

and in the Inn's atmosphere of almost unparalleled spiritual hospitality to have her ask me to put my name in this her copy of Chant's Communal, which I do gladly. Addressing my personal recognition of her fine good will demonstrated to Anne and me on this visit in numberless acts of kindness—Horace Traubel.

In *Optimos* he wrote:—Ben Echo, Aug. 16th, 1914. The etymological dogmatists and pedagogues objected to the title of this book as having no traceable parentage. But Leon Bazalgett wrote to me from France concerning it. "It's a beautiful word where did you get it." I wanted a word to express my idea of the cheerful Cosmos. Not finding such a word in the circles of rhetorical authority, I invented it.

Dr. Daniel Bronton, of the University of Pennsylvania, himself the master of many tongues, usual and unusual, said. "It's true I cannot trace its ancestry. Your justification in the adventure will be finally in the fact that you make good." Now nearly ten years later, in the face of all subsequent question and criticism, I think I can say without uncertainty, that I've made good. Horace Traubel.

2nd Vol.:—With Walt Whitman in Camden. Ben Echo, Aug. 15th, 19—. Here physically disabled, with Anne, as the guests of Flora MacDonald, who is dedicating this place to the name and spirit of Walt Whitman, and doing it with the vital inclusiveness of body and soul to which Walt concentrated all his life, as I who worked so many years at his side, so well know. Horace Traubel.

3rd Vol.:—With Walt Whitman in Camden—Bon Echo Aug. 15th 19—. When I look back at these volumes and comprehend them in retrospect, I become doubly aware of Walt, of our common ideals, of the immense work involved in my scheme, and in my always increased pride in being admitted to a share in so great a task with so great a man.—Horace Traubel.

(How proud then should I feel in being admitted to a share in so great a task with two such great men.)

—Flora MacDonald

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**O Woman how I love you but my God how  
I have to wait for you.—Anne Montgomerie.**

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**My heart goes freely everywhere and brings  
me back beautiful reports of men.—Horace  
Traubel.**

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**Egoism does not necessarily imply the  
invidious stigma of selfishness.—John Cowper  
Powys.**