

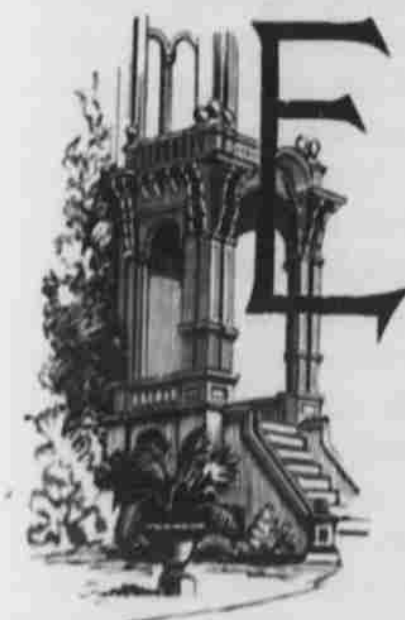
THE WEST SHORE.

FOURTEENTH YEAR.

SEPTEMBER, 1888.

NUMBER 9.

BEAUTIFUL HOMES OF PORTLAND.



EARLY in the history of the Pacific coast, but little thought was taken of ornament or architectural beauty in the construction of either business houses or dwellings. The times were homely and practical to the last degree. Almost anything that was large enough and would shed water was good enough to do business in, and a good dinner and a comfortable place in which to sleep were considered the most important essentials of a home. Every one was intent upon "getting a start in life," and had no time to waste upon luxuries and frills. But as time passed and wealth accumulated, as the pioneer era gave way to the one of settled communities and permanent institutions, as the older business men began to retire from active life and enjoy the fruits of their many years of toil, as the younger generation, educated with ideas and tastes their fathers had not, at their age, possessed the time and means to acquire, came upon the field and prepared to take charge of the business the older ones were about to abandon, and as others possessing wealth and refinement came here to invest their means in developing the resources of the growing west, a change came, at first slowly, and then rapidly, until now it would be difficult to find a portion of the Union where more taste is displayed or more money expended for the erection of buildings, either for public or private uses. Especially is this so in the matter of private residences, and in this respect Portland leads all the cities of the coast in the number of elegant and costly dwellings as compared to her total population. Possessing the most wealth per capita, she has not been at all niggardly in using it for her

own adornment, and for the entertainment of those who, from time to time, enjoy her hospitalities.

Culture and refinement have their best index in the home of the individual, both in the objects with which he surrounds himself and in the manner of enjoying them; and, tested by this standard, Portland may fairly be said to be a city of beautiful homes, of liberal, cultured, refined and hospitable people. Real estate in the better residence portions of the city is extremely valuable, yet many of our citizens have not been deterred from using an entire block for residence and ornamental grounds because of the fact that the ground alone is worth from \$30,000.00 to \$100,000.00. Nor have they limited the architect, the furnisher, or the landscape gardener, to equalize the first cost of the land; but in everything, from first to last, have done all that ample wealth and refined taste could accomplish to produce a home beautiful without and within and possessing all the requirements demanded by comfort, convenience and artistic taste. As a general thing, the houses are surrounded with ample grounds, a whole block being occupied in many instances, and by some two blocks have been utilized. Green lawns, ornamental trees and shrubs, and a profusion of flowers of every hue, in which predominates the rose, the best suited to this climate of all the children of Flora, greet the eye continually. There is scarcely a week in the year when the blushing rose or the many-hued pansy does not offer up its incense upon the shrine of beauty from hundreds of door-yards, and no season when the emerald green of fresh and growing grass and clover does not refresh the weary eye from the well-kept lawns. In this matter of perennially green grass and ever blooming flowers, the people of Portland possess an advantage over their friends in the east. The services of the lawn mower are in constant demand, for the rains of winter and the ever-ready garden hose of summer keep the lawns fresh and beautiful the entire year, while the sportful Jack Frost, who plays but few pranks in this