

George Meredith in a letter to The Harvard Monthly has a suggestive word to say of the work of the novelist: "I think that all right use of life, and the one secret of life, is to pave ways for the firmer footing of those who succeed us, and as to my works, I know them faulty, think them of worth only where they point and aid to that end. Close knowledge of our fellows, discernment of the laws of existence—these lead to great civilization." Mr. Meredith's conception is the noble and true one. But he is too modest. In breadth, depth, variety and sure clutch at the heart of things, he of all modern writers is entitled to be called the Shakespeare of prose fiction.

Most speculators in working a grain corner take great satisfaction in squeezing rivals and strangers. Young Joe Leiter has the unique satisfaction of having squeezed his father out of \$5,500,000, for these are the figures recently announced of the final settlement.

"Dismemberment" murders have become so frequent that the callous public has grown to regard them as commonplace. The Colt-Adams murder in New York and the Webster-Parkman murder in Boston half a century or more since were regarded as such unparalleled crimes that the public did not cease discussing them for years.

Pope Leo XIII has paid off the debt left by his predecessors. It is said that he is one of the best of financiers and would have made an excellent manager of the fiscal affairs of a great nation had not his profession devoted him to the sacred task of helping his millions of spiritual subjects to "lay up treasure where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt."

If a large force of the volunteers is to be retained in service to meet contingencies, as has been reported, it is imperative that they should be subjected to regular discipline. But with that they should have the best of regular watchfulness and attention from their officers.

Newspapers are full of the recurrent September rubbish as to why many people come home from the country in the pleasantest month of the year. Unfortunately, schools generally open in September, and children have to be educated.

It may be true that every man has in his heart a slumbering hog, but people only realize it when they awaken the beast in others.

The attainment of our greatest desires is often the source of our greatest sorrows.

No person finds happiness in life without putting it there to be found.

**Seeing the Sights.**

Even in these days of liberal education young women sometimes show how confused are the ideas shut up in their heads. Illustrative of this is the naive blunder which Edmondo de Amicis recounts in his story of a voyage from Genoa to Buenos Ayres:

The captain of the steamer which numbered the charming young blunderer among its passengers met her one morning and said:

"Signorina, we cross the tropic of cancer today."

"Oh, indeed!" she cried, with enthusiasm. "Then we shall see something at last."

**A Wedding Announcement.**

This is how the editor of the Humboldt (Kan.) Herald recently announced his marriage: "Mr. F. A. McCarthy (that's us) and Miss Nannie Fisher (that's more of us) were united in marriage Wednesday, July 27, at 10 a. m. The ceremony was followed by a sumptuous repast, which we have only a faint recollection of. Some way events seemed to crowd on each other then, and God has given us the best earthly thing within his gift. The joy in a sweet wife is too great to be described—too sacred to be spoken of."

**Too Much Eating.**

Gluttony has its victims, hardly less numerous than other vices. To overeat is to overburden the digestive organs to such an extent that it will be impossible for them to perform their duties properly. Deleterious products are created, and health is finally destroyed. A prominent judge used to say such men dig their graves with their teeth—and it is so. On the other hand, there are those who eat too little. All extremes are evils that experience should govern.—Exchange.

**Slow Eating May Be Bad.**

According to The Journal of Mental and Nervous Diseases, slow eating is as bad as fast eating. "The important point is not that we eat slowly or fast, but that when we do eat we chew with energy. Of course where the haste is due to some mental anxiety this may injuriously inhibit the secretions. Slow eating begets a habit of simply mulling the food without really masticating it, while the hurried eater is inclined to swallow his food before proper mastication. Hence hurried eating is bad, but rapid mastication is advantageous. It concentrates our energies on the act in question, and hence more thoroughly accomplishes it. Moreover, energetic chewing stimulates the secretion of saliva in the most favorable manner. These various points are so commonly misunderstood, at least by the laity, that they demand our frequent attention."

Those who have most defects are the keenest in discovering the defects of others. The reverse is also true. Like recognizes like.

Most men are like plants. They possess qualities which only chance discovers.

**An African Mother-in-law.**

A native has been committed to the high court for trial for mutilating his mother-in-law by cutting off her ear.

The native averred that his mother-in-law had attempted to entice her daughter away from him, her lawful husband, to some other native, and he took the extreme measure of cutting off her ear as a gentle hint to mind her own business.—Gwelo Times.

**Not Wanted.**

"I have here," he began, "a little poem, the child of"—

"Sorry," interrupted the editor, "but I couldn't think of taking a child away from its parent."—Harlem Life.

Colonel du Paty de Clam has been placed on the retired list. His reputation was wounded in action beyond help of all surgery.

In love the confidant of a woman's sorrow often becomes the consoler of it.

**TIMELY ANNIVERSARIES.**

**Some Current Selections From History's Broad Page.**

**September 23.**

- 1694—Queen Mary, wife of and joint monarch with William III, died.
- 1745—John Sevier, pioneer and soldier, hero of King's Mountain, etc., born in Rockingham county, Va.; died 1815. Isaac Hayne, Revolutionary patriot, born in the Beaufort district, South Carolina; executed 1781.
- 1779—The wonderful naval battle of Flamborough Head, coast of Gloucestershire; Paul Jones won a signal victory.
- 1780—The spy Andre arrested near New York.
- 1791—Birth of Karl Theodor Korner, German poet of liberty; killed in fighting the French 1813.
- 1820—Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry died in Port Spain, isle of Trinidad; born 1785.
- 1809—Black Friday; day noted in American financial records.
- 1874—Frightful typhoon at Hongkong; thousands of lives and millions in property destroyed.
- 1895—The Cuban constitution adopted and proclaimed.
- 1897—Judge C. B. Kilgore, noted public man, formerly in the Confederate service, died at Ardmore, I. T.; born 1831.

**September 24.**

- 1755—John Marshall, chief justice of the United States, born in Germantown, Va.; died 1835.
- 1757—Aaron Burr born at Princeton, N. J.; died 1836.
- 1815—General John Sevier, hero of King's Mountain, died; born 1745.
- 1827—Henry Warner Slocum, AARON BURR, noted Federal general and army commander, born in Delphi, N. Y.; died in Brooklyn 1894. Slocum organized the Twenty-seventh New York volunteers and was wounded at the head of it at the first battle of Bull Run. He commanded a wing of Sherman's army in 1864-5.
- 1876—The mine exploded at Hell Gate, near New York, and the channel obstruction blown out.
- 1888—Francois Achille Bazaine, marshal of France, died in Madrid; born 1811. Bazaine earned his baton in Mexico in 1863-4. For his capitulation of Metz in 1870 he was condemned to death, but MacMahon, who was then president, commuted the sentence to 20 years' seclusion. The marshal escaped from prison and made his residence in Madrid.
- 1894—General Thomas Seir Cummings, noted American artist and last surviving founder of the National Academy of Design, died; born 1804.
- 1897—James Lane, Chicago's oldest resident, died in that city; born 1796.

