1821 to 1851, is known only to the student of history. Webster, Clay and Calhoun are familiar words everywhere, yet Benton served in the United States senate longer than any of these, and was responsible for more sound legislation than all of them together. His name was never prominently connected with the presidency, yet he accomplished more for his country than have the majority of the presidents.

This remarkable man came into the world in 1782, six years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and departed in 1858, three years before the Civil war. Thus his life covered the formative epoch of a government by the people in the making, and ended just before the outbreak that shook the foundations of the republic and bathed the nation in blood. For many years he ignored the mutterings in the political sky and preferred to believe the talk of war between the states over the question of slavery mere idle chatter. When he realized that the sentiment of disunion was real he took an uncompromising stand in favor of the union and refused to alter his position or trim his sails to meet the breezes from Missouri that were blowing the other way. Though entering public life as an advocate of the admission of Missouri into the union unrestricted as to slavery, he left the public service in the evening of life because he would not consent to vote for the extension of slavery into territory that had before been free. He was a firm believer in the doctrine of state rights, which, as he understood it, the right of the states to govern themselves as to all matters except those delegated to the federal government. His theory of the republic was an "indissoluble union of self-governing states"—a federated republic.

His education, that is the school part of it, was limited to the grammar schools and a short time in the University of North Carolina. In a larger sense he continued his studies until the day of his death, and was one of the best informed men of his time. While other statesmen were indulging in the dissipation common to that period among public men, he devoted his spare moments to investigation and study, and his knowledge of the details of public matters was vastly superior to that of any of his contemporaries.

Benton's high moral character was blended by his pugnacious disposition. In his early days he was involved in many affairs of honor as duels were termed then. He had not been in St. Louis long when the most unfortunate event in his career occurred. In the trial of a law suit some trivial dispute arose between him and a young attorney named Charles Lucas, a highly esteemed and most estimable young man. Lucas won the case and Benton challenged him. Lucas declined the challenge at first, but Benton persisted and offered deliberate insults. Lucas then accepted. They fought a first duel and no one being injured a second meeting was insisted upon by both parties. In the second duel Lucas fell, mortally wounded. Before dying he took Benton's hand and forgave him, but Benton never forgave him, and the shadow of this tragedy went with him through the years to his grave. The code-duello was resorted to in those days often for insignificant things, and every public man of consequence had figured in such an affair either as principal or second. This duel was fought the year after Benton arrived in St. Louis. Four years later the father of the lamented victim of the duelling custom was one of the unsuccessful candidates for senator against Benton.

His Fight With "Old Hickory." Benton, like Andrew Jackson, was of North Carolina birth, and, like Old Hickory, moved to Tennessee when a youth just entering upon manhood's estate. He became Jackson's friend while they both lived in Nashville and co-operated with Jackson in raising the brigade of militia which became the nucleus of the army that was to annihilate the British at New Orleans and make January 8, 1815, a red-letter day in American annals. It was on Benton's advice that the brigade was formed and offered to the government by Jackson, and for a time he was on Jackson's staff. Their friendly relations were, however, interrupted by a disgraceful brawl. Jesse Benton, a brother of Thomas Benton, had fought a duel and Jackson had seconded the antagonist. An angry dispute arose, Benton espousing his brother's cause. Jackson struck Benton with a horse-whip, and in return was shot in the shoulder by Benton. Jackson carried Benton's bullet in his shoulder until the close of his presidential term, and the wound gave him some physical distress to the end of his days. The feeling between them ran high after this episode, but to subside until the hand of fate

was to bring them together again, one a senator from another state, and the other as a candidate for the presidency of the United States. A year or so after the fight Benton moved to St. Louis, where he opened a law office in connection with a newspaper of which he became editor. He became prominent at once in the discussion of public questions, and took a leading part in securing the admission of Missouri into the union. After a five years' residence in Missouri he was elected by the legislature one of the state's first two United States senators.

Declined Money Profit from Public Service.

Immediately upon his election, with scrupulous regard for his official integrity, Benton called all of his clients to his office and told them that he could not further serve them, as there might be a conflict between their interest and the public welfare. For some of his clients he had litigation over land grants, and as senator he was in a position, through the enactment of laws, to make them and himself wealthy in the settlement of disputed titles. He refused even to recommend an attorney to them, lest this might embarrass him in his public duty. His idea of public office was that an official had no more right to use his public functions to aid personal friends or to advance his own fortune than he would have to put his hand into the public treasury and take money therefrom to pay a private debt. Through all his official career Benton was true to this ideal and was incorruptible and above reproach from any venal standpoint.

Championed "Missouri Compromise." Benton's career of constructive statesmanship was the greatest Missouri or the west has produced. He came upon the stage of public activity with the enactment of the Missouri compromise, which was largely his work. He left public life coincident with the repeal of that measure. Under this compromise Missouri was admitted into the Union (though it was some years later before the state was formally recognized) as a slave state, with the provision that no state created out of the Louisiana purchase, north of the southern boundary of Missouri, should be admitted with slavery. It hushed slavery agitation for a decade, and any attack upon it for a time was resisted by south as well as north. Benton was 39 years old when he took his seat and had lived exactly half the years given to him. Monroe was just beginning his second term as president, Calhoun was secretary of war, Henry Clay was speaker of the house of representatives. In the next presidential contest Benton supported Clay against Jackson, but ever after that he was Clay's political enemy and Jackson's warmest and strongest supporter.

Father of Homestead Law. Due to Benton more than any other man is due the fact that there is no frontier in the United States today. What was a wilderness west of the Rocky mountains fifty years ago is now settled by happy and prosperous men and women by the enactment of the homestead law. Benton established the policy of selling public land at a maximum of \$1.25 an acre, giving preference to actual settlers and securing to settlers the right of preemption. This made settlement easy and streams of sturdy men and women began at once to move westward.

Benton looked into the future further than any other statesman of his time. In answer to the taunts that the western country, particularly Oregon, would never be anything more than a hunting ground, he prophesied that the time would come when there would be more people west of the Rockies than east. He advocated the construction of a military road to New Mexico, and was so earnest in his support of the idea of a transcontinental railroad that his enemies charged him with being mentally unbalanced on the subject, and even his friends feared he was too enthusiastic. In one of his first speeches he prophesied that the Pacific coast would soon become the door of Asia and advised sending ministers to China and Japan—a proposal at that time considered extremely humorous.

Brought About Specie Payments.

It was through Benton's effort that specie payments were established and that all our money became based on gold and silver. So earnest was he in the demand for a specie basis that he was nicknamed "Old Bullion," of which he became very proud, and in his speeches often referred to himself by that term. He was at first inclined to favor a protective tariff system, but later strongly opposed protection merely for the sake of protection. He stated his position thus: "The fine effects of the tariff upon the prosperity of the west have been celebrated on this floor. With how much reason let facts respond and people judge. I do not think we are indebted to the high tariff for our fertile lands and navigable rivers, and I am certain we are indebted to those blessings for the prosperity we enjoy." While he opposed the protective system he voted

for a protective duty on lead, which was largely produced in Missouri. In this he made the mistake that has been made by so many senators and congressmen of this day, who say they oppose protection, but vote for protection on the products of their own states, thereby placing themselves in the position of not being able to successfully question the justice of the demand of those in other states for a larger share of protection for themselves.

After the election of Andrew Jackson to the chief magistracy Benton became the right arm of that great president. In the attempted nullification of the tariff laws by South Carolina, Benton made effective Jackson's ultimatum to that state demanding submission to the law, by engineering the passage of a compromise tariff bill which stopped everybody from talking of fighting, but satisfied nobody.

Fought United States Bank.

Jackson's greatest battle was against the United States bank, which he declared must either be put out of business or it would run the government. Benton led this fight in the senate. He brought up the question in 1831 by submitting a resolution to the effect that it was not expedient to re-charter the bank. The war against the bank raged fiercely for years. It had many powerful adherents and obtained the support of a number of members of congress, as was shown later by investigation, through what amounted to brazen bribery in the way of favoritism on loans. In the midst of the fight the presidential election of 1832 took place and Jackson was triumphantly re-elected. Shortly after this Jackson made an order withdrawing the public funds from the bank. This precipitated a tremendous public uproar and the senate adopted a resolution censuring Jackson for the act. Benton immediately began a fight to expunge this resolution from the record, and finally, in the last days of the Jackson administration, the motion prevailed amid great excitement and the resolution of censure was expunged by having a black border drawn around it and across its face the words: "Expunged by order of the senate, January 16, 1837." Jackson deeply appreciated the value of Benton's support and years later, on his deathbed, said to a friend: "Tell Col. Benton I am grateful."

Benton was the supporter of Jackson's successors to the presidency, particularly of Van Buren and Polk, but after Andrew Jackson, the presidents up to the Civil war wielded little influence compared with those before, and were largely engaged in a game of hide-and-seek on the slavery question.

In 1848 the anti-Bentonites carried a majority of the Missouri legislature,



and a resolution was passed demanding that slavery be permitted to exist in territory north of the Missouri compromise boundary and instructing the senators to vote accordingly. Benton denounced this resolution as treasonable and refused to obey it. He said it did not represent the sentiment of the people of the state and he appealed from the Missouri legislature to the Missouri people. The struggle was bitter and intense. As Benton was up for re-election, it being the close of his fifth term as senator, the effort was to control the legislature which was to elect the senator for the following term. Neither side obtained a majority of the members and a deadlock resulted to be broken by the anti-Benton Democrats combining with the Whigs and bringing about Benton's defeat.

The old warrior was not dismayed and kept up the fight. In 1852 he was sent to the lower house of congress from St. Louis as a Union Democrat. For thirty years he had been absolute dictator in the politics of Missouri. His word was final, and his wishes law, but the tide had turned, and for the remaining years of his life he steadily against him. Yet at no time in his career does Benton present a more inspiring figure than when, with his back to the wall, crowded on every side by foes, he continued to battle for the principles he believed in. By compromising and by truckling to the public sentiment of his state he could have regained his seat in the senate, but he would have lost the love and admiration due the brave man who prefers defeat with the right to victory with what he considers wrong.

Benton's mannerisms were marked and did not tend to make him popular with the masses. He seemed egotistical to the point of absurdity, yet in him it was merely exaggerated self-respect. To the casual observer stern and pompous, he was gentle and tender-hearted to those who knew him well. His public and private life were above reproach. His high sense of honor as a public servant, his incorruptible integrity, his unwavering adherence at whatever cost to the principles he believed in, his powerful intellect and his aggressive energy combined to make him a fighter eminently qualified to lead and represent the militant people of the West in the first half of the last century.

He was defeated for re-election to the house in 1854, and in 1856 became the candidate of the Union Democrats for governor, and ran third in the race. He was now 74 years old, but as vigorous and robust as ever. Without lamenting his fate or the people's ingratitude, he cheerfully took up the completion of his "Thirty Years' View," giving a mental picture of the important events in the history of our country with which he had been connected. In 1858 he died in Washington, undismissed by the storm of public misunderstanding that had wrecked his political life. He looked into

the future and saw the approval of coming generations whose views would not be obscured by the passions and excitement of the moment. When the news of his death reached Missouri there was an entire change of sentiment and all classes united to do honor to his memory. They then realized that the mightiest man of Missouri was dead, the man who towered above friends and foes. All the state was in mourning and his funeral at St. Louis was attended by more than forty thousand people.

Saved Missouri to Union. It was the fight Benton made that enabled others, when the war came, to keep Missouri in the Union. If Missouri had seceded there probably would have been a different story to tell than that which came from Appomattox.

So Benton won life's battle by simple honesty, by perseverance, by having ideals and remaining true to them in sunshine and in shadow. His influence will be felt for good as long as this republic lasts, and the failure to secure political preferment at the end of his life by giving up the fight accentuates the grandeur of his character. He lost for the moment, but in losing he gained for all time. For him there was victory in defeat. The lesson of his life is—it is not essential always to win, but it is essential to keep the faith.

The Mystery of a Duel. Having fought his duel and saved his honor by firing a shot in the air, the editor of a French provincial newspaper went back to his desk and the incident had quite left his mind when he felt something strange in his thigh. He looked and found that he was bleeding profusely.

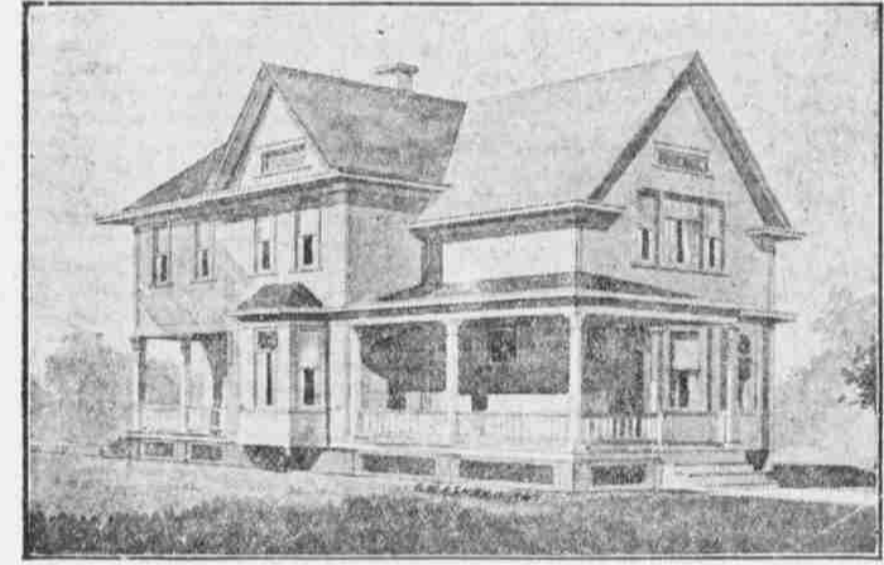
A doctor was called, who discovered that a bullet was embedded in the editor's thigh some two inches deep and required extraction. "Why was this not taken notice of on the spot where the duel took place?" he asked. The editor was as much in the dark as the doctor. At the moment of the duel he had fired into the air and his adversary also took a distracted sort of aim. There had evidently been no intention of doing the slightest harm on either side. The editor felt nothing as he left the field and had shaken hands with his antagonist as a sign of reconciliation. How a bullet came to be lodged in his thigh was simply one of the mysteries of dueling.

Another Boom for the Crops. "Not many delegates appeared at the Esperantist congress that met in Kansas."

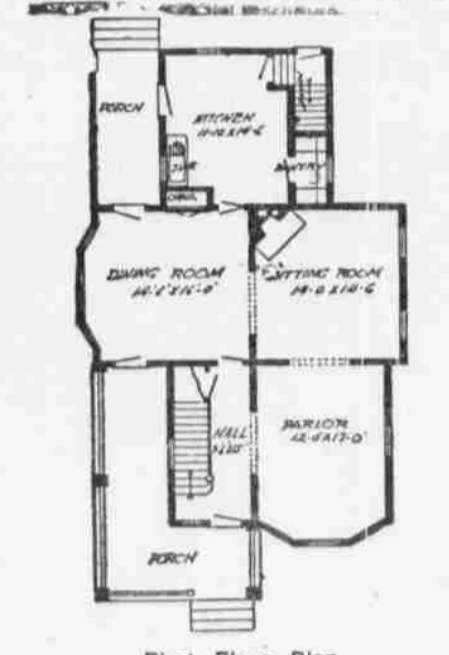
"No. Most of them stopped off and hired out as harvest hands."

Strategy. Beside—But didn't you say if George tried to kiss you, why, you wouldn't stand for it?

Peggy—I didn't. I—I sat down in a hammock.



true, of some of the parts of these houses. We have learned to make better use of them than our fathers did. An instance in point concerns the large porches that are such a prominent feature with all these houses. Today we utilize these, or part of them at least, the year round. We have learned that it is a very easy matter to glass-in a porch, especially



First Floor Plan.

one in a corner, and so convert it into a delightful solarium or sun parlor for use and enjoyment during the cold winter weather.

In the house design which is shown in connection with this there are two porches both of which are especially well suited for such a purpose. The rear porch is of generous dimensions and by putting in glass along two sides, letting it extend back to the kitchen door, a snug little sun parlor is easily made, opening off the dining room. This does not interfere at all with the kitchen entrance, since the glass partition would be run across just short of the kitchen door, thus leaving half of the present porch for the kitchen entry.

Or, if a larger sun parlor were desired that part of the front porch extending along the side to the front dining room door could easily be utilized in the same way. This would make a beautiful sun parlor or conservatory for plants. It would be of large dimensions and, opening direct from the dining room, would be a very valuable addition to the house.

One who has never experienced the use of such a sun room can scarcely appreciate what a desirable apartment it is, especially in the winter time. To be able to sit in the warm sunshine, surrounded by beautiful growing plants and with all the comforts of being inside a well-built house, yet with the exhilaration that comes from outdoor light and air, and that in cold stormy weather, is a blessing that can

peal especially to the housewives for this reason. There are no fewer than seven clothes closets, each of generous dimensions, on this floor.

This house is very well constructed, has a stone foundation with basement under the entire structure, exterior walls covered with yellow pine siding, roof of red cedar shingles and interior finished in hardwood, using oak for the flooring and first quality birch for the trim. The cost is estimated at \$3,500.

When College Girls Marry. It can be definitely established by statistics here considerably omitted that the age of marriage of college girls is no later than the age of marriage of their noncollege sisters and acquaintances.

As the home ceased to provide its daughters with adequate education and with adequate employment, what was their situation? In the "working class" it was simply this: That they went into factories and that their sweet hearts married them somewhat later than had previously been the case, because their share as wives in the support of the family was increasingly smaller. But the "working class" man soon reaches his maximum earning capacity in his craft and stays there. His financial infancy is short compared with that of the "middle class" man. He therefore marries younger.

In the "middle class" however, science and systems began to lengthen the mental and financial infancy of the men to such an extent that the "old maid" of twenty-three became common. What were the girls in the "middle class" to do while the boys were growing up to be men in mind and in money?—William Hard, in Everybody's.

New Type of Warship. A new German type of warship is a revision to the monitor in a greatly improved form. The vessel will expose nothing but a curved steel deck, practically invulnerable, and a single turret amidship. There will be no funnels, for the vessel will be propelled by gas engines developing 6,000 horsepower. The armament, consisting of two 16.7-inch rapid-fire guns, will be the latest development in ordnance. Since the vessel will be relatively small, her 6,000 horsepower engines are expected to drive her at the rate of 27 knots an hour. This looks like an abandonment of the policy of putting too many eggs in one basket, exemplified in the monster battleship. The new type would, of course, be quite immune from attack by flying machines. No explosive dropped from above would injure it in the least. Concentrated fire, about which the naval experts talk so much, could be obtained by maneuvering the new type in groups of five or six.

BRIGHT SCENES IN FINLAND

Pleasant Change for Traveler After the Dreary Cities of European Russia.

This pleasant picture of Viborg, Finland, is from a recent book by Harry H. Whitely: "There are few countries so absolutely dissimilar (as climate, soil) as Russia proper and Finland. Everything is different, commencing with the currency, for rubles and kopecks have now disappeared to give

place to pennies and marks, the latter being equal to a French franc. The contrast is especially noticeable as regards towns and their inhabitants. Thus there are few cities in European Russia which do not appear dreary and depressing to a stranger. Moscow and Odessa are exceptions, for the first named is undoubtedly picturesque, while the gardens, boulevards and well-paved thoroughfares of the other present a striking contrast, to say, Kharkoff, with its general impression of gloom, and even equal-

Viborg is barely eighty miles from Petersburg and yet I awaken today in another world in a cozy hotel bedroom. Its windows overlook a scene more suggestive of sunny Spain or Italy than the frozen north.

The picturesque town nestling against a background of pine forest and blue waters of the harbor sparkling under a cloudless sky, the wooded islets with their pretty villas, the ruined castle of Viborg, with its crumbling thirteenth-century battlements, and last but not least the general air

of life and animation are indeed pleasant to contemplate after the drab, dreary streets of the Russian capital. Viborg is, perhaps, the least impressive of all Finnish towns, for many of its dwellings are built of wood, which, however, is generally stained a dark red color, cleaner and more cheerful looking than rough, weather-bleached logs.

Pleasant also is it to saunter through the picturesque old streets, to ransack the silver shops and come suddenly upon a market place lying in

the shadow of quaint old gabled houses, where the rosy-cheeked peasants, carts and cobbles and canvas booths packed with fruit and vegetables recall some old-world town in far away Brittany. Everything has a cleanly, bright appearance, and the fresh, pine-scented sea breeze is grateful indeed after muggy, inodorous Petersburg.

Now that the comet has not killed anybody, let us turn our attention to July 4.