

## COUNTRY CLUB TO BUILD.

Club House to Be Transformed by June 1—Extensive Changes.

The Albany Country club is about to enter upon a new era. It is preparing to build. The chrysalis of its cosy little club house is about to put forth wings. This jolliest rendezvous of the society folk of Albany has long been too small for the hospitable intents of the club, and the building committee has finally reached a financial basis to warrant the erection of additions to the club house.

Mr. Marcus T. Reynolds, the architect, has made the plans; Mr. Michael Waldbillig has been awarded the contract; excavation for the foundations will begin with the earliest days of spring, and by June 1 it is expected that the rejuvenated and metamorphosed quarters of the Albany Country club will be opened to the members, and their guests.

The prime movers in the project are the members of the building committee—Mr. Donald MacCredie, chairman; Dr. Van Rensselaer, Judge William M. Learned, Messrs. Dudley Olcott, Edward Durant, Charles V. Winne, Isaac Lansing and Horace G. Young.

Mr. Reynolds' plans provide for extensive changes in the general exterior appearance and ground plan of the club house. The west wing will be a smoking room for the men, an apartment 17x31 feet, opening from the present entrance hall by a door where now is a bow window to the west. The smoking room will have two bow windows, at the south and at the west, and the piazza will extend entirely around the west wing. The present kitchen will be used as a serving room for the men, with refrigerator, etc., and all appropriate equipments.

The second floor of the west wing will be used as a dressing room, with lockers, etc., for the men, and this wing will be separated by the entire width of the present club house from the west wing.

The present parlor and dining room will both be utilized as reception rooms. Opening from the present dining room will be a door at the north leading into a rectangular anteroom, from which the ballroom or dining room (for the apartment will be put to both uses) will be reached. The entire west wing will extend obliquely from the body of the house in an irregular parallelogram, the junction with the house forming the rectangle of the anteroom, and the extremity of the wing ending in an oblique angle. At the junction of the house and the wing will be a bow window looking to the southeast. The large east room, 42x22 feet, to be used both as dining hall and ballroom, as occasion demands, will be ideal for both uses. It will have a good hard wood floor, suitable for dancing pur-

poses, and as a banquet hall will be of ample size. The extension of the wing will give space for a large and commodious kitchen, and in the angle of the extreme end will be fitted a pantry and a staircase leading to the servants' quarters on the second floor.

The second floor of the east wing will be reached by a staircase leading into a hall corresponding in size to the ante-room below, which gives entrance to the ballroom. From this upper hall will be entrance to two large chambers, which are connecting rooms, a dressing room for the women and a sleeping room. The dressing room includes the tower alcove, above the bow window of the ballroom, which has dainty possibilities as a miniature boudoir.

A second sleeping room will adjoin the dressing room, and beyond the chamber which opens from the hall will be a fine large locker room and a toilet room opening from that, which has connection with the servants' quarters above the kitchen. The servants' quarters will consist of three bed rooms of good size, opening from a triangular entry. The rooms, lockers, etc., of men and women will thus be in separate buildings, giving each the freedom, privacy and privileges of separate club quarters, with a common meeting ground in the reception and dining rooms.

The exterior of the club house is to undergo considerable change, which, however, will add to its picturesqueness and in nowise detract from its quaint semblance to an old Dutch farm house, for the architect, Mr. Reynolds, has been very careful to carry the idea of congruity and harmony in the additions. The entire exterior of the club house will be finished in half timber and plaster. The smoking room at the west will give an additional dormer peak to the frontage on the south, and add to the symmetry of the general effect. The piazza will be continued about the entire west wing. The eastern addition will present an imposing appearance from the driveway approach. The bow window of the ball room will culminate on the second floor with a suggestion of a round tower, adding a great deal to the picturesqueness and pliancy of the exterior.

The interior will be simply finished in plaster and natural wood, with hard wood floors throughout, etc., utility and substantial results being the main considerations.

These wings are planned with an idea to the future when the club shall wish to make other extensions. Another building will at some time be erected, when the club's finances shall warrant it, at the extremity of the east wing and extending toward the south, forming thereby a court yard or enclosed space. This proposed building will be for the golf repair shop, etc., with quarters for the keeper of the green on the second floor.

In the spring, also, a large boat house

with apartments will be constructed on the shores of the little lake.

The social history of the Country Club is a brilliant one and during the four years since it became a corporate body with place and habitation it has grown rapidly. Now it has reached the proud position of a flourishing social institution, with a membership of 200, which includes the best known society folk of Albany, and with a waiting list of some dimensions.

The estate, which includes 85 acres, is admirably located just outside of the city on the Western turnpike, known as the "road to Sloan's." The Pine Hills cars and the co-operation of an improved stage service running daily make it easily accessible, while for sleigh rides or driving parties it is an ideal objective point. During the winter the hockey matches and skating parties fill the labyrinthine windings of the lake in the woods with merry-makers on pleasant afternoons, or on crisp moonlight evenings with lanterns hung along the shores and gipsyish bonfires crackling on the slope to light the scene.

Afternoon teas is one of the many hospitable features of the Country Club and when the ball room wing is completed there will open a vista of possibilities for jolly little informal dances at the Country Club, and all sorts of pleasant entertainings on a larger scale than has heretofore been practicable.

## OBITUARY.

Charles E. Garrison died at his home in East Schodack yesterday. He was well and favorably known.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended by a legion of friends to Prof. Howard J. Rogers, second deputy superintendent of public instruction, in the great bereavement he has sustained by the sudden death of his mother, Mrs. Laura Howard Rogers, Friday night. Deceased was the last of the Howard family, who settled and founded the town of Stephentown, Rensselaer county, in 1756. She was married to Edwin A. Rogers, now deceased, in 1861, in the State of Massachusetts, and the fruit of the union was one child. Always of a kind and loving disposition, and a devout church member, she was beloved by all who came in contact with her, and the sudden call to meet her Maker will be deeply felt by relatives and friends. Prayers will be read this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock at the family residence on Lancaster street by Rev. Edward Sylvester, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church. On Monday morning the remains will be taken to the family homestead at Stephentown for burial.

## Beefsteak Supper.

The Legislative Reporters' association is to enjoy a beefsteak dinner at "The Tub," Wednesday evening, February 9.