

Recent Designs in Domestic Architecture

RECENT DESIGNS IN DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE.

ON several occasions during the past four or five years we have given illustrations, both here and in *THE STUDIO* Year Book of Decorative Art, of houses designed by Mr. Robert F. Johnston, a young architect who practised at 1 Brook Street, Hanover Square, London. In now giving some further illustrations of his designs of more recent date, we have, much to our regret, to preface our description of them with an intimation of his death, which took place after a very brief illness in November last. Though only a few years had elapsed since he began to practise independently, Mr. Johnston had gained for himself an assured position in the profession as an architect of sound ideas and good taste. He was especially successful with country houses of moderate proportions; simplicity and convenience were the qualities which he kept in view in his planning, and a dignified simplicity was the keynote of his elevations, while

throughout his practice he laid great stress on sound workmanship and good quality of materials.

The two houses we now illustrate were among the last to be designed by Mr. Johnston, that at Chorley Wood, of which two views are given, having been completed only a few weeks before his death. This house is situated in a beautiful old-world orchard at Chorley Wood, Herts, known as "The Cherry Orchard." The house is designed in sympathy with its setting, the elevations being treated in roughcast, while the chimneys are built of small hand-made red bricks, and the roof covered with rough hand-made tiles. The other house, Burwood Ash, is designed on a much larger scale. Its site is in the beautiful neighbourhood of the Chalfonts, and gives extensive views to the south and south-west. The house is symmetrical in design and is girt about on the garden front by extensive terraces, lawns, and a pool, and depends very largely for its effect on the grouping of the masses in relation to the solids and voids, so that a proportionate light and shade effect may be obtained with the sombre colouring of the



"THE ORCHARD," CHORLEY WOOD, HERTS

R. F. JOHNSTON, ARCHT.