

## The Roundabout Club

"Gale" Called to Account for Himself.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of January 7th, there appeared an article from the pen of "Gale," who undertook to show us that "self-made" men "such as he" were far superior to what he terms "women-made" men, and incidentally to make what I would call a very ungentlemanly and uncalled-for attack upon Elaine, whose communication to the Roundabout Club appeared in the issue of October 1st.

Personally, I thought that Elaine's letter was as sensible a one as appeared in the discussion that was then going on, and I also thought that any young man enjoying her friendship was honored, and could not help but be a better man on account of that friendship. I wonder "Gale" did not send his communication in sooner, but then probably he was waiting till Leap Year was past, so that he would not be flooded with epistles, proposals, congratulations, etc., from any of those young ladies with kind, compassionate hearts, or gentle, purring voices (such as he characterized Elaine), who would, of course, lose their own individuality, and rush to him with open arms as soon as he announced himself to the world, a self-made man.

My opinion is that young men are, to a large extent, what young women make them. Of course, "Gale" wouldn't want to be the kind of young man that would suit "Elaine." We have an idea of what her character is from her letter. Even if he is self-made, I suppose some other class of ladies probably suit him.

I have often noticed that the women who can generally exert a telling influence over some man who is always boasting of his wondrous backbone, cast-iron vertebrae, I think "Gale" called it, is often a grass-widow who has been deserted by her husband after a couple of years of married life, and left with three or four cute little girls.

"Gale" says, "we, who are true men, have yet a spark of the ancient fire of chivalry in our veins," and part of his conception of the ideal young man is: "He is gentle and kind, and respects the opinion of others as he does his own. He is courteous to everyone, and abhors anything of a hypocritical nature." Wonder if he really wrote the first part of his letter?

We have had very interesting letters written to our Club since it started, and I have enjoyed them very much, but I hope if a "Gale" ever strikes us again, no ladies will be exposed.

PENSON'S NEIGHBOR.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

### The Literary Department

It is indeed gratifying to us to be in a position to announce to-day that our first study of Rabbi Ben Ezra has been eminently successful. Never since the initiation of the Literary Society three years ago has a better set of papers been received. We should be glad if it were possible to publish numbers of the answers given, but, since this is forbidden by space considerations, we must, perforce, be contented with reproducing a few among the best.

Do not be discouraged if you do not see traces of your work in the selections published. Numbers of answers which do not appear, were awarded quite as many marks; there may be a score of ways, you know, of expressing the same thought.

In closing this introduction, may we say that we sincerely hope that interest in "Rabbi Ben Ezra" is not confined to the competitors. We trust that thousands of our readers who have not competed are, nevertheless, following the study closely, and that thereby they, also, may come to a better understanding and fuller appreciation of this fine poem.

#### Study No. 1.

"Now kindly refer to our issue of January 21, while reading the following:

A number of our students, in answer to this question, did not consider "Rabbi Ben Ezra" which, we thought, indicated enough that the whole of each class was included. A great many



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