

Christian Culture

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→AⓄ(Moravian)ⓄSchoolⓄforⓄYoungⓄLadies.←

Was founded in 1794, and is, therefore, in its 96th year. It came into existence at the repeated solicitations of parents living in Pennsylvania and Maryland, who desired to have their daughters instructed in the elements of a polite education, and at the same time, and chiefly, that their physical and moral training should be carefully looked after. A quiet, pleasant village, in a healthful, agricultural region, in a community systematically organized on a Christian basis, was peculiarly fitted for a school that was intended, in its direct and indirect influences, to be an adjunct to the home, and that is, in some cases, a substitute for it. The critical years in many a girl's life are most safely spent in such an institution, where she is separated from influences that are either harmful at her time of life, or that dissipate her interest in the innocent pleasures, the tastes and duties which are so strong in the formation of a refined, self-governed and amiable character.

The recognition of the original demand made upon it, and of the trust that was placed in it, has remained the motive and aim of the school.

The requirements of modern times in the matter of school appointments and comforts, and of a more extended course of study, have been heeded. It means to be a safe, happy and comfortable school-home; to keep itself abreast of every actual advance in educational progress; to bear in mind its responsibility to parent and child, and its accountability to God in whose providence children may be entrusted to it to be taught and trained; to watch carefully, affectionately and sympathetically over the individual scholar; to use thorough and rational methods in teaching, and to see that each pupil has justice done to her, and that she does her duty; to care more for actual mental growth and genuine scholarly culture than for showy accomplishments or the many educational shams and delusions of the day. The Graduating course is based upon the Harvard Examinations for Women, and in the Post-Graduate course some of the best, and in our view most important results of a college education are presented, but the Seminary makes no claim to being a college as the term is correctly understood.

The buildings are commodious and specially cheerful, are heated by steam, and provided with hot and cold water. There are ample play-grounds and there is a gymnasium and play-room. The system of domestic arrangements is, in some respects, peculiar, being necessitated by the purpose of the school to be faithful to its claim as a safe place to which to send a child. Intending patrons are referred to the annual circulars, and are invited to make a personal examination of the school.

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CHRISTIAN CULTURE.

A Local Interdenominational Journal, Religious, Literary and Social.

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THE REV. CHARLES L. FRY, }

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LANCASTER, PA., JULY 1, 1890.

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First, April, she with mellow showers
Opens the way for early flowers;
Then after her comes smiling May,
In a more rich and sweet array;
Next enters June, and brings us more
Gems than those two that went before;
Then, lastly, July comes, and she
More wealth brings in than all those three.
—Robert Herrick.

Editorial.

IF the mayor would muzzle the vociferous Sunday morning paper venders he would be doing a good thing—muzzle them or else catch and impound them.

It is never too warm for some folks to dance; but we have noticed that they are the very ones who are most susceptible to the heat when it comes to going to church.

DELIGHTFUL it must be, for those who can do so, to take a trip to Europe during the summer, or to live in a "cottage by the sea," or in the mountains. But for those who cannot, there ought to be a good deal of cool comfort in the fact that Lancaster is about as good a place to be healthy, contented, and happy in as any in Europe, by the seashore, or among the mountains.

OF the high ideals and higher hopes with which hundreds of our bright young men and women have just graduated from college and school, how many will be realized? Only those which are consistently clung to and perseveringly worked for, not for a few months only, but through the years to come. The fitful dreamers will be disappointed. The patient, loyal workers will succeed.

"Beauty and Truth, and all that these contain
Drop not like refined fruit about our feet;
We climb to them through years of sweat and pain;
Without long struggle none did e'er attain
The downward look from Quiet's blissful seat."

WITHIN a month there have been two cases of drowning in the Conestoga both of which, if report is true, occurred in the presence of a number of men who apparently might have rescued the drowning boys if they had not either been too cowardly to make the attempt, or had not so utterly lost their presence of mind as to be incapable of offering any help. It is but charitable to suppose that the latter was the case, though we fear that in the one instance, at least, it requires a very considerable stretch of charity to do so. At any rate it is a humiliating record. It seems almost incredible that any party of persons could so far lose their manhood as to see a fellow being struggle and drown within a few hundred feet of them and they do nothing to save him! Cautiousness is commendable but cowardice is disgraceful—and sometimes criminal.

THE loudness of the whistle is not always a sign of the best engine. Nor is the noisiest shouter and shooter always the most loyal patriot and best citizen. There are other and better ways of celebrating the Fourth of July than by mere noise. We do not believe, therefore, that our city is less patriotic than most others because it has less noisy demonstrations than they. But we should like in future to see some

kind of a local celebration in accord with the general intelligence and culture of our citizens; something sensible and rational, and really expressive of the best thought and sentiment of loyal Lancaster on the subject of our national independence. Why cannot we have it?

SUGGESTED BY THE ART LOAN EXHIBITION.

The Young Republicans' Art Loan Exhibition of last month was instructive in more senses than one. While its display of works of fine art showed that our city is by no means suffering from a plethora of such works, its exhibit of all manner of antiquities illustrative of early local history was very creditable, and anew emphasized not only the possibility, but the great need, of a historical museum in our city. For lack of some such institution, duly chartered and in competent and responsible hands, Lancaster county and city are year by year losing, irretrievably losing, all manner of precious relics and mementoes of the past that would not only be of the highest interest generally, but would also be invaluable to the historical student and future chronicler of our history.

There was enough material at the exhibition at once to start a very good historical museum. Fully as much more exists even now scattered through the homes of our city and county. Much, probably most, of this could be procured for permanent exhibition and safe keeping if there were a safe place in safe hands where the preservation intact of all articles deposited there could be guaranteed.

If there is a locality in the State that ought to have a historical museum, Lancaster county is that locality. Nowhere is a richer field. Nowhere is there more material ready at hand to start with. Indeed we know of at least one, and probably more than one, entire private collection of local antiquities, and by no means a small one, that would at once be given to such a museum, if its permanence and safety were insured. There are other individuals who are the owners of rare and unique Lancaster county publications, engravings, collections of portraits, of book-plates, autographs, to say nothing of Indian relics, pieces of old furniture, etc., who would be glad to have a safe depository for their treasures, where they would be preserved from generation to generation.

As it is, these treasures, in private hands, are almost certain to become scattered, lost, or destroyed through the vicissitudes of private fortune and circumstances. Experience has abundantly demonstrated that private collections and private libraries, to say nothing of mere single specimens privately owned, rarely live for more than a generation or two. Then they become scattered; and, once scattered, they can never be completely recovered. The only permanently safe place

is a properly organized public museum, owned and managed by some reliable corporation. Then the museum can soon be made to pay its own expenses, and even to pay a dividend, perhaps.

At any rate we can, and we ought to, have a historical museum in our city. Why don't we?

A NOBLE CHARITY.

One of the noblest charities of modern times, and one of the many gratifying proofs of the all-permeating influence of the leaven of Christianity, is the annual work done by the "Fresh Air Fund" which, we believe, was first organized on a large scale by the *New York Tribune* in 1877. Since then it has been steadily growing in popularity and efficiency, until last year the *Tribune* alone sent 10,352 children from the hot and impure courts and alleys and crowded tenements of New York city to spend two weeks amid the green fields and woods, in the fresh, pure air of the country, many of whom had never before seen a field or a barn, a growing flower or a cool and shady grove. Other agencies sent out perhaps as many more; and the indications are that this summer the total of past years will be nearly doubled. In our own State, the *Philadelphia Times* has just rented the beautiful hotel called "The Retreat," at Ephrata, in our county, in which it proposes to board and lodge one hundred and fifty or more of the poorest and most worthy boys of Philadelphia.

To nearly all the poor children thus sent out of the great cities for a few weeks during the summer, the vacation means far more than only the increased physical comfort, health, and enjoyment they receive. This alone would be a great blessing, restoring many an one's health that in the stifling city would have speedily succumbed to death; removing many more from the causes of disease and death into the healthy atmosphere and to the wholesome diet of the country; in short, saving thousands of human lives, and giving greater health and happiness to tens of thousands. But what to us seems fully as important, by being thus placed for a few weeks in kindly homes, surrounded and cared for by sympathetic, interested, and loving hearts, thousands of these children for the first time are made to know that there is such a thing as unselfish, tender love in the world. Used only, as many of them are, to cuffs and curses, to vice and misery, the Fresh Air Fund reveals to them that after all the world is not their enemy, that they have friends in it, that there are hearts eager to love and hands ready to help them. They are made to know life under an entirely new aspect, and brought into new relations to it. The result is, has already been in more than one known case, that these waifs receive new motives, impulses, aims, and aspirations. The

good in them responds to the love offered them. Self respect is born in their breasts. Life becomes worth living. They are given a start towards a new, better, higher character and life. They are "born again," for time and for eternity.

Now, it has occurred to us that for so noble and worthy a cause there ought to be, and no doubt are, not a few ready to help with word and money and deed in our city and county. We have mentioned personally to some friends that CHRISTIAN CULTURE was ready to receive and acknowledge and turn to the original fund any amount that might be donated for this work. We now repeat this to our readers.

How many are there who will board and lodge and kindly look after one or more little boy or girl for two weeks in August? We feel sure there are scores, hundreds, of rural homes around Lancaster whose generous owners will deem it a privilege thus to give two weeks of joy, health and happiness to some poor child from the stifling courts of our great cities.

And of those who cannot do this, *How many are there who will give towards paying the expenses, for two weeks, of one or more such children?*

We shall be glad to acknowledge in our columns any offers of board and lodgings, and any sums of money sent us; and shall see that they are put where they will do the most good. We are happy to be able even now to acknowledge the receipt for this cause of *Six Dollars* from the "Pausy Circle" of quite little "King's Daughters" who have contributed this amount "In His Name." Let all remember that the Master, himself, has said, "Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye do it unto Me." It is a cause that appeals to all. Let the responses come quickly ere the opportunity be past, for this summer at least.

WHAT OUR COLLEGE NOW NEEDS.

While the alumni and friends of our college are booming the prospective gymnasium, and lauding and praising the foot-ball team for the great good it has done in bringing old Franklin and Marshall to the notice of the public, it may not be out of place to remind ourselves that something more is needed if all this is to amount to anything more than a mere passing whim.

It is generally conceded that the chief end of college athletics is to advertise the college, that is, to attract public attention to it. But every business man knows that to call public attention to one's business is of no advantage whatever unless the stock of goods to which attention is called meets the wants and approval of the public. If it does not do this, then advertising only gives publicity to the defects and shortcomings of the business, and so does more

harm to it than good. Now college gymnastics are meant to advertise the college as an institution of learning, not particularly as a mere physical training school. People are to have their attention called to the college. Then they may be expected to institute inquiries as to its "stock in trade," its equipment and facilities for giving a thorough education such as the times demand, not only physical culture, but in zoology, botany, chemistry, geology, astronomy, and the sciences in general, and no less in philology, metaphysics, ethics, æsthetics, history, and literature. If the public finds these adequate to its demands, then will the advertising be of some avail. If not, then will the public be disappointed and disgusted, and likely even to underestimate what facilities the institution may have.

Apply this to our college, and what is the conclusion we must arrive at? Simply this, that if the present boom in Franklin and Marshall athletics is to do any real and lasting good, then great haste must be made by those having its future welfare at heart, besides building and furnishing a gymnasium, also to furnish and equip, much more thoroughly than is now the case, the departments of natural and physical science, and, above all, its library. These, while the professors in charge of them are as good as any in the land, are very insufficiently equipped with the means and instruments, laboratories, cabinets, etc., that are absolutely essential, and that the public will and has a right to demand of so old and widely known an institution.

One of the first things an intelligent, prospective patron of a college invariably asks to see, and is likely to examine, is the library. What he finds or misses there is very apt to have paramount influence in his final choice with reference to the college itself. And justly so. For, it may almost be said, the library is the better half of the whole institution. The most important work of the professors, after all, is to get the students to rightly use the library. Of the most urgent, essential importance is it then at this very time, when the name of Franklin and Marshall is being made more widely known than ever before, to see to it that its library be speedily brought up to the standard that will be demanded. The present librarian fully realizes this, and has done, and is doing, all in his power to make the library what it should be. But he can do little more than he has already done unless the trustees, alumni, and friends everywhere give him substantial aid and encouragement. The four hundred dollars annually to be devoted to it is not enough. If five thousand are needed for a gymnasium we maintain that fully as large an amount is fully as urgently needed for the library; and scarcely less for the proper equipment of the scientific department.

Let the friends of the college give this matter their

very serious consideration. It is one of grave importance. For nothing is more indisputably certain than this, that unless the strictly educational equipment and facilities of the college are made to keep pace with its growing fame, all its athletic advertisement will be worse than in vain; whereas, if they are made to keep pace, it is only a question of a few years when Franklin and Marshall shall stand in the front rank of American educational institutions.

SUNS.

BY PROF. J. E. KERSHNER, PH. D.

Suns are luminous spherical bodies which may or may not have planets revolving about them. They are distinguished from the planets which shine by sunlight reflected from their surfaces by the fact that they are sources of light. The one prominent specimen of this class of bodies is that one popularly known as the sun, the ruler of the day. This body, we all understand, is the source of heat and light of the earth and all the planets of the solar system. That class of bodies commonly known as the fixed stars are, however; also suns, sources of light and heat. In popular language, the term star is applied both to fixed stars and planets. So far as their appearance is concerned planets are also stars, but not fixed stars. They are wandering stars and shine by borrowed light. The fixed stars are so called because they occupy very nearly the same relative position for all time; while the planets continually change their places, and therefore even so far as this feature is concerned form a separate class.

When we come to study the suns or fixed stars, including our sun as one of them, one of the great difficulties in the way is the enormous distances that they are removed from our abode on the earth. Even our own sun, that is, the source of heat and light of the solar system, is so distant that it is very difficult to reach any definite conclusion so far as distance and magnitude are concerned, or the constitution of this body. In order to reach any definite conclusions about any of the heavenly bodies, observations are required which enable us to find their distance and magnitude. Distance is necessary in order to determine the magnitude of a body. In order to determine the height of a tree at a distance, without making a direct measurement, it is necessary to know the distance from the observer to the tree. This, when the distance cannot be directly measured, can be calculated by taking observations on the tree from two stations a known distance apart, called a base line; that is, by measuring the angles which the lines from the ends of the base to the tree make with the base line. It is to be noticed in this connection that if the base line is suitably chosen and of reasonable length, the distance and height of a tree can be very accurately determined. That is, they can be well determined if the distance is not too many times larger than the base line. This same principle of measurement and calculation applies to the heavenly bodies. The practical difficulty in the way is the fact that even if a base line be taken as long as the diameter of the earth, the angles at the ends of the base line would be so nearly alike that it is almost impossible to measure

them accurately enough to give even an approximate value of the sides. For instance it can be readily seen that if the instrumental measurements are relatively so coarse as not to show any difference in the angles at the end of the base line, so far as the measurements are concerned, the lines to the sun would appear to be parallel and consequently would not determine the distance. Indeed, if these angles would show anything, they would show the body was at an infinite distance from either end of the base.

It is generally known that the instruments used in astronomical measurements are very refined and very accurate. Still, it may not be out of place here, to state that no instrument has ever been constructed of sufficient delicacy or accuracy to determine the angular measurements required to find the distance from the earth to the sun by the direct methods before described, to even a tolerable degree of accuracy. Indirect and more accurate, but also more laborious, methods have to be introduced. Then only by a combination of different kinds of observations, and a great number of each kind, can this distance be determined. If the base line be taken equal to the radius of the earth, say four thousand miles, then the difference between the angles at the end of the base is only 8.8-10 seconds of arc. This is a very small angle to measure, more especially so, when we take account of the fact that the heat of the sun seriously disturbs the instruments used, because of the expansion and contraction of the metal of which the instrument is constructed. An angle equal to 8.8-10 seconds is small and consequently difficult to measure to the required degree of accuracy since a small error produces a correspondingly large error in the distance. This becomes clear when we recall the fact that this angle is subtended by an inch seen at the distance of 1953 feet, or in round numbers, about an inch in two-fifths of a mile.

Still by indirect methods, too lengthy to be even hinted at here, this angle may be measured so accurately that it is probably known to within a five-hundredth of a second of arc. This is the angle subtended by an inch seen at the distance of about sixty-five miles; or but a very little larger than the angle subtended by an inch at Philadelphia seen from Lancaster! But in spite of all the difficulties involved, as well as the immense amount of labor required, it may be quite confidently stated that the distance from the earth to the sun is about 93,000,000 miles; that the diameter of the sun is 866,500 miles; and that the mass, the amount of matter, is 322,500 times the mass of the earth. The sun is, therefore, a very large body and is undoubtedly well fitted to be the centre of the solar system.

If the difficulties involved in determining the distance to the sun are so great, may we not expect even greater difficulties when we come to study the surface and constitution of this great body? A few things may, however, be inferred directly. It is evident to every one that the sun must be very hot or he could not give out the amount of heat and light that he continually pours out into space. From the appearance of the sun, without the aid of any apparatus, we would conclude that the surface was a uniform glowing surface. When a telescope is brought to bear on the sun, this view must be considerably modified; because then irregularities of the surface make their appearance. The most prominent are the sun spots.

These are immense cavities in the surface, so large that the inner dark portion of the spot may be as much as 50,000 miles in diameter with a depth of perhaps 1,500 miles. These cavities are of considerable interest because they give us the first insight into the constitution of the sun. Sir William Herschel supposed that they were openings through the luminous surface of the sun, and that they had a dark base because through this opening the dark interior solid matter of the sun was visible. This gave rise to the theory that the interior portion was a solid sphere and cool, while this was surrounded by a heated luminous layer which gave out heat and light to the planets, and also neither more nor less than is required to heat the interior sphere, so as to make it habitable. This interior was supposed to be shielded by a dense atmosphere; or, the inhabitants were supposed to be so constituted as to be able to bear all the heat, for a heated layer like that of the surface of the sun must necessarily send more heat towards the interior than is good and wholesome for living beings such as we are acquainted with. Whether this be so or not, it is to be further remarked that the sunspots are changeable, which proves that immense convulsions of nature must be continually taking place on the surface of the sun. Also, the parts are so mobile that the surface must be composed of matter in a gaseous state. That is, the changes are so extensive and take place in so short periods of time, that we can only explain them on the supposition that they are something of the nature of immense cyclones, in the matter existing in the form of a vapor or gas. Probably they are caused by immense explosions, which throw up great quantities of matter. This matter necessarily becomes cooler, and, therefore, when it falls back upon the surface it would appear darker; and since matter was taken up a depression would be produced, showing many of the main features of the sunspot. One very curious phenomenon connected with sunspots is, that they come in periods of about eleven and one-tenth years. That is, the sun is covered with spots at one time, and for five or six years at a time none, or scarcely any, spots appear. Then the number and extent of them increase until ten or eleven years are passed. Then we have again a great number. This is not perfectly regular, but the average is about as stated.

It is true, telescopes were more and more enlarged until the thirty-six inch glass of the Lick observatory was reached as a temporary limit. But even this is to be superseded by one of forty inches. The advantage gained in this way is, however, not very great. For, even admitting that a magnifying power equal to two thousand diameters can be used on the sun, it would only bring the sun to a distance of 47,000 miles, or perhaps to one-eighth of the distance at which the moon is seen without the aid of any telescope. It is, therefore, very evident that this method of inquiry must soon reach its limit. But the devices of human ingenuity seem to be endless, and thus, by adding one piece of apparatus to another, or by entirely new modes of investigation, research will be able to penetrate farther and farther into the mysteries of nature.

Even some time before these monster glasses were produced, instruments on a different plan were constructed; and it is from these that a much greater amount and more valuable information was obtained. Sir Isaac Newton already discovered that when light

is passed through a triangular glass prism, it is resolved into seven elementary colors. If light is first passed through a narrow slit thus reducing the beam to a mere ribbon of light, then through a prism and afterwards examined by means of a small telescope, certain black lines are seen across the color band. These same lines are produced when light from the vapors of mineral substances on the earth are passed through the same kind of apparatus. The correspondence in position and width of the lines produced by vapors of substances on the earth, and those in the sun, proves that the same substance must exist in the sun. Also when there are no lines corresponding to those of certain other substances that therefore these are not present in the sun. This apparatus is called a spectroscope. It will very readily be seen that the spectroscope therefore gives information which no telescope, however large, can give. It also gives us a knowledge of the constitution of the sun in another way. The spectrum lines of sunlight are dark while those produced by vapors of terrestrial substances produce bright colored lines. It was soon found by laboratory experiments that this phenomena was produced by passing an intense light through a less luminous vapor. That is, since cooler vapors absorb the same rays of light which they give out when intensely heated, therefore, whenever light passes through a vapor less luminous, although still very hot, the dark lines are produced. The application to the constitution of the sun is very obvious. The sun must be an intense source of heat and light surrounded by a gaseous envelope. In this manner, together with other considerations, scientists have come to the conclusion that the sun is probably entirely in a gaseous state; although the interior is subjected to very great pressure. The sun, therefore, is no more and no less than simply the source of light and heat for the different members of the solar system. Also since the mass of the sun is very great compared with all the members of the system, the centre of gravity of the system is near the centre of the sun; and thus it also approximately becomes the centre of the orbital motion of the members of this system.

THE MORAL WARFARE.

When Freedom, on her natal day,
Within her war-rocked cradle lay,
An iron race around her stood,
Baptized her infant brow in blood;
And, through the storm which round her swept,
Their constant ward and watching kept.

Then, where our quiet herds repose,
The roar of baleful battle rose,
And brethren of a common tongue
To mortal strife as tigers sprung,
And every gift on Freedom's shrine
Was man for beast, and blood for wine!

Our fathers to their graves have gone;
Their strife is past—their triumph won;
But sterner trials wait the race
Which rises in their honored place—
A moral warfare with the crime
And folly of an evil time.

So let it be. In God's own might
We gird us for the coming fight,
And, strong in Him whose cause is ours
In conflict with unholy powers,
We grasp the weapons He has given—
The Light, and Truth, and Love of Heaven.

—John Greenleaf Whittier.

THE FLOWER OF LIBERTY.

What flower is this that greets the morn,
 Its hues from Heaven so freshly born?
 With burning star and flaming band
 It kindles all the sunset land:
 O tell us what its name may be—
 Is this the Flower of Liberty?
 It is the banner of the free,
 The starry Flower of Liberty!

In savage Nature's far abode
 Its tender seed our fathers sowed;
 The storm-winds rocked its swelling bud,
 Its opening leaves were streaked with blood,
 Till lo! earth's tyrants shook to see
 The full-blown Flower of Liberty!
 Then hail the banner of the free,
 The starry Flower of Liberty!

The blades of heroes fence it round,
 Where'er it springs is holy ground;
 From tower and dome its glories spread;
 It waves where lonely sentries tread;
 It makes the land as ocean free,
 And plants an empire on the sea!
 Then hail the banner of the free,
 The starry Flower of Liberty!

Thy sacred leaves, fair Freedom's flower,
 Shall ever float on dome and tower,
 To all their heavenly colors true,
 In blackening frost or crimson dew—
 And God love us as we love thee,
 Thrice holy Flower of Liberty!
 Then hail the banner of the free,
 The starry FLOWER OF LIBERTY!

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Work in the Vineyard.

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations; but it is the same God which worketh all in all.—1 COR. xii. 4-6.

LUTHERAN.

Persons sojourning at the seashore will find services of the Lutheran Church held every Sunday, 10:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M., in the Y. M. C. A. building at Atlantic City, and the W. C. T. U. building at Asbury Park. It is requested that each person bring his church book.

CHRIST.—Efforts for the erection of the new church edifice are making steady progress. The project will be pushed to completion as soon as possible.

GRACE.—By reason of an exchange of pulpits, the services last Sunday were conducted by the Rev. J. L. Sibole, of Philadelphia.

TRINITY.—Last month, at various times, the pastor delivered special addresses, by invitation, to the local organizations of Junior Mechanics, the Christian Association, the graduates of Linden Hall Seminary, at Lititz, and of the High School, of this city. He also preached in Trinity church, at Reading, on the occasion of his father's return from an extended tour through Palestine, Egypt and the lands of the Orient.

This month's excursion of the Junior Missionary Society, over the Gravity Road at Reading, will be held on next Thursday, the 10th inst. This trip is beyond any comparison the finest one-day pleasure tour available to Lancaster. It combines so much pleasing variety, without any fatigue.

The annual excursion of the Sunday-school will take place on Wednesday, the 16th inst. to Mt. Gretna Park, via Pennsylvania Railroad. Train leaves depot,

corner Chestnut and Queen streets, at 7:30 A. M. A full band of music will give a morning, afternoon and evening concert in the Park.

MORAVIAN.

The Dairy Maids' Party given by the Peter Boehler Association on June 26th, was a decided success both financially and socially. The Maids and 'Squires acquitted themselves most creditably. The use of the beautiful garden brilliantly illuminated with arc lights was generously given by the officials of the Edison Electric Light Co.

Our Sunday-school picnic is to be held at Penryn Park on the 10th of this month. The committee on entertainment have arranged for a number of novel attractions for the young folks. A large attendance is looked for.

During July and August all the regular evening services are omitted. The Young Men's prayer meeting, however, has been turned into a Young People's meeting, in charge of the young men, and will be held every Sunday evening from 7 to 7:30 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend.

Some weeks ago a man in Bethlehem "dreamed" the "penny a day" plan for the women of the church to pay off the Home Mission debt. Though it struck many as very "manlike" coolly to suggest a plan to the women for bearing the men's burdens; and though the plan was already in operation for all manner of causes in all manner of churches and societies, it has been adopted with much enthusiasm by the women of the Province, and soon the men of the church can come proudly forward and boast how "we" paid the debt!

PRESBYTERIAN.

FIRST.—On Sunday, the 8th of June, Children's Day was observed, in accordance with the recommendation of the General Assembly. The service included some fine singing by the infant choir, and an address by Dr. Mitchell.

REFORMED.

ST. PAUL'S.—The choir of this church has recently been reorganized and is now under the efficient leadership of Prof. Wm. B. Hall. On the last two Sabbath evenings Prof. Hall has rendered very beautiful solos.

Rev. J. W. Meminger will preach his third anniversary sermon on Sunday morning, July 1st. The three years of his pastorate have been crowned with abundant success.

This church, with the First Reformed, will make an excursion to Mt. Gretna, July 9th. The pastor will take a month's vacation after the 14th of July.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

Mr. W. S. Speece, the General Secretary for the past two years, has resigned the position. On June 25th he removed from Lancaster to Uniontown, Pa., where he will conduct a financial canvass for the State Committee.

The Board of Managers has decided to raise the price of library tickets to \$2.00 beginning with this month.

During July and August the Sunday afternoon meetings will consist of song services, to be conducted by the young men. An orchestra will furnish the music, and the length of the services will be three-quarters of an hour. All young men are invited.

In Social Circles.

Among European tourists Lancaster is represented this month by Dr. M. L. Herr and daughter, B. J. McGrann and son, and R. M. Reilly. The California party, including the families of J. Fred Sener and C. A. Fon Dersmith, will return home at the close of the month. A complete list of seashore and mountain sojourners would look like a wholesale plagiarism of the City Directory.

The Tucquan Club of campers-out will leave for York Furnace next Friday, to remain for ten days. The Algonquins will spend a week by the same magnificent spring, occupying the same pavilion, commencing August 4th. Each of the clubs will take about thirty men.

A notable feature of the Young Republicans' art-loan exhibit was the presentation of complimentary tickets of admission to the lady employes of some of our leading manufactories. There were very few of these ladies who did not take advantage of the delicately-tendered courtesy, and many evidenced a remarkably discriminating taste in their criticism of the artistic merits of pictures and curios.

A delightful preliminary to the exercises of the college commencement was President Stahr's home-reception to the senior class. The lawn as well as the parlors were beautifully illuminated, and the whole affair was characterized by an absence of stiff formality, on which account it was particularly enjoyable. Many prominent society people were present.

The recent triennial session of the General Synod of the Reformed Church, necessitating the delegates' absence from home for ten days, prevented a goodly number of prominent ministers and laymen from leaving again, so soon after their return, to make their usual trip to commencement. Nevertheless the attendance on the campus was very fair, and everybody seemed animated by the pervading spirit of enthusiasm. The newly-elected President, Dr. Stahr, was the recipient of universal cordial congratulation, which evidenced how completely and heartily the entire church and community endorse the action of the Board of Trustees. The gymnasium project also got such a vigorous send-off as ensures its speedy accomplishment. Prof. Kieffer gave the friends of the College Library a most agreeable surprise in the handsome equipment he has provided for it, by devoting weeks and months of patient, persistent, yet without totally unostentatious labor in its behalf. His appeal to the citizens of Lancaster for much-needed funds, through the columns of our daily papers, ought to evoke a generous response.

Linden Hall Female Seminary at Lititz graduated a class of sixteen talented young ladies, and conferred the degree of A. B. on one especially proficient, who had taken a post-graduate course. This venerable and highly respected institution of learning could not possibly better advertise its eminent standard of scholarship than by simply publishing the questions and answers of its examination papers of 1890. If there be any female college anywhere in the State that has a tuition more thorough, with results more satisfactory, we shall be glad to speak of it in these columns. The display of paintings, crayon work and needlework was also very fine.

The High School last week sent out half a hundred promising young people into the various vocations of life. The public recitations and addresses in the Opera House compare favorably with those of previous years, and reflect great credit on the faculty of the school. A number of the young men expect to pursue their education further. The establishment of the system of free tuition in the College will doubtless be proved to have been timely.

Millersville handsomely brought up the rear of the commencement procession this week. This institution never was in a more flourishing condition or had so complete a curriculum. 650 pupils were enrolled during the year, 46 of whom have just received their diplomas.

The Spiritual Conference, comprised chiefly of clergymen of the Reformed Church, will hold its annual summer session in the college building on August 6th, to continue for one week. The hour of meeting will be 8:30 o'clock every morning, adjourning at noon.

THE PICNIC BASKET.

Chicken Sandwiches.—Chop cold baked or boiled chicken, and then rub it to a paste. To every cup of this add two teaspoonsful of melted butter, a saltspoonful of salt, and a dash of cayenne; mix, and rub until smooth, then spread it lightly on thin slices of buttered bread, roll up neatly or cut into strips or squares. It is always best to butter the slices before cutting it from loaf.

Sardine Sandwiches.—Remove the skin and bones from six sardines, mash them and add one teaspoonful of made mustard, same of lemon juice, same of Worcestershire sauce; rub, adding gradually one teaspoonful of olive oil. When smooth, spread thinly on small crisp water crackers (hard tack), dust thickly with the yolks of hard-boiled eggs mashed fine. These are especially nice served with water cress or lettuce leaves.

Indian Sandwiches.—These may be made from a mixture of veal or chicken, mixed with chopped cooked ham or tongue. After the two are rubbed together, to each half pint may be added a teaspoonful of stock, a teaspoonful of essence of anchovy, or a little lemon juice. Cut thin slices of bread from the loaf, then with a round biscuit cutter cut out the sandwiches, butter each lightly, and toast until a golden brown. Spread over them while hot a thin layer of the mixture and press two together.

Deviled Crackers.—Mix two tablespoonsful of cheese with a quarter of a teaspoonful of dry mustard, a dash of cayenne, a tablespoonful of thick cream, and a saltspoon of salt all well together. Spread this mixture in thin layers over "Jockey Clubs" or any crisp crackers. Serve with lettuce leaves or cress.

Pickled Chicken.—Clean and boil until tender a nice young chicken; when done remove the meat, rejecting the bones and skin. Cut the meat into nice pieces and put them in a glass jar. Take sufficient broth to half fill the jar, and add an equal quantity of good cider vinegar, add twelve whole cloves, same of allspice, a blade of mace, a bay leaf and a slice of onion. Bring to boiling point and pour while hot over the chicken, stand aside uncovered to cool. When cold, cover. It will be ready to use in twenty-four hours.

—Table Talk.

A VISION OF SCIENCE.

Beneath the stars, upon a summer night,
 I saw a vision fairer than the stars:
 A shape descended from the middle sky,
 In vesture pure, of light ineffable,
 With wings that winnowed music from the air,
 And crown whose glorious spangles shone so far
 They lit the darkness of remotest space.
 "What shape art thou?" I cried, and stood apart
 In fearful gladness, and admiring awe.
 "Fear not!" the shining visitant replied,
 "I bring the cause of joy and not of fear—
 I am the daughter of eternal God,
 And Science is my name. My Father's works
 'Tis mine to render plain to human thought.
 I war with Darkness, and I fight with Lies;
 I free the slave that Ignorance enthralled;
 I ferret hoar Delusion from his cave;
 I lift the veil from Superstition's eyes;
 I point the way to truth wherever hid,
 In earth, in ocean, or in æther far,
 In force, in matter, in phenomena;—
 Naught hold I sacred but the sacred truth.

"Fair votaress
 Of Pallas, Culture, modest maid, in 'light
 And sweetness' clad, companions me; and Art
 My younger sister is; to her I show
 The vital truth and the essential good
 Enshrined and centered in the beautiful.
 Gray-headed History attends my steps,
 Philosophy with stately mien and brow,
 And rapt Romance, and clear-eyed Poesy.
 No terms make I with Bigot, none with blind
 Credulity, who leads the blind astray;
 But rational Religion is my friend,
 And I am hers, and her supporter bold.
 Heed not crazed voices that disparage me;
 I am the daughter of eternal God,
 And well-beloved of my Father. He
 Hath sent me forth not as the foe of Faith;
 I but prepare the world for larger faith;
 The doubt I plant stakes up the vine belief,
 And Christ sits firmer on his Kingdom's throne
 Because of Science."

Thus the visitant;
 Then spreading pearly pinions on the air,
 She soared where stars are thickest, and was lost
 In self-resembling light.

—W. H. Venable.

Local Lore.

JOHN BECK.

A PIONEER EDUCATOR OF LANCASTER COUNTY.

BY SIMON P. EBY, ESQ.

I.

On the great bronze war-horse, that guards the north entrance to the new City Hall, of Philadelphia, near to a busy railway centre, and in the midst of the continuous roar of the traffic of a populous city, there sits the figure of a man of heroic mould, with earnest brow and outstretched arm, representing the original in the last act of his life, while bringing into action the advance guard of a great army in the beginning of a three days' battle, a gallant soldier, trusted by his country, honored and mourned by his native State, a former pupil of John Beck. One who, in his youthful days, sat at the feet of that grand old teacher, to drink in with the letters taught him, alike the spirit of patriotism, and a love for that which is good, true and ennobling in after life.

From January 2d, 1815, when as a diffident young

man, that same teacher first opened school, until the 31st of May, 1865, when he dismissed his last class, a period of fifty years of faithful work done, two thousand, three hundred and twenty-six boys had come to sit at his feet, receive instruction, and pass out of his school-room—some to enter yet other institutions of learning, and many to begin at once the battle of life. None of these have, by reason of the great events in which he was an actor, become as conspicuous figures in history or in bronze, as the soldier just mentioned. Yet many of them have proven equally worthy in other pursuits and professions, and all of them have, without doubt, been greatly benefited for having passed under his influence and teachings.

It is not proposed to write a biography of John Beck. That work he has done better than any one else can do it, in his "Valedictory Letter" to his former pupils. Space and inclination permit here to speak only of a few of his characteristics, which gave him such unbounded influence over the young, gained him the confidence of parents, and, combined with his untiring industry, contributed to his success, and placed him in the front rank of the educators of his day. For our benefit and example we love to dwell on the early traits in the characters of eminent men; much like travelers seek to discover the fountain heads of great rivers.

Born in Graceham, Frederick county, Md., on June 16, 1791, he moved with his parents, when quite young, first to Mount Joy, Lancaster county, and afterwards to a place near the Blue Mountains, in Lebanon county. He was, therefore, a country boy, who must have acquired among country scenery and pure air the bodily health and soundness of mind which enabled him to do his work so well in after years.

He received his education in the Moravian school at Nazareth, which he left at the age of fifteen, and was then apprenticed, as was customary in those days, to learn a trade, with a very worthy man, in the village of Lititz. In doing this he gave up the trade he would have preferred and undertook to learn another in obedience to the wishes of his parents.

He was more fortunate in acquiring a knowledge of his trade, he tells us, than he had been in his educational pursuits at Nazareth, and refers with commendable pride to the fact that on the day of his freedom his master gave him a highly favorable testimonial, pronounced him the best and fastest workman, as well as the most faithful apprentice boy he ever had in his employ; and, to testify still further his good feeling towards him, presented him with an elegant suit of clothing and fifty dollars in money.

Thus in his filial obedience, yielding to the wishes of his parents in the choice of a trade, and his diligence in learning it, may already be discerned the good qualities in the character of the future man.

He was now free, with a new suit, and ready money in his pocket. What would many a young man under like circumstances have done? Celebrated the happy event by a jollification, most likely. Taken a holiday for an indefinite time; spent his money with some of his companions; and, after the first downward step had been taken, we know what usually follows: loss of self-respect, disgrace, total abandonment, heart-broken parents and final ruin. Or he might have taken the opposite course. Being better educated

than most of his companions he might have become too proud to associate with them; sought to enter higher circles and become the companion of the rich and great, such as could readily have been found at the village inn, which even in that day had become a famous hostelry, frequented by wealthy and distinguished visitors. Fortunately his early training and his good sense saved him from erring in either direction. He had the benefit of a Christian culture, both under his parents and at the school in Nazareth. He had been taught neither to waste his substance in riotous living, nor to reach for the highest seat in the room before he was asked to go up by the master of the house. And then he had to be requested more than once before he went up.

The master of the house in his case was the community in which he lived, whose eyes were upon him, as they are on almost every other young man, when a single misstep may change his fortune. He did not forget his companions more illiterate than himself; but undertook to teach five of them, apprentices as he had been, three evenings in each week for a small compensation. Addressing himself to this work with his usual diligence, he succeeded beyond expectation, and received the praise of both the boys and their masters.

Twice before that time, he had been asked to take charge of the village school, but declined, believing himself deficient in the education necessary for that purpose, and because unwilling to leave a business he had mastered so thoroughly. The report of his success with the apprentice boys, spreading through the village, the call came once more, this time in a letter of request signed by all the parents who had sons to send.

The final decision, he tells us, cost him much consideration. He consulted a number of his friends, among others his former master, who encouraged him to make a trial, in words that seemed prophetic. "Who knows," said the master, "to what it may lead, you may possibly become a more useful man than if you remain a shoemaker." So he accepted the call and on January 2d, 1815, the pastor of the Lititz congregation introduced him to his future charge of twenty-two boys, assembled in the old school house originally built for a blacksmith shop, on the site whereon he afterward erected his academy building.

The description he gives of the old shop, its dingy interior, with blacksmith hearth, and rickety furniture, was not encouraging to a beginner. The boys spoke German, and he was to teach them to read and speak English. In those days the rod was constantly kept within reach of the teacher during school hours and carried with him when moving around among his pupils. It served the double purpose of pointer to direct their attention to books and blackboard, and as a reminder that they must study them. Learning, it was then supposed by many, could best be fixed in the memory of a boy by beating it vigorously on to his back. The dunce-cap, leather spectacles, wooden donkey, and other instruments of mental and bodily torture, were still used in some of the country schools.

Our newly appointed teacher at Lititz tried a different method, and sought to encourage his pupils in their studies by an appeal to the nobler sentiments of their minds, and found it to yield him far better results than corporal punishment.

About this time he was invited to take charge of a school in Bethlehem. But his patrons at Lititz wishing to retain his services offered to turn their school over to him, with the privilege of taking pupils, both from the village and outside, on his own terms; this offer he accepted and the Lititz school was thenceforth Beck's school.

Many were the methods he introduced, and, successful though they proved, it was still up-hill work, for with his small salary, he generally found himself in debt at the end of the year, and to add to his income he employed Saturdays and other spare time in painting signs and lettering tombstones. One of the methods employed to encourage his pupils to greater diligence should be mentioned, since it led to the changing of his village school to a boarding academy. He prepared a number of Badges of Honor, of various sizes and colors, with suitable mottoes and numbers, handsomely ornamented. These, the pupils making the best recitations in the different classes during the day, were allowed to wear home in the evening. They had to be returned next morning, were hung up in the school-room, and the honor of wearing them home the following evening was contended for each day. An account was kept of the honors thus gained, and at the end of each month the pupil having the highest number was rewarded with a book, knife, or other article prized by boys. Any one who conducted himself improperly lost all he had gained.

It happened that two gentlemen from Baltimore visiting Lititz, in 1819, saw a boy wearing one of these badges, on his way home from school, and on inquiry learned that a person of the name of Beck had a school for boys in the place, which was conducted on a somewhat new plan. They did not come to see the school or the teacher; but on their return home reported the fact to a friend who was looking for a proper place to send his son to be educated. And their friend, on their recommendation, afterwards came to Lititz to investigate the matter.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

GEORGE ROSS AND "THE ROSS" HOUSE.

BY S. M. SENER, ESQ.

Located in the northeastern section of this city stands an old time mansion known as the "Ross" house. It was the home of George Ross, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was born at New Castle, Delaware, in the year 1730, and was the son of an Episcopalian clergyman. Early in life he exhibited talents of a high grade and devoted himself to the study of law. He was admitted to the bar and in 1751 took up his residence here in Lancaster. Soon after locating here he was made prosecutor for the crown. He took an active part in all things which helped to advance Lancaster. In 1768 the citizens of the borough elected him to the Assembly and by successive elections he was continued in that position until in 1774, when he was elected to Congress. He remained in Congress until in 1777, and served so well whilst there that the citizens of the borough voted him the sum of £150 "as a testimony * * * of their sense of gratitude for his attendance on the public business to his great private loss," or if he chose it, "a genteel piece of plate."

He declined to accept the proffered present. Soon

after his having located in Lancaster he married Miss Ann Lawlor, by whom he had a family. One of his sons—James Ross—in 1775, raised a company of men of which he was made captain and which company became attached to Colonel Thompson's regiment. In recognition of his varied and valuable services to the colonies, and particularly to the province of Pennsylvania, Mr. Ross was appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty on April 14, 1779. He took sick and died in the following July from a sudden and violent attack of the gout.

Reverting, after this short sketch of George Ross to the old "Ross" house, which was for many years the home of George Ross and his heirs, the following brief of title of the tract upon which the mansion is located will be of interest:

William Penn, Propr., to John Funk, Patent dated Nov. 30, 1717. Roll's Office at Phila. Patent Book A, Vol. 6, page 155 for 200 acres.

John Funk and wife to Michael Meyer. A Deed of Release dated Feb. 20, 1717; not of record.

Michael Meyer and wife to Hon. James Hamilton. Deed of Release, dated Jan. 19, 1750. Recorded at Lancaster in Book B, pages 354 and 355.

Hon. James Hamilton to George Ross. Deed dated June 24, 1761. Book I. I., page 346.

George Ross to Eliza Ross, Patton Ross and Caroline Ross. Will dated Jan. 8, 1820, bequeathing a tract of 187 acres 46 perches (less 7 acres and 78 perches occupied by James Hopkins, Esq.) to four heirs, the three above named and William B. Ross. William B. died and George Ross, the testator, by codicil dated March 2, 1828, gave tract to Patton, Caroline, and Eliza. Partition proceedings were had in the estate and the tract was divided among the three remaining children in 1833. To Eliza, who married Dr. Abraham Carpenter, (tract 1); Patton Ross, (tract 2); Caroline married Samuel D. Orrick, (tract 3). Book Z., Vol. 5, pages 257, 258, etc.

George Ross had become possessed of the tract in question by inheritance of part from his father and by purchase of the other part from his brother, James Ross and wife in 1802, (Record Book L., Vol. 3, page 404.

The "Ross" House was used as a country residence by the elder Ross, whose home in the borough of Lancaster was on East King street. George Ross, the deviser above named, was also prominent in this city and occupied the residence at the north-west corner of Prince and Orange streets which he rented from John Sehner. While living there he was visited by Lafayette on July 28, 1825, the occasion of the latter's memorable visit to Lancaster. Ross had lived for a dozen or more years prior to that time in the house, which subsequently became the property of John Sehner, son of the former John Sehner, and to-day is owned by John Sehner's estate.

Samuel D. Orrick and wife to John N. Lane. Deed dated April 9, 1838. Book W., Vol. 6, page 163. (Tract 3.)

John N. Lane to Michael Kelly. Deed dated April 2, 1842. Book U, Vol. 6, page 165.

Patton Ross to Michael Kelly. Deed dated March 3, 1837. Book K, Vol. 6, page 97. (Tract 2.)

Eliza J. Carpenter to Michael Kelly. Deed dated June 28, 1842. Book W, Vol. 6, page 233. (Tract 1.)

Michael Kelly died some years since and the prop-

erty to-day is vested in the hands of his heirs. Ross street, a new street on the city's plan, passes through the property and when opened will divide the tract up. The old mansion house is fast falling into decay and in but a few years more will be numbered among the things of the past, and a generation hence will be forgotten.

Our Book-Shelf.

The one grand necessity in reading is to be vigilantly, conscientiously select, and to know everywhere that books, like human souls, are actually divided into what we may call sheep and goats—the latter put inexorably on the left hand of the judge; and tending, every one of them, at all moments, whither we know, and much to be avoided.—CARLYLE.

"Are we within sight of Idealism once more? Has the reign of miscalled Realism (so wide apart from truth) led to the unavoidable reaction? We are told so, and, but a few days since, the *Figaro*—whatever its other faults, the surest echo of Parisian general impressions—opened its columns with the assurance that the rule of materialism was drawing to an end, that it had overshot its mark, that irreligion was creating a desire for spiritualism, and some form, however vague, of faith—that the recognition of the superiority of the Ideal was rapidly replacing the despair-bringing cult of the day, hard, soulless materialism only."

That is what a competent literary critic of France, M. DeBury, recently wrote in the *Fortnightly Review*. The mere fact that an authority like he should ask such a question is significant and worthy of note; as significant as are the strong words of the *Figaro* itself to which he refers. "Materialism has sunk too low," says that paper; "it has to be revived by healthier air—the *Ugly* has been predominant too long—the truth of Beauty is growing impatient to be proclaimed."

To the testimony of these two French witnesses might yet be added that of Prof. Edmund Gosse, one of the foremost living English critics and literary historians, who, though himself leaning strongly towards the realistic school of writers, only a few weeks ago wrote an able article in the *Forum* on "The Limitations of Realism," which virtually says the same thing as M. DeBury and the *Figaro*. He maintains that the present tendency in French fiction is setting very decidedly in the two directions of mysticism and psychology, that is, two forms of idealism.

If one were to judge only from Mr. Howells's monthly pleas for realism in *Harper's Monthly*, one might indeed think that idealism and romanticism were forever driven from the stage. And yet his very repetitiousness and evident anxiety in the matter have much the appearance of a forlorn hope, as if he himself were conscious of the waning influence of his cause and were struggling all the more desperately because of the steadily growing strength and importance of the opposition.

At any rate here in America, if one may judge from the character of the great majority of recent novels,

the tide is all against realism; nearly all the best new novels are psychologic and romantic, with a strong current setting in the direction of historical or semi-historical tales, this latter tendency probably derived from Germany, where it is dominant. In England realism never did gain even so much as a fair foothold. I am inclined to think that Tolstoi has done idealism a good service by showing, by his shocking and disgusting "Kreutzer Sonata," what is the necessary and logical outcome of a consistent realism, or rather naturalism.

Be all this as it may, I am quite sure that two or three of the most popular of the younger generation of novelists in France are as far removed as possible from the offensive naturalism of a few years ago. Such, for example, is the phenomenally successful E. Melchior de Vogué, whose short story of "Joseph Olenine's Cloak" is said to have completely captivated the reading world of Paris, and which is a psychologic romance of the purest idealism, reminding one more of Hawthorne's work than of that of any other American writer, or perhaps of some of Poe's weird and impossible yet fascinating tales. Such also, though less markedly perhaps, is the writer whose pseudonym is Jules de Glouvet, and whose novels "Le Forestier" and "Le Berger" are altogether idealistic, though not without touches of a fine realism of the best kind. The same is true to an equal degree of Anatole France's altogether delightful story of "The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard," recently translated by Lafcadio Hearn. Nothing purer and more wholesome could well be imagined than the spirit that breathes all through its pages; and its whole tone and tendency are uplifting and inspiring.

Probably, however, the most convincing proof of the radical change that has come over the spirit of French fiction and over the French literary taste, is the fact that the writer who is outstripping all others of the younger generation in the race for popularity and fame in France is Guy de Maupassant, a young man whose six novels and hundred short stories are nearly all representative of the highest idealism while yet written according to the most realistic methods. I have before me now the very beautifully made volume entitled "The Odd Number," containing thirteen of Maupassant's tales, or short stories, translated by Jonathan Sturges, and just published by Harper & Brothers. Each one of these tales is a nearly perfect gem of artistic workmanship. The tone of each one would be as perfectly pure and wholesome if it were not for his evident predilection, in his choice of subjects, for what Mr. James very euphoniously calls "the immitigability of our mortal predicament, with its occasional beguilements and its innumerable woes;" in other words, if it were not for the pessimistic air that pervades his writings.

He prefers, and is most successful in treating, such subjects as that of "La Mere Sauvage," with touching mother-love and yet deliberately cruel ferocity, or of the painfully pitiful "Beggar." Why choose just such characters and scenes for his pencil? Why devote so much skill of touch and vividness of color to bring out their revolting hideousness? He owes this to his master Flaubert's teaching. Much more help-

ful to the reader, and more worthily representative of true human nature, is a tale like "The Necklace," though its close, too, unwholesomely and unnecessarily emphasizes the bitter mockery of fate. Why is this done so much? Is there not fully as much "sweetness and light" in the world and in human experience, as there is of bitterness and pain? And is not the former fully as interesting as the latter? Why then continually lead us into hospitals when the green woods and flowering fields of earth are so much more truly representative of what the world is and affords?

It must be confessed, however, that Maupassant's pessimism is no kin to that of the morbid Russian novelists with whom we have been made too well acquainted. It is more incidental only to the healthier spirit that gives the leading tone to his tales. The depressing shadows are always relieved by much brightness of tender devotion, strong righteousness, heroic self-sacrifice, and general "beauty of holiness." My own experience, at least, has been that the abiding impression left by most of his stories is not at all depressing but rather invigorating and stimulating. One is made to feel that life indeed has much of misery and woe, but it has also much else that makes it well worth living; yes, that the noblest part of life often is just this, to brave its sorrows manfully and Christlike to endure its woes.

Messrs. Harper & Brothers have also quite lately published another neat and dainty little volume of "Pastels in Prose," being brief little bits of word painting, or often mere outline suggestion, from the pens of about twenty leading French authors. I merely mention the book here as well worth your attention. I have no room to say more about it except that the sketches, most charmingly illustrated by McVickar by the way, though of varying merit, some perfect gems, others pretentious, even ridiculous, trash, yet as a whole must be accepted as still further evidence of my main proposition, namely, that realism, or naturalism, has seen its best days in French literary art. It is rapidly dying out. Something better is fast taking its place. UNO.

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