

Vague, pallid shapes amid the thickets—till
Above the wet gray wilds emerge the stars,
And through the dusk the farmstead
fades from view.

—C. G. D. Roberts.

HEAT.

From plains that reel to southward, dim,
The road runs by me white and bare ;
Up the steep hill it seems to swim
Beyond, and melt into the glare.
Upward half way, or it may be
Nearer the summit, slowly steels
A hay-car, moving dustily
With idly clacking wheels.

By his cart's side the wagoner
Is slouching slowly at his ease,
Half-hidden in the windless blur
Of white dust puffing to his knees.
This wagon on the height above,
From sky to sky on either hand,
Is the sole thing that seems to move
In all the heat-held land.

Beyond me in the fields the sun
Soaks in the grass and hath his will ;
I count the marguerites one by one ;
Even the buttercups are still.
On the brook yonder not a breath
Disturbs the spider or the midge.
The waterbugs draw close beneath
The cool gloom of the bridge.

Where the far elm-tree shadows flood
Dark patches in the burnished grass,
The cows, each with her peaceful calf,
Lie waiting for the heat to pass.
From somewhere on the slope near by
Into the pale depth of the noon.
A wandering thrush slides leisurely
His thin revolving tune,

In intervals of dreams I hear,
The cricket from the droughty ground,
The grasshoppers spin into mine ear
A small innumerable sound.
I lift mine eyes sometime to gaze ;
The burning sky-lime blinds my sight,
The woods far off are blue with haze,
The hills are drenched in light.

And yet to me not this or that
Is always sharp or always sweet ;
In the sloped shadow of my hat
I lean at rest and drain the heat ;
Nay, more, I think some blessed power
Hath brought me wondering idly here ;
In the full furnace of this hour
My thoughts grow keen and clear.

—Archibald Leitch.

The thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians is the inspired hymn of love. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is the sublime epic of faith.

A FRIENDS' SCHOOL IN TOTO PROPOSED.

The usefulness of Friends' schools where established is admitted, and incidentally does as much probably as any other agent to perpetuate an interest in the Society of Friends.

One pausing for a moment cannot fail to be impressed with the thought of the noble and generous influences these schools are daily capable of laying about the present and future lives of those within its reach. What the ultimate benefits of a carefully guarded training in these schools has and will have upon society at its many points of contact cannot be estimated—that education and the character established in youth shall have a mighty influence upon the future history of the world goes past saying. The receptive mind of youth all religious societies recognize ; and it is not beneath the dignity and the principles, but it is the duty of Friends to take advantage of this, and imbue not only their own but others' children with high ideals of life and with the practical qualities of virtue, even in the pursuit of "an education to fit them for business."

There are ways innumerable of reaching the heart. It has been practically demonstrated within our own Society that it is not alone by preaching, for to our sorrow it must be admitted that the Society has not always flourished in those localities most generously and excellently favored in that respect.

Our Public schools are admirable in many features, and many points there are in their favor as against Denominational schools. There are phases of it which naturally give ruggedness to character, and so on ; but with all its accompanying governmental uniformity of regulation, its examination machinery, its too great tendency to collective instead of individual instruction, the inducement for teachers on account of examination records and standards to advance the bright and neglect the dull