THEY ARE YEARLY GROWING LARGER AND MORE COSTLY.

In Time the National Capital Will Be City of Palaces and Modern Castles, Forms Which Might Almost Even Now Do Applied to Some of Its Romes.

(Special Correspondence.)
WASHINGTON, May 29.—At the wedding of Margaret Blaine and Walter ch it was found necessary to imit the number of invitations on ac at of the smallness of the house. Yet house which Mr. Blaine occupies is of a small one by any means. It has rmons drawing room and two or these large parlors, apartments which can be readily thrown into one. It is can of the largest houses in the city, and bably can accommodate as large probably can accommodate as large throng on a social occasion as any oth Washington, is full of large houses. gton, is full of large houses, designed for social entertaining, and yet the general complaint is that the houses are too small. Parlors are often crowded almost to suffocation. In no other way can the growth of the society of the capital be better illustrated than by this increasing inadequacy of the houses which do the official entertaining. The official society of the capital is built on such lines that it has outgrown even the handiwork of the architect and the builder. Mr. Blaine's own house, occunied by Mr. Leiter, is one of the largest private houses in the country, and at times it is not large enough for the de-mands made on it. All the cabinet officers find the same trouble, though they rented the largest dwellings they could find in the city. The palatial home of the vice president comes nearer the bill than any of the other official houses, but even it is sometimes uncomfortably thronged. The fact is, nes in Washington will have to be palaces, or prove inadequate to the needs of the elaborate and extended society which flocks to them.

One of the most magnificent houses in Washington is that which Senator Hearst has just occupied. That is to say, the Hearsts have occupied a part of the house; though it is hardly fair to say that Senator Hearst has occupied this house, either, for he is not much of a factor in the domestic organization. The great house has been built and furnished entirely by Mrs. Hearst. The senator has not bothered his head about the matter, except to pay the bills, an easy task for him. He told Mrs. Hearst to go ahead and pick out her site and see her architect and the contractors and build up a house, and when she was ready to we in he would move in with her and that would be all there was to it, so far as he was concerned. He has faithfully kept his part of the contract, and when Mrs. Hearst decided to move into a part of the house while the remainder was be ing finished Uncle George, as the scuator is known by all of his friends, took poswithout a bit of grumbling. But Mrs. ion of the little corner assigned him Hearst was a bitterly disappointed woman. The great house was promised her by the contractors the first day of last October: then it was to be ready in November, and finally in December. "Surely," Mrs. Hearst thought, "we shall be able to get in for the social season." But it was Lent before even a part of the house could be occupied, and to this day the workmen are hammering away in some of the best rooms of the

The lesson of this is that if palaces are sded for the leading houses of the American capital, the palaces should be built. They cannot be ordered one th and be ready for occupancy the ext. The American style of building to order, much as shoemaker make shoes or tailors trousers, will not apply with satisfactory results in the on of palaces such as Washington

houses. Probably there are fifty houses in town which would do credit to any an capital. They are not exactly palaces, but the palace is the next step beyond. One may look forward a few years and in his mind's eye see the hills which surround Washington covered with castles and chateaux of princely grandeur. These will be the homes not of earls and dukes and barons, but of the wealthy citizens of America who seek along with a delightful climate the social stages of the capital. A cordon of hills surrounds the entire city, at a distance varying from two to four miles from the Capitol, and when these are crowned by modern palaces and castles, as they some day will be, the result will be a city the fairest on earth.

Going back again to the Hearst house It is said its mistress has discovered already that a mistake was made in not nning for a mansion twice as large. It is a house of seventy rooms, and one dred and fifty rooms would be about right, she thinks. This is encroaching upon the domain of the palatial, sure ugh, and such quantities of furniture as that house has swallowed up, continu-ing to cry lustily for more. Every day set producths big wagons have been emptied of their contracts are reality of the Hearst mansion. I have heard it said that there is already in the house \$170, 000 worth of furniture, rugs, pictures and hangings, and I can easily believe it. Many of the fine pictures and antique rugs were purchased by Mrs. Hearst while abroad, and her fancies and not the prices dictated every investment. Much of the furniture was made to order from designs furnished by the architect or by Mrs. Hearst herself.

This is a pretty fine house, of course. said Uncle George Hearst, while smoking his after dinner cigar in a room lined and ceiled with his favorite California red wood, "but it is nothing like the old me we used to have down in Missouri. Think of an old fashioned southern farm house, with a big gallery or porch running around the whole structure, a great lawn in front, filled with trees a hundred years old, a well which contained the best water in the world, and an orchard not far away in which grew the finest fruit the lips of man ever touched. That was our old home in Franklin county, Missouri. There I lived till I was 30 years old, working on the farm and enoying life as only farm boys do enjoy it. In 1850 I was taken with the California fever and went out to the coast. I had some hard times. I worked in the mines with a pick and shovel, and lived on salt meat and hard crackers, but all the time there was one thought running through my mind, one ambition, and that was to go back to Missouri some day and buy the old home in Franklin county and end my days there. Well, after a time things began to come my way. I got hold of some good property, and made money. For a few years I was pretty busy with large enterprises, building stamping mills, opening up new mines, and so on, till eventually I had two thousand men in my employ. But I hadn't forgotten the old home, and after a few years more got to feeling homesick one day and just pulled right up and started for St. Louis. Arriving there I stopped only long enough to get some drafts turned into currency, and with a big bundle of bank notes under my shirt I took the train for Franklin county. It seemed to

younger than at any time mace I had started for the coast. I can't tell you what my feelings were as the train neared feelings were as the train ne the old place. I was a boy again.
"Well, I finally reached the house,
but I hardly knew it. Nothing seemed

familiar to me. The barn had no paint on and the doors were falling off or hanging by one hinge. The fences had been moved about and permitted to run down, and you know what a change the tearing down of fences will make in a farm place. The beautiful lawn in front of the house was a cow pasture. All the shrubbery had been destroyed. A big elm tree, in the branches of which I had taken many a Sunday afternoon nap, had been chopped down, probably for the fire wood that could be got out of it. The house itself was in a sad state. The paint was peeling off from exposure to the weather. The green blinds were hanging every way, and the vines which I had myself trailed up the columns of the galleries had been torn down and ruined by the cows. Worse than all, the German gardener and dairyman, who owned the place, had built a cowbarn almost over the dear old well, and its waters had been polluted by the drainage. When I saw this I gave up and went back to the railway station. I carried my bundle of bank notes with me, and I did not buy the old place. I give you my word and honor that I cried al

the way to St. Louis." The most perfect house in Washington and the most beautiful, is that of Mr. Warder, a retired reaper and mower manufacturer of Springfield, O. It is . Dutch house, with a stone court and gable roofs. It was built by Richardson, the greatest architect this country has as yet produced, and the designer of many of the finest private houses in Washing ton. He not only designed the Warder house, but the furniture which it contains, and under his direction the very hangings were selected and patterns cut. The result is said to be the most artistic home in America. There is nothing on tentatious about it, and it was not so very costly. I am glad to add that it is a real home.

There is one house in town, and certainly the handsomest house in Wash ington considered as a sample of modern residence architecture, that is, in fact, too large. It is the chateau of Senator Saw The mansion was designed before the death of Mrs. Sawyer, and she was very fond of going over the plans, sug gesting changes here and there, and arranging in her good housewifely eye the whole domestic establishmen from carnets and curtains to the mono gram on the linen. When Mrs. Sawyer died the senator said there was no reason why he should go of with the house, except that Mrs. Saw ver had wanted it built. He had no use for it himself. So the house was finished and as soon as three or four rooms were ready for occupancy the senator and hi married daughter moved in. I am told that the senator, while proud of the house, is oppressed by its vast size. All the rooms seem empty because the wife is not there. In showing one through the great house the senator pauses here and there to remark that "mother planned this and "mother" wanted that so and so. Senator Sawyer is in many ways a very sweet old man, even if h is fat and waddly. "I suppose it was foolish to build such a big house as this just for two or three quiet people to live in," he said, "but I don't regret it. If I get only \$5,000 for it when I sell it I won't be sorry I made the investment because mother took so much interes

The finest house for the purposes of entertainment of large crowds in Washington is the British legation. The lega tion building is nearly as large as the White House, and much more conveniently arranged. All the rooms on the lower floor, including a ballroom half as big as the east room, two or three large drawing rooms, a dining room and a number of smaller rooms, can be thrown into what is practically one huge apartment, along with a long, wide hall. It is said by experts that the legation can comfortably accommodate a larger number of people than the White House. Above the drawing rooms on the lower floor, and running round the grand stair case, is a gallery on which two or three hundred people can stand and overlook the brilliant scene below. The British legation house was for a long time the only one here owned by a foreign government. The bricks with which it was built were imported from England. Now the Mexican government has its own building in Washington. When the British minister bought the property on which the legation house stands, some ten or twelve years ago, there was a great outcry against him. It was charged that the site was away out in the coun try, and that the minister had been play ing into the hands of the real estate speculators. Now the property of the British government in Washington could be sold for twenty times the sum paid WALTER WELLMAN. for it.

TO MARRY IN LONDON

Well Known Americans Who Will Wed

Away from Home. During the present summer a number of Americans will exchange single for marital biessedness before the altars of various fashionable London churches Why they choose to get married abroad instead of at home is a matter that concerns themselves alone, but the fact that



MES. S. S. SANDS, JR. so many residents of the United States have elected to wed at the English metropolis has of course attracted much attention and not a little comment. Among the nuptials to be celebrated there during the months of June, July and August are those of Lawrence Turnure and Miss Romaine Stone, Antonio de Navarro and Miss Mary Anderson, and Mr. Lewis Morris Rutherfurd, Jr., and Mrs. S. S. Sands, Jr. Mrs. Sands is a blonde with regular features, oval face, blue eyes and golden hair. Her husband lost his life in the hunting field at Meadow Brook, L. I., about a year and a half ago. Mr. Rutherfurd is a wealthy bachelor of New York city, tall, brunette and of athletic build. He owns a big farm in New Jersey where he raises fancy stock and a particularly choice breed of fox terriers, The lady whom he is to wed is the mother of two pretty and interesting chil-

An election conducted by an English newspaper has ended in the popular decision that the three best liked women in the kingdom are the Princess of Wales, me that I was feeling twenty years Baroness Burdett-Couts and Ellen Terry.

BOSTON'S BIG LIBRARY. IT RANKS SEVENTH IN SIZE AMONG THOSE OF THE WORLD.

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More Than Five Hundred Thousand Volumes Stored on Shelves at the Hub. Some Rare Old Books-A New Bullding in Process of Construction.

(Special Correspondence.) BOSTON, May 29.—One of the noblest enterprises in this country for the dis-semination of knowledge is the Boston public library. It is known throughout the length and breadth of our own land and in every intellectual center in the world. Not only does it comprehend all that is valuable in literature, but it also enjoys the reputation of being conducted on the broadest and most liberal lines of any similar institution in existence. A few words relating to the foundation and management of this grand library, the priceless literary treasures encompassed by its walls and the tendency of the Boston mind for special classes of books cannot fail to hold the attention of the reader, no matter how remote he may be, and of the student as well.



THE OLD BUILDING. On the first day of March of the pres ent year there were stored on the dark towering shelves of the library just 528,804 volumes, which is a larger number, by a good many thousands, than is to be found in any other library in the United States, with the exception of the congressional, at Washington, which has 565,134 volumes, many of which, however, are dry, legal works, which have very little value to the ordinary mortal The Boston public library stands seventh among the great libraries of the world. The National of Paris, founded in 1787, has 2,290,000 volumes and is first, follow ed by the British Museum, established in 1753, and now containing 1,500,000 volumes; Imperial public library of St. Petersburg, Russia, the date of whose establishment is unknown, 1,000,000 volumes: the Royal library of Munich. founded in 1570, 800,000; Royal of Berlin, founded in 1661, 750,000 volumes. It is safe to say that when the Boston library reaches the present age of some of these old storehouses of knowledge it

will have shown a growth far outstrip-

ping any one of those mentioned.

During the years 1841-47 various preliminary movements were made toward a city library in Boston, several books having been received from Paris, which it was proposed to use as a nucleus. While Hon, Josiah Quincy was mayor he offered to give \$5,000 as a beginning toward a free public library if the city would contribute \$10,000, but the offer was not met. On March 12, 1848, the legislature passed an act authorizing the city of Boston to establish and maintain a public library, and on April 3 following it was accepted by the city. On Aug. 5, 1850, Hon. Edward Everett presented his set of public documents and state papers of the United States, with other works, numbering in all 1,000 volnmes, to the library, and in 1850 the city had just 2,000 books. Then followed a number of bequests from the wealthy citizens of Boston, most of which were funded and the income used in purchasing books. Among these contributions was one from Josiah Bates, of London, amounting to \$50,000; Hon Jonathan Phillips, \$10,000; Hon. Abbott Lawrence, \$10,000; a second donation from Hon. Jonathan Phillips of \$20,000 Miss Charlotte Harris, \$10,000. March 20, 1854, a reading room was opened on Mason street, and Sept. 17, 1855, the corner stone of the present library was laid, and the building dedicated Jan. 1. 1858, the addresses being by Hon. Rob ert C. Winthrop and Hon, Edward Everett. The cost, with land, was about **\$365,000.** 

Among the rare collections of books which have come into possession of the library from time to time may be mentioned the Shakspearean works, which is the finest collection of its kind in America, and will rank among the best in Europe. It embraces about 2,000 volumes. Then there is Benjamin Franklin's collection of books and pamphlets: a copy of the first edition of Quixote," one of the rarest of Spanish books. This was included in the Tick nor library of Spanish and Portuguese works, which was bequeathed to the public library by George Ticknor, the historian of Spanish literature. Theodore Parker also contributed his rare library of classic works. Rev. Thomas Prince in 1758 bequeathed to the Old South church, Boston, his books and manuscripts, and in 1866 they were deposited in the public library. It is one of the most unique collections in existence. Among the rare books which it includes are two copies of the "Bay Pealm Book," which was printed in Cambridge in 1640, and which was the first book printed in the British pos-

The oldest complete specimen of printing in the library is the "Supplementum" of Nicolaus Auximanus, printed in Venice about 1471. A Latin Bible, known as "Eggestein's First Bible," the first volume only, from Genesis to Psalms, printed at Strausburg in 1468. "A Book on the Lives and Deaths of Poets and Philosophers," in Latin and in Gothic type, by Walter Burley, printed in Nuremberg in 1472. A nearly complete set of the original edition of the "Speculum Quadruplex of Vincentius Hellovacensis, or de Burgundia," in eleven volumes, printed in 1473-76 at Strausberg and Augsburg. It has the chain and staple by which it was fastened to the desk. "The Nuremberg Chronicle," so called, printed in 1493, interesting not only as a specimen of early printing, but for many hundred curious wood cuts which it contains, which illustrate the early history of the art. A German Bible, with many colored prints, some of them nearly the same as in "The Nuremberg Chronicle," printed in 1483. The "Epistles of St. John," in Latin; printed at Lyons in 1518. An autograph of Martin Luther is pasted into this volume. The library has a copy of the Polyglot Bible of Cardinal Ximenes, printed in 1514. The collection of expurgatory and prohibitory indexes is very large, of for among them are several rare edition dame

The central reading room for er memicals is provided with seats for linding up ers. It has the best collection out to be and American periodicals in ed the docu-try, and is amply furnished-riously. But to an expres-olver and held head, shriek-

of reterence. An conversation and avoidable noise are strictly prohibited. No attendant is allowed to converse in this room except on library business.

The home use of books is confined to all inhalitants of Bests above the are

all inhabitants of Boston above the age of 14 years; all clergymen and teachers who have permanent professional occu-pations in the city; also the members of such higher educational institutions in the city as the trustees may from time to time permit, or any other inhabitant of Boston who deposits the sam requested by the librarian for the volume desired, if it be permitted to circulate, or for the set to which it may belong. All examinations of rare or costly works must be made, if the librarian requests it, in the presence and with the assistance of an attendant connected with the library. Books unsuited for general circulation and unbound periodicals can be used

only in the building. In addition to the wealth of literature comprehended by the public library it also contains the Tosti collection of en gravings, embracing nearly 5,100 prints, many interesting manuscripts and autographs, such as the original parole of Burgoyne and Riedesel and their armies, given at Cambridge subsequent to their capitulation at Saratoga. This is one of the most interesting manuscripts in the library's collection.

There is connected with the library a patent specification and drawing department which contains documents from all the progressive nations of the earth and is of inestimable value to the student of science.

In regard to the circulation of books significant fact is presented in that during the year 1878 the home use was 80,326 volumes and the hall use 66,670, while in 1887 the home use was only 61,-183 volumes and the hall use 138,870, which shows that the library is becoming more and more a consulting library. The fact of the great increase in private libraries within a few miles of the publie library is also given as one of the causes which have reduced the home The books most in demand are popular books in the English language. But to find such works published before 1850 has been difficult if not impracticable. The result is that the library is filling up with literature which nobody calls for. This difficulty grows with the years, and will prove to be serious tinless some plan can be devised to meet it.

The highest circulation of the library was in the years 1877-78, when it reached the number of 1,183,931, and the lowest for the year 1887, when it fell off to 934,593, a loss of 249,398 volumes. In 1888 of the volumes delivered to borrowers one in 22,530 was lost, which is the largest average since 1880. The various classes of reading show the following percentages: Fiction and juveniles, 70.87 history and biography, 6.50; travels and voyages, 5.89; science, arts, fine and useful; theology, law, medicine, professions, 4.83; periodicals, 6.65; foreign languages. .74; miscellaneous, 4.52. There are fifteen branches of the public library and it requires 143 persons to run them. The annual cost of maintaining the library is about \$130,000. The funds from bequests amount to \$171,700, from which is realized an income of \$7,148 per year.



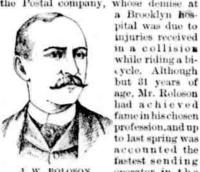
THE NEW BUILDING.

The present public library building has for a number of years been inade quate to properly accommodate the constantly increasing additions of books and about two years ago the city took steps to provide more commodious quarters. This scheme has so far progressed as to show a massive granite structure out on Copley square with walls up nearly to the second story. The cost of this structure will be nearly \$2,000,000, and when finished will not have its equal for a like purpose in the world. It will not be completed for two years or more. S. SYLVESTER.

A Medel German Schoolhouse

At Mannheim, in Baden, Germany there stands a schoolhouse which is said to be the most perfect building of its kind. It cost \$225,000 and contains forty-two ordinary schoolrooms, besides two rooms for drawing, two for singing, two for handwork, a large gymnasium a hall for public exercises, two meeting rooms for directors, two sets of rooms for servants and four little prison cells for refractory pupils. The materials in the structure are almost exclusively iron and brick. The ceilings of all the rooms, corridors and the big hall are of concrete. The floors of the class rooms are hard wood laid on asphalt. They are supposed to be so constructed as to render the accumulation of dust and the breeding of bacteria impossible. The building is heated by a low pressure steam system. In the basement are swim baths. The boys' bath accommodates twenty at once and the girls' bath fifteen. Half of the basement is a huge, bright room, full of tables and chairs. Here in winter 900 poor children will receive a half pint of milk and a roll each daily for luncheon, winter days during which this arrange ment will prevail the directors estimate that they will give away 20,250 quarts of milk and \$1,000 rolls.

Telegrapher Roloson's Untimely Death Telegraph operators and those interested in electrical affairs all over the country were grieved the other day to learn of the death of Mr. J. W. Reloson, one of the New York night managers of the Postal company, whose demise at a Brooklyn hos



profession, and up to last spring was accounted the fastest sending J. W. ROLOSON. operator in the United States. At that time, however, the distinction was wrested from him in the New York tournament by a young man named Pollock, living at Hartford, Conn. Despite this, however, Mr. Roloson, was generally conceded to be one of the most excellent and accurate telegraphers in the country. He was widower and leaves two sens, one 7 and

the other 5 years of age. Lord Byron's granddaughter, Lady Anne Blunt, her husband and their daughter are living on the borders of the desert in Egypt, about six miles from Cairo. They have adopted the dress and customs of the Arabs, and seem to enjoy their lapse from civilized usages.

un ordered for Cron-This Standard Be a minute. It will knowledged to be eighing 2,000 pounds a piece for the mobile an expense of \$1,500.

tag on each lum

Yelasquez" This was
years has este in Velasquez" This was
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april-30

LATEST SPRING STYLES.

OLIVE HARPER WRITES OF THE FASHIONS OF THE WEEK

Some New Ideas in Walsts Which Are Pretty for Graceful Women-A Pair of Party Dresses-The Costumes of Two Famous Women. Special Correst NEW YORK, May 29.-There has been

considerable talk about waists made with the material simply drawn across the front smoothly without any darts or seams or openings, and now I furnish views of two gowns made in that style. To achieve one of these pretty styles it

is necessary to have the lining of the waist fitted well to the figure, with the seams all turned in, and the bones laid flat with extreme care. Then the material is drawn carefully over and pulled



TRUE ECONOMY AND SAVING GRACK. and drawn until it fits like a glove over the lining. Of course the girl must be inside the lining while this molding process is going on, and I should also mention that the shoulder and side seams are only basted.

As soon as the outside fits without a wrinkle then the shoulder and side seams are ripped and the whole is sewn together. The material must be flexible. such as camel's hair, cashmere, bunting, surah or china crape. This latter when in black makes an exquisite drapery, and indeed the model of the design was in cream colored silk with large garnet figures, and over it was draped the black crape as seen in the illustration.

It is a real relief to the eyes to see these pretty plain corsages after so many heavily laden waists. The other one has the fullness which would have been taken up in darts brought down to the point in front. The whole dress is in drab cashmere, summer weight, and the front breadths are slashed and lined with old rose silk, while the underskirt is of myrtle green velutina. Bordering the slashes are bands of embroidered leaves in rus set green shadings, and done in chenille, which leaves it in quite high relief. This kind of embroidery is very rapidly done, and very pretty when finished. The sleeves are also slashed on the outer side and filled in with velutina, which is cheap, very fashionable and wears well.

These gowns button in the back, the buttons being hidden under a nafrow box plait, which is laid from the neck to the waist line. It is a saving of cloth

Do you want to see two very pretty party dresses, girls? Of course you do. The little one is of gray Japanese crape, accordeon plaited, with streamers of pink (peachblow pink) ribbons hanging from waist to the foot of the dress, where it is fastened in a loop. A belt of the same goes around the waist and is tied in a double bow with long loops and ends in the back. Across the front of the corsage is a fichu drapery of gray tulle, with a pink rosette are of crape and the dress is modestly low in front and back. The pretty Catogan braid in the dressing of the hair gives a girlish look to the whole. Many young ladies who have low foreheads are parting the hair in the middle and combing it back, leaving only one little curl down the middle of the forehead. The gloves are pearl gray. The design of this pretty little gown could be carried out in a variety of ways with slight alterations.

For her blonde friend the other "creation" would be the foil. This is in pale blue surah and white lace. The style is so simple that a description is not needed. This also could be in lilac, lavender or any other preferred color. Both dresses are suitable for any evening gathering



AREN'T THEY PRETTY? This week I have seen three beautiful costumes. One was black lace, with here and there a tiny velvet bow of corn color. Fauny Edgar Thomas were the other black dress, the skirt accordeon plaited, the waist slightly open at the neck, and her color was red. Ella Wheeler Wilcox was with her and

she wore a princess dress of thick looking but zephyr light gray wool, with faint stripes of color. There was no drapery There was no drapery except from left shoulder to right hip. For Many Years a Publisher.

Fletcher Harper, a member of the pub-

lishing firm of Harper & Bros. in New

York city, who died recently, was the last surviving son of Fletcher Harper, one of the four brothers who established the bus-何即 iness. Born in The state of 1828, he took a voyage to China before the mast when only 15 years old, spent

FLETCHER HARPER. made a European trip, served a long apprenticeship with the firm of which his father was a mem ber, and at the age of 41 succeeded to a partnership. He was a widower and leaves one daughter, the wife of Hiram W. Sibley, of Rochester, N. Y.

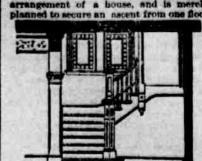
some time at Co-

lumbia college.

Five members of the firm of Harper & Bres. now remain-Philip J. A. Harper, the senior partner, a son of James Harper; Joseph W. Harper, son of J. Wesley Harper; John W. Harper, Joseph Henry, a nephew of Fletcher Harper, and John Harper, son of Joseph Abner Harper, who recently retired.

STAIRCASE AND HALL

Gossip About Arrangement and Furnish The staircase is too often neglected in the



THE STATECASE. to another, with no attempt to secure beauty of effect, when it might easily be made one of the most important decorative features of the dwelling.

In order to secure a satisfactory result it should be carefully considered when the plan of the house is first studied. In the search for beauty the practical necessities must not be overlooked. In an ideal ar

should be an abundance of light and air and a proper propor-tion of risers and treads, the simple rule to be kept in mind being that the sum of the height of each riser and the width OAK SEAT FOR HALL

of each step in OAK SEAT FOR HALL inches should not exceed 1 foot and inches. For example, if the height of the riser be 7 inches, the width of the tread should be 11 inches, and so on. For main stairs in dwelling houses the height of the risers should be not less than 6 inches nor more than 8 inches for ease and comfort. The dimensions of the newels, rails and ballusters should not be overlooked, if we

would secure a proper ensemble. There is a tendency to make them too large, which, produces a masfire all in keeping with From six to seven is quite sufficient HALL TABLE. houses. In small cottages they can judi-

ciously be made less. The newels should never be overdecorated with heavy moldings and carvings in high relief, and the hand rail should be made to fit the natural shape of the hand when partially closed. "Winders," or steps which radiate from a corner, should never be used when it is possible to avoid them.

straight flight are both uncomfortable and form or landing breaks the monotony, and with a single or a group of odd shaped placed, gives a most picturesque effect. If a fireplace, with a seat conveniently near, comes within the limit of cost it will increase the com-fort and cheerful-HALL CHAIR.

ness of the whole. The furniture of the hall should be in keeping with the design of the staircase—substantial and simple in design. Examples of suitable hall furniture are given in above cuts. DAVID W. KING.

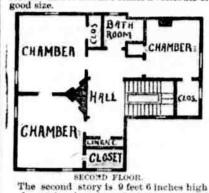
The estimated cost of building the house of which plans are given below is \$2,200. It is a two story frame dwelling, and is described in "Artistic Homes,"



by the National Building Plan associa tion, Detroit. It may have either brick or stone foundation and a 6 foot 6 inch cellar. The first story is 10 feet high, and con tains a hall which is 20 feet long by 7 feet wide; a parlor measuring 14 by 17 feet; a



dining room 14 by 15 feet; kitchen, 12 by 15 feet; pantry, 6 by 7 feet, and china closet of like dimensions. In the hall, the parlor and the dining room are fireplaces. The lower floor has two large verandas, and be fore the hall is reached comes a vestibule of



and contains three large bed rooms, two of which are fitted up with grates, and all three of which have good closets Brass Ornaments.

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