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The Ursinus Weekly, December 19, 1902

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The Ursinus Weekly

VOL. 1. NO. 13.

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1902.

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LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

POETRY AND PHILOSOPHY.

From the first, poetry and philosophy have been very closely related. The earliest poets were philosophers, and the philosophers, poets. In mental disposition they are fundamentally at one. Homer and Hesiod were philosophers, and Plato was a poet. Shakespeare was one of our wisest men. Browning wrote philosophy and Emerson wrote poetry. Instead of being opposite types of mind, they both are together different from the scientific mind. The former are both speculative and seek the truth of human life; while the latter is positive and seeks the truth of the world.

Again, both poetry and philosophy have their origin in the same need of humanity—the need of finding a world where our ideals of reason and goodness and beauty are realized, where we surmount the disappointments of life. In this endeavor, poetry constructs an ideal, imaginary world, far above the present, in which its best ideals are realized. This is seen especially in the drama. There we find a truer world than the real, everyday world, for it is not the world that is, but a world that ought to be. Philosophy, in fulfillment of a similar purpose, endeavors to go beyond and deeper than the world of phenomena, to the permanent and abiding principles of things, believing that this will fully satisfy all the demands of spirit. In this pursuit, poetry, then, constructs a *Lebensanschauung*, while philosophy, as is seen in Spinoza and others, though aiming primarily at the same thing, yet builds for itself a *Weltanschauung*, in which a philosophy of life is part of the total result. Thus, poetry builds an imaginary world above the phenomenal, while philosophy tries to discover a real world deeper than the phenomenal. Poetry, then, constructs an ideal world which appeals to the imagination, while philosophy constructs one which appeals to reason, which is but the world's deepest truth.

For this very reason, poetry is at once less sure in its results, and more powerful in its influence than philosophy. It is less sure because its methods are less critical and less rational, soaring on wings of imagination out of the region of the actual; while philosophy does not get away from hard fact, critically discovered. But poetry is more influential with men generally, because its method is easier, and because it does appeal to the imagination. In some ages, philosophy has been discarded for poetry, but the more exact we become the more do we demand that our ideal world shall have a close connection with the actual. The recourse is then to philosophy, which alone can give a reason for the hope that is in it. The intuitive methods of poetry need to be supplemented by the rational methods of philosophy.

The easier method of poetry has, however, made it possible that poetry should oftener attain, and hold more persistently to an adequate view of life, while philosophy has often been entangled in the meshes of its own reasonings. Poetry, then, has ever sung of the spirit that is in man, while philosophy has sometimes been groveling in the mud of materialism.

Philosophy, trying to compass the whole of existence in "one thought big and bouncing," has often missed the goal, while poetry, satisfied with humbler attainments, has reached the goal it sought. And for this reason, again, poetry has always, like Christian art, by its very incompleteness left the impression of infinity; while philosophy, like Greek art, has aimed at such perfection as to suggest that the world is but finite after all. On the other hand, a philosophy that is truly great, even more perfectly than poetry speaks of infinity, as when Kant saw in the Moral Law the same infinity as in the starry heavens.

Both, then, are revealers, declaring the hidden depths and meanings of life, and speaking of the vastness of man's spiritual inheritance. Browning portrays poetry, Plato philosophy in this guise. But both speak only to ears that can hear, and reveal only to eyes that can see. For they speak languages which only the "high man" can understand. They both pursue truth: poetry the truth of beauty, philosophy the truth of reason. They are two sisters who dwell under the same roof, and are so mutually helpful, that they never can be sundered without tears.

[Substance of Dr. Crawford's paper before the Monday Night Club.]

IMMENSEE

Continued from Dec. 5th.

Taken from the German.

CHAPTER V.

When Easter came Reinhard returned home. Elizabeth, now a beautiful, slender maiden, met him with a smile of welcome. She was changed. He found a strange modesty and reserve in her, which persisted day after day, even after the embarrassment of the first greeting was lost.

As a pastime for himself, and in order to break down this strange reserve and frequent spells of silence in his presence, he began to instruct Elizabeth in botany. Field excursions were made every morning; and after the return home for lunch, the collections were compared and assorted.

One afternoon as he entered her room, he found her standing before the cage of a canary, hanging where his linnet used to hang.

"Has the linnet changed to a goldfinch?" he asked.

"Her friend Eric," answered her mother, who was spinning near by, "took charge of his father's property at Immensee, and he has sent her this bird." The mother then quietly withdrew to prepare coffee.

Elizabeth still had her back turned. No sound came from Reinhard. She turned; there was a strange expression of grief in his eyes.

"You appear sad?"

"Elizabeth," he said, taking both of her hands, "I can't bear that yellow bird."

The mother entered with the coffee, and then sat down to her spinning. Reinhard and Elizabeth withdrew to another room.

It was a dull, quiet afternoon. The

monotonous whirl of the spinning wheel in the next room was broken, only now and then, by some subdued remark of Reinhard as he would give some term for the specimen they were classifying.

"I miss the Mayflower in our collection," she remarked.

Reinhard handed her a small white hand-book and watched her closely as she slowly leaved over the pages. A faint flush gradually suffused her whole countenance as she read, one after the other, the titles of those old fairy tales of the childhood days in the woods. See laid down the book before him.

"Keep it," he said.

"I shall put your favorite flower in it," she said, and selecting a brown sprig from the collection she placed it in the book and returned it to him.

At last the end of vacation had come. Reinhard must leave. As they were slowly walking toward the stage-coach, a few squares distant, he felt that he must tell her something—something upon which his whole future depended. His pace became slower and slower.

"You will be late, Reinhard."

He did not answer, but walked still slower. "Elizabeth," he said, at last, after much hesitation, "will you love me upon my return two years from now? Even as you do now?"

She looked up into his face and nodded pleasantly. He was silent for a moment, and then, taking her hand, he looked earnestly into her face.

"Do you still believe me the same old Reinhard?"

"Yes!" she answered simply.

He now quickened his pace until it became almost too rapid for her.

"Tell me, Reinhard, what are you thinking about," she asked suddenly.

"It's a secret. You shall know it two years from now, after my return."

In the meantime the stage coach had been reached. The horses started; and as the coach rounded the corner, Reinhard caught his last glimpse of her as she was slowly walking homeward.

It was almost two years after this. Reinhard had not written to Elizabeth since his visit home. He sat in his study, idly gazing at the lamp before him. Someone rapped. It was the landlady with a letter,—a letter from home, and the handwriting was his mother's. He opened it.

Elizabeth, after holding off for three months, had at last accepted Eric's proposal. The wedding was soon to follow.

Years had passed. It was a warm spring afternoon. A young man with bronzed features was leisurely strolling along a shady roadway, gazing thoughtfully and seriously ahead of him. A lumbering farm wagon was approaching him; he hailed the driver.

"Hello there friend! does this road lead to Immensee?"

"Straight ahead! The inn is close at hand." The young man hastened on. Suddenly the shade of the trees to his left was broken. He emerged into the open, and there before him, stretching far into the distance lay a broad, sunny country. Below him lay the lake, calm, sky-blue, and encircled by sunny green forests, from which, here and there, the

blossoming fruit trees peered forth like isolated patches of snow. And there on the high banks of the lake rose into view the red-tiled roof of the lake-side inn. He stood for a moment, motionless, gazing at its image lightly mirrored in the rippling surface of the lake. It seemed as though he had at last reached the goal of his journey.

He resumed his way. The descent from the mountain was abrupt; and the lake was soon lost sight of in the sudden plunge into the forest below. Presently the woods on either side gave way to blossoming fruit trees, and there, the first sign of civilized life, was a man approaching him.

"Welcome to Immensee, brother Reinhard," was the greeting of the new-comer as he waved his cap.

"God bless you, Eric. I thank you," replied the traveller as he reached for the other's hand.

"This will be a surprise indeed," exclaimed Eric, with a joyful laugh.

"A surprise! for whom?"

"For Elizabeth!"

"You have not told her then of my coming?"

"Not a word, Reinhard."

Reinhard's breath seemed to come thick and fast as he neared the yard. Finally they reached the house. Stepping into a cool entry, they passed through the house and emerged into a garden traversed along its entire length by a broad walk which looked right out on to the lake, the breath of whose breeze fanned their cheeks as they entered the garden.

A white form, seated on a terrace, arose to greet them. She stood as though rooted to the spot.

"My God! Reinhard, can it be you!"

And for a long time both stood with a silent grief and pain plucking at their hearts.

"Now that we have you," said Eric, "we will not let you leave us. You must stay and lose that strange foreign air."

Elizabeth cast a shy glance at Reinhard. At this moment her mother entered. Questions and answers now followed in quick succession. The women sat down to their work; the men smoked.

The following day was spent in an inspection of the place. At noon the family met and chatted in the garden. The evening hours usually found Reinhard in his chamber, enjoying for the first time in years such undisturbed security for his labors. He always found Elizabeth kindly and friendly disposed.

He was accustomed to take his evening promenade along the shore of the lake. Overtaken by a rain in one of these evening strolls, he sought shelter under a linden. But he was soon drenched to the skin, and leisurely he began his return homeward through the fast gathering gloom. As he was walking he thought he spied a white form near the evening bench. It stood motionless. "It is Elizabeth," he thought, "awaiting someone." But as he quickened his pace to meet her to return home with her to the house; she slowly withdrew and soon disappeared. Unable to understand this, he felt slightly annoyed, and purposely avoided returning by way of the garden, so as not to meet Elizabeth.

NOTE. The translation by W. H. Erb, '93, was discontinued with last issue.

To be concluded.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 19, 1902.

EDITORIAL

Just before the Christmas holidays we would like to urge upon our alumni and students the fact that during the vacation material could be prepared which would help to brighten and give a more general interest to the pages of the WEEKLY. No matter how busy one's vacation may be—yet there will be many moments which could be put to good use in getting an article ready for us. Suppose each one who reads this should decide that the WEEKLY ought to have some part of himself in the shape of a contribution, we, at this end, would give you an increasingly better paper.

We ought to have more news from the Secretaries of the various alumni associations; we can use many more sketches than we have; stories, bright and snappy, are always welcome. What can we expect of you?

* * *

From the editorial columns of a daily exchange we have these words, "inter-collegiate debates have succeeded to inter-collegiate football, and the change on the whole is for the better. While keeping in mind the advantage of having a sound body, there have not been wanting indications to show that while football enthusiasm is upon the increase, college oratory has been gravitating toward the mediocre." If this is so; if it is true that we are more interested in the outcome of our athletic contests than in our intellectual lives and the pungent expression of thought, then we are losing much that the college stands for. There is something wrong when so many know the outcome of football games, and so few know that a debating or oratorical contest was held.

* * *

It is a little difficult to determine, sometimes, how we shall spend our vacation. Most of us, however, are sure of one thing, that, if it is possible, we shall straighten out our sleep account. We believe this to be one of the most telling ways of spending leisure time. But we all want to do reading—some of us wish to study—but after all, it may be a better plan, in vacation, to prepare ourselves for better work throughout the year. If that way be sleep, well; if it be study, or reading, or exercise, or social life, well and good; each must determine for himself.

A PIPE DREAM

I was sitting in my den smoking my favorite pipe, enjoying the aroma and the taste of my favorite brand. Puff, puff, puff, and lazily the curls of smoke mounted toward the ceiling like a dense fog. Soon the atmosphere was burdened with curling rifts. So dense had the smoke become, that even the pictures on the wall were no longer visible.

Silently and slowly my thoughts drifted away from me, but yet, clinging to my old friend, the pipe, I was transported from the den to the sideline of a "grid-iron" where thousands of people were watching and cheering the onslaughts and repulses of twenty-two miniature warriors.

And there I stood, shivering beneath a blanket, a miserable "sub," inwardly wishing that Summerton, the crack end, would be disabled, that I might get a chance to display what little prowess I thought I possessed. Suddenly I heard my name ring out with the order to come on and take Summerton's place. "Just three minutes to play—the game in our favor—now play like fury," these were my instructions. Two and a half minutes were consumed on terrific line plunging, when suddenly the captain of the rival team shot out from the mass, with only forty yards between him and victory. And over the white lines he flew, with the miserable "sub" pursuing him, down past the fifteen yard, the ten yard, the five yard line; madly I pitched forward, and was rudely awakened with a sudden jar, I found myself in a heap on the floor; my faithful pipe had gone out. As far as I know the game was lost, and I am yet a miserable "sub."

J. B. PRICE, '05.

PHILADELPHIA LETTER

Prof. W. J. Hinke assisted at the dedicatory services of the new Zion Reformed Church, Marietta, Pa., Sunday, December 8. The Rev. Wm. Yenser, '92, is pastor.

The catalogue of the School for 1902-1903 appeared last week. It is a very neat publication.

A. M. Gluck, a member of the Senior Class of the Lancaster Seminary, visited us Monday.

The Ladies' Auxiliary met in the parlor of the Seminary Tuesday afternoon. This organization, composed of a number of ladies from the various Reformed Churches of the city, looks after the domestic comforts of the students.

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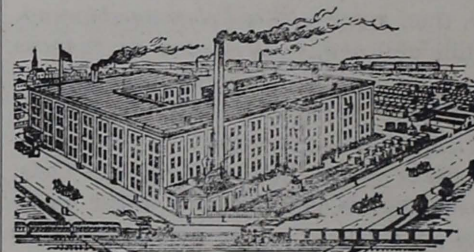
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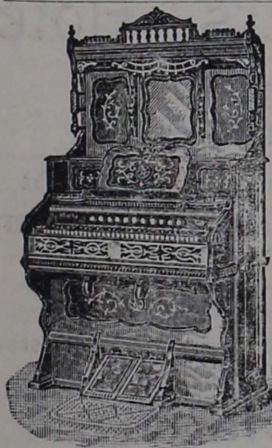
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SCHAFF SOCIETY

A very delightful time was had by all who attended the Thirty-Second Anniversary of the Schaff Literary Society, held last Friday evening. The program follows:

SCOTTISH EVENING.

MARCH: Selection.

JULIA THERESA WILSON, Collegeville.

MUSIC: The Strollers, Selection—*Ludwig Engländer's Musical Comedy*

ROSE, RENE, AND MARY GABLE, Norristown.

SALUTATORY: Scottish Characteristics.

MARION GERTRUDE SPANGLER, '03, Collegeville.

VOCAL SOLO: "Fair Helen," *Frank Seymour Hastings*

HELEN LOUISE RENNARD, Phoenixville.

RECITATION: Tam Samson's Elegy, *Burns*.

ELLIOTT FREDERICK, '05, Berwick.

EULOGY: Robert Burns.

HARVEY STAUFFER GOTTSBALL, '04, Schwenksville.

MUSIC: Selection from Erminie,

Arranged by *Jakobowski*

THE GABLE SISTERS.

SCENE: "Mary Stuart," Act I., Scene VII., *Schiller*

ELIZABETH CAULDER MILES, '04, Danville.

HARRY H. MCCOLLUM, '05, Espy.

VOCAL SOLO: "Bonnie Sweet Bessie," *J. L. Gilbert*

MISS RENNARD.

SCHAFF ORATION: The Scottish Covenanters.

ALVIN E. WAGNER, '03, Trappe.

MUSIC: a. The Ratcharmer of Hamelin, *From Neuendorff's Opera*

b. Cupid's Garden, *Intermezzo by Max Eugene*

THE GABLE SISTERS.

BENEDICTION.

In addition to the innovations made in the formal program, a general reception followed.

The officers of the society received in the Library, which again provided cosy corners for all. Refreshments were served in the Y. M. C. A. and History Rooms, both of which were tastefully decorated in college and Schaff colors.

The committee in charge of arrangements consisted of Messrs. Hoffsommer, Haines, Brownback, and Wismer.

The bimonthly election of officers was held Friday evening, the 5th. The re-

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sult follows: President, Miss Spangler, '03; Vice President, Mr. Brownback, '04; Recording Secretary, Miss Myers, '06; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Paiste, '06; Financial Secretary, Mr. Wismer, '05; Chaplain, Miss Ebbert, '05; First Editor, Mr. Roth, '03; Second Editor, Mr. Haines, '03; Critic, Mr. Hobson, '03; Treasurer, Mr. Trexler, '05; Pianist, Miss Hobson, '06; Janitor, Mr. Lenhart,

Those who are to take part in the second annual prize debate were also elected. They are Messrs. Hobson, '03, Hoffsommer, '03, Brownback, '04, Gottshall, '04, Wismer, '05, and Foltz, '06. The debate is held on the last Friday night of April and three prizes of fifteen, ten, and five dollars each are offered to the winning side.

AMONG THE COLLEGES.

The only woman's college in western Asia and south-eastern Europe is the American College for Women in Constantinople. It was founded in 1871.

The Faculty of Harvard University will hereafter confer the degree of Master of Science in the agricultural course.

The new college to be located at Elkins, W. Va., has been named Davis and Elkins College for its donors, Ex-Senator Davis and Senator Elkins.

By the will of Mrs. Ella J. McPherson, widow of United States Senator John R. McPherson of New Jersey, which is now in course of settlement, Yale will receive \$500,000.

The University of Buenos Ayres has an enrollment of 3,800 students, which is surpassed by only one similar institution in the United States.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Rev. Dr. Nathan C. Schaffer, received the degree of LL. D. from Washington and Jefferson College at the time of its recent centennial. This is the third time the doctor has been given this degree.

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NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE REFORM LEAGUE

The National Civil Service Reform League held its twenty-second annual meeting at Philadelphia, Thursday and Friday, December 11 and 12. This league, by means of its various local organizations, attempts to establish the "merit system," i. e., promotion through competition, in place of the "spoils system," either through the force of public opinion or by direct legislation.

Many excellent papers were read on the working of the merit system in our great cities and in our new dependencies. "The Civil Service in the Philippines," read by Frank M. Kiggins, late Chairman of the Philippine Civil Service Commission, was especially encouraging. Mr. Kiggins emphasized the fact that the commission was using every effort to secure native Filipinos to fill a large majority of the offices under government control.

Prof. Lucy M. Salmon, of Vassar College, in a paper on "Civil Service Reform Principles in Education," showed how education is always conservative and usually follows progress. She emphasized especially the evil influence of politics in the control of the public school system. The addresses by Dr. David C. Gilman, President of the League, were timely and interesting.

At the public meeting held in Houston Hall, under the auspices of the Law Clubs of the University of Pennsylvania, the speakers called attention to the part which college men should take in Civil Service Reform. Mr. Garfield closed his remarks by advising college men, upon entering life's activities, "to enter politics, to join the Civil Service Reform League, and to keep their ideals unspotted."

The receptions tendered by Mr. Stuart Wood, the Civic Club of Philadelphia, and the New Century Club, were by no means the least important features of the excellent program.

Ursinus was represented at the league's meeting by Dr. Barnard, Misses Miles, '04, Ebbert, '05, and Wolff, '05, Messrs. Haines, '03, and Gettel, '04.

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS

Tuesday the Senate ratified the treaty of friendship and general relations between the United States and Spain by a two-thirds vote without debate or division.

A bill making October 21, the anniversary of the discovery of America, a legal holiday to be known as Columbus Day, was introduced recently.

The Senate agreed to postpone further statehood discussion till after the holiday recess.

The movement embodied in the bill which has just passed Congress to establish a general education board is one of the most reassuring signs of the time. Its aim is the promotion of education in this country without distinction of race, sex or creed, and the bill authorizes the corporators to "establish, maintain or endow elementary or primary schools, industrial schools, technical schools, normal schools, training schools for teachers or schools of any grade, or higher institutions of learning; to employ or aid others to employ teachers and lecturers; to aid, cooperate with or endow associations or other corporations engaged in educational work within the United States of America."—*Philadelphia Press.*

ALUMNI NOTES

B. F. Paist, '99, has received the degree of B. D. from the Princeton Theological Seminary. He has also won the Green Fellowship in Church History and Theology and is spending this year at Princeton in graduate study.

The Rev. W. B. Johnson, '98, is pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Campbell Hall, N. Y.

Marietta, Pa., December 8.—Zion Reformed Church was dedicated here to-day. The building is of brick, trimmed with Indiana marble, and is built in the form of a triangle, 117x60 feet, with a steeple eighty-eight feet high. The church is finished within in mahogany and walnut and has oak pews and a seating capacity of eight hundred. All of the windows in the church proper are memorial windows. Combined with the church is a Sunday-school department and a parsonage.—*Philadelphia Press.*

The Rev. Wm. Yenser, '92, is pastor. When he went to Marietta in 1894, immediately upon his being graduated from the School of Theology, the charge was a mission in a small manufacturing town. Since then the numbers have increased until it has become a strong congregation. The church has been five years in building, it being erected in sections, and no part being undertaken until sufficient funds had been raised to complete it.

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