

FARMER'S COLUMN.

Hints for House Builders. Mr. Roger Smith, an English writer, in the course of a lengthy paper on "The Duties of an Architect," gives the following as a few of the points to be thought of in the planning of a dwelling.

"The relative position of each room in connection with all the others; the aspects of the windows; the communications, such as the hall, the corridors, and the staircase must be arranged for. Each room must be of the right size, shape, and disposition. In every main living room the ordinary articles of furniture must be prepared for, and places assigned them, and the same in every bedroom, large or small. The position of window, door, and fireplace in each room must be settled so as to avoid draughts, discomfort, and smoky chimneys. Light must be secured for every hole and corner all over the house and so much ventilation. The service from the kitchen must be so provided as to bring the provisions into the dining room readily, but to keep smells out. The duty of every servant all over the house must be understood, and all the endless appliances of a large house thought of. There must be a place found for the range, and hot plate, and the jack, and the dresser, and the closets, and the shelves of the kitchen. The shelves, sinks, and plate racks, the coppers and washing boards, the vegetable bins and the water supply together, must be all provided for. Care must be taken of the wine cellar, beer cellar, and (if present) the stores, the linen, the china, and the plate. Ovens, shelves, locks, safes, plate closets, linen closets, housemaid's closets, laths, hot water, cold water, cupboards, lifts, and all manner of appliances are to be thought of; rooms for the family, and rooms for the guests; the nurseries, the upper servants' rooms, the various services of butler, cook, housekeeper, footman, dairymaid, stillroom maid, must all be thought of, all planned for; all must be brought conveniently together, and each must be kept out of the other's way. While these matters are being disposed of, there are also many points in the structure that need attention in preparing working plans. Proper foundations must be provided for and an equitable distribution of the weights on the walls. The flues must be carried up into proper chimneys stalks, the construction of bressumers, girders, floors, partitions, roofs, etc., must be devised. The arrangement of the roofing, so as to be easily freed from snow, the mode of bringing away rain water, the drainage, the outfall or cesspool for the drains, the necessary precautions against damp, bad smells, or tainted water each and all of these must come under review; not one of them can be left to chance any more than the putting together of the masonry or the brick work, the thickness of the walls, the quality of glass, or the weight of lead. All this time an entirely distinct set of considerations is also present to the architect's mind; his building is to please the eye as well as accommodate the dwellers therein, and, whether there be the richest elaboration, or the most rigid simplicity, he will not have fulfilled his duty to his employer, or be loyal to his art, if he has not striven to render the effect of his work, especially of the inside of his house, pleasing, harmonious, and appropriate."

THE YOUNG FOLKS.

The Bear and the Skratell. (Continued.)

Meantime Guter had become sadly frightened, and seeing the oven door open, crept in for shelter from the fray, and lay there quaking for fear. The struggle went on thus a long time, with out its seeming at all clear who would get the better—biting, scratching, hugging, clawing, roaring and growling, till the whole house rang. The elf, however, seemed to grow weaker and weaker; the rivals stood for a moment as if to get breath, and the bear was getting ready for a fierce attack, when all of a moment, the skratell dashed his red cap right in his eye, and while Bruin was smarting with the blow and trying to recover his sight, darted to the door and was out of sight in a moment, though the wind blew, the rain pattered, and the storm raged, in a merciless manner.

"Well done! Bravo, Bruin!" cried the huntsman, as he crawled out of the oven, and ran and bolted the door. "Thou hast combed his locks rarely and as for thine own ears, they are rather the worse for pulling. But come, let us make the best of the good cheer our friend has left us!" So saying, they fell to and ate a hearty supper. The huntsman, wishing the skratell a good night and pleasant dreams in a cup of his sparkling ale, laid himself down and slept till morning; and Bruin tried to do the same, as well as his aching bones would permit him.

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