

GLUBS.

(Continued from Page 3.)

and inspired its leaders, and had much to do with its direction, they seldom made a serious effort in literature themselves. The few who have left a name in letters only illustrates the fact that individual genius is a flower of another growth. Mme. de Stael would have been a great woman under any conditions; but we owe all of her best work in literature to her exile from the social life of Paris, where her thoughts had no time to crystallize. The gift of Mme. de Sevigne was nearly allied to a conversational one, but her mind was matured and deepened during years of seclusion under the lonely skies of Brittany. Mme. de la Fayette left the world of the salons early to find her literary inspiration in the solitude of ill health and the stimulating friendship of La Rochefoucauld. Mme. du Chatelet whose talent was of another color, wrote on philosophy and translated Newton, not in the breezy air of the salons, but in the tranquil shades of Cirey and the less tranquil society of Voltaire.

There were other women who wrote, though they usually chose to hide a light which was not a very brilliant one, and to shine in other ways. It may be that it was the salon which made these women possible, as it created an intellectual atmosphere in which thought blossomed into intense and vivid life; but its direct tendency was to foster in women talents of a quite different sort from creative ones. It developed to a high degree, however, the fine discrimination and critical sense which led Rousseau to say that "a point of morals would not be better discussed in a society of philosophers than in that of a pretty woman of Paris."

The clubs have hardly lived long enough to justify a final judgment as to their outcome; but the best writers of our own time have not been, as a rule, actively identified with them, though a few, whose minds were already formed in another school, have had much to do in founding and leading them. The many able women who have given their time and talents to the clubs have oftener merged their literary gifts, if they had them, into work of another sort, not less valuable in its way, but less tangible and less individual. It is the work of the general, who plans, organizes, sifts values, adapts means to definite ends, but who lives too much in the swift current of affairs to give heed to the voice of the imagination, or to master the art of literary form which alone makes for thought a permanent abiding place.

The Wymore Fin de Siecle club, received the Musical club, at the home of Mrs. J. A. Renling Thursday afternoon May 19. Those present were: Mesdames A. Rodgers, Calder, R. Fenton, A. B. Price, F. Laffin, C. W. Robertson, L. Bridenthol, Stover, L. A. Mitchell. The guests were: Mrs. Roush, Misses Fenton, Greenwood, Reynolds, Mitchell, B. Fenton.

Trio.....
Mrs. and Misses Fenton and Mitchell.
Reading.....A. B. Price
Solo.....Fred Laffin
Paper—Parallel L'Allegro, Il Penseroso.....R. Fenton
Music.....Miss Greenwood
Reading.....Mrs. L. Bridenthol
Solo (piano forte).....Miss Reynolds
Duet.....Mrs. and Miss Fenton

After the program, which was enjoyed by all, papers were passed on which was written an intellectual menu. The best guesser, our worthy president, Mrs. A. A. Price, was rewarded with a prize, Byron's "Child Harold."

Mrs. Renling then served ice and wafers, which, though less intellectu-

was more satisfactory after the warm work of guessing.

Following is the result of the election of officers for the ensuing year:

President—Mrs. A. B. Price.
Vice-president—Mrs. R. Fenton.
Secretary—Mrs. J. A. Renling.
Treasurer—Mrs. A. Rodgers.

The appointment of committees to arrange the work for the year ended an afternoon which all declared to have been a most delightful one and for which a vote of thanks was extended to our hostess.

The child study section of the Lincoln Woman's club held its last meeting for this year Saturday afternoon. The following officers were elected for next year: Leader, Mrs. Janet Marferding; assistant leader, Mrs. Grace Mason Wheeler; secretary, Miss Christine Fessler; membership committee, Mrs. Charles Neal, Mrs. W. R. Hart, Mrs. George W. Berge.

Dr. H. K. Wolfe discussed the question of the religious training of children. In considering the place of the public schools in this matter, there seems to be a decided movement towards introducing some preparatory training for religious culture. Public opinion is changing rapidly in favor of holding the public schools partly responsible for the moral and spiritual welfare of the children. The question now is, how can the schools meet the demand?

The preliminary education of the child belongs to the home and is dependent upon the character of the parents. The individuality of children should be preserved even in religious instruction. We must first cultivate the child's affections. No child can be taught to love God by parents whom it does not love. The sympathies should be cultivated and above all the child should be allowed and encouraged to express its pleasurable emotions and to restrain the expression of painful feelings.

Stories and pictures and music are means of developing the emotional nature of children. Love is the chief means of religious growth. Fear should not be used as a means of religious training. A general discussion followed.

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