

TREES OF THE FRAGRANT FOREST.

Trees of the fragrant forest,
With leaves of green unfurled,
Through summer's heat, through winter's cold,
What do you for our world?

Our green leaves catch the raindrops
That fall with soothing sound,
Then drop them slowly, slowly down —
'Tis better for the ground.

When, rushing down the hillside,
A mighty freshet foams,
Our giant trunks and spreading roots
Defend your happy homes.

From burning heat in summer
We offer cool retreat,
Protect the land in winter's storm
From cold, and wind, and sleet.

Our falling leaves in autumn,
By breezes turned and tossed,
Will make a carpet deep and warm
To save the ground from frost.

We give you shade in summer,
Our fuel gives you heat;
We furnish timber for your homes,
And nuts and fruit to eat.

With strong and graceful outline,
With branches green or bare,
We fill the land through all the year
With beauty everywhere.

So, listen, from the forest
Each tree a message sends
To children on this Arbor Day,
"We trees are faithful friends."

— PRIMARY EDUCATION.

AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KAISER BEFORE THE WAR.

Invited by the Grand Master of Ceremonies, the Emperor's ever-faithful servitor, Count Eulenburg, to descend alone an outer flight of steps into the garden, I was surprised to see, standing like a statue, perhaps twenty yards away, a solitary figure, clad in white, covered with a silver helmet bearing on its crest a high-poised eagle, adding considerably to the apparent height of a medium-sized man. Seen in the coulisses of an opera-house, this apparition might have been taken for Lohengrin waiting for his cue. It was the Kaiser in the brilliant uniform of an officer of the Garde du Corps.

From the embankments of the Spree outside of the garden the Sunday promenaders, of whom

there were many, could behold, at a discreet distance, his Majesty in all the glory of his war-like panoply, and the black-coated ambassador approaching; a picture of imperial magnificence, on the one hand, and republican simplicity, on the other, in which for impressiveness the odds were far from even. Presently the statuesque figure moved, the shining metal flashing radiantly in the soft June sunshine that glinted through the branches of the trees, a strong right hand was extended, the mask of monumental sternness fell, and a pleasant smile lighted up the well-browned features and the unfathomable gray eyes.

Unimportant what was said. It was all of the friendship that should exist between two great peoples, of their community in blood, religion, science, interest, good-will, and a common civilization; spoken on the Kaiser's part in very English, English, fluently, accurately, expansively, with a roll in the "r" when President Roosevelt's name was mentioned that had in it a strong suggestion of the North Sea.

It would seem like a real personal contact, frank, sincere, earnest, and honest. One could not question that, and it was the beginning of other contacts more intimate and prolonged; especially at Kiel, where the sportsman put aside all forms of court etiquette, lying flat on the deck of the "Meteor" as she scudded under heavy sail with one rail under water; at Eckernforde, where the old tars came into the ancient inn in the evening to meet their Kaiser and drink to his Majesty's health a glass of beer.

"Did you ever see anything more democratic in America?" the Kaiser asked, gleefully, one time. "What would Roosevelt think of this?" he inquired, at another.—David Jayne Hill in Harper's Magazine.

WHAT ARE GERMANY'S WORST CRIMES?

Can any one say what the worst wickedness of the Germans has been? If you choose one there are always other crimes which contest your choice. We used at first to fix the guilt of them upon the Kaiser, but event by event we have come to realize that no man or order of men can pervert a whole people without their complicity. There was a moment when we thought that this or that sort of German was capable of the things which they have all shown themselves capable of, or so nearly all that the exceptions have not appeared. There have been rumors of dissent from the faith which is always seeking and finding precipitation in