

if she still weeps, beat her twice." "Be condescending always to a wife; they like it. Cocoanuts grow simply to fall and lie around the foot of a tree. A man with many wives is a coconut tree." "If there is trouble in your huts shift the women, women must live together a week before they fight." "Slap some, pinch others, never pat them unless to save a word." "Talk little to women; listen much. They talk for many and listen for few." "Marry much. Do not take it seriously. Often bad wives make good widows. It is hard to be the widower of a good wife. No man ever was the widower of a good widow." "When the cooks spoil the broth in our country we put them in the pot to make more. It solves the question of food." "Many women would rather be one of fifty-five wives than one of none."

These sentiments are uttered by a barbarian, but they are remarkable because they so much resemble the meaning of what Bixby says every day and what Harry Thurston Peck says once a month in any publication that prints his barbaric essays. The Sengalese expresses it somewhat more baldly, but the meaning, the attitude is exactly the same. The individuals in question and others whose opinions, though unpublished, coincide with theirs, are in the same stage of development as the chief, though they wear more elaborately tailored clothes and occasionally consider it politic to conceal their real views. They rely eventually upon force to establish their position. It is an old saying in Europe that the Russian is only European as deep as his skin and that a very slight scratch discloses the Tartar. What is the use, in the interests of truth, of confining this excellent generalization to Russians? Tartars are not alone residents of Asia. They inhabit the globe. They are not members of one sex. They were originally distributed evenly in both sexes, but natural selection is having its usual effect in improving the disposition of the sex which is chosen. So much so that women are often now referred to as members of the gentler sex.

"A Shropshire Lad."

The poem called "A Shropshire Lad," by A. Housman, is clipped from a forgotten newspaper whose editor presumably took it from the collection of Housman poems called "A Shropshire Lad." The name was conferred in this office and is warranted only by the convenience and convention of titles. The odor of the earth, the trampling horses, the jingling harness and again the odor of the earth, which we like so much—maybe it is what we were and will be again—pervade the poem. Only two stanzas tell the story of a young farmer who died and left his beloved and his bosom friend inconsolable and weeping for him. In four stanzas he tells of the friend's marriage to his sweetheart, of the friend's anxiety lest "the lad" return even in spirit, and of the friend's glad tilling of the soil and happiness with a "dead man's sweetheart." The earthiness of the poem is Shakspearian. Not many men nowadays get the elusive earthy odor that can not be imitated or bottled. Only Hardy of novelists and Housman among poets have real clowns and rustics. The rest advertise the real thing,—but smell them! Howells' and James' finicky fine ladies are tiresome. Kipling never drew a woman; he is too brutal and his men are ruffianly private soldiers, officers just as brutal, camp followers, sophisticated and very far from the earthiness

of the Shropshire lad who is not refined, but of the earth.

Is my team ploughing,
That I used to drive—
And hear the harness jingle
When I was man alive?

Aye, lad! the horses trample;
The harness jingles now,
No change—the you lie under
The land you used to plough.

Is my girl happy,
I thought so hard to leave;
And has she tired of weeping,
As she lies down at eve?

Aye, lad! she lies down lightly,
She lies not down to weep;
Your girl is well contented—
Be still my lad and sleep.

Is my friend hearty—
Now I am thin and pine;
And has he found to lie in
A better bed than mine?

Yes, lad! I lie easy,
I lie as lads would choose;
I cheer a dead man's sweetheart—
Never ask me whose.

—Housman.

CLUBS.

This is the season of conventions. After the long, hot months of summer when club work and club members were alike enjoying vacations, the beginning of the season's activity is marked by an enthusiasm which finds its natural expression in meetings of the state federations. Not alone in our own state is this true. In Colorado the federation meeting was held in the twin cities of Victor and Cripple Creek, September 10-12; Illinois, Wisconsin and Maine will hold their meetings simultaneously on October 16, 17 and 18, while the Pennsylvania meeting will be held on October 15, 16 and 17. The Indiana federation will meet at Auburn, October 23-25. The Michigan club women will meet for the first time in the university town, Ann Arbor, October 28 to November 1. The Iowa federation held a most enjoyable meeting in Des Moines last week. Des Moines also is entertaining the state convention of the W.C.T.U. this week. Perhaps the most unique place of entertainment of a state federation this year was at Star Island, New Hampshire, where the sixth annual field meeting was held on September 4 and 5. Star Island is the largest of a group of islands nine miles from Portsmouth harbor. A visit was also made to White island, where the lighthouse still stands which was the childhood home of Celia Thaxter.

Mrs. H. M. Bushnell, president of the Lincoln Woman's club, will report the Wayne meeting fully for The Courier. Other members of the woman's club who are attending the federation are Meadames Atwood, A. A. Scott, A. B. Price, F. E. Lahr, J. A. Piper and F. M. Hall. Sorosis is represented by Miss Haskell and Miss Annie L. Miller. The Century club sent its president, Mrs. A. L. Candy, and Mrs. Milton Scott as delegates.

The Omaha Woman's club held its opening meeting on Monday afternoon, and for the first time in the history of the club the meeting was opened with prayer. An address was given by the president, Mrs. Tilden; a report of the convention of charities held in Washington, D. C., by Mrs. Dumont, and the Louisiana Purchase report by Mrs. Henry Jaynes were interesting features

of the program. A memorial to President McKinley was presented by Mrs. C. C. Belden. The departments of ethics and philosophy, French conversation and oratory will meet every week; the departments of English literature, household economics and music will meet the same week as the club, while the departments of American history, current topics, art, English history, parliamentary practice and political and social science will meet on alternate weeks. Following is the calendar of the club for the year:

October 7, president's address; October 20, State Federation day; November 4, English history; November 18, current topics; December 2, political and social science; December 16, music; January 1, New Year's reception; January 6, philosophy and ethics; January 20, American history; February 3, French conversation; February 17, household economics; March 3, parliamentary practice; March 17, business meeting; March 31, art; April 14, English literature; April 24, birthday; April 28, oratory; May 12, business meeting; May 26, annual meeting.

A decided innovation is the decision to charge an admission fee of fifty cents to all Omaha guests of the club.

The Omaha Mothers' club will meet every Wednesday afternoon in the lecture room of the library.

Mrs. A. C. Sullivan of the Cozy club entertained the Tecumseh federation of women's clubs last week Tuesday evening. The object of the meeting was the election of officers, which resulted in the selection of Mrs. H. T. Ward, president, Mrs. G. J. Rubelman, vice president, Mrs. Donald McKay, secretary, and Miss Ella McCrosky, treasurer. Mrs. Ward, the president, was elected delegate to the Wayne convention with power to appoint two other delegates. The federation will again devote its work to the city library.

The work of the various Tecumseh clubs was formally opened last week Wednesday. Sorosis will devote the year to the Bay View reading course on Italy, Greece and Switzerland; the Cozy club will study England and the English people, while the Friends in Council will give their attention to Russia. At the meeting of the Acme club papers were read on "The Origin of the Anglo Saxon" and "Legendary History of Early England." Musical numbers will appear on the programs of all the clubs. An unusually large attendance at these initial meetings is reported with much enthusiasm for the work of the coming year.

The Woman's club of Plattsmouth began the eighth year of its existence last Friday evening with a meeting in the Knights of Pythias hall. The president's address by Mrs. Travis, vacation memories by club members and an account of the recent session of the national library meeting at Waukesha, Wisconsin, by Mrs. Stoutenborough, were the principal features of the evening. The year's work will be devoted to the study of general literature, with current topics and a club paper having Mrs. Fellows as editor-in-chief, assisted by Mrs. Sleeth. Mrs. Stoutenborough and Mrs. B. Elson were elected delegates to the state federation meeting.

The Nineteenth Century club of Kearney held its monthly business meeting last week Tuesday afternoon. Several new names were proposed for membership, the roll now numbering seventy-six. Pink and green were adopted as club colors, and a committee was appointed to design and construct a club banner. Mrs. Etta R. Holmes and Mrs. Margaret Hostetler were elected to represent the club at Wayne. After the business was disposed of the re-

mainder of the session was in charge of the household economics department. An interesting and informal talk on "Tea," by Mrs. Frank, was most pleasantly illustrated by the preparing and serving of delicious tea in dainty china cups with home-made oatmeal wafers. A vocal solo by Mrs. Claypool was beautifully rendered. All of the club departments are well organized and can boast of officers whose ability and enterprise cannot fail to render the season's work both pleasant and profitable.

Systematic instruction in cooking has lately been added to the work of St. Catherine's academy in Omaha. Fifteen young women are now enrolled in this department, which embraces everything needful in this particular line. Beginning with the preparation of potatoes and other vegetables for cooking, soups, roasts, stews, baked dishes and cereals, bread and pastry follow in turn. Mrs. Harriet MacMurphy, who has spent the summer at Buffalo, is at the head of this cooking school. Practical dressmaking also is taught under the supervision of one of the sisters who is an expert in this art.

The Ottumwa Woman's club will hold eight meetings during the season of 1901-1902. Addresses will be delivered by prominent club women from various parts of the country, among whom are Mrs. Bailey, the state president of Iowa; Miss Ruby Baughman of Bedford, whose subject will be "Compulsory Education," Mrs. Florence Howe Hall, daughter of Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Margaret Olmstead of Cherokee, and Miss Lila J. Howell of Chicago, an impersonator.

The Ladies Reading circle of Rushville held the first meeting of the season last week Tuesday. The subject of study this year is German history.

A new building is in process of erection for the exclusive use of the New England Conservatory of Music. The location is on the corner of Huntington avenue and Gainsboro street, Boston, and it is expected that the new building will be the largest and finest conservatory building in the world. It will cover 32,000 square feet, with a frontage of 120 feet. It will consist of three stories, the exterior construction being of brick, stone and terra cotta, of Grecian architecture. Two auditoriums will be provided, one with a seating capacity of 1,000 and the other of 400. Twelve dormitory buildings will be erected on the grounds for the accommodation of students. The buildings will be ready for occupancy in September, 1902.

A Stenographers' and Typewriters' union has recently been organized in Chicago. Since the old Stenographers' union some time ago joined forces with the Business Woman's club, the new organization is the only one in existence for the express accommodation of stenographers and typewriters. Miss Ruth Dick Hall, a young lawyer, is at the head of the movement. The object is to regulate the hours and salaries of young women engaged in this line of work, as under existing conditions the duties of each stenographer are determined by individual employers.

The Club Woman's idea of women who should compose committees, is a very good one. The problem now remaining is where to find women to form even one committee, or a chairman of one committee, who will answer the following description:

1. The woman who is willing to lead, not the woman who has to be carried.
2. The woman who is willing to work, not the one who complains of it.