

AN ENGLISH COUNTRY HOME

How a Little Knowledge of Landscape Gardening, the Use of a Beautiful Hedge, and an Abundance of Vines and Flowers About the Unpretentious Residence Have Produced a Vision of Loveliness

HERE'S a photograph of a country home the writer obtained in England four years ago—a photograph which shows how a little knowledge of landscape gardening, the use of a beautiful hedge, and an abundance of vines and flowers have made an unpretentious residence into a vision of loveliness. And this reminds us to say that there are three lessons which our American farmers might well learn from our English country cousins.

The first lesson is that of **beauty**. No matter how humble the rural cottage over there, it is almost sure to have a pretty lawn, pretty trees, and pretty flowers. It is a little harder to get the lawns here but we can certainly have the trees and flowers as easily as in England.

The second lesson is that of *love for the* family home. Your typical English countryman not only likes to live where his father

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and grandfather and great-grandfather lived, but he likes to beautify and ennoble the place with the thought that it will be still more beautiful in the days of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The third lesson is that of *recreation*. It is not shown in the picture, but you may be sure that there is a tennis court or other playground at or near this house, for the English are great believers in sport—as we believe our American country folk should be. Let's work hard all the week till Saturday noon and then have Saturday afternoons off for wholesome sport and recreation—baseball, tennis, basketball, fishing, etc. "My boys work one-third better when they get Saturday afternoons off," one farmer said to us recently; and we have no doubt but that other farmers could grant the same privilege with equally profitable results. Let's keep these three lessons in mind.