We have considered somewhat the way in which the personalities and habits of those who are to occupy a house must influence its planning. We have seen also how questions as to the degree and manner of “entertaining” proposed must influence the planning; but up to this point in the examples used in illustration we have not perhaps noticed how far the client’s profession has exercised a direct influence over a plan. So far the client’s profession or business has scarcely controlled the planning more than have his hobbies and interests; only inasmuch as it determines whether he shall be a studious, a quiet or busy man and shall or shall not be constantly interviewing or entertaining, has it had effect upon the plan.

Preliminary Sketch for a Doctor’s House at Letchworth, Hertfordshire, England.

Sometimes, however, the client’s profession very definitely determines the nature of the house plan, and somehow the extent to which this is to be the case seems to be determined by the degree to which it can be worthily taken as his life’s work. The work of many a man is such that the more he becomes absorbed and successful in it, the smaller, narrower and more ignoble becomes his life, and success if carried to the extent of “gaining the whole world” means only that he shall inevitably “lose his own soul.” The true friend of such a man uses every available outside influence to counteract that of his work, and so the less his house proclaims his calling the better.

On the other hand there are those fortunate beings whose occu-
A DOCTOR’S HOUSE AT MINEHEAD, SOMERSETSHIRE, ENGLAND: VIEW OF FRONT OF HOUSE FROM THE ROAD.

HOUSE AT MINEHEAD: VIEW OF STABLE COURTYARD OUT THROUGH ARCHWAY.
VIEW OF STAIRCASE AND INTO DINING ROOM THROUGH LIVING ROOM IN HOUSE AT MINEHEAD.

VIEW OF LIVING-ROOM FIREPLACE WITH VISTA DOWN CORRIDOR AT MINEHEAD.
pation is such that to live for it means their best and truest development, and whose friends are those who help them to do this. Among such we may include the student, the teacher, the artist and the medical man. We give here in illustration three doctors' houses, planned with a desire to enable their owners to do their work with as little friction and difficulty as possible, and as effectively.

The house of the general medical practitioner must be to some extent his place of business. To separate his home life from his professional life in the way members of some other professions are able to is not possible. He is liable to be called upon at any hour of the day or night, so just as his home life and professional life cannot be separated, neither can the buildings where each is carried on. His house must then be one in which both lives may be easily and smoothly carried on other as little as possible. Able to enter the waiting room into any domestic same time must be easily distance between the entrance hall should be more important in the general medical practitioner's houses, for it will more frequently have to be traversed. The difficulty of securing this is increased when the requirements of the case necessitate two entrances, one for the inmates of the house and their visitors and one to the

LETCHEWORTH HOUSE: SECOND FLOOR PLAN.
surgery and consulting room. In this case the entrances should not be near together, or the object in having two would probably be defeated. Hence the kitchen must come about halfway between the entrances, as in the sketches for a doctor's house at Letchworth; also the traffic from the kitchen to either door must not pass where it could exercise a disturbing influence upon the quietude of the house, but must be aloof from the scenes of the household life.

It will be noticed that the three doctors, whose houses are here illustrated, differ in their requirements. The one at Motherwell needed only a consulting room, with no surgery or waiting rooms (having these and another consulting room away from the house). The one at Letchworth required one waiting room, while the one at Minehead required two. This latter doctor also wished a patient's entrance at the extreme north end of the house and far away from the kitchen premises, as this door was not to be answered by those in the kitchen.

When visiting a doctor we are not usually in our happiest frame of mind, so perhaps it is desirable to make a doctor's house particularly bright and cheerful, especially those parts of it devoted to his
A DOCTOR'S HOUSE AT MOTHERWELL, LANARKSHIRE, SCOTLAND: VIEW FROM THE SOUTH.

VIEW OF HALL IN HOUSE AT MOTHERWELL, LOOKING INTO DINING ROOM.
ANOTHER VIEW OF HALL AT MOTHERWELL.

VIEW OF FIREPLACE IN CONSULTING ROOM AT MOTHERWELL.
VIEW FROM THE DINING ROOM THROUGH INTO HALL AT MOTHERWELL.

VIEW OF BEDROOM AT MOTHERWELL, SHOWING CHARMING WINDOW ARRANGEMENT.
SECOND-FLOOR LANDING, LOOKING INTO BEDROOM, AT MOTHERWELL.
patients. Anything dismal or depressing in these should be avoided. In both the Letchworth and Minehead houses possibly this is secured by the fact that the patient enters a wide corridor lighted by many windows opening onto sunny green courts. These, while giving the necessary sense of privacy and seclusion, are still reassuring and cheering.

There are some rather important points to be taken into consideration when designing a doctor’s house. A doctor is at times obliged to keep one patient waiting while another consults him, and he sometimes finds it undesirable for the waiting patient to know who detains him; hence an arrangement is necessary by which the former can be shown out unobserved by the latter. The doctor must from time to time also snatch a hurried meal while patients wait, and to avoid the annoyance they would feel from the knowledge that nothing more important than this detained him, he must be able to pass from the consulting room to his house without observation from the waiting rooms. Another point to be remembered is that the windows of the waiting rooms should be so placed that it is possible for the doctor to go and come unobserved from them should he have appointments to keep or a critical case to attend.

There are perhaps one or two specific points in the house at Minehead which would interest the reader. Beautiful stone being plentiful and inexpensive in the locality, all the fireplaces were built of it. The photographs hardly give an adequate idea of these fireplaces, but possibly the preliminary sketch
for the living room makes this clearer. The special form given to the
ingle in this room resulted from our client’s wish to have a view from
here of a fine wooded hill which rose to the north of the site and
was one of the prides and pleasures of the people thereabouts. Not
wishing to break the line of the house front as seen from the road
by bringing the living room forward enough to secure this, we hit

upon the device of forming an out-
side seat recess, and in this recess the
three-sided bay from which the “North
Hill” could be seen. Hitherto I have avoided laying stress upon this
question of securing pleasant vistas within our houses, fearing that
such considerations might be thought fanciful by some. I am, how-
ever, so convinced that they are really essential that I must run the
risk of being held to attach too much weight thereto. Vistas of one
sort or another there will be, and instead of being one of the most
fruitful sources of charm, and perhaps of increasing the feeling of
spaciousness in a house, they will, if unconsidered, only give us a
shut-in feeling, and a sense of something indefinably unsatisfactory.

It is hardly necessary to say that of course no convenience, de-
sirable compactness or true economy in the plan should be sacrificed
to the desire for long and interesting vistas, but where these can be
obtained without such sacrifices it is a duty not only to welcome, but
to see that we plan to get, them. To
obtain the best effect we must, for in-
stance, see that it does not terminate in
a blank wall; one which passes out of
the house, ending in a glimpse of open
country or in something pleasant or in-
teresting in the surroundings, or at least
in something green, will prove to be the
most valuable. Failing this, a window,
a fire, or staircase is useful as a ter-
mination to a vista.