

ted, as an antidote to the bite of that snake. This plant has a slender flower-stem, one to two feet high, with a single leaf about midway; heads of yellow flowers in a loose paniculate corymb. Leaves mostly all radical, two to four or five inches long, tapering almost to a petiole at the base, purple-veined. Found in open woods and clearings, flowering in June. The roots and leaves are somewhat astringent, and have been used with success in hemorrhagic diseases. At least, the hemorrhage has ceased after drinking freely of a decoction of the plant, made in the proportion of two ounces to the pint of water, taken in wine-glass doses. The juice will sometimes remove warts; apply daily, for a time.

**HIPS, Dog-Rose**—*Rosa canina*. This is the wild briar or hip-tree, whence the name of "hips." The ripe fruit of the indigenous plant, deprived of the hairy seeds, is so called. It has been introduced into this country, but is not generally cultivated. It grows to the height of eight to ten feet, and bears whitish or pale-red flowers, of five orbiculate fragrant petals. The fruit is fleshy, smooth, oval, red, and of a pleasant, sweet, acidulous taste.

**HICKORY**—*Carya*. The *C. alba* is the shell-bark or shag-bark hickory; *C. tomentosa*, the white-heart, common thick-shelled hickory-nut tree or mocker-nut, as it is called in some sections of country; *C. glabra*, pig-nut hickory, broom hickory. The young saplings of this species, on account of their peculiar toughness, were once much used in making splint-brooms; and the younger sprouts, in rural sections, as a specimen of rural economy, are often employed, twisted or otherwise, as a kind of rude ligature or strong rope, under the name of hickory withes. The mature wood of this species is also preferred by wheelwrights for making the axles of carts and wagons. Lastly, the *C. oliveformis* bears the pecan-nut of the South. The leaves of the whole genus are aromatic and astringent. Dyspeptics can chew the inner bark often with much benefit; and a tincture made from the same has been used very successfully in intermittent fever, after a simple emetic and purgative. The poor people, especially in remote country places, should bear this in mind. And tobacco-chewing dyspeptics should cease their damaging habit, and have a good supply of this bark in their pockets. Fill any sized broad-mouthed bottle, loosely, with the fine inside bark, pack down and cover with proof spirits rye or apple whiskey, and take in tablespoon doses every two or three hours, during the absence of fever. An infusion, made with boiling water, is as effectual and more prudent to use. It must be renewed—made fresh—every other day. The quantity used is unimportant.

#### HOUSE FURNISHING, ETC.

**FASHION IN HOUSEHOLD TASTE.**—The trouble with most writers about furnishing is that they make a mystery of what should be simple, and elevate into lofty principles of "art" what are really but matters of convenience and comfort. Convenience and comfort are the first things to be considered in your house, and if you secure them you can get beauty, too; but you will never get beauty at the sacrifice of convenience. The first thing is the papering. It is easy to get good papers now. They should not be too dark. They should not have too pronounced a pattern. The best papers for a small room are those which give a quiet effect of color, and in which the figure does not obtrude itself. A good paper goes a long way toward furnishing a room; but if it is really good, you can go on with your furnishing without regard to it.

This truth should be borne in mind, that if your paper, your curtains, your carpet, your furniture, be of good color and design—that is, appropriate to their purposes and surroundings, unobtrusive, and containing no false notes or discords of their own—the question of harmony will give

you no trouble. Don't bother yourself about "matching." You don't want things to match. That makes monotony, not harmony. Of course you will buy each thing with some thought of what is to be near it, and may even try the effect before buying, if you cannot trust your own perceptions; but if you expect to get any pleasure out of furnishing your house, buy everything for its own sake, because it is good in itself and you like it, and not because it will make up a set. Nobody ever took any rational interest in a set.

There is another thing of which we wish to speak. The average parlor, to-day, is much more attractive than the one a generation back. But, alas! nearly every parlor is alike; they have the same wearisome plaques, vases, etc., etc. Fashion happened to take a turn, a few years ago, in the direction of beauty and comfort, and the manufacturers and dealers, who supply the public demand, produced better things than before, and people could not help buying them. But it was nothing but fashion, after all. It was not "art" nor "taste"; for people of taste have always had pretty rooms, even before it was fashionable, and will still have pretty rooms, though fashion swing again to ugliness.

And this is just what fashion appears disposed just now to do. For a few years past, there has been a wonderful revival in all the branches of artistic industry. But the skill in handicraft was easier to revive than the honest conscience and the innate feeling that alone can keep the craftsmen in the right path, and as we look in the shop-windows to-day, we find them filled with all manner of pretentious exaggerations and loud imitations of the work of defunct periods of art, more costly, and displaying more technical skill than was shown in the humble beginnings of the "revival;" but with an evident loss of all the ideas of sincerity that gave the modern movement life.

There is nothing surprising in this tendency. While the revival of artistic industry has made it possible for people of taste to get what they require more easily than they could before, it has not supplied taste to those who lacked it. Not all the books that ever were written about art in the household, and making home beautiful, and all that sort of thing, are worth the paper they are printed on, to people who think of the furniture and decoration of their homes as no more than a matter of fashion. Fashion passes continually from one exaggeration to another. True taste in the household, as everywhere else, is the same to-day as it always was, and the best-furnished room is not that which is in the latest fashion, but that which tells of the finest perceptions and truest lives in those whose home it is.

#### PUZZLE DEPARTMENT.

Everything relating to this department should be addressed "Puzzle Editor," PETERSON'S MAGAZINE, Lock Box 437, Marblehead, Mass.

#### No. 185.—CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.

- My first is in window, but not in door.
- My second's in carpet, but not in floor.
- My third is in light, but not in dark.
- My fourth is in thrush, but not in lark.
- My fifth is in heaven, but not in sky.
- My sixth is in spider, but not in fly.
- My seventh's in sun, but not in moon.
- My eighth is in cup, but not in spoon.
- My ninth is in olive, but not in prune.
- My tenth is in August, but not in June.
- My eleventh's in daughter, but not in dame.
- My whole is an author known to fame.

Essex, Conn.

GRACE W. GODDARD.