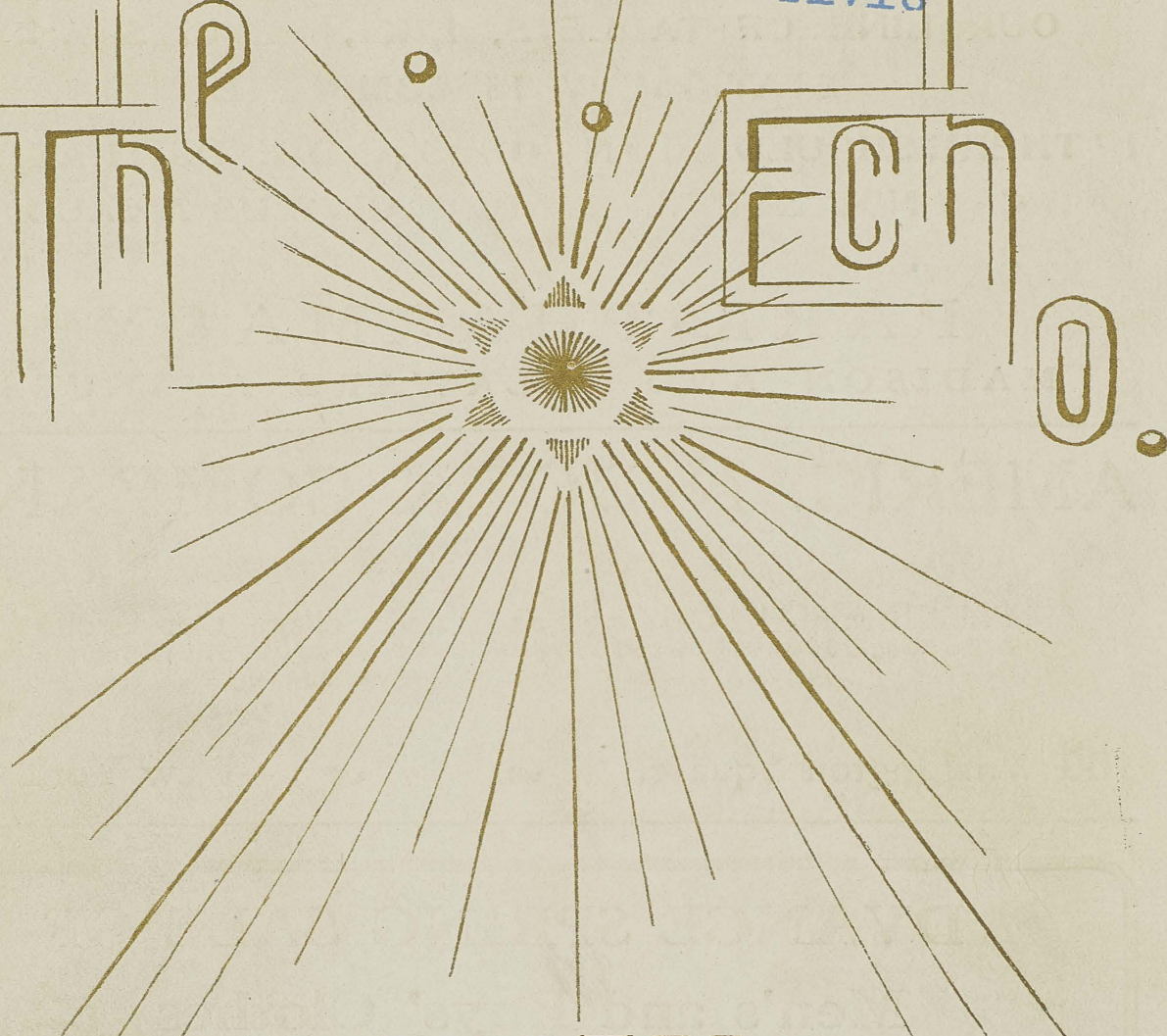


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Teach in New York City

Some teachers do not wish to teach in New York City but others do. I am speaking to the latter. Nine hundred teachers appointed November 1, 1907; all the January list appointed March 1, 1908. What will be done for September? The June examinations must furnish the list.

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THE ECHO.

VOL. 16.]

ALBANY, N. Y., APRIL, 1908.

[No. 8.

The Burial of Moses.

By Nebo's lonely mountain,
On this side Jordan's wave,
In a vale in the land of Moab,
There lies a lonely grave.
And no man knows that sepulchre,
And no man saw it e'er,
For the angels of God upturned the sod,
And laid the dead man there.

That was the grandest funeral
That ever passed on earth;
But no man heard the trampling
Or saw the train go forth:
Noiselessly as the daylight
Comes when the night is done,
And the crimson streak on ocean's cheek
Grows into the great sun.

Noiselessly as the springtime
Her crown of verdure weaves,
And all the trees on all the hills
Open their thousand leaves;
So, without sound of music
Or voice of them that wept,
Silently down from the mountain's
crown
The great procession swept.

Perchance the bald old eagle,
On gray Beth-Peor's height,
Out of his lonely eyry
Looked on the wondrous sight;
Perchance the lion, stalking,
Still shuns that hallowed spot,
For beast and bird have seen and heard
That which man knoweth not.

But when the warrior dieth,
His comrades in the war,
With arms reversed and muffled drum,
Follow the funeral car;
They show the banners taken,
They tell his battles won,
And after him lead his masterless steed,
While peals the minute gun.

Amid the noblest of the land
We lay the sage to rest,
And give the bard an honored place
With costly marble drest,
In the great minster transept
Where lights like glories fall,
And the organ rings and the sweet choir
sings
Along the emblazoned wall.

This was the truest warrior
That ever buckled sword,
This the most gifted poet
That ever breathed a word;
And never earth's philosopher
Traced with his golden pen,
On the deathless page, truths half so
sage
As he wrote down for men.

And had he not high honor,—
The hillside for a pall
To lie in state while angels wait
With stars for tapers tall,
And the dark rock-pines like tossing
plumes
Over his bier to wave,
And God's own hand in that lonely land,
To lay him in the grave?

In this strange grave without a name
 Whence his uncoffined clay
 Shall break again, O wondrous thought,
 Before the Judgment day,
 And stand with glory wrapt around
 On the hills he never trod,
 And speak of the strife that won our life
 With the Incarnate Son of God.

O lonely grave in Moab's land!
 O dark Beth-Peor's hill!
 Speak to these curious hearts of ours,
 And teach them to be still.
 God hath His mysteries of grace,
 Ways that we cannot tell.
 He hides them deep, like the secret sleep
 Of Him He loved so well.

MRS. C. F. ALEXANDER.

This poem is narrative in form. The story of the burial of Moses, simply stated as a fact in the Bible, is here enlarged upon by contrasting the ceremonies attending his funeral with the ceremonies usually attending the burial of a great man. The first stanza locates the scene of the event and gives one circumstance, the most noteworthy, attending the burial,—the ministry of the angels. The second and third show by means of similes the silence and the secrecy with which the action was done. The possible witnesses of the ceremony are suggested in the fourth. The fifth sketches the appearance of the funeral procession of a great warrior. The sixth tells how the funeral of a man distinguished for wisdom is attended, and how a great poet is buried in Westminster Abbey or some similar place. The seventh claims for Moses greater gifts, and greater achievements in all these lines than any other man has ever accomplished. The eighth stanza, in the form of a rhetorical interrogation, pre-

sents the strong contrast between man's ways of paying homage to the dead, as represented in the fifth, and God's ways, in which the ministry of angels is joined to the natural objects of His creation for His service. The last two stanzas form a fitting conclusion to the event with which the main action of the poem deals. They add nothing to the story as a story, but they suggest the import of the event to humanity, and impress upon the heart of the reader the lesson of faith. This was evidently the purpose of the author. This conclusion expresses the religious fervor of the author so clearly as to make it seem more like a lyric than a narrative poem. We have many short narrative poems of this kind in our literature. They relate a single event, it may be of historic interest, and they partake of the nature of the lyric through the personal feeling which the author infuses into the story.

MARGARET S. MOONEY.

Woodstock.

In these days, when the popular demand is for the lightest fiction, and that, too, very often, of the coarsest and most indelicate kind, it is not surprising that the historical novel is thought by many to be dull and uninteresting. Sensationalism is at a premium, and the writer who can crowd the most of it, particularly that of a highly suggestive nature, into his story, is pretty sure to sell his book readily.

From the earliest period down to the present, history is replete with matter which affords ample foundation for fictitious writing; and the very fact that a story is based upon some real happening in life, not only adds to its interest, but also provides an opportunity for obtain-

ing knowledge which some, at least, would get in no other way. Of course, the historical novel cannot always be wholly relied on to furnish a purely historical account of the times of which it treats. Characters must be more or less colored, and facts either enlarged upon or held in check, according as the author deems best in order to sustain interest to the reader; but, taken as a whole, the reader gets a pretty fair idea of that part of history, which has furnished him with the fundamental facts of his story. This is essentially true with the author of the *Waverley Novels*, and, possibly, not more so in any one of them than in "*Woodstock*."

The latter is perhaps one of the most distinctively historical of Scott's novels. It deals with a portion of that period of English history known as the Civil War.

Cromwell, after the death of Charles I, ordered the sequestration of much of the royal properties. Among these was the late King's palace at Woodstock, and it is here that most of the scenes of the novel are laid. The plot is somewhat complex, but its characters, of whom there are a considerable number, are clearly delineated, and the various scenes faithfully described. All of Scott's novels are more or less composite in character, however, and must be carefully read in order to be fully appreciated; but by thus reading them there is no difficulty in entering into the full enjoyment of his works. Indeed, one does not read far in "*Woodstock*" before he feels himself tolerably well acquainted with its characters and scenes. The Royal Lodge, with its Gothic architecture, irregularity of form, and small turret, of great height, known as "*Fair Rosamond's Tower*," passes before us

like a stereopticon view. We note the massive thickness of the tower walls, the absence of any opening near the ground, the narrow windows above, and can almost fancy that we see the traditional draw-bridge lowered, whereby King Henry gained access to the winding staircase leading to Rosamond's apartment. As we pass through the rest of the lodge, we note its nests of little courts surrounded by buildings connected with each other either from within-doors or by crossing the courts. We gaze at the many fronts of the building, and see specimens of every style of architecture, from the pure Norman of Henry of Anjou down to the semi-Gothic, half classical architecture of Elizabeth.

Nor are the characters in the story less vividly drawn. Sir Henry Lee, the valiant and intensely loyal, though irascible, old knight, who is keeper of Woodstock Park; the gentle and lovely Alice, his daughter, no less loyal than her impulsive father, notwithstanding all her gentleness and womanly modesty; Markham Everard, colonel in the Commonwealth Army, and nephew to Sir Henry, strong, self-reliant, honorable, and in every way worthy the name of a true gentleman; Joceline Joliffe, the prime instigator of all the so-called ghostly interferences at the lodge, and Roger Wildrake, a cavalier, whose devotion to the royal cause was only equalled by his propensity for drink; these are all introduced to us in such a manner that we feel them to be almost alive at the present time, or rather, that we have traveled backward two hundred and fifty years, and met them in the flesh.

In regard to the other characters in the book we hesitate before expressing an opinion. It is hard to write on such

a theme without lapsing into criticism of the author, and especially is it so in the present case, when the criticism seems so justly deserved. It seems a pity that a man so gifted as Sir Walter Scott evidently was, should not have had broader ideas. To picture Oliver Cromwell as a vacillating, canting hypocrite, seems, to say the least, a little unfair; and yet, that is the opinion one would form of the man, had he never read his life by an unbiased writer. That Cromwell was deeply religious, and sometimes given to change, especially when he had reason to believe that some of his judgments were too severe, is easy to believe, but certainly no one has the right to infer that his religion was cant, or his occasional change of mind due to any other motive than that of righting a mistake. Another character, whom the author tries to put in a ridiculous light, in the one referred to as the Rev. Mr. Holdenough, the Presbyterian minister. This man, notwithstanding the fact that he is evidently held in derision by the writer, is in some respects one of the strongest characters in the book. He had what few men in those days, or in our time either, for that matter, are possessed of, the courage of his convictions; neither was he afraid to put his faith to what was in that time a severe test. King or Protector was no more to him than the lowliest individual, if he saw in them anything deserving reproof. Desborough, Harrison and Bletson, the three commissioners, are portrayed as not only arrant cowards, but designing villains. In fact, there is but one character, in any way connected with the people's cause, who receives anything like justice from the writer's pen, Col. Markham Everard; and it transpires later on in the

book that Colonel Everard is not unfriendly to the idea of the restoration of Charles II. On the other hand, the fugitive King has a kind of halo thrown around him by the author. No word of condemnation is spoken against his gross sensuality and insult to a woman's honor; rather, is the act condoned, inasmuch as it was the way with kings. Neither does he in the least censure Sir Henry Lee, when the latter is determined to compromise his own daughter in order that Charles may escape from Cromwell. Dr. Rochecliffe, the former rector of Woodstock, an intriguer and cunning plotter, is well nigh canonized, and even the drunken vagabond Wildrake becomes a hero in the end, because he managed to warn the family at Woodstock that Cromwell was in close pursuit of the fugitive Charles. It would seem, therefore, that Scott was actuated with but one desire, namely: to belittle everyone who was in any way connected with the people's cause, and to uphold, whether worthy or unworthy, everyone who favored royalty. This, I believe, is the central truth or motive of the story.

But to digress a moment. How strange to us of the present time who have the spirit of liberty coursing through our veins, seems the obsequiousness and servility of those days! Yes, and even at present, to a greater or less degree, in all countries having a monarchical form of government! Behold the spectacle of a white-haired old man prostrating himself before a stout and lusty youth, and doing absolute homage simply because the latter lays claim to a throne! Think of a woman, young, beautiful, and the soul of chastity, kneeling and kissing the hand of him who but a short time since was seeking

to rob her of that which is most sacred to a woman's heart — her virtue! "Patriotism," someone remarks; "custom," says another. Well, if the word patriotism can be so twisted that it means wallowing in the mire before some fellow-creature no better than ourselves, and sometimes not as good, then I think it is time that some new word was coined to express the noblest feeling that can permeate the human breast. "All men were created free and equal," says the immortal Declaration of Independence; and it seems to me little less than an insult to Almighty God for one man to do homage to another.

But to return to our theme, and also to do away with further criticism.

Like most of the Waverley Novels, "Woodstock" has its mystery. This was what was known as the "Good Devil of Woodstock." Many strange tales were told of the doings of supposed spirits at the palace during its occupancy by the commissioner sent thither by Cromwell. The amusing part of the matter lies in the fact that neither of the great political parties of that day discredited these stories. The cavaliers believed that license had been granted the devil, on account of the desecration of the King's apartments and furniture; while the round-heads declared that the fiend's malice was occasioned in order to obstruct the pious work with which the commissioners were employed. Whichever party had the correct idea, it matters not, but it is certain that the poor commissioners led a miserable existence during their stay in the palace. Scott, however, makes it quite plain that these supposed fiends were very much flesh and blood; inasmuch as Joceline Joliffe and the learned Dr. Rochecliffe, with the

aid of several confederates, a trap-door, and a dog, were the means of working all the wonders at Woodstock. This, then, is the unravelling of the mystery and the solving of the problem.

There are many other interesting scenes portrayed in the book, the most noticeable of which is at the close. In it we have Charles II returning home amidst the rejoicings of the populace to ascend the throne of his father. Sir Henry Lee, surrounded by his daughter and grandchildren; Colonel Everard, Wildrake, Joceline Joliffe, and even his faithful hound Bevis, awaiting the monarch's coming. On seeing the group, Charles springs from his horse and walks rapidly toward the old knight. But the joy and excitement are too much for Sir Henry, and after murmuring, "May God bless and preserve—" he is so overcome with his feelings that he can go no further. Drums beat, and the array moves on, but the old knight sees and hears them not. The light, which was burning so low, suddenly expires. And so ends the story of Woodstock.

CALVIN C. HOLMES.

Constance and Elinor.

Quite different from the heroines of the plays we have read thus far, are the leading women of "King John." Elinor, the mother of the king, appears in a better light than that which history throws upon her. In the pages of history we know her as a faithless, cruel woman, untrue to her husband, Louis the Young, during the trying time of the Third Crusade, and later, as the wife of Henry of England, a mischief-maker and a sower of dissension in her family, stirring her sons to revolt against their

father, and then to quarrel among themselves.

But Shakespeare softens and redeems her character somewhat by casting over it a mantle of dignity and by attributing to her a mother's love for the evil John.

Constance, too, is ennobled by the poet far above her historic self. She appears upon his stage as a woman whose ruling passion is her love for her deeply-wronged boy. Worshipping the beauty and intelligence and sweetness of her little son, tremendously ambitious for his cause to triumph, a widow, with no powerful friends to rely on, save the selfish and perfidious French monarch and his colleague, Austria, she has our pity by reason of her position, and wins our admiration by her dauntless courage and determination.

She and Elinor are both apparently moved by the same great motive, yet I think that Elinor's love and ambition for John are secretly selfish, while Constance's one and only thought is for her son.

Yet both are alike in one respect, and equally disagreeable, I almost said *disgusting*, to an audience or reader; they shamelessly rail at one another in moments of excitement, using language whose abusiveness and utter lack of delicacy, even of decency, turns the sympathy of an audience into repugnance. The mantle of dignity that Shakespeare loaned her, Elinor completely casts off; yet if there is any difference between them it is Constance, not Elinor, who speaks with more hot freedom. She has, nevertheless, an excuse where Elinor has none. The excuse of angry helplessness and bitter, agonized resentment. Moreover, it is cruel of Elinor to flout and taunt her when she is beside herself with grief and

despair, and practically irresponsible for what she says.

Elinor's speeches to and of John are prosaic and matter-of-fact; while Constance's love for Arthur inspires her several times to rise to the very heights of eloquence, mingling pathos and beautiful imagery that only a mother's love and sorrow could prompt. Elinor is crafty, Constance is all openness; Elinor is shallow, Constance has a certain depth of soul; Elinor is thoroughly selfish, Constance has no thought for herself save as secondary to her son; Elinor is cruel, Constance is only cruel to herself. But neither one has any control of herself; each is swayed by passion, but the main-spring of passion differs, being in Constance noble; in Elinor ignoble. Elinor shocks us less, but Constance is the nobler and the better character.

AGNES E. STUART.

A Report on the "Apology."

The oration of Socrates, called the Apology, was delivered at Athens in reply to the accusations of Meletus, Anytus and Lyco, to the effect that "Socrates does wrong in that he investigates the heavens in a way that is impious, makes the worse appear the better reason, denies that there are gods, and corrupts the youth by teaching them these things."

The oration is divided into three parts: The defense proper, the address upon condemnation proposing his penalty, and the address after the death sentence had been imposed.

Socrates begins the Apology by expressing his admiration for the eloquence of his accusers, by asking leniency of his judges because he will speak plainly and without rhetorical phrases, and by prom-

ising that what he will say will be the truth.

After this introduction he takes up each point of the accusation and proves that each charge is false. He never tries to conciliate the judges but speaks fearlessly as one who is conscious of his rectitude.

When the question is put to vote and he is condemned, he expresses his surprise that so few votes were cast against him.

He proposes that he be elected as a member of the Prytaneum, since the city needs his services. Finally he proposes a fine of one mina. His friends, fearing for his life, offer eighteen minae.

Then the question is put to vote and Socrates is condemned to death. He speaks first to those who voted against him, telling them that death isn't to be feared as much as infamy. Then he speaks with those who voted for his acquittal. To these he gives his ideas of future life.

He closes his oration with these words: "But it is now time to depart — for me to die, for you to live. But which of us is going to the better fate is unknown to anyone but God."

It is difficult to imagine the effect of these speeches on the audience. Those who did not know him or who were prejudiced against him must have been exasperated beyond everything by his sarcasm, by the seemingly innocent way he had of asking questions, a way which led to the utter undoing of his accusers. His judges must have been very much surprised and angry to think that a man who was in danger of death could be so frivolous as to propose that the state honor him as a penalty for being convicted, or at the most impose a single mina for a fine. His friends and admirers must

have been delighted to see him confuse and put to rout his accusers in the style they were so familiar with, and which they so delighted to see him use.

MARY C. DOREMUS.

Life.

I entered a garden, large and fair,
And beautiful flowers were blooming
there.

A proud red rose swayed on her stalk,
Bending low to the mossy walk,
And tossed her head in the gentle breeze
That murmuring came from the cool pine
trees,

Breathing a tender song in her ear;
So she bent still closer the strain to hear,
When lo, Sir Wind, in his mischievous
way,

Swept on in a gale, and the poor rose lay
Battered and bruised on the cruel earth,
Gone all her joy and pride and mirth.

E. F. S.

Goethe at Strassburg; Herder and His Influence on Goethe.

In considering this subject we are dealing with one of the greatest geniuses the world has ever seen, during one of the most important formative periods of his life, namely, his residence at Strassburg.

Johann Wolfgang Goethe had started on his University career at Leipsic in 1765. After studying there three years, he became very ill, due to irregular living and disappointment in a love affair. As soon as he was able, he returned home to Frankfort. His recovery was very slow. During his illness a friend of his mother's, Frau von Klettenburg, a Moravian, gained great influence over him, and he became deeply interested in religious matters. He also studied alchemy at the suggestion of his doctor.

His father was very much disappointed at his son's failure to complete his University career, and also was impatient at the slowness of his recovery, so we can see that the relations between father and son were not the pleasantest.

Therefore, in the spring of 1770, when he felt able to resume his studies, he left for Strassburg to study law and obtain his doctor's degree. Strassburg was chosen because it was easy to get the degree at this University. He had pleasant rooms in the old Fish Market and dined at a table d'hôte, kept by some maiden ladies, and found there a very pleasant company, to whom may be attributed no small share of the change which took place in his character. The president of the company was Dr. Salzmann, to whom Goethe became deeply attached. Other members of the company who later became Goethe's friends were the theological student, Frank Lerse, to whom Goethe has erected a monument in Gätzoon Berlichingen; the beautiful and gifted, but careless, Dr. Meyer von Lindau; the law student, Engelbach; the brilliant, vivacious Weyland; Jung, called Stilling, whose earnestness and scientific tendencies won Goethe's affection; and Daniel Pegelow, Herder's friend.

Dr. Salzmann is the most important of these men in his relations to Goethe. Through him Goethe came to know many families, and as his days became more sociable and as his youthful spirits were repaired and strengthened by open-air living, so did he withdraw from the companionship of pietistic tendencies and recover from his religious depression.

As a natural result of this friendship Goethe entered the society "der schönen Wissenschaften," founded by Salzmann,

which met every Thursday afternoon. Its chief effort was to foster German, and the study of English, especially Shakespeare. Salzmann aided him in securing a tutor to prepare him for his examination. In the study of law, the practical tendencies of the French were followed. The student was not required to know anything about the historical and philosophical development of law, but simply the law in force. This knowledge was gained by the aid of tutors or repetents. As Goethe remembered much from his boyhood study and from his years at Leipsic he passed his candidate examination at the end of the summer semester and so was relieved from attending lectures.

Though he came primarily to study jurisprudence he spent quite a good deal of time in the study of medicine, taking courses in chemistry and anatomy. In a letter to his friend, Fraülein von Klettenberg, we learn that jurisprudence was beginning to give him much pleasure, but nevertheless "Die Chymie" was his "best beloved."

After passing his examinations, he had abundant leisure and started his Doctor's dissertation. He gave this up to choose a number of theses for disputation, but his father would not permit this, so he wrote a dissertation on the subject "That it is the duty of the state to establish a form of religion to which all citizens shall be obliged to conform." The faculty would not accept this, so in lieu he chose fifty-six theses for disputation and obtained his licentiate's but not his doctor's degree.

Goethe sought to educate himself more by intercourse with men than through books, and so he missed here the aesthetic and literary which he had enjoyed at

Leipsic. Even the educated Strassburgers were not inclined to occupy themselves with bel-esprit. At the University, too, there were more practically inclined men than literary. Instead of seeking recreation in the theater or in literary discussions, the older people spent their evenings in the gardens, and the younger people danced. Goethe learned to be a skilful dancer and could never have enough of it, for it was a new pleasure for him. During his stay in Strassburg he took many trips through the surrounding country.

A newcomer to Strassburg, Jacob Lenz, heard of Goethe through Salzmann, and a close friendship grew up between them, strengthened by Lenz's admiration of Shakespeare. He was one of the "Shakespeare bigots" who "held to severest orthodoxy in Shakespeare as a first article to their creed." They even went so far as to imitate his incomparable clowns in their language. There was great enthusiasm among the young men with whom Goethe was associated in Frankfort, and after reading Shakespeare, Goethe said: "The first page of his that I read made me his for life, and when I had finished a single play I stood like one born blind, on whom a miraculous hand bestows sight in a moment." This enthusiasm naturally incited Goethe to dramatic composition and, besides *Götz* and *Faust*, we find among his notes the beginning of a drama on Julius Caesar.

Although Goethe's University career and the other events dealt with above are important in the consideration of the Strassburg period, yet "Three forms rise up from out of the many influences of Strassburg with distinct and memorable importance: Frederika, Herder, the

Cathedral. An exquisite woman, a noble thinker and a splendid monument were his guides into the regions of Passion, Poetry and Art." We will confine our attention to the influence of Herder and the Cathedral.

Goethe had grown up among those who found fault with Gothic architecture, and so he cherished this aversion. But with his acquaintance with this wonderful building there came a complete change in his ideals of architecture and art. This was a German building by a German master; an indestructible monument of German greatness in the midst of modern French buildings. The longer he looked and considered, he thought he discovered yet greater merits. The more he investigated the more he wondered, and the more he studied the more his affections grew. He cast aside his old erroneous aesthetic doctrines of want of taste in Gothic architecture. He had been taught that it was anything irregular, unnatural and full of contradiction, but now it seemed the highest degree of regularity, naturalness and harmony. Glowing with such an enthusiasm for his fatherland he thought it permissible to consider Gothic as the genuine German style, and renamed Gothic architecture, German. Though the influence of the Cathedral at Strassburg may be said to be lost in other influences, it caused him to write a little treatise on German architecture, "Von deutscher Baukunst, D. M. Erwin á Steinbach."

One of the best things that happened to Goethe in Strassburg, and one of the most lasting influences on his career, was his friendship with Herder. The world has seldom seen a greater contrast in character and life than in those two men. "Herder was decided, clear, pedagogic,

knowing his own aims and fond of communicating his ideas; Goethe was sceptical and inquiring. Herder rude, sarcastic and bitter; Goethe amiable and infinitely tolerant." Herder had fought his way up from poverty to distinction. He was the son of a schoolmaster, and had a hard childhood. He was destined by his father to become a tradesman, but his eye trouble rescued him for a higher calling. He attracted the attention of an army surgeon who took him to Königsberg to study surgery, in return for which he was to translate a medical treatise into Latin. But he fainted away at his first visit to the dissecting room. So he gave up this position and matriculated in the University of Königsberg as a theological student. Kant, the great philosopher, was one of his teachers here. Hamann, the "Magician of the North," had the strongest influence on him. He taught him English and created a lifelong interest in Volkspoesie in him. When twenty he left for Riga to become a preacher and assistant teacher in the Cathedral school there. Here he was well known through his "Fragments zu deutscher Literatur" and "Kritische Wälder." After spending five of his happiest years here his desire to see more of the world led him to resign. He went to France, and while in Paris accepted an invitation to accompany the young Prince of Holstein on his travels. They reached Strassburg, but Herder and the prince's tutor couldn't agree concerning the management of their charge, so Herder resigned and stayed at Strassburg to have an operation for the eye trouble from which he'd suffered since a child. But his time and money were spent in vain and the only gain was his friendship with Goethe.

Their first meeting took place at the Hotel "Zum Geist," where Herder was staying. During his course of treatment he could read little or nothing. Goethe visited him every morning and evening, and often stayed whole days with him, and was generally present at the operations.

A great change was passing over Goethe now, and his account in "Dichtung und Wahrheit aus meinem Leben" leaves us no doubt that to Herder he owed one of the strongest impulses of his life. In Herder, Goethe met for the first a man undoubtedly his superior. Goethe was in danger of spreading out on all sides like a lagoon, rather shallow than broad. His aims were divided, he seemed to like everything indifferently, seemed content to write occasional verses, had dabbled in copper engraving and mystic-religious chemistry. Herder drove him to the broad channel of poetry and life and saved him from "many-sided pettiness." He was taught to see the depth of things and that "literature and life are grave realities, not playthings to amuse for a minute." The intercourse was not all sunshine, but was for his good and afforded an excellent school of self-control. Hitherto Goethe had been somewhat of a spoiled child, and had been received with applause by everyone, and was well content with himself and the rest of the world.

Herder cured the fickle youth with biting wit, scolded him on account of his self-complacency, disgusted him with his innocent follies, mocked at his immature enthusiasm for art and ridiculed his great but little used library. Goethe says: "Very few stars of importance were left in my heaven."

Herder had this repellent side which

often took the form of sarcasm, bantering, or sometimes of downright rudeness. But it was a peculiar trait of Goethe to be able to learn from an antagonistic nature, and although he felt himself daily, hourly repulsed, he was always drawn back again.

Herder had a wonderful ability of conforming to the innermost and noblest life of all nations and ages, and of taking it into his own life. This capability he knew how to inspire in his contemporaries and bequeath to posterity, but he needed a genius, who should bring the union of the German national spirit with the spirit of other people and earlier times, into fruit and appearance in poetic form. This genius was Goethe, though Herder didn't seem to have any presentiment of this, for he wrote to his wife, "Goethe is really a good fellow, only somewhat light and sparrow-like, for which I incessantly reproach him."

We find Herder's first influence negative and destructive; but he could build up as well as destroy.

He led Goethe to see in a new light the favorite book of his childhood, the Bible, and showed him from the Hebrew poetry that poetry was the gift of a people, and not the special inheritance of cultivated individuals. In connection with this study Goethe wrote "Salomon's Königs von Israel und Juda, güldne Worte von der Ceder bis zum Issop" and a translation of Solomon's Song. Herder also brought Volkspoesie into great prominence and showed that the "gold of genuine poesy" is to be found in the popular song of every country.

Goethe became much interested in Volkspoesie, and he was much pleased with Herder's plan for him to search for traces of it in Alsace. He wrote to

Herder that he had twelve songs which he had learned from the old women, and that "all the maidens who wish to find favor in my eyes must learn to sing them." This interest was not limited to his native songs, as his "Ephimeriden" shows. We find there ancient Scotch songs noted for future reading. He also had books of Scandinavian literature, and in a letter he mentions Celtic and Gallic collections which are to follow. "The directness, freshness and simplicity" of these folksongs, "but with a new and subtle delicacy were reproduced in his own lyrics." Herder thought that Goethe's "Heidenröslein" was a translation of an Alsatian poem, so closely did it resemble the poetry of Alsace.

Herder also forced Goethe to see how false and artificial his favorite Ovid was, and revealed to him the "strange old world of Ossian," who, with Homer, he placed very high among national songsters. Goethe was so delighted with the "wild northern singer" that he translated the song of Selma and incorporated it in Werther. Herder was especially fond of English and introduced Goethe to "The Vicar of Wakefield," Stern, Swift, Richardson, Fielding and Shakespeare. Lessing had placed the latter by the side of Sophocles as masters for the Germans to imitate. Then came Herder, who said that both Shakespeare and Sophocles, though they differed in treatment, had reached the same goal, because their poetry was the poetry of their time and people.

Herder caused Shakespeare to become the idol of Goethe and his companions, and Goethe writes in his autobiography that whoever would have an idea of the esteem in which Shakespeare was held by the young men of the "Sturm and

Drang" period should read Herder's treatise on him. Herder was the first to boldly declare that Shakespeare was "the great king of poetry, enthroned forever on her highest seat." The only fault to be found is that Goethe in reading Shakespeare didn't take the stage into consideration, and perhaps that is why Goethe never gave us any great acting dramas.

Herder sought to inspire Goethe with his enthusiasm for Homer. Goethe read it in the original, but Greek was always difficult for him to understand, and Homer didn't fit in with his present state of development, so all the traces we find of his study of Greek are a few quotations.

Herder taught that as every nation has its own language so it has its own poetry, and because the feeling creates the expression, a poet must write in his mother tongue. This made a great impression on Goethe and did away with his writing in French and his plan to go to Paris. Goethe became a German poet. Herder saw nothing in French literature but decline, and as he had been in France, his opinion had great weight with Goethe, and the fact that he turned so completely away from the power of the French is due chiefly to Herder.

Goethe felt that the stereotyped forms of the French language couldn't be the means of expressing the thoughts and sensations of a young race which believed that it was entering a new period of spiritual development. The three dramas whose outlines or foundations were begun in Strassburg show complete deviation from French models, namely, Götz, Faust and Julius Caesar. Faust had a universal character and contained a germ of a human tragedy, while the other two

dealt with two principal sides of cultural and social life, freedom and power.

Herder had studied Rousseau closely, who was an exponent of the cry of the people for a return to "nature," and applied his doctrines to judging literature as well as life. He made Goethe a sharer of this intellectual wealth. Goethe, during his residence in Strassburg, experienced a great intellectual awakening. "The supreme service done to him by Herder was that, in regard to things of the mind, he was delivered from subservience to external authority." He had met Herder just when he needed the stimulus of an original mind more developed than his own. He learned that great achievements are only possible by getting into direct contact with the facts of the world and by trusting to "inherent impulses and laws of his own intellectual and imaginative powers."

Without Herder's influence Goethe might have been "a great painter, or a man of science, or only a lawyer or curator at a museum." He wouldn't have been what he was, we may be sure, and the difference this would have made in European thought cannot be estimated. It has been said that it was Herder who "thus harshly pruned the luxuriant reed and made a *poet* out of a *man*."

ELIZABETH F. SHAVER.

MAY TURN TO DOUGH.

The man who bluffs his way along
 May flourish for a time;
 He may emerge above the throng
 And seem to be sublime;
 But let him not suppose his cake
 Will never turn to dough.
 For soon or late he's sure to make
 A bluff that will not go.— Ex.

EDITORIAL.

To the Students of S. N. C. So many comments have been made since the publication of the March "Echo," upon the size of the issue and the amount of space devoted to the list of guests at the annual banquet, that the editorial staff wishes to make a few statements in regard to the matter.

Perhaps you have seen it stated somewhere that this has been a winter of hard times. The Echo has not escaped, and the size of the issues are proportioned to the funds on hand. Plenty of material is handed in each month, and a new cover design has been contributed, but there is no money to pay for either. This is partly due to the fact that only about fifty per cent of the student body are subscribers for the paper, the other fifty relying upon borrowing their neighbor's copy.

In regard to the other matter we should like to call your attention to the fact that the paper has an Alumni Department, many members of which are loyal supporters, and in the interest of these people the list was published. It might be well for a moment to look upon the matter from another standpoint than your own. Perhaps some day you may be an alumnus or an alumna, and you may be glad to hear of classmates from whom you have become separated. A little thoughtful consideration of this kind may, in the future, help you to escape from many misunderstandings and from judging others unfairly.

Vacation.

"In the flower of spring
Your winter garment of repentance
fling,
The bird of time has but a little way
to flutter
And the bird is on the wing."

Another long-wished-for vacation is in sight. Make up your mind now to make the most of it. Leave your books behind you, forget the hours of burning midnight oil, forget the examinations that will be upon us before we know it, forget the days of reckoning for midnight spreads and periods cut, but remember only that the robins have come back, that the violets will soon come, that we have ten days of freedom, that we are on the homestretch in our year's work, and that we must make the last days of college the best of all.

The Last Quarter. The last quarter of our year's work will soon be begun, and, as we know, will not be a time for play. It is a time when we must keep close watch of ourselves, for as the lovely spring weather comes on we feel a desire to fling aside our books and neglect our work. This is the opportunity for you to show your power of self-control. Get outdoor exercise and plenty of the good fresh air, but don't let the standard of your work fall. "Plan your work and then work your plan" is a good suggestion.

News

Delta Omega.

Miss Minnie Schultze spent Sunday, March fifteenth, at her home in Newburgh.

Miss Mabel Northrup was at her home in Johnstown over Sunday, March fifteenth.

Miss Anna Fraser has been elected vice-president of the Y. W. C. A.

Miss Alice Merrill has been called home by the serious illness of her mother.

Miss Ethel Breitenstein is a member of the basket-ball team at Mt. Holyoke.

The regular meeting of Delta was held Thursday afternoon, March twenty-sixth, at the rooms. The quotations were from Browning. Three former Deltas were present, Miss Leah Hollands, Miss Ethel Breitenstein and Miss Winia Miller.

Miss Vergie Allen and Miss Gertrude Bullard, of Vassar College, have been guests of Miss Markle and Miss Northrup.

Miss Ethel Pitts, who is teaching at Lowville, called at College recently.

Kappa Delta.

Last Thursday the girls at the sorority house welcomed back their former president, Miss Julia Murdock, with whom they spent a pleasant day.

Miss Florence McKinlay is enjoying a visit in New York and vicinity.

Miss Maud Burt was obliged to return to her home in Honeoye Falls, N. Y., because of the illness of her mother.

A spread was given on the evening of the departure of Miss Maud Burt.

Miss Cornelia Lansing, who is teaching in Coxsackie, spent Saturday and Sunday at the Kappa Delta house.

Several of the girls at the house have formed a reading circle, and in connection with this they attended an illustrated lecture on the book they were then reading. When the man at the door looked down on the two minor members he said, "Fifteen cents apiece for the two children." Now they are convinced that there is some advantage in being small.

Miss Junia Morse is pleasantly situated at the Lockport Normal School.

Psi Gamma.

The New York City Alumni Association of Psi Gamma held its annual luncheon at the Manhattan Hotel on March fourteenth, at one o'clock. Those present of '00 were the Misses Florence C. Travis, Sarah M. Wilson, Lillie Mewzer; of '01, Grace C. Graham, Anna M. Smith, Jessie L. Wheeler, Jessie M. Wright; of '02, Ellen I. Santry, Katherine Riseley, Nellie Lewis; of '03, Dorothy Smalling, Grace Skinner; of '05, Jane Kemp, Mary Thayer Johnston, Grace A. Weld, Mrs. Grace Shaller Sheldon, and the Misses Emma Krenwich, '07, Viola Carnrite, '08, and Mabel A. Tallmadge, '10.

The table was beautifully decorated with a huge centerpiece of pink tea roses from which were scattered shower bouquets. The place cards were embossed with the sorority pin.

Miss Dorothy Smalling acted as toastmistress. Those who responded to toasts were: The Origin of Psi Gamma, Sarah M. Wilson; The Active Chapter, Mabel A. Tallmadge; The Relation of

the Alumni to the Active Chapter, Jane Kemp; The Future of Psi Gamma, Jessie L. Wheeler; Our Matrons, Grace Shaller Sheldon.

Some of the sorority songs were then sung, followed by the business of the hour. The reports of the different committees were submitted and acted upon. The president then called on the committee for nominations, and elections followed.

The alumni has many plans on foot, and with its help the active chapter is looking forward to a most prosperous year.

A regular meeting of the society was held March sixteenth at 106 Chestnut street.

Miss Viola Carnrite spent Sunday with Psi Gamma friends in Albany. Miss Amy McGraw also paid us a short visit on Sunday, and Miss Lois Riedel was with us several days last month. We enjoy these visits from the alumnae exceedingly, and are especially happy to know that we shall have Miss Riedel with us next year, as she returns to enter the B. A. course.

Mr. George Pawel, Fannie's brother, spent a few hours in Albany Friday evening on his way home from Cornell for the Easter holiday.

Miss Fannie F. Pawel spent the week end, March twenty-eight to thirty, at her home in Sandy Hill, N. Y., and Miss Jessie Cleveland visited friends in Cobleskill.

Miss Nina L. Nitzschke spent a few days at her home in Utica last week. She was called home on business, but enjoyed the few days' rest as well.

Senior Notes.

At a meeting of the Senior Class held on Tuesday, March twenty-fourth, Miss Fanny M. Payne was chosen class secretary to fill the vacancy occasioned by the absence of Miss Carnrite.

Important matters are being considered at every senior meeting. No senior can afford to miss having a voice in bringing to a successful culmination his class relationships. The following are a few of the matters that will be up for consideration in the near future: Arrangements for Class Day program; selection of those who will represent the class on Class Day; the matter of class invitations, programs, etc.; the annual senior excursion; the choosing of a class song; the baccalaureate sermon—who shall we ask to preach it; the adoption of a class motto; the class memorial, etc. The list of items to be considered might be extended, but enough has been given to show the importance of every senior being in his or her place at each meeting.

Sophomore Notes.

Easter vacation is at hand. The sophomores extend to the faculty and students of S. N. C. their best wishes for a joyful Easter.

A regular meeting of the class was held on Monday, March twenty-third, at 4.45 p. m. This meeting was the second held without the glow of the electric lights. The meeting was a very interesting one, and after the discussions were closed and business transacted, Miss Brooke favored us with a delightful piano solo.

Two special meetings were called during the past month. One was held on

Tuesday, March twenty-fourth, and the other on Tuesday, March thirty-first.

Mr. Alfred Bassett has been teaching as a supply in Hammondsport.

Miss Helena Frank, a former student of S. N. C., visited the college on Friday, March twenty-eighth.

Congratulations, freshmen, on the excellent work you did in the debate held a short time ago.

Miss Viola Coons, a former member of our class, visited college March thirty-first.

Freshman Notes.

A special meeting of the Freshmen Class was held March the twenty-sixth. The increased attendance, almost the entire class being present, shows growing class spirit. Bravo, Freshmen!

The hour for the freshmen meeting has been changed from half-past ten on the first Tuesday of the month to quarter of ten on the same day. Freshmen,—please attend, both to this notice and the meetings.

Y. W. C. A.

MARCH.

On the fourth of March a goodly number of our college girls gathered in the Primary Chapel to hear Miss Anna Fraser on the subject, "The Second Mile." We all learned how to make our work pleasanter and easier by doing just a little more than we are compelled to, and by doing it gladly and willingly.

A most interesting meeting was held on the eleventh, led by Miss Frances P. Schrack. The topic for the day was "Mormonism," and it was well treated by the leader. The subject was subdivided and each part was developed by

different girls, which plan added greatly to the interest.

The third meeting of the month was led by Miss Florence McKinlay. Her topic was "Our Personal Religion," and each one was impressed with the sense of a purely individual religion and the use that we should make of it.

A most enthusiastic meeting was held April first, the topic being "Silver Bay." Miss Florence Brown described the attractions of Lake George, dwelling on this special place. Silver Bay, with its masses of college girls from north, south, east and west, in their work and at play, in the "Mess Hall" and at rest, was vividly pictured to the mind. Everyone was aroused, and everyone wants to go.

"Are you going to Silver Bay?" This interrogation is met on every side, and for what reason? It is all due to Miss Helen M. Greene, the student secretary of the State Committee of the Y. W. C. A., who has been with us for two days this month. Miss Greene not only talked Silver Bay, but also helped us to strengthen our organization by meeting the chairmen of the different committees, and by planning with each, individually, her future work. The cabinet feels an added impetus in its work, greater enthusiasm, and a deeper spirituality.

On Friday evening, the twentieth, Miss Greene gave an illustrated talk on the beauties of Silver Bay in the Primary Chapel. Some Silver Bay songs were sung and a social hour enjoyed while refreshments were served. Our only regret was that more girls did not come to share our enjoyment and enthusiasm. The "spirit of Silver Bay" is certainly spreading in the S. N. C. Are you going to Silver Bay?

Watch out for the Y. W. C. A. posters on the bulletin boards. We are looking forward to a newly awakened interest in this line also.

Kindergarten.

Miss Isdell is entertaining her cousin Mrs. Hill.

Lost, strayed or stolen, from a shell of the "heart-to-heart" closet, a note book containing valuable notes on mother-plays and gifts. Ample reward offered (?) and no questions asked for return of same to Miss Frances Keegen.

"Sister" Jones has been absent for several days owing to the severe illness of Zizi (her fox terrier). After indulging in a number of oyster cock-tails, large bunches made their appearance all over the little fellow's back. At first it was feared that the oysters were coming through, but the attending physician diagnosed the case as one of ptomaine poisoning.

Ask Elise what she gave up during Lent.

Miscellaneous.

SOPHOMORE-FRESHMAN DEBATE.

Debating is one of the most interesting and inspiring of the contests which are carried on between different colleges and between different classes in the same college. A good debater must combine powers of oratory with ability to think quickly and to reason accurately. Every word and gesture must be significant. The delivery must be rapid enough to interest the hearers, without being so rapid as to be undignified. The participants in the recent sophomore-freshmen debate showed quite a degree of proficiency in this difficult art, and a grasp of the broad

subject, "Resolved, that a ship canal would be of more benefit to New York State than a barge canal." The Misses Denbow, Bennett and Tallmadge favored the former; Misses Kenny, Windsor and Watson the latter. Both sides had excellent arguments well presented, but the committee decided the debate in favor of the affirmative speakers, whose arguments seemed to outweigh those of the negative.

Mr. Brown admirably presided over the debate, and while the committee of judges, consisting of Mrs. Mooney, Dr. Hannahs and Dr. Husted, were preparing their decision, Miss Burchard and Mr. Bacon added much to the enjoyment of the evening, the former by vocal and the latter by violin solos. Their accompanists were Miss Foyle and Miss Chant. Mention of the freshman song should not be omitted. It was sung with zest that betokens much class spirit. The whole affair was a success, and it is hoped that it will not be the last of its sort.

A pleasant gathering was held on Washington's birthday at the home of Miss Pierce, who, with Miss Bishop, entertained in honor of Miss Hyde. Beside the ladies of the faculty there were present Mrs. Susan Pierce, Mrs. Charles Pierce, Mrs. White, Mrs. William Templeton, the Misses Templeton, Miss Aspinwall and Miss Burbank.

After an hour devoted to sewing and games, refreshments were served and a "kitchen shower" followed. Every one enjoyed the opening of many mysterious packages contained in a clothes basket of generous size. Some very appropriate and amusing rhymes accompanied the gifts. After singing "America" the guests departed.

The Alumni

William J. Randall, Jr., '07, of Saratoga, was in town on Saturday, March twenty-eighth.

Miss Lossing, '07, of Troy, visited college on Friday, March twenty-seventh.

Miss Amy McGraw, '08, of Amsterdam, called on friends in the city recently.

Miss L. Viola Carnrite, '08, preceptress at Ravena, attended the sophomore-freshmen debate and spent the following day in Albany.

Miss Pauline Cohn, '06, visited the office on Saturday, March twenty-eighth.

Miss Parker, '08, who has just completed her college work, has been appointed preceptress of the High School at Athens.

Miss Lucy Johnson, '08, is mourning the loss of a younger sister who died recently.

Miss Ella D. Monk, '06, has been appointed to a position as teacher in the public schools of Washington. Since graduation Miss Monk has been teaching in Scotia.

INTONATIONS BY THE SHAKESPEARE CLASS.

Mr. N. (addressing His Majesty)—My gracious! Sovereign.

Mr. C. (deeply tragic)—Ha-a-ah-ah.

Mr. B. (in an inquiring frame of mind)—What *do* you, think? No—What *do you* think. No—What *do you think?*

Director—All wrong, Mr. B. It's "*What do you think?*"

Miss A. (greatly excited)—Yes, I'm in a hurry. I'm three ghosts to-day.

Exchanges

We greet with pleasure the Hendrix College Mirror this month. The new cover is very attractive. The articles on King Richard III and Othello will have special interest for the Shakespeare class.

The Holy Cross Purple is one of our best exchanges. The literary department is exceptionally good and the alumnae notes are lengthy. With these qualities and its neat, attractive cover, this paper has certainly attained a high standard of excellence.

The School Bulletin for March contains an article on the Collingwood disaster and its application to New York cities. That this disaster has awakened the schools is evident by the fact that several thousand children marched out of one of the New York city schools recently, calmly and in good order, while the flames were in full view.

The Normal Eyte seems to contain about the same sort of material every issue, and the poor print hardly helps to bring out whatever new features there may be.

"Once there was a German class,
Of maids, who numbered eight,
Who happened to remember
That on a certain date
St. Patrick's day would come around
With 'wearing of the green,'
And then on every maiden's face
A roguish look was seen.
For 'twas on this eventful day
Their theses would be due
And so they tied them, one and all,
With green of brightest hue.
And then they wondered anxiously
What the result would be.
But the Professor saw the joke
And took it pleasantly."

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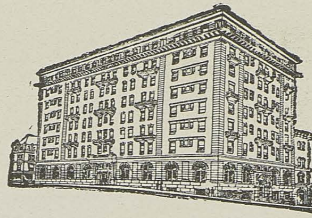
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