

dairy purposes will receive more attention. At present cattle are turned out into the woods in the fore part of the month of May (in many cases earlier) and left there to forage for themselves until the following autumn, when the weather becomes cold again. Thus it costs the farmer nothing for feed during nearly half the year. But while the native stock fatten with this treatment, most pure-breds would scarcely subsist.

Muskoka is not, and never will be, a great grain growing district, but in many respects it is well adapted to dairying and sheep raising. The country is undulating and hilly. There is an abundance of fine aromatic herbage, and the hay, if cut and saved at the proper time, is delicate in fibre and very fragrant. The most important dairy foods can be successfully grown, and there is always a plentiful supply of good pure water. As regards sheep raising, we have many reasons for believing that some of the lighter breeds, as the Southdown and Shropshire, would thrive excellently if properly managed; and I am of the opinion that Muskoka will at some time be an important dairying and sheep raising district.

A. T. WIANCKO.



SWITZERLAND.



SWITZERLAND, although a small country, attracts a large amount of attention both from tourists and adjacent nations. Its surface is composed of mountains, valleys and lakes. A tourist, being asked how he liked Switzerland, replied: "If all the mountains were thrown into the lakes, one would have a chance to see something." Lying as it does between France, Italy, Austria and Germany, Switzerland is of great importance as a neutral power in the event of war, as artillery and cavalry are almost totally unable to operate within its borders, and should one of these countries obtain possession of it there would be little fear of invasion from that side. It is owing to this fact that Switzerland has been able to maintain her independence for the last two centuries.

The form of government is republican, consisting of a president and two houses; besides this each canton or province possesses its own local government, the same as in Canada.

The population is very mixed, consisting of German, French and Italian-speaking people. This necessitates printing most official notices in two at least of these languages. This mixture of languages is very embarrassing to travelers. More especially is this so in the case of the average Briton, who knows no language but his own.

Some of the Swiss scenery is magnificent. High snow-capped mountains and rich fertile valleys, roaring mountain torrents tumbling over precipices to empty themselves into some larger streams or into the deep blue waters of a lake, form the subject for many a poet's pen or artist's pencil.

In their habits the Swiss are industrious, but they also love a holiday, and when they get one, like their French neighbors, enjoy it to the uttermost.

Owing to the character of the country the industries are varied—silks, wines, cheese-making and dairy products, watchmaking, etc., being all carried on according to the locality. Dairying forms an important branch of farming. In summer the cows are sent up to the mountains and are sent down as soon as the cold weather begins. Butter and cheese are made in large quantities and are of excellent quality. The Gruyere is a famous cheese and only needs to be smelt to be remembered. Condensed milk is manufactured at Vevey, a small town on Lake Geneva. Grape growing is extensively practised, wine being the national beverage. This wine is very light and excessively sour. The vineyards require very careful attention, and the fact of their being located on hillsides necessitates the use of manual labor exclusively. The best grapes only are used for the manufacture of wine and when these have been

gathered it only requires a slight "tip" to have access to the vineyard, where excellent grapes may still be found. Fruit and trees are protected by the government, who keep up a system of police for this purpose alone, and offenders are very heavily fined. The fact that the complainant receives one half of the fine is a great inducement for the strict enforcement of the law.

Mixed farming is also carried on in the localities suitable for its pursuit. Grain and hay yield good crops, the latter two in a year; flax is also largely grown.

The educational system in Switzerland is well attended to, the schools being under government control, and attendance compulsory.

The religion is Protestant and Roman Catholic. The former predominates and is found mostly in the valleys, the latter in the mountains, where the people are very superstitious, besides being very musical.

Thousands of tourists visit Switzerland every year, some for pleasure, others for health. The former amuse themselves by scaling mountains or in walking and bicycling tours, the two latter being particularly pleasant on account of the excellent roads which abound in the country.

Mules and oxen are the chief beasts of burden, but horses are used for the lighter work.

Owing to the agricultural tendency of the inhabitants most of the labor in the cities is done by Italians, who come into the country in the spring and leave when winter sets in.

Switzerland possesses some fine cities, of which Geneva is the most historic and Berne, the capital, is noted for possessing in one of its churches the finest organ in the world. On Lake Neuchatel the first boat built of aluminium was tried, and on the shore of Lake Geneva stands the castle, in the dungeons of which the subject of Byron's touching poem, "The Prisoner of Chillon," was supposed to have been confined.

C. A. H.



ON A CERTAIN PROVERB.

There is a saying which, though meant for good,
Is so expressed to give impression wrong
That "all things come to him who waiteth long"—
A proverb making most delicious food
For the dull palate of the laggard brood,
Or for the ill-rewarded 'tis a song
Which dims despair, tho' only to prolong—
But for ambition 'tis a stumbling wood.

Wait not beside life's deep, storm-tortured river
For waves to fall and tempests to subside,
Or magic bark to bear thee smoothly o'er;
Plunge in the torrent's rage nor fearful shiver
Buffet the billows, on the surges ride,
Turn not nor pause and thou hast gained the shore.
—*Acadia Athenaeum*. E. BLACKRADER, '94.

The first college journal appeared in the year 1800. It was published by the students of Dartmouth College and was called the *Gazette*. It is chiefly memorable as containing in 1802-3, numerous articles by Daniel Webster, who at that time was a graduate of one year's standing. They were signed "Icarus," a pseudonym not acknowledged at that time, but which a few years later Mr. Webster confessed belonged to himself. A few years after, the students of Yale College followed the example of Dartmouth College by publishing an eight-page fortnightly called *The Literary Cabinet*. The publisher announced that it was his "unalterable resolve to appropriate the pecuniary profits to the education of poor students in the seminary;" but, unfortunately for the poor students, *The Cabinet* died in less than a year after its birth. Other papers followed, but their lives were also short, as they seldom lived more than a year. But in 1836 was established *The Yale Literary Magazine*, which is the oldest college journal in existence, and is also one of the best college magazines published.