

MASSÉNA

BARRYTOWN
DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

Redfield Brothers, Inc.
New York

MASSÉNA



WASHINGTON IRVING in his "Rip Van Winkle" says: "Whoever has made a voyage up the Hudson must remember the Kaatskill Mountains. They are a dismembered branch of the great Appalachian family, and are seen away to the west of the river, swelling up to a noble height, and lording it over the surrounding country. Every change of season, every change of weather, indeed, every hour of the day, produces some change in the magical hues and shapes of these mountains, and they are regarded by all the good wives, far and near, as perfect barometers. When the weather is fair and settled, they are clothed in blue and purple, and print their bold outlines on the clear evening sky; but sometimes, when the rest of the landscape is cloudless, they will gather a hood of gray vapors about their summits, which, in the last rays of the setting sun, will glow and light up like a crown of glory."

¶ In this land of Old Rip is situated the magnificent estate known as Masséna, consisting of some three hundred acres, located at Barrytown, Dutchess County, N. Y., which is an express, post-office and telegraph

station on the east bank of the Hudson River, ninety-six miles from New York, opposite the Catskill Mountains; two hours and ten minutes from New York City by train.

¶ A five-minute drive from the station of the N.Y. C. & H. R. R. depot brings one to the east gate, through which is reached a smooth, graveled avenue that winds among well-kept lawns and grand old trees, through which one catches charming glimpses of the mansion.

¶ The estate was originally owned by Mr. John R. Livingston, who, in 1796, built the old mansion, which was totally destroyed by fire in 1885. The new Massena, of which Mr. Wm. A. Potter, of New York, was the architect, is built of brick, Long-meadow brownstone and shingled frame, with slate roof, and was completed in 1886 upon the site of the old house, and thereby was obtained the rare combination of a fine old estate with a modern mansion equipped with all the latest appliances for comfort and convenience.

¶ A fine cemented cellar extends underneath the whole house, which prevents any chance of dampness. The house has hardwood floors throughout; most of them being of quartered oak. The windows are of the best French plate and are provided with awnings.

¶ This present mansion contains eighteen rooms, and there has been provided servants' stairways, dining-room and piazza, thereby insuring entire privacy from that source.

¶ A Springfield gas-machine, which is run by an automatic water-wheel at trifling cost, supplies gasoline gas of an excellent quality.

¶ The house is equipped throughout with burglar alarms, electric gas-lighting attachments and bells, and in addition to open fireplaces in all the rooms, there are two large Richardson & Boynton furnaces regulated by automatic thermostats which insure an even temperature.

¶ The kitchen is also provided with a gasoline range and burner under boiler for use in hot weather.

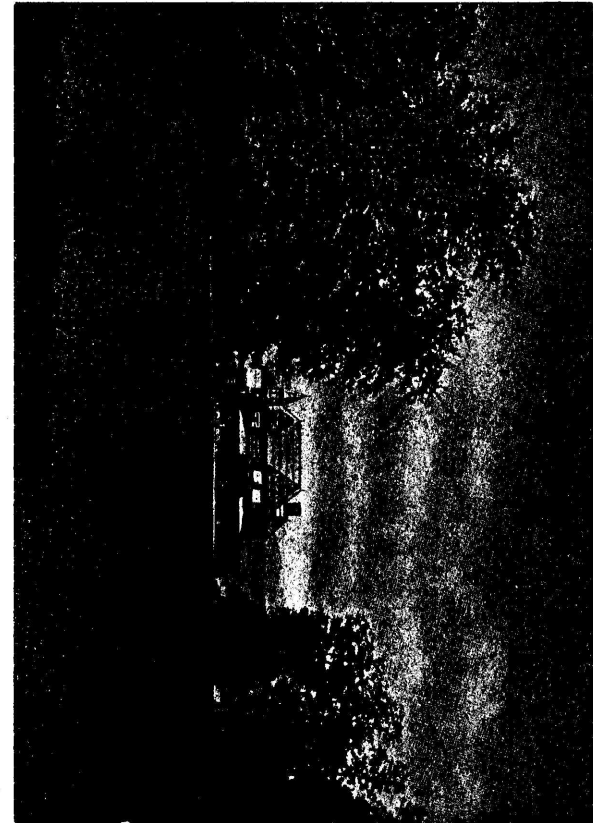
¶ There is a trunk elevator in the servants' quarters, which reaches from cellar to garret, and in the butler's pantry there is built a very large Herring safe.

¶ Two large piazzas on the west side of the house are enclosed in glass during the winter and heated from the furnaces, thereby forming two beautiful conservatories, which open from the parlor and dining-room, respectively.

¶ Either a look at the house itself or photographs of the interior will give a better idea of the beauty of the interior finish than anything that can be said here.

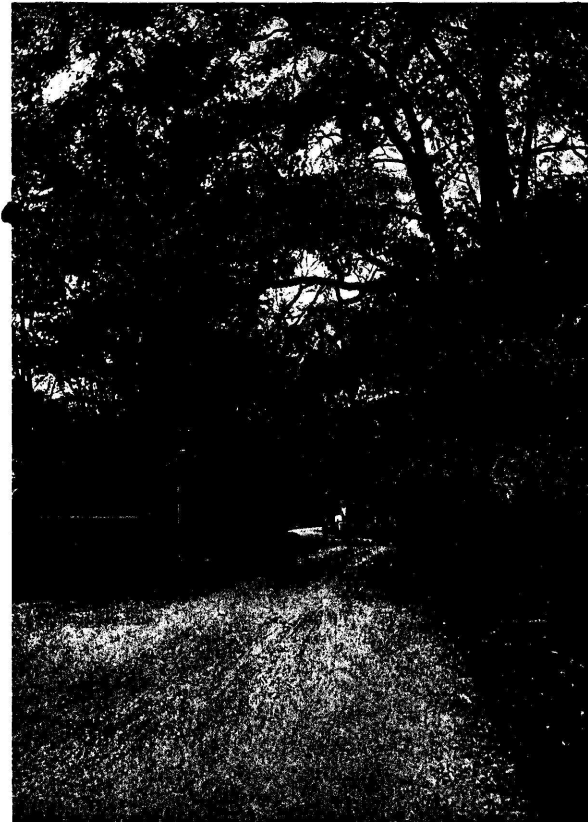
The Broad Lawn

¶ During one hundred and twenty years this great lawn has been treated with jealous care. It has no rival in America.



The East Gate

¶ The east gate is shaded by noble trees.



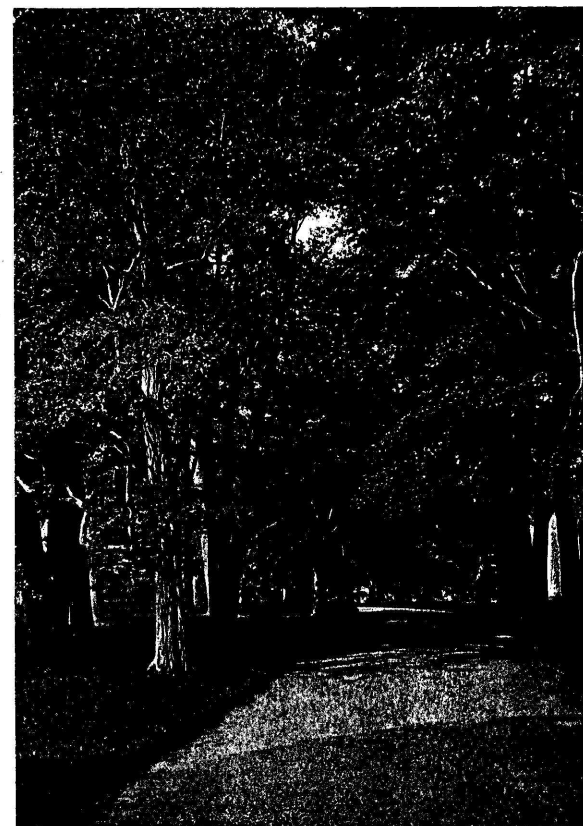
Glimpse of the Rolling Meadows

¶ Here sheep and cattle graze on the sweet grasses
of the soil.



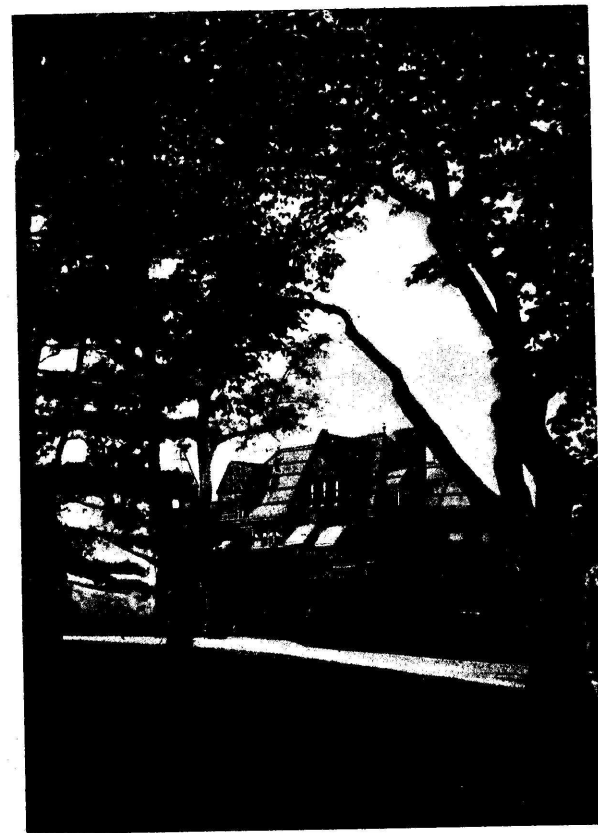
Great Trees Line the Avenue

¶ We may lay out Italian gardens where we will,
but no hand of man may create the monarchs of
the forest.



The Mansion

¶ A stately structure of English architecture.



Looking Westward from the Mansion

¶ Every change of season, every change of weather, indeed, every hour of the day produces some change in the magical hues and shapes of these mountains.
—*Washington Irving.*



¶ A telephone connects the house with the stable, situated about an eighth of a mile away. This stable and coach-house is built of brick, with tin roof. It contains sixteen stalls, two box-stalls, laundry, drying-room and living-rooms for the coachman's family.

¶ There is a porter's lodge built of stone, gardener's cottage, five tenement-houses, one other cottage, greenhouse, hot-beds, large barn, hog-houses, ice-house, five other barns and sheds, a fine young orchard in bearing and a large and prolific kitchen garden.

¶ Water of the purest kind is piped to the stables and house from an inexhaustible and never-failing spring, which is located on the property about a mile from the stables, at a point twelve feet above a tank in the third story of the house, thereby giving a gravity water system, the only one in the vicinity.

¶ Too much stress cannot be laid on this feature, which does away with all such things as steam pumps and windmills. In addition to the above water-supply, there are large cisterns at both the mansion and the stables.

¶ The property extends on the west side of the track, a feature not found in any other gentleman's estate except three at Staatsburg. This is an important feature if one desires reaching deep water on one's own estate. There are about three acres in the body of

land on the west side of the track. The dock reaches to deep water in the channel, and the estate owns riparian rights to the channel across its own front, which was granted to the late John L. Aspinwall by the State, an unusual concession.

¶ On the three acres mentioned are two large store-houses and three tenement-houses. The property can now be reached by a broad road leading from the public road to the south and without crossing the track at grade. It could also be reached by a private bridge across the deep cut made by the railroad at this point. This bridge would be entirely within the confines of the estate. A private golf course of six holes, running from 100 to 225 yards, has been laid out.

¶ Taking everything into consideration, Masséna is without an equal as a gentleman's country place, and is no doubt the most complete and beautiful estate in every respect that can be found anywhere along the Hudson for sale at any price, and the only reason for its being on the market is the death of the owner and the necessary partition among the heirs.

¶ The house is for rent furnished, and the lease could include use of stable and garden.

¶ *For particulars, address the Estate of John L. Aspinwall, Newburgh, N. Y.*