

claims could but work disaster to the commonwealth. As a western bishop in declaring against these claims, pithily remarked: The women have ruined our Constitutions, making us a nation of dyspeptics, they need not ruin our government likewise. Let them attend fully and well to those domestic duties for which nature intended and qualified them, and their domestic influence will make itself sufficiently felt also in politics. Woman's influence for good and evil is enormous, because she is the principal educator of future legislators, and they will be, what their mother make of them. The influence of these emancipated blue stockings is decidedly for evil, and the sooner they are checked, the better."

"Considering the stand you take in this question, Mick, I suppose you are not very much in favor of dress reform either, and I would not be surprised to learn, that you expect the women to get their fashions from men."

"You are mistaken there. I am in favor of dress reform, because a reform is badly needed. Only, I mean, a reform somewhat different than the one you have in your eye."

"What reform can you possibly mean outside of the apparel which advanced women are striving to introduce now?"

"Well, according to my old-fashioned notions, dress, amongst other purposes, is worn to hide the figure, and the modern dresses are worn for the purpose of bringing out the figure fully. Thus they are in themselves immodest, and calculated to excite the passions of man. As to full dress, it is positively indecent, and no plea of habit or social position can avail in favor of it. Besides, there is a certain natural taste in arranging embroidery and coloring a dress. But the fashions of these latter years are senseless, ugly beyond description, ridiculous to the utmost."

"Hence you are an enemy of bloomers, of course?"

"I do not care whether women wear bloomers or not. I do not look upon them as more indecent than the present mode of dressing. In general, I do not care what women wear, as long as modesty and natural taste are not outraged by it. I would even look upon bloomers as a positive improvement, if women adopting them

would at the same time discard corsets and assume blouses instead of tight-fitting dresses. In my opinion, the women of Southeastern Europe show more natural taste and sense of fitness in their dress than your 'civilized woman,' who for anything appears like a fantastically dressed Christmas doll."

"Why, you are a perfect Titan, Mick. You had better look out for yourself."

"No danger. If woman wishes to enjoy the real esteem of earnest and sincere men, if she wishes to wield a controlling and far-reaching influence in the circle, within which nature has placed her, if she wishes to earn the gratitude of mankind for the beneficent influence she exercises, let her be a woman, a whole-souled woman, but a woman only, contented with her station, discharging her duty faithfully, and not making herself a source of trouble and financial ruin to her father or husband by her extravagant and idolatrous worship of her body. She then will be not a sham queen, but a real queen within her realm, and the influence she now seeks on crooked roads, will fall to her naturally in a legitimate manner."

SEVENTY STROKES.

A Thought for November.

For the Carmelite Review.

BY F. A. B.

"The nun in the cloister heard it,
And the monk in his quiet cell;
They prayed with a holy fervor
At the sound of St. Mungo's bell."
—*Iona T. Sadlier.*



BEAUTIFUL evening in the fall of 188— found us enjoying a brisk walk on one of the highest and most picturesque points on the main ridge of the beautiful Alleghanies. Our homeward route lay mostly along the old

pike road, now well-nigh deserted, but which away back to colonial days had been one of the busiest of the great national thoroughfares.

Our conversation was confined to monosyllables. We both had kindred thoughts which gave us plenty of food for meditation. Were we not treading the same ground, which, long before the Liberty bell sent forth its joyous peal, had resounded to the martial tread of veteran troops, and were we not passing through hills which had re-echoed with the voices of Washington and his escort! Alas! as some one has said, "All things human admit of change and vicissitude." Those gallant brigades are no more. They have made their last