

From a thoughtful woman, one of the first club workers in the state, Mrs. Laura M. Woodford of the Zetetic of Weeping Water is the following modest bit of auto-biography, interesting indeed, showing the love of this woman for her club and her club associates:

"I shrink from anything which in the least seems like bringing ones self into prominence, unless the reasons for such notice are very urgent indeed. In fact, modesty forbids other than a few words which I might send hoping, they will in no way seem egotistical. Had you asked something concerning the Zetetic, the idea of diffidence would never have occurred to me. The bright women of our club are a never ending source of enjoyment and I never tire of sounding their praises.

My life has not been without its variations. I could say I was born on such a date, in — etc., but who would care for those things? Rather I will skip the earliest portion commencing with my impressions when crossing the Missouri river for the first time in the early seventies, with two children, followed by a ride of twenty miles across country with the husband and father who had come to Plattsmouth to meet his family who were following his earlier stages westward. The feelings of monotony and loneliness deepened as the broad prairie so suggestive of vastness, of endless length and breadth crept into the mind. Every thing in such striking contrast to the scenes of Northern Ohio so recently left in the land of my birth, and later my home after an interval of twenty years spent in Washington County.

Our destination, Weeping Water reached at night fall. A romantic picturesque little spot full of promise, a great future awaiting it as its most sanguine people declared. How that promise has been fulfilled it is not for me to relate. Its citizens were of the best. As acquaintance ripened into friendship some of the feeling of loneliness and isolation which had so permeated my being during that memorable ride began to fade away, and the wise conclusion was reached that with an undivided family and agreeable neighbors and friends life need not be very dreary wherever ones lot may be cast. Still longings, one could not wholly suppress, for some of the intellectual opportunities of the older states were ever and anon forcing themselves to the front.

Opportunity threw into my hands the program of a womans club in Iowa a literary club. It was just that inspiration needed to foster the idea, which was not altogether new, that an organization among women might be effected which would bring kindred spirits into closer relation, which might lead to something higher and more ennobling than the ordinary life of the average homemaker had thus far been able to evolve from her daily surroundings in this new west. A woman's literary club resulted and as one of the early members, Mrs. Shelton, whose home was later in the capital city said, "it met a long felt want". "I have so often wished for something of this kind."

If any one doubts the woman's club as a bond of union among women, as a place for the lonely women who have left all to follow the fortunes of husbands and find themselves strangers among a new people let them ask any of the members of the Zetetic, many of whom are now in lands far distant from this, if theirs were not a happier life for having been during their sojourn in the quiet city of Weeping Water, connected with this club which has just entered upon its fiftieth year."

One of the commendable undertakings, eminently practical and sensible is the plan of the York clubs to furnish rooms for the Town and Country club in the city. It is the desire of the clubs

to have a place where women from the country may come and find a place to stay when they come to town. So many women must come to town and sit around in stores or other places and wait until it is time to go home, tired and discouraged. And if there are any women in the state who need the helpful influence of the club life and club women it is surely the tired overworked farmer's wives. A woman who slaves her life away on the farm soon loses all interest in the outer world, and sees only the narrow horizon bounded by the pasture fence on one side and the little school where her children go on the other. If these women of York succeed in interesting farmer's wives in their club work, they will have done more than all the other club women in the state have ever accomplished. A pleasant place where women may come and feel on an equality, feel at home, will be a boon much appreciated by the women from the rural walks of life. There is an unselfishness and a desire to aid their fellow women displayed in this undertaking, that touches the heart of all club women and there is a hearty wish expressed that they may be successful in their undertakings.

The Utah Federation of Women's Clubs was the second State federation organized auxiliary to the General Federation, and one of the oldest women's clubs in the country is the Ladies Literary Club, of Salt Lake. It was organized nearly twenty-two years ago, and the club has just celebrated its twenty-first anniversary. Up to this time the Utah federation has met in Salt Lake City, and the meeting which convened on May 26 was the fourth. The federation numbers seventeen clubs. Several clubs of Mormon women belong to the federation, as the Reapers' Club and the Utah Woman's Press Club. The meetings were held in a beautiful church, and about thirty delegates were present, and several hundred visitors. The president of the Utah State Federation has the proud distinction of being the youngest State president of the State federations. Mrs. M. B. Jennings, the president, is from Massachusetts, and is a fitting type of her adopted State—beautiful and clever. Mrs. Thinney, chairman of correspondence for the General Federation, is also State organizer. The rapid increase in the number of new clubs and to their membership proves her ability to fill the office. The meetings were crowded at every session, and the audience in the evenings was unique in the large number of men present. An Eastern man who attended an evening session, said "that he had never seen so many beautiful women together in any city of the country." The president of the Denver Woman's Clubs, Mrs. Platt, won all hearts by her inspiring address, and confirmed the reputation which she gained at Louisville of being a really great speaker. The three papers given in the educational section were inspiring, and the discussions which followed showed how alive were the club women to the needs of the State. Before adjourning the federation voted to adopt as its work for the coming year "Public and Traveling Libraries." Receptions, lunches and teas galore were given in honor of the visitors and delegates. The whole city extended the most gracious hospitality, and even accompanied the party to the train to wish them godspeed. As I left, Mrs. Thinney said: "I shall attend the biennial at Denver in 1898, and fifty women from Utah will be with me." As the train rolled out of the station, and the kind friends stood waving good byes from the platform everybody felt that the meeting had been one more step towards fellowship.

ELLEN M. HENROTIN, in *New York Journal*.

CRETE, June 25.—During the club

year, from September, '96 to June, '97 the Columbian club held twenty regular meetings. All were held at the homes of the members. The average attendance was nine. Time of meeting, 2:30 to 5 o'clock on alternate Friday afternoons. The work of the year consisted of papers upon questions which are attracting general attention, some of which were most excellent; all were good. Various questions were considered in debate. The general discussions bring out many facts not generally known concerning noted characters and public questions. Several very fine biographies of prominent people were presented during the year. The full discussion of current events served to keep the members posted on what was going on in the world about us. Much benefit was derived from parliamentary drills, which were held at almost every meeting. The study of civil government, to which a half hour was given at each meeting during the first half of the year, was a great help to us in acquiring a better understanding of the administration of a republican government as contrasted with those of the old world. The work of the entire year has been of incalculable benefit to every member of the club, and though some sacrifices were necessary at times in order to prepare for and attend the meetings yet the gain was far greater than the loss. Our meetings were pleasant and did us all good in a social as well as intellectual way. Twice have we been called upon to "mourn with those who mourn" the grim reaper having entered the homes of two of our members, removing a loved one from each, yet sorrow has only strengthened the ties of friendship and bound us more closely together. We are under obligations to Miss Maud Hawk for some fine musical selections which she rendered on several occasions. In conclusion, the year has certainly been passed in such a way as to be of great benefit to us and we believe each succeeding year will increasingly add to both the social enjoyment and intellectual growth of the members of the Crete Columbian Club.

The Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Students' Club, established in the first days of last November, in Grace House, on Broadway, in this city, is one of the very latest organizations in the cause of the young woman student of art. It owes its existence to Mrs. Wm. Newell, who, with her husband, has been interested in the welfare of these students in Paris, and to Dr. Huntington of Grace Church. Two comfortable rooms on the second floor of Grace House, adjoining the rectory, formerly used by missionary and aid societies, were offered for the use of the club for a year, and funds were raised for its equipment. Of these two rooms, cheerfully furnished in red denim, with maroon curtains, the necessary tables, chairs, etc., one serves as a tea-room, in which, every afternoon from four to six, two ladies of the committee are in attendance to pour tea and distribute sandwiches, and the other offers one large table covered with periodicals and works of reference, and a second with a supply of neat stationery duly bearing the club imprint. The members have also the use of the circulating library connected with the church. The rooms are open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.; the annual dues are \$1, and there is no other expense. Within ten days of its organization the club had a list of forty members, and the advantages it offers are so great, and the class it appeals to is so numerous, that it is probable that the present accommodations will be too restricted before the end of the year. For the tenants of small and unwarmed hall bed-rooms, or of apartments occupied by three or four in common, with the accompanying and inevitable weariness of each other's constant society, for those whose income is so limited as

to shut them out from most comforts, physical and intellectual, these warmed, well-lighted, and well-furnished rooms offer an opening into the world which they see around them.—From "The Field of Art," in the July *Scribner's*.

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