

No true man craves anyone's pity, while self-pity will ruin the best opportunities anyone ever enjoyed.

Raoul's letter serves the valuable purpose of reminding the country youth, who sees only the surface of city life, to stop and think before he closes forever the door upon a life in a good country home that vies in opportunity, in very many essential respects, with the best any city has to offer. The young man who is willing to take off his coat and work, who scorns to use what he does not earn, who steadily sets himself to work towards a worthy ideal, and who gives himself no rest till he is more closely approximating his purpose, will have no time to feel, nor cause to complain of monotony, either in town or country. Rome was not built in a day. Success is won at the cost of repeated efforts alone. Happiness is the reward of a life heartily and rationally lived. O. C. York Co., Ont.

A Letter from Perth.

Editor "Roundabout Club":

Having read with great interest the articles on subjects discussed in these columns lately, I desire to join the Club and give a few opinions.

With Crazy Kid (who, I think, disguises himself terribly by his pen name, as his writing was perfectly sane), I agree with Nero and Jane, and I certainly do side in with Crazy Kid as to there being a lack of Christianity in the youth of to-day. The majority of the young people of the present time are frivolous, light-hearted, high-minded, flirty and careless, which makes it a hard task to get them to think seriously of the future and accept Christ, to carry on a heartfelt courtship, or to maintain a true friendship; and as a result there are more bachelors and "old maids" now than there were in former years, and my opinion is that the population may soon decrease, instead of increase.

I believe that in a great many cases, singleness is caused by having begun courtship too young. I know a young girl 16 years of age, keeping company with a man who drinks, swears, and uses tobacco in every form. Now, by the time this girl becomes old enough to marry, if she has her wisdom teeth, she will, like too many others, have seen too many disagreeable points about men, and prefer a single, independent life, whereas, if she had waited a little longer, and chosen better company to start with, results might have been different.

Now, in your January 7th issue, you ask for discussion on, Should people of different tastes and temperaments marry? or is more happiness to be found in marrying someone "like one's self"? I think that this calls for the experience of the married, and not for the writings of the single. But just allow me to express my opinion on the subject.

I believe that where people of the same taste and temperament are married, a more immediately harmonious life follows, but take it for granted that they are both high-tempered, conceited, or have any of the so-called faults, these are not so apt to be corrected, whereas, if the two partners are of different taste and temperament, the good disposition in one is sure to influence the other. Therefore, the standard of character is probably raised higher in the long run, where the two partners are of different taste and temperament, providing they agree and love each other dearly. GEORGE.

Perth Co., Ont.

"Calling-off" for Dances.

We would advise H. G. B., P. Q., who wrote for directions in regard to "calling-off" dances, to get a book on the subject. Any bookseller will probably be able to get such a book for him.

The Literary Department.

MOTTOES FOR LITERARY SOCIETIES.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Would you kindly print in the Literary Column of "The Farmer's Advocate" at the earliest date possible, suggestions for a motto for our Literary Society, to be put up in the front of the schoolhouse when our society meets? Our colors are blue and gold. A. E. P.

Suggesting that you prefer to follow the popular fashion of adopting a motto in

Latin, or some foreign language, we submit the following:

Cogito, ergo sum.—I think, therefore I exist.

Docendo discimus.—We learn by teaching.

Dum vivimus, vivamus.—While we live, let us live.

Per aspera ad astra.—Through rough ways to the stars.

Conjunctis viribus.—With united powers.

Ars longa, vita brevis.—Art is long, life is short.

Nulla dies sine linea.—No day without something done.

Otium sine litteris est mors.—Leisure without literature is death.

Quantum est sapere.—How desirable is wisdom or knowledge.

Esto quod esse videris.—Be what you seem to be.

Aut inveniam viam aut faciam.—I shall either find a way or make one.

Audiat et altera pars.—Let the other side also be heard.

Qui non proficit, deficit.—He who does not advance goes backward.

Tempus fugit.—Time flies.

Tibi seris, tibi metis.—You sow for yourself, you reap for yourself.

Das Beste ist gut genug.—(Ger.)—The best is good enough.

Aide toi, et le ciel t'aidera.—(Fr.)—Help yourself, and Heaven will help you.

The Study of Literature and Art in Rural Homes.

Editor of Literary Society:

I am very much interested in the subject suggested for discussion in the Literary Department, viz.: Whether it is advisable for people of rural districts to be interested in literature and art. It is particularly the literature part of the question which interests me, and I think everyone should study literature.

I know of no other study which quickens the imagination, makes life seem more worth living, strengthens the intellect, and awakens the sympathies as this study does.

Take, for instance, the study of poetry, and see how it develops the powers of observation. Many of us are blind to the beauty around us. Of many of us, as of the poet before his awakening, may this be said: "A primrose by the river's brim, a yellow primrose was to him and it was nothing more." Day after day, we gaze on the beauties of field and sea and sky. We behold the sun rise and set in all its glory, but to us that glory is veiled; it is as though our eyes were hidden and we cannot see. Then, one day, perhaps, we chance to read, "The Splendor Falls on Castle Walls"; we look toward the setting sun to see what that splendor is, and for the first time upon our startled vision the splendor falls. A new world is opened to us. We see things beautiful and grand everywhere, and we begin to be glad, with a gladness before unknown, that we are living in such a lovely world.

Another reason why we should study literature is because that study creates a desire for other study. We cannot study Macaulay's "Lays of Ancient Rome," or Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," without wanting to know something of the history of Rome; Scott's poems turns us to the history and geography of Scotland; Churchill's, "The Crisis," to the history of the slave trade and the civil war, while the "Glimpse Behind the Curtain" interests us in the politics of England in the days of Cromwell. There is no good literary work, which we can study in such a way as to understand and enjoy it, which does not teach us a great many other things.

Sometimes we get tired of our narrow surroundings and our humdrum lives, but if we once become absorbed in study, it is surprising how quickly our horizon widens. There is nothing stupid or dull in associating with the great men of the world, and we may all have this companionship, if we will but make ourselves more worthy. As Ruskin says, "Do you ask to be the companion of nobles? make yourself noble and you shall be." ONE IN EARNEST.

Lady amateur artist (to eminent Royal Academician, whom she has discovered sketching—I say, I shouldn't paint that subject if I were you. I did one of it last year, and had it chucked at the "R. A."—Punch.

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