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ROBERT R. J. EMMERSON Sackville, N. S., Aug., 1889.

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Harp of the soul, thy tragic strings
I sweep with fingers tipped with fire;
Thrilling thy chords a music rings
Sweet as the voice of Æolian lyre—
Timbre of Orphean witchery,
Soul of seraphic sympkony!

Time, it is but the pulse of life,
Life, it is but the soul of song
Pair is the sad, discordant strife
Of jarring notes, of right and wrong:
Pleasure, a rythmic rhapsody,
Love, an harmonious ecstacy.

Peace to thy passions, O my souli
Listen to Nature's pulses beat:
Ripples of mystic music roll
Through ev'ry atom 'neath thy feet—
The voiceless music of the stars
Untimed by measured beats and bars.

Each star a note of purest tone Breathes on the other sea of space: Throughout immensity, alone It wanders on, nor leaves a trace— But deathless as eternity Its sad and soulless threnody.

How sweet the murm ring of the rills
Up springing in the human soul—
They sing of far-off hidden hills
Whence parting streams of music roll—
Ah, could the heart forget its sadness,
Then were all its music gladness;

The heart of man is but a lyre
And passion plays upon the strings;
Once touched and it can never tire—
The heart that feels forever sings.
What varied voices have these rills,
Yet 'tis a single breath that thrills:
Rue

Runter S. Sherman in Week.

Brantford, Out.

FOR THE CRITIC. LETTER TO COUSIN CARYL.

as Bryant calls the time of -The melancholy days-Dear Cousin Caryl,falling leaves—are abroad in the land. A week of almost uninterrupted rain and mud turns a city into a dreary spectacle so far as street scenes go, but indoors we are unusually gay, both as to private and public life. The season " is upon us with its host of attractions from ladies' luncheons—where not a man is to be seen unless be is in a maiter's cost. where not a man is to be seen unless he is in a waiter's coat,—to political caucusees, where not a woman is to be seen, to say nothing of the dinners, dances, etc., etc., where men and women meet on the same footing of delightful social intercourse. Not that women are not developing a genuine interest in the government of their land. They are. Some, it must be conceded, are even pretty well up in the caucus methods, but they have not yet invaded the ward room where the petty electioneering is done. At the big public meetings, where the free traders and high tariff men assail each other and their beliefs in grandiloquent speeches, with brass band music at the start and finish, there women gather in goodly numbers, women of every social grade to correspond with their husbands, brothers, fathers and sweet-hearts. When it comes down to action we women are limited so far as voting goes, you know, to the school committee, but even this is a favor worth cherishing. What a citizen I felt, to be sure, when I cast my first

The stage is in high favor this season, what with real artists the rule in most of the theatres, and make-shifts of performers the exception. By the way, high class public entertainments have led to a delightful form of semi-private entertaining. Theatre parties, concert parties, etc., etc., are quite en regle, and are, while given by Mrs. Great-House and Mrs. Millions, especially useful forms of entertaining and repaying social debts for those whose abode or income does not permit extravagant outlay. Carriages (where one's guests are not known to have their own,) tickets and a spread of some sort after the opera is over comprise the items of expense. It is a pretty fashion to send flowers to one's guests in advance from the florist's or from one's own conservatories. The spread may be simply pretzels and something to drink with proteels, supposing one's guests to be fellowbohemians, or any where along the range of viands up to the elaborate supper given in one's own dining room or at some noted dining place, supper given in one's own dining room or at some noted dining place, according to one's resources. In any event, one cannot go astray if she plans the matinée or evening to agree throughout in the details. That is, lot there be a fine harmony in the arrangements, whether they be very informal or most formal. For the rest it is only to depend upon one's tact as a hostess to put the people side by side who will have the best time together, providing against the entractes and the supper, and so on, that the listener shall find himself vis a vir with a good talker, and more of the same sort of skillful mancentring. same sort of skillful manceuvring.

It is by no means limited to cities this sort of party giving. In the

remotest district there is sure to be a pantomine or ministrel show or something in the little red schoolhouse that is entertaining. If all one's friends are certain to be there on their own account then is it worth while to go a bit outside one's own circle, to invite a couple or a dozen, as one can, of people whether young or old who would like to go, but cannot perhaps afford it. They will be such a jolly party of delighted souls, and will go home after the lunch of cider and doughnuts, or whatever the hoat's larder or ingenuity devises, to dream the dull winter through of this one casis of jollity and good fellowship. Just try this plan with some of the lonely families who live "over the mountains" that you tell me about sometimes.

Growing old? But you must not even suggest such a thing to yourself,