



The Literary Department

Learning for Life



Shakespeare and Music

Interesting Programme for a Literary Evening

(The following suggestions in *The Guild* by Mrs. Crawshaw, need not all be worked out on one night. There is quite enough material for more than one. The idea is excellent.)

Hymns.

Prayer.

Introductory Paper on "Shakespeare and Music." Syllabus:—Shakespeare's Wonderful Knowledge—Songs in the plays—The round or "catch"—Musical instruments mentioned in the plays—Contemporary English musicians.

Piano Solo. "The Carman's Whistle" (W. Byrd).

Reading from King Richard II., Act II., Sc. I. From "O but they say" to "Un-deaf his ear."

Vocal Solo. "Crabbed age and youth"

(Arne). Words from "The Tempest."

Quotation. "I know she taketh most delight in music, instruments, and poetry."

Reading from "The Merchant of Venice," Act V., Sc. I. From "Bring your music forth" to "Would not be awak'd."

Vocal Solo. "O willow, willow" (Othello). Music of Shakespeare's time

Quotation. "I will walk up and down here, and I will sing, that they shall hear I am not afraid."

Reading from "The Taming of the Shrew," Act III., Sc. I. From "Fiddler, forbear" to "Tune your instruments."

Vocal Trio for ladies' voices, "O happy fair" (Shield). Words from "Midsummer Night's Dream."

Quotation. "What music is this? I do but partly know, sir: it is music in parts. Know you the musicians? Wholly, sir. Who play they to? To the hearers,

Purity of Speech

Purity of speech means something more than the omission of vulgar phrases that ought not to be used by any self-respecting person. A young girl should carefully avoid falling into slangy or careless modes of speech. You can shut your eyes and tell whether the woman next to you is a lady (or, should I say, a gentleman?) by listening to her conversation. There has been in recent years a reaction against the word "lady," because it has often been misapplied. There is really no reason why we should not use it in describing an attractive, polite and agreeable woman.

A charming writer has given the definition of lady as woman in a high state of civilization.

I am sure you prefer to be considered highly civilized to being thought savage and barbarians.

When a girl says: "Gee whiz," "It was something fierce," or "You're up against it," you need nothing more to convince you that she is not altogether a lady. She may be a good-hearted, well-meaning girl, but, friends, she proclaims to the universe that she is common.

Nobody wants to be stamped as common. To say to anyone that she is



ATTENTION, PLEASE!

(C. Horn). Words from "As you like it."

Quotation (This and the following to be recited immediately before the singing of the musical items). "Come we'll have you merry: I'll bring you where you shall hear music. Hark! hark!"

Reading from "The Merchant of Venice," Act III., Sc. II. From "Let music sound" to "Ding, dong, bell."

Vocal Solo. "It was a lover and his lass" (Morley). Words from "As you like it."

Quotation. "Give me some music: music moody food of us that trade in love."

Reading from "The Tempest," Act I., Sc. II. From "This music crept" to "Ding, dong, bell."

Duet. "I know a bank" (Horn). Words from "Midsummer Night's Dream."

Quotation. "Music ho! music such as charmeth sleep."

Reading from the Sonnets, Nos. 8 and 128.

Song. "Where the bee sucks" (Dr.

sir. At whose pleasure, friend? At mine, sir, and theirs that love music."

Reading from "Twelfth Night," Act I., Sc. I. From "If music be the food of love" to "High-fantastical."

Informal thanks to performers. "I am beholden to you for your sweet music this last night: I do protest my ears were never better fed with such delightful pleasing harmony."

Hymn. "Glory to Thee," to Tallis's Canon.

Benediction.

N.B.—Additional musical items which could be substituted for any of the above:—Part Song, "It was a lover and his lass" (J. Barnby); Baritone Solo, "Blow, blow, thou winter wind" (Sergeant); Solos, "Bid me discourse" "Lo here the gentle lark," "Should he up-braid," and "Come live with me and be my love" (H. Bishop); "Who is Sylvia?" "Hark, hark the lark" (Schubert); "Orpheus with his lute" (Sir A. Sullivan); "Sigh no more, ladies" (Stevens); "Full fathom five" (Purcell); "Under the greenwood tree" (Dr. Arne); Song and chorus, "Ye spotted snakes" (Mendelssohn).

kind-hearted, good-natured, willing to serve a friend, and that she honestly pays her way, is to say that she is a respectable member of society, but to add to this that she is common and ordinary, is to indicate a fatal defect.

Purity of speech requires the omission of slang and silly superfluous phrases. The latter, while perhaps not profane, are often not refined and show ill-bred persons.

To think before you speak is an excellent rule.

You should make up your mind once for all to use only grammatical words and phrases to represent the thing you mean to say. Never say, "hadn't ought," or "ain't," or use a singular verb with a plural noun.

Most girls have gone through the grammar school, if not further, and have been taught what is right and what is wrong in framing sentences in English.

Vocabulary is another matter.

We acquire a good stock of words for daily use, a working vocabulary; that is, partly by our pains and care, and

"Books are the windows through which the soul looks out."