

"Heights" not only in song but in grandeur of character; a contrast to the many to whom the latter was of minor consideration. And here I would add my endorsement of the following, from some unknown writer: "Genius uninformed by intellect, unpurified by ideal vision, not enlarged by culture, gives art only a portion of its beauty and grandeur. It is Psyche without her diaphanous robe of purity, Eros without wings." An artist may achieve a certain success, may be petted by kings, potentates and people, yet fail to preserve to the stage an ideal of pure womanhood. The great song interpreters of our day you are all familiar with, Patti, Neilson, Melba, Eames and many others.

In her province of home and estate of motherhood, woman has often encountered the daily "little foxes" that spoil her personal "vine" and prevent its bearing completely ripened fruit; and yet how has she ministered to the great geniuses whose autobiographies we now read in sweet sound.

Bach's Anna Magdalena's name appeared upon his score side by side of that of his Maker. His music was "Soli Deo Gloria," and his love for his wife its inspiration. Handel's mother, by a life of sacrifice, provided him with his musical education, for which she was rewarded by his filial devotion. It would seem, however, that Handel was not always so gentle with the fair sex, as upon one occasion when the favored but wayward Cuzoni refused to sing an aria which the master had composed expressly for her, he seized and lifted her in his strong arms and held her outside the window of the house, saying, "Now madam, you shall sing this aria or I will let you fall!" Needless to say she succumbed, as did many another refractory artist, to the forceful genius whose beloved art was not to be effaced by the whim of its quondam interpreter.

Beethoven drew much of his inspiration from his pure love of woman, whom his ardent, poetic nature idealized. He was, as Wegler, his biographer, says: "Immer in Liebesverhältnissen," but always of the pure, ennobling kind, idealizing his innamorata, and pouring out the largesse of his rich nature and genius to fitly express the feelings they inspire. The strongest influence upon his creative power was that of the wonderful child Betina, and secondly, that of the Countess Guiccardi, who inspired the exquisite Moonlight sonata, and much also during that period, when dead to him personally, her influence was subjectively evident.

All of Mozart's greatest works, "Don Giovanni," "Nozze de Figaro," "Titus," and the "Requiem," were written after his marriage with Constance Weber, whom he has immortalized in "Die Entführung," written during their betrothal.

Under the magic spell of the first year of wedded life Robert Schumann wrote 138 songs; and who does not know the story of his happy life with the grand woman Clara Wieck, who commands the respect, admiration and gratitude of her sex, and the world; who acknowledge in her the noble womanhood, the highest artistic musical attainments, and the inspiring ministrant to him whose grave has, during the twenty-five years she lived after he was laid to rest, been decked with flowers symbolic of the love that prompts the offering.

Berlioz was inspired by his love for the English actress, Henrietta Smithson, declaring at the end of her performance of Juliet, "I will marry that woman, and upon this drama I will write my greatest symphony!" A promise verified several years later.

Liszt, during his residence at Lake Como, when his companion was the Russian Princess Caroline Von Wittgenstein, a power surely not for evil in his life, wrote to a friend: "When the ideal form of a woman floats before your en-

tranced soul, a woman whose heaven-born charms bear no allurements for the senses but only wing the soul to devotion—if you see at her side a youth sincere and faithful of heart, weave these forms into a moving story of love and give it the title, 'On the Shores of Lake Como.' Cosima, now Madam Wagner, was born here."

So from Bach's Anna Magdalena down to Cosima Wagner, strangely prepared, and later, more strangely and generously resigned by the lesser to the greater genius, woman has been the counselor, sympathizer, inspirer of the musicians of immortal fame. Through the portal of mentality she conducts him to Elysian fields, across which he views the beatific vision, and catches faint whisperings of infinite harmonies.

Mrs. Munger was elected as delegate to the state federation, which meets in Omaha this fall, and Mrs. Guthrie was designated as alternate.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the City Improvement society convened in the Union-Commercial club rooms Wednesday at 10 a. m., the president, Mrs. Taylor, presiding.

Mrs. Welch, chairman of the committee on street cleaning, had been out of the city for two weeks and incidentally gave her impressions of other cities visited. In Chicago, for instance, some blocks were exquisitely clean while two or three squares distant the blocks were distressingly untidy.

She remarked upon the encroachments of the dandelion everywhere and thought vigorous measures should be taken against this pest in Lincoln. A vigorous discussion as to the methods and probability of extermination of this objectionable weed followed, and fears were expressed that it had already obtained a dangerous foothold. It was reported that the ordered padlocks for the waste cans had arrived and they would be placed in position at once.

Mrs. Seamark reported a very successful entertainment by the seniors in the high school in Park school auditorium May 2, for the Park school improvement fund. A vote of thanks was tendered the seniors for their kindness.

Mrs. Ogden, special commissioner on seats at street car intersections, reported progress and the committee was continued.

Mrs. D. D. Muir was elected a committee on seats for the postoffice square.

Mrs. Ogden was elected chairman of the committee on Weeds.

The resignation of Mrs. Thomas Marsland as chairman of sidewalk committee was received and regretfully accepted.

Ingleside club of David City elected the following officers:

President—Mrs. J. G. Ross.  
Vice-president—W. F. Downing.  
Recording secretary—S. E. Van Doo-

sen.  
Corresponding secretary—R. A. Ben-

ner.

Parliamentary critic—Mrs. M. V. Snow.

Members—Misses M. M. Baurer, Maud Bill, Gertrude Culbertson, Phoebe Doty, Jessie Dean, Sue Dean, Neta Bunting, Mayme Taylor; Mesdames F. G. Ayres, Samuel Bennison, William Bunting, George R. Colton, J. J. Frater, W. E. Kervet, E. W. Hale, C. J. Milner, Jessie Rising, George Schroeser, Hortense Snow and Jacob Webster.

Work for next year will be miscellaneous literature.

The XIX Century club of Aurora met with Mrs. Waddle this week. The main lesson for the afternoon was given by our president, Mrs. Hurbut. She reviewed the second half of Prescott's Conquest of Peru. The same cruel and treacherous mode of warfare was exhibited by the Spaniards in those days as at the present time. Hasten the day when they cannot call one foot

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of soil on this hemisphere theirs. It was decided to read Roman history next year. Election of officers next Friday and our meetings adjourn for the summer.

Saturday afternoon, May 21, the Northbend woman's club met for this year the last time. Roll call was answered by "Vacation Sentiments." After business and official reports the program varied from the usual order and a tinpail banquet was held. After the feast was partaken of a number of toasts were responded to. Music, both vocal and instrumental, occupied a place on the program. A very pleasant afternoon was spent by all present. The club adjourned to meet again in September.

The Fullerton Federation club has held two very interesting meetings and given their annual banquet since our last report.

The last meeting was held with Mrs. Brower. We were invited guests as Mrs. Brower is not a member. Our quotations were the wise and witty original sayings of children.

Mrs. Davis read an interesting paper on the subject "Does the over-indulgence of children have a tendency to weaken their characters."

Miss Fee rendered a beautiful piano solo which met hearty applause.

Some drilling and rehearsing was done for the banquet. Mrs. S. H. Penney composed a solo and chorus which was sung to the tune "Marching Through Georgia."

The new roster shows about forty members enrolled for our September organizing. A good committee has been named by our president-elect, Mrs. E. G. Barber, to name and arrange the work for next year. Several new names will be added to our list of members in the fall.

After a vote of thanks to Mrs. Brower for so nicely entertaining the club we adjourned to meet in September.

The banquet was held at the Presbyterian church and parlors. The program opened with a violin solo by Mr. George Ellsworth. A welcome address was given by our president, Mrs. E. M. Lagrange. Reading by Mrs. Barber. A well prepared paper by Mrs. H. E. Reynolds, subject, "Women as Inventors." Mrs. Theo. Reimers gave a fine recitation, personating a German lady recently from Germany.

Mrs. McMillan sang the solo to the words Mrs. Penney had prepared and the club ladies joined in the full chorus after the last verse. Each member waved a flag as they joined in the following chorus:

"The boys! The boys! Our own militia boys.

The band! The band! Our dear beloved band.

We'll meet them; and we'll greet them, as we never have done before

When they come marching from the army."

After the program in the main part of the church was finished supper was served in the parlors where beautiful decorated tables filled

with the best the market afforded in refreshments the banquet concluded with witty, spicy toasts and responses, with some impromptu ones, thus ending another year of successful work and social gatherings of the Mary Barnes Literary club.

The Schuyler Woman's club on the 20th, their last club day in May, met at the residence of their president, Mrs. Burkett, and devoted the time after the usual routine of business to the election of officers, current events and to a most delicious lunch served by the hostess, after which we were called to the veranda and placed as a target for a snap shot from two well directed cameras.

The result of the election follows:

President—Mrs. Eleanor Pattee.

Vice-president—Mrs. Annie Wells.

Second vice-president—Mrs. Winnie McCullough.

Treasurer—Mrs. Kittie Brown.

Recording secretary—Mrs. Estel Rosenberg.

Corresponding secretary—Mrs. Mary E. Burkett.

Executive committee—Mesdames Allen, Phelps, Bryant, Plimpton and Walker.

On Saturday afternoon of the same week was held the annual banquet and reception of the club. The Tourist club of the city and presidents of the neighboring towns were invited to be present as guests. A nice company convened and an hour or more was spent in a social way, during which time delicious punch was served. In due time little tables were ushered into the room daintily and beautifully decorated with white and colored lilacs and creamy snow drops, corresponding so perfectly with the club colors, lavender and cream. After the company was seated at the tables waiting to be served with refreshments, they were treated to music, both instrumental and vocal selections delightfully rendered. After refreshments toasts were offered by the retiring president and responded to by different ones present.

One particular toast, Hobbies, needs especial mention, responded to by Mrs. Allen. She first very clearly and beautifully defined hobbies, then placed them in the same relation to progress and the world and as necessary, if I grasp her meaning, as a crank is to machinery or a lever to the upheaving, overturning and demolishing of rubbish.

The retiring president gave quite a pleasant and instructive address especially encouraging to the young members of the Tourist club in their efforts and undertakings. The most humorous part of the program was the experience of a club woman in impromptu speeches, read by Mrs. Wells. The banquet closed with a charmingly executed selection on the piano by Miss Woods.

The closing meeting of the Plattsmouth Woman's club was held at the home of Mrs. James Herold and was made the occasion of an evening of social enjoyment as well as a meeting for transacting the final business of the