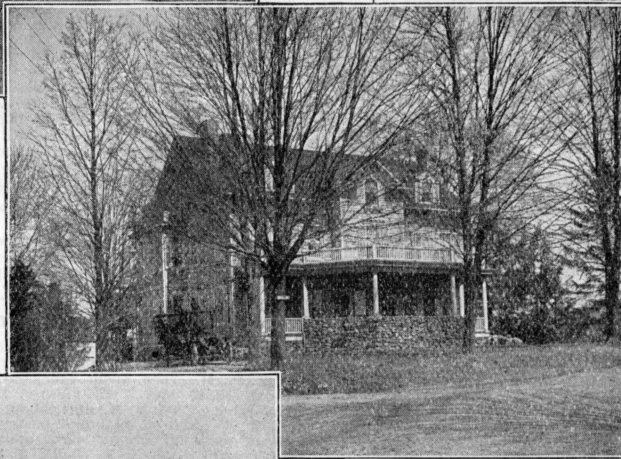
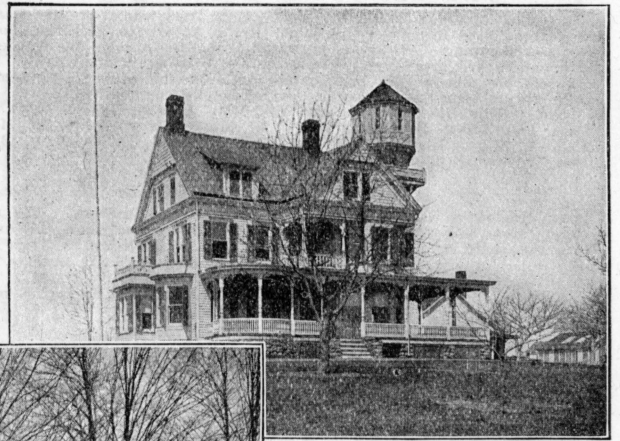


## ALLENDALE

FOR the man who yearns to get back to nature and bring up his children in a true knowledge of her ways, Allendale offers opportunities beyond question. Here the mad metropolitan life is forgotten in the surroundings of quiet community existence, though the social side of life is not by any means lost sight of nor do the residents of Allendale show signs of ennui, for a healthful and vigorous urban sociability pervades, and the height of amiability is reached during the numerous house parties that occur at regular intervals. While other communities in New Jersey are striving for the beautiful in art, and desire to extol themselves before the world as the "rich man's resort," at the inevitable cost of destroying those invaluable assets which appeal more strongly to suburban life, Allendale wishes to be understood and maintain its community semblance in-

deniable. Here he may secure the acre upon which to cultivate to his heart's content; to experiment with and develop those agricultural or horticultural fancies larger communities discourage on account of land valuations and attending high taxation, and yet at the same time bring to his door, as it were, the higher educational facilities for the mental development of his sons and daughters. Moral life is assured by creditable denominational edifices and resident pastors, who are leaders in their respective religious circles. These churches are well attended, and liberally endowed from the private purses of the villagers and farmers from the outlying districts, as is fully attested by the vigorous healthy denominational life always manifest.

Situated on the main line of the Erie 26 miles from New York, transportation facilities are fully equal



violable. It beckons to the home-seeker, the man who will become "one of us." Here the happy medium of the old and new is reached by mutual assimilation, aided by natural environment.

The village of Allendale nestles around the depot, giv-

to meet the requirements of city commuters, more especially so when the proposed and now assured improvements on the Erie are finally brought into reality. Considering all these facts, coupled with the pre-eminent one of moderate realty prices, it is



*Some of the Residences that grace Country Estates at Allendale*

ing to the "community dweller" the privileges of modern environment and convenience, while away from this centre stretches acres and acres of fruit farms, their perspective broken and made more entrancing by picturesque valleys and foothills. Allendale is not situated within a stone's throw of New York. It is in the country, where God's work is made manifest. Neither is it a suburb to any of the fast expanding cities of New Jersey. It is peculiar to itself. It is more than this, perhaps, for nowhere else in New Jersey can one find a better exemplification of the country estate, presided over by the "gentleman farmer," who builds and creates as his desires dictate and his financial means permit.

To the city-worn man whose life's desire is a "little land and a living" and means of transportation to and fro, Allendale possesses attractions that are un-

not difficult to foresee the desirability of Allendale as a place of residence, particularly for the man of moderate means and energetic inclinations, as with but small outlay he can secure a home that in the more thickly populated communities he could not possibly do on account of the high land valuations and rapidly rising tax rates brought about by the desire of these communities to outdo competitors in matters of rapid civic development, which, while in themselves creditable, are beyond the means of the majority of those who seek homes in suburban districts away from the disagreeable confinements and expense of city and semi-urban life. One may, however, live in Allendale as he wishes, as he may anywhere, yet the tendency while being upward in moral and religious respects, is not by any means inclining toward the superficial or "social foam" of unnatural transparency.

The transformation of the ideals of life is perhaps best expressing itself in the growth of the suburbs. Here there is a combination of the material conveniences and the intellectual advantages of the city "cliff dweller" who looks with scorn upon the imperfectly organized subdivision. Suburban life lends itself to caricature quite as well as does that of city or country. Henry Blossom, in "Checkers," pictures a man who goes to the city so early in the morning and returns to the suburb so late at night that he meets himself. But the true quality of suburban existence is no more represented in the woes of the commuter, than the city is legitimately characterized by the bustle of the downtown business street, or the country by the forlornness of the quarter-section farm. In their accustomed state of unrelation, we might denominate the limitations of city, suburb and country as provincial and rural; but in their growing interrelation each supplies a necessary element toward the completion of the social life of the citizen. This suburb, Allendale, represents a happy union of urbanity and rusticity, but it would be impossible without those larger denominating features of national life.

John Burroughs says, "Nature is all things to all men." If we will enslave her, she will be our servant, although when abused she may desert and starve us. The forest may minister to our needs perennially, but if one disregard nature's laws and

say, "After me the deluge!" he may find a realistic fulfilment of his folly. If we seek nature for companionship she will respond to our deepest needs. "Nature salves our worst wounds, she heals and restores us." Subtler and profounder even than the direct influence of nature, in tree or park or forest, is the indirect result of the ideal nurtured by devotion to nature's laws. The return to nature may be invisible and eternal as pictured by that nature prophet, Edward Carpenter. "Is it not a true instinct, therefore, of so many individuals in a time like the present, when they find their actual lives nipped and cankered on the surface by the conditions in which they live, to hark back, not only to simpler and more natural surroundings, but also to those more primitive and universal needs of their own hearts, from which they feel a new departure may be made? They go back to the ever virgin soil within themselves, and perhaps the deeper down they go, the nearer they get to the universal life."

The universal life is the common life. Communion with Nature is a safe avenue to communion with God and man. Stewart Headlam says, "Holy communion is only for holy communisms." As the citizen's opportunities for fellowship and contact with nature multiply he will learn to travel the highway of the simple and rational which leads to the common good, a highway revealed to the commuter who has sought a home in beautiful Allendale.



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