

AN ATTRACTIVE PORCH.

How a Simple Householder with a Small Porch Can Give It an Outdoor Appearance.

So many of our leisure hours are spent on the porch in summer that it is of great importance to have it as attractive and convenient as possible. It is much harder to make a small porch attractive than a large one, where well-designed pieces of furniture look well against a delightful setting of trees and vines, but in the suburban districts the housekeeper of little means has many problems to be solved. It is necessary to bring the outdoor feeling as much as possible on to the porch.

Pots of growing plants, or boxes fastened on to the woodwork of the porch, serve as a screen from passers-by, and are always attractive to those sitting on the porch. These can be covered with pieces of Virginia cork nailed irregularly against the sides of the boxes, and give a very attractive rustic appearance.

Fern baskets may also be hung in the spaces between the posts, and on the posts themselves little brackets can be placed, one above the other, for holding pots of growing flowers.

Another holder of flowers seldom seen, would be one of the Japanese bamboos, which must be nailed to the posts, and can either be filled with water, and have fresh flowers placed in them, or can be filled with soil, and contain some quickly growing creepers planted in the openings, giving a most attractive appearance to the setting of the porch.

The large growing plants placed on the floor, either in a corner or near the steps, are always an attractive addition, and this is usually the only decoration found on the average porch.

The largest size of lard buckets can be planted dark green, and these can be placed on the grass and in front of the porch, and if they are kept filled with growing nasturtiums, would bloom during the hot months. Three of them in front of the porch would give quite an air to a modest porch, and one would feel indeed that one had a pleasant garden, without the trouble of breaking one's back to plant the seeds and care for them. If preferred, they could simply be used as receptacles for the flower pots, holding the plants which have been indoors during the winter months.

Chinese vegetable baskets are even more decorative if they can be procured, as they are low and wide. If more contrivances were thought out for comfort, many things could be done outdoors which are usually done in the house.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

THE PICTURE BLOUSE.

A Delicate Green Glace Silk Embroidered in Small Posies Is a Thing of Beauty.

The term picture blouse seems confined to those that are heavily embroidered, and the handsomer the embroidery the more does the name fulfill its mission. One beautiful waist was made of peau de cygne, as glossy as a mirror, while the embroidery was in dull silks, made more beautiful by the contrast with the background.

One of the picture blouses was in the most delicate cloud green silk glaze. The design was as of a bouquet of small flowers done in their own tones. The design was a little at one side of the waist, extending over and across the front and trailing over the other shoulder. A companion waist to this was in the lightest pink, with flowers done in red and white and forget-me-not blue.

Old-fashioned frilling finds a place in the waist of to-day and the frillers who did not begrudge hemming miles of soft India frillings are now getting busy upon frills no wider than half the width of your little finger, each frill edged with fine lace. The waists are trimmed with these frills, put on in rows, and rows across the yoke and around the sleeves, and in rows and rows around the girdle. Of course, none but a slim woman would wear these frills, but she who is tall and slight is very effective in them.—Brooklyn Eagle.

NICE VEGETABLE SOUP.

Takes Almost Whole Day to Cook, But a Fine Meal After Long Hours of Hard Work.

Italian vegetable soup requires a slow fire and a whole day for cooking, but it is very good, and is a supper to look forward to after a hard day's work outdoors. It calls for a pound of beef, a cupful of red or white beans, one-half cupful of split peas, four tomatoes, three carrots, two onions, four potatoes, parsley, celery, spinach, a cupful of butter, nutmeg, cinnamon, pepper, salt, cheese and bread. Put the beef on covered with cold water and add a large pinch of salt. Cut all the vegetables in small pieces, but do not chop. When the meat has cooked for nearly an hour, put all the vegetables in with the meat except the potatoes. Allow the soup to cook nearly all day. Twenty minutes before serving brown the onions, cut up fine, in the butter; remove the pieces of onion and add tomatoes; put in the potatoes, also cut fine; add tomatoes, butter, etc., to meat and vegetables. Brown in the oven buttered bread cut in squares, grate the cheese on to the bread and serve both in the soup.—Rural New Yorker.

Wash the Soap.

When it is necessary to use the soap in a public toilet room, take the precaution to wash it. Skin diseases are easily contracted through soap.

Do You Know What You Are Missing?

When you go Clothes buying you would always go where you can get the the best values for your money if you could be POSITIVE where that place is, would you not? Of course you would. Well, THIS is "THAT PLACE." There's no "if" or "ands" about it—THIS IS THE PLACE. Very many men have already learned the truth of this statement—so many in so short a time that we are astonished—but we want EVERYBODY to know it. Here's a comparison of prices on two-piece suits.

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REVEALS CHARACTER

PECULIARITIES OF SEX APPEAR IN FLAT-HUNTING.

Men Hate to Move When Once Settled—Women Expose Their Foibles in Making Selection.

"Here's where you have a chance to study human nature," says the superintendent of a Chicago apartment house, according to the Inter Ocean.

"Why, I can tell as soon as I have gone over an apartment with a couple whether they live happily together. If they talk over the attractive corners and she tells where his reading lamp will go, and he says that is a nice corner for her tea table, they are pretty sure to be home folks.

"If he digs holes in the floor with his cane while she makes a quick survey of the rooms and orders repairs in a lifeless fashion, they are merely getting a shell of a home in which to hang the skeleton of their one-time domestic happiness.

"You learn to read women, too, in this business," he continues. "The woman who talks about the lovely flat she has and how she hates to leave it, but Henry is bound to come up town; who criticises everything in the apartment and fairly sniffs the air for trouble, will make a nagging, fault finding tenant, and if I had my way I'd raise her rent.

"The woman who wears a stylish dress in the newest coloring and fabric, but whose shoes are run down at the heel, whose finger tops need mending and whose underskirts hang in tatters of embroidery below her skirts, is sure to be a sloppy housekeeper and ruin the fittings in the flat.

"References count for something, but not everything. A doubtful party always comes well armed with references, but when a woman and a man look at each other doubtfully and wonder whether they had best give the name of their uncle, or his employer, or their last landlord, I take heart and know they are not up to Chicago tricks.

"The bane of the apartment house superintendent is the Sunday rush. All through April we work early and late showing apartments on Sunday. On a pleasant Sunday we show perhaps 200 callers over apartments and rent possibly two. On a rainy Monday we have three callers and rent two apartments. Rainy day flat hunters mean business.

"I do not believe any man would move if he had his own way. He would rather pay more rent, put in a gas stove if the steam heat is not all that it ought to be, sleep on a mattress stretched on the boards laid over the bathtub, if the flat is too small—anything rather than move. Moving has driven more than one well intentioned man to drink."

Watch Speaks Time.

A Swiss watchmaker has invented a watch which speaks the time from a tiny phonograph. A very small hard rubber plate has the vibrations of the human voice imprinted on it, and is actuated by clockwork, so that at a given time the articulation is made, indicating the hour. The utterance is sufficiently strong to be heard 20 feet away. It is possible by means of a device of this kind to combine sentiment with utility, as the vibrations can be made by any clear voice, and a man's watch may tell him the time in the tones of wife or children.

Natural Arm Chair.

A gardener in Korea has formed a natural arm-chair by twisting a growing vine to the required shape. It is also studded with seeds of the ginkgo tree, which have grown into the fiber of the vine. After the chair was fashioned in this way it was cut from the ground, dried and polished until it resembled mahogany. It is 3 feet 4 inches high, 25 inches wide and weighs over 100 pounds.

NEW JERSEY 'RICKSHAS.

Vehicle of Yankee Make Has Invaded the Orient with Good Results.

That characteristic vehicle of the orient, the jirikisha, is drawn by a yellow coolie in Japan, a brown Hindu in India, a black Zulu in South Africa; but look between the shafts of the 'rikisha in any of these countries, and you will probably find the same name-plate—that of a vehicle manufacturer in New Jersey. The Yankee jirikisha has invaded the east, and its invasion promises to result in a permanent occupation of countries where cheap labor would seem to forbid sales of American goods.

The Yankee 'rikisha manufacturer competes on prices first. He sells vehicles as good as the native product at as low as \$16 and no higher than \$40. American factory methods permit turning them out in large numbers on the duplicate system. He also competes in quality, making jirikishas with ball bearings, bicycle wheels and cushion tires at \$30.

Different types of 'rikisha are made for different countries. The vehicle is common in Lagos, Ceylon, and many other localities, each of which has its preferences in the way of weight, height, hoods, bells, lamps, colors, and cushions. The New Jersey factory also supplies the "pousse-pousse" used in Madagascar. It is a variety of jirikisha with hood and springs.

Another is the "Korean cab" which is nothing more than an improvement on the clumsy Chinese wheelbarrow, with its single wheel, familiar as a passenger vehicle in all Chinese cities. The "Korean cab" has a single wheel fitted with a pneumatic tire, and seats one passenger, the seat being placed high over the wheel. Coolies in front and behind balance and propel it, and the vehicle is capable of good speed.

When the Yankee 'rikisha was introduced on the west coast of Africa, it was so much lighter than the vehicle previously known that the first Zulu who drew one presently stopped, lifted the vehicle and its passenger to his head, and wanted to carry it that way, being easier. American wheelbarrows were introduced about the same time, and a contractor who supplied them to his Fanti laborers, returning in a few hours, found them all being carried water-jar fashion.

Exports from Gulf Ports.

The growing importance of the gulf ports for the shipment of western products is gathered from a statement recently issued by the department of commerce. For the 10 months ending with April Galveston, New Orleans and Mobile exported \$30,000,000 worth of breadstuffs, against \$33,000,000 worth for all the Chesapeake ports, including Baltimore, and \$37,000,000 worth for New York. New York's lead is readily accounted for by the advantage it has in the cheap water route through the lakes and the Erie canal, which also give her not a little wheat from the Canadian fields. With a deep waterway from Chicago to the mouth of the Mississippi New Orleans, which contributes \$16,500,000 to the above total of \$30,000,000 for the three gulf ports, would in all likelihood excel New York in the shipments of breadstuffs and other western produce.

Children of Missionaries.

In Europe the son often follows his father's trade; in America, the land of change and rapid promotion, he seldom does. For this reason, observes the Youth's Companion, there is something particularly significant in the fact that of the missionaries of the American board in India and Ceylon, one-third are the children, or the grandchildren of missionaries sent out two or three generations ago. Many men say to their sons, "Mine is a poor business; try some other." The sons of the missionaries have said to their sires, "Yours is noble work; we will continue it."



LEES' LOST FLAG OF TRUCE

Incidents Connected with His Surrender in Which Maj. Morgan Participated.

"I met, on Appomattox day," said the colonel, "the officer who received Gen. Lee's flag of truce, just before the surrender, April 9, 1865. This was Maj. George F. Morgan, at that time in command of the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania in Griffin's division of the Fifth corps. The division was on duty early that morning. Morgan being well to the front with lines near Appomattox. A rebel battery went into position to check the union advance, and became so troublesome that Gen. Griffin said to the commander of the brigade: 'Tell Morgan to take that battery.'

"Griffin had at one time commanded the brigade, and he knew Morgan. No sooner was the order given than the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth charged the battery. The guns were whisked away, and the Alabama brigade supporting the battery swung around the



A CONFEDERATE MAJOR CAME FORWARD BEARING A FLAG OF TRUCE.

flank of Morgan's men to compel their withdrawal. Instead of withdrawing the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth proceeded to cut the Alabamians off from their main column. While this movement was being executed a confederate major came forward bearing a flag of truce—a white pocket handkerchief tied to the twig of a tree. Taken to Maj. Morgan, he said at once: 'For God's sake, major, stop firing. Gen. Lee has decided to surrender.'

"Morgan asked why in thunder his command did not stop firing. The flag of truce was sent back to Gen. Griffin, the message to be forwarded to Sheridan or Grant, while Morgan himself pressed the Alabamians to surrender immediately. This they did, and Morgan's regiment had the honor of firing the last volley of that campaign and of receiving the unconditional surrender of the first confederate brigade to lay down its arms at Appomattox. Then Morgan, after sending his prisoners to the rear, rearranged his lines so as to include the McLean and other houses in Appomattox.

"He was sitting on his horse in front of the McLean house when Lee and Babcock rode up, and his men were in duty when Grant, Sheridan and the others came up. Not only were Morgan's men closely associated with the events of that day, but they were appointed to receive the arms of the confederates, who turned over guns and equipment in the next few days. It will be remembered that Lee, after writing his last note to Grant, was met by

Col. Babcock, who escorted him to McLean's house to await the coming of Grant, to whom the note had been forwarded. Meantime all was uncertainty where the lines were in contact, the officers arranging for only a temporary truce. But it so happened that Maj. George F. Morgan, now of Chicago, was at the most interesting point on the line and became a participant in the dramatic scenes of the Appomattox surrender."

"Morgan was also at Gettysburg," said the captain, "and he had an odd adventure on the night of the second day. His brigade was posted on Little Round Top and at the night he was changing his pickets along Plum creek, in front, when he walked into a detachment of confederates looking after their own pickets. Morgan was taken a short distance to the rear as a prisoner, but, watching his opportunity, slipped between the videttes and worked his way back to Little Round Top. He found his lieutenant sound asleep, and, creeping under the blanket, went to sleep himself.

"In the morning the lieutenant pinched his captain's arm to determine whether he was a ghost or not, and there was a great commotion, the men being noisy with joy when they found their captain again among them and none the worse for his adventure. The next night there was on Round Top a quiet little game of poker under the screen of a blanket. When Morgan intimated that it was time to quit the lieutenant remarked, 'That's all right, as you have all the money (\$3.50), but I will get it all tomorrow. You will be shot and I will go through your pockets.' But Morgan was not shot and was kept in training for many a hard fight."

At Five Forks Morgan was the senior captain in a provisional brigade in which no field officers were present for duty. When Sheridan and Griffin rode up at the turning point in the battle the situation was explained to them, Morgan expressing his willingness to assume responsibility. Thereupon Sheridan gave his orders and said to Morgan: "If you do just as I tell you we will double their lines back and break them all up." Morgan moved the brigade forward, doubled the enemy's line back on itself, and, as Sheridan said, broke them all up.

Morgan is well known among the older officers of the regular army, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean. He went out with Samuel M. B. Young in 1861. The latter, who enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Pennsylvania, became lieutenant general, and others of Morgan's old associates came to hold high rank, but none of them ever forgot the quiet business man of Chicago who won brevets at Five Forks and Appomattox and whose regiment fired the last volley before Lee's surrender.

Chances of Death in Battle.

In Homeric days a battle was a conflict of armed mobs. The nearer you got to your assailant the better was your chance of killing or being killed. The bigger the man the better were his chances in the strife. In these piping times of mechanical warfare, says the Scientific American, the situation is reversed. Battles are fought at ranges a mile or so. The smaller the man the less are his chances of being hit. An ingenious mathematician has figured out that perhaps the casualties on the Japanese side must have been considerably less than those of the Russians in the recent war if it were assumed that the marksmanship of each was equally good. The advantage of the Japanese was inversely as the cubes of their height and breadth. The average targets offered by each to the enemy are as the cubes of 1,585 and 1,642, or as 105 to 118, an advantage in favor of the Japanese of about 12 per cent.

Marketable.

Eva—Katherine says she likes to see a man wear high collars and Grace says she likes to see him wear stocks. Would stocks attract you, my dear? Edna—Yes, if they were listed among the preferred.—Chicago Daily News.

Two German officers and eight men were killed and ten men were wounded in a fight with Hottentots, between Warmbad and the Fish river.

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