



Education.

AT the last meeting of the Aeschylean Society the members were favored with a very interesting address by Dr. Dyde, on the famous French painter, "Jean Francais Millet." In his opening remarks Prof. Dyde said that he was greatly interested in the teaching profession as it was one of the greatest factors in the social life and advancement of the age. He said that one of the aims of education was to transform the child from a self-entered individual to a world-centered individual and here the teacher joins hands with the preacher and the press,

One of the greatest agencies for lifting the child from the narrow, selfish, self into the broader ideals and visions of life is the work of some of the great painters. Copies of such paintings as, "The Angelus," "The Gleaners," and "The Sower" could be obtained at a very small cost and should be found on the walls of every school-room. The silent influence of such masterpieces could not but leave a lasting impression on the minds of children.

There are two reasons why teachers should be interested in Millet, first, that they might observe the artistic or literary quality, or the glory of what we call the common life. It is not untrue of Millet to say that in his mind "there's such divinity doth hedge the peasant." He oft enobles what, to us, seems common and thus has made it easier for us to find the commonplace beautiful, even helps us to detect the concealed values below the casual surface.

The second reason is that the works of Millet furnish a direct lesson to the school children, and especially those in rural sections, of the unexpected significance of the life and objects continually surrounding them. With the child the unknown, as the elephant, or cannibal, is apt to be an object of wonder but the genius of Millet reveals the wonder surrounding the familiar. The scales are removed from our eyes and we see the invisible. Looking at the man with the hoe, or the gleaners of grain, or the woman tending her sheep, we are filled with an impression akin to the impression made upon us by the gods and heroes of Greek mythology. Thus they tend to give depth and nobility to the common life of us all.

Millet's life presents to us many interesting phases. There was nothing extraordinary about his early life. He was a peasant's son and was expected to follow his father's work but at noon-tide while others were resting he was busy with his pencil. His father recognized his talent and he was sent to school, but dying soon after left the boy without support. He was, however, sent by the town council of Cherbourg to Paris at their expense, through the influence of his master who, urging this course, said, "allow me, gentlemen, boldly, to lift the veil of the future, and to guarantee you a place in the memory of mankind for having been the first to endow our country with another