

Des Moines Women's Club.

SCRAP BOOK.



## HOW RELIGIONS GROW

SCHOLARLY PAPER BY MRS. PARSONS  
ON THE EVOLUTION OF RELIGION.

The Des Moines Women's Club Enters a New and Interesting Field of Thought—Buddhism, Brahmanism, Mohammedanism and Other Forms of Religion and How They are Evolved.

Some thirty ladies of the Des Moines Women's club gave wrapt attention to the scholarly essay on the subject of "the Evolution of Religion" read before that body by Mrs. Galusha Parsons on Wednesday afternoon. The paper gave evidence of thorough research and study, and at its close a discussion of its main points occupied an hour, among those taking part being Mrs. Judge Wright, Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Windsor, Mrs. Ruttkay and Mrs. Hull. The following is a synopsis of Mrs. Parsons' valuable paper:

Ever since the dawn of philosophy, philosophers have been occupied with theories to account for the phenomena of nature. Evolution in modern times is distinguished from the ancient, cosmical theories, chiefly by its scientific statements and proofs of what was once only conjectured. Kant pictures the universe as once an infinite expansion of formless diffused matter. At one point of this he supposes a single center of attraction set up; and by strict deductions from admitted dynamical principles, shows how this must result in the development of a prodigious central body surrounded by systems of solar and planetary worlds in all stages of development.

Says an opponent of evolution: "No matter how far back we go; if we assume that the nebula was the ruins of an earlier system which had in turn been born from an antecedent nebula, still, at the earliest time, we find the exact and complex adjustment of tendencies and powers which in time must give birth to to-day. Looking around upon that earliest nebula, we find that the present was there." This is precisely what evolution claims. But what harm, says Kingsley, can come to religion even if it be demonstrated not only that God is so wise that he can make all things, but that he is so much wiser that he can make all things make themselves? If there has been an evolution, there has been an evolver.

It is the object of the science of religion to ascertain what way the human mind has advanced on this road of progress. We know that the different parts of nature's plan are invariably adjusted for the mutual benefit of each other. The echo implies the real voice with unerring certainty. Religious longings, therefore, imply the reality of their object as much as the power of vision implies things visible, and the universality of religious beliefs and practices among all peoples is a fact of utmost significance. Winchell says: "I have carefully examined all the caves of savages alleged destitute of a religious nature, and only in regard to three tribes do I find the testimony such as to render it necessary to admit that they appear to be without any religious sentiment; many of their nations are shocking and debased, but they are still religious in their meaning and argue the existence of a real religious nature." The oldest literary documents are almost everywhere religious.

Each religion had its own growth, but the seed from which all sprung is the same—the perception of the infinite. Two theories are held about the origin of religious ideas; one, that the primitive man at first worshipped a stone or a fetish, and in process of time deified it; the other that the stone was from the first an emblem of some power previously known and afterwards believed to reside in it.

Specialists in every field believe that they have discovered nature-worship at the back of the historic creeds. Never in early times do they find a god unlinked to external phenomena. A wonderful opportunity has been given to scholars by the modern discovery of the ancient literature of India, to trace the growth of a religion which for three or four thousand years formed the foundation of the religious life

of untold millions of human beings. Over a thousand hymns were discovered which were handed down orally, the earliest composed 2400 B. C. It was the duty of the eldest sons to learn from the mouths of their teachers this sacred literature. There are at the present time men in India who learned in this manner and can repeat the whole. These ancient hymns are addressed to rivers, mountains, the sky, to the fire, the sun; to precisely those objects calculated to excite wonder and reverence. The ancient Aryans did not, therefore, begin by manufacturing their god. The first home of savage man may have been beneath the branches of a tree and it might well seem to him that its top touched the sky. According to the Edda all mankind were descended from the ash and elm and in the garden of Eden stood the trees of life and knowledge. After awhile, blocks began to be carved into rough likenesses of human beings.

Following tree, mountain and river came the wind, the storm and the sky—more abstract phenomena. It is so natural to imagine the heaven and the earth as the two first beings, the progenitors of all life; that the primary embrace of heaven and earth is the way in which most primitive peoples have accounted for the origin of all things.

When the ancient Aryan heard the thunder, he spoke of the thunderer; when he saw the rain he spoke of the rainer, so that he had a conception of some power behind these phenomena. He went from the visible to the invisible, the finite to the infinite. He tried name after name to express this, until, at last, he found the one to which we, too, cling, "Our Father in Heaven."

The daily path followed by the sun with undeviating regularity—the straight path—came to mean the right path and gave birth to the idea of order or law in nature, and with that came the idea of moral law which man must obey and for the transgression of which he was punished.

The fundamental idea of Brahmanism is the reality of spirit and that spirit is the only reality—the soul a part of God himself. Spirit cannot create matter, therefore the world is appearance without reality, a delusive show. Modern Christian science teaches something similar, but carries it still farther, saying that "perfection cannot create imperfection, therefore evil has no existence; it is a delusion." The Brahman freed himself by contemplation of the attributes of Deity from the belief that he suffered or was happy; that he could experience either pleasure or pain.

Every religion has its corruptions and reformations. Buddhism was a reaction against the polytheism that had grown up in Brahmanism. Buddha gave up all the luxury and pomp and enjoyment and abandoned the wide realms of a king, to live in a cave; to subsist on alms begged from door to door; to dress in the garb of a mendicant and to associate with outcasts; that he might help a groaning, suffering world. The Brahman believed that if he mortified his flesh by inflicting upon himself all imaginable tortures, such woes would purge his soul from sin and fit it for absorption into the Infinite. Buddha's great discovery was, that salvation came through knowing and obeying the laws of nature. His knowledge of these laws, spiritual, moral and physical was obtained through inward insight. He taught that within each self deliverance must be sought; that every life is the result of former living. He who was a slave may become a prince in reward for deeds well done and he who has ruled a king may wander the earth in rags as a punishment for sins committed in a former life. This faith in the guise of Modern Theosophy has made converts in our own country at the present time. The doctrine of the Brahman is divine absorption; of the Buddhist, human development. The religion of Zoroaster and that of Buddha had much in common, but while the Hindu dreamed, the Persian fought. Zoroaster taught that a great struggle between the powers of light and darkness was incessantly waged and called

on all good men to take part in the war, in which the good must finally triumph.

We have no means of tracing the steps by which the religion of Egypt was evolved. More than five thousand years ago it had reached the conception that "God is the only one whose life is truth." The oldest inscription on the pyramids speak of justice, mercy, love of right, hate of wrong, kindness to the poor, reverence to parents. The future life was believed to be a continuation of bodily existence. The religion of Egypt to-day lives only in the influence which it has exerted on other

creeds.

Philology has taught us that the Greek language belonged to the same family as the Sanscrit, and that the Greek brought with him from central Asia his earliest conceptions of religion. He humanized his gods who lived close beside him on Mt. Olympus, and pursued the same occupations and were governed by the same passions as himself. All the phenomena of nature, all the powers of the soul and all the events of life were brought into lovely myths. In every brook was hidden a Naiad, in every tree lurked a Dryad; the voice of the siren was heard in the moaning wave; Eolus whispered in every breeze. The creed of Helas was a belief in the beauty of the world and mankind. Plato taught that there are in the soul certain innate ideas anterior to all experience. Life is a discipline for another state of being, and resemblance to God the highest motive of action. He thought that no one could understand human things who did not first look into divine things.

Freeman Clarke calls Mohammedanism "the Unitarianism of the east," an assertion of the simple unity of God. But its idea of God is an arbitrary power, divorced even from justice.

Prayers and sacrifices are found in every religion but assume different forms as nations progress. Supplications for outward blessings decrease and prayers for inward spiritual wants take their place. Truth is not, in the apt words of a modern writer, "a moral parcel of known weight and size." God reveals himself in the whole life of the world and in all the relations of life. Just as fast as the mind of man is fitted to receive divine truths he discerns and appropriates them. The religion of the future, when all mankind is united in one brotherhood, will combine all the best elements of the various religions which have been engaged in the task of educating the world. The Hindoo can bring to it his development of his inner nature; the Buddhist, his submission to external law, his gentleness and pity; the Mohammedan, his absolute submission to His will; the Jew, his clinging through good and evil days to the God who loveth righteousness and—the Christian, that highest ideal—self sacrifice, and the union of Divinity and humanity in one indissoluble bond of love. "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons but in every nation, he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him."

## IN FAVOR OF HANGING

26th Paper. — Nov. 9, 1887  
THE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S CLUB  
DECLARE AGAINST THE ANARCHISTS.

All But Two Confirm the Judgments of the Various Courts—Mrs. L. F. Andrews Contributes an Interesting Paper on "Forms of Government"—The Social Compact.

At its last meeting the Women's club of this city dealt particularly with government, its phases and development, evolving propositions and theories in harmony with the times. An interesting feature was a vote upon the anarchist death penalty. To the question: "Should the anarchists hang?" only one responded in the negative. Another prominent feature was a paper entitled "Forms of Government", written by Mrs. L. F. Andrews, whose ideas were couched in the following language:

The origin of government, as applied to creation expressed in the harmonious movements of nature subject to invisible and inexorable law is conceded to be co-existent with God, therefore eternal. The forms of government, as applied to the human race, and its necessities are co-existent with the race and reaches back through the dim vistas of history to its origin. To set forth the different forms in which government has been administered by and to mankind would necessitate a thorough knowledge of the whole history of the human race. The social compact is admitted to possess the greatest history, the widest influence and fullest development. Locke argues that the original condition of mankind was that of perfect equality and freedom, and that no one can be made

subject to the political powers of another without his own consent. He says the only way whereby anyone divests himself of his natural liberty and puts on the bonds of civil society is by agreeing with other men to join and unite into a "community" or government. This thought he defends as founded on history. Political writers since the days of the Greek philosopher Aristotle 384 B. C. to John Austin, one of the ablest English writers on jurisprudence in the 18th century unanimously classify civil government into three standard forms viz: States may be governed by one man; by a number of men small in proportion to the number in the state; by a number large in proportion to the number in the state. These may be more definitely expressed by the terms monarchy, aristocracy, commonwealth. These, by reference to the history of nations, have been again divided into three corresponding depraved forms, tyranny, oligarchy, democracy. Of these depraved forms democracy is the best; however, according to Aristotle it is an error to consider either one of the depraved forms better than the other. The earliest uses of whom we have reliable history were governed by the social compact illustrated by the Jews in their patriarchal family and tribal forms, which by Moses the divinely appointed leader and law-giver immersed into a theocratic form in which God was recognized as the almighty and inviolable king by whom was appointed all temporal rulers and kings. The moral code which was given to Moses amid the thunders of Mount Sinai, by Jehovah as also the civil code of this great Jewish law giver, have been incorporated, to a greater or less degree, into all forms of civil and moral governments established by nations since that time. Under the code of Moses the Jews rose from a slavery the most abject to the position maintained for more than a thousand years, of the most powerful and prosperous of the eastern nations, attaining their greatest glory under the reigns of David and Solomon. As a result of these laws, women were elevated as by no other nation contemporary and the home became the center around which clustered the purest friendship, the highest conception of honor and respect to parents; the noblest self sacrifice for friends and principle. Egypt was one of the earliest seats of political civilization. Its government was monarchical. Under it women reigned as early as the second dynasty. Cleopatra reigned when it was subjugated to the Roman, 30 years B. C.

Assyria and Babylonia were nations contemporary with Egypt, settled by Shem. Nimrod was the first in the history of nations to establish a kingdom. He reigned king of Assyria 245 B. C. His son Ninus succeeded him, and in his reign we learn that Bathsheba or Semiramis, his chief wife, had great influence over state affairs and after his death assumed the government. Her reign was aggressive and warlike and to her, it is said, Assyria owed Babylon, although it did not become its capital until after her death. Nebuchadnezzar usurped her renown in the words: "Behold! Babylon, the city which I have builded."

It would be interesting to follow the history of these three early and representative nations as they illustrate the workings of their forms of government. Suffice it for our purpose to say that they deteriorated, became tyrannical, and finally disappeared as nations of influence antedate all other in reliable history if we except China, which claims for itself an existence of from eighty to ninety thousand years B. C. It is admitted to have been the residence place of Noah before the flood, whose three sons were the settlers in the different countries and founders of government we have touched upon.

Notable among the later nations of great attainments and glory is the Roman, which dates its existence 753 B. C. and was ruled by kings until 510 B. C., when royalty was abolished and a republic established, which continued until 43 B. C. when the republic became an empire under Cæsar Julius Cæsar, who was assassinated one year afterward, in its formative period as a republic of about 200 years there was a continuous struggle between Patrician and Plebeian, for and against the representative rights of Plebeian and their right to hold lands, which struggle was finally ended by the victory of the Plebeians which insured to them the right of representation and a legislative independence. When won a struggle two



hundred years for the right of suffrage or a representative voice in government, shall we not hope victory alike glorious will here crowned her persisted efforts?

Rome in her arrogance as an empire became tyrannical, and her fall was the eclipse of the old civilization and the usher in of the Middle Ages, where darkness and gloom reigned supreme over men for a thousand years. Out of this grew the "feudal system," which prevailed for a period of nearly 500 years. Before the feudalism was well established, in the interim between the downfall of the Roman empire and feudalism, humanity groped in darkness. War and vandalism drove before them every trace of art, literature and civilization, and men were glad to sign themselves to any one who could protect them from the horrors of war and vandalism; hence grew the system of feudalism in which lands were surrendered for the promise of protection and men of their own free will became essentially slaves—and society was divided into aristocracy and vassals, lords or barons owning the lands, the only consideration being that of protection. It would be interesting to trace feudalism in its workings through its various stages or phases. Taxes in specie payment were introduced into England by William I., or William the Conqueror, in 1067 and raised arbitrarily. Under Henry I., 1189, were seen the first faint glimmering of the establishment of the principle of representation and was born of his necessity for more money in order to carry on his war. The next step forward in the recognition of the civil rights of representatives was that representatives should be freely chosen by the people. The right, therefore, of representation in England was in its origin the right to consent to be taxed. A political right granted centuries ago, now withheld from a large

proportion of the—shall I say citizens or women of the United States—who pay taxes for the support of our government in which they have no representation. Surely our government which claims to be the most advanced in its legislation for the people has in this particular advanced backward, if such a thing be possible, to the days of feudalism in the middle ages of gloom and degradation or of the plebeianism of the Roman republic, where taxation without representation was arbitrarily enforced. Under the reign of King John representative rights culminated in its greatest glory by the adoption of the famed Magna Charta, signed by him, from which event Englishmen date the birth of their national freedom. In 1693, limited monarchy was established as the government of England. Since then the external form has not changed although great silent changes have been and are being wrought. Blackstone and De Lolme regard the government of England as being the combination of the three standard forms, monarchy, aristocracy, commonwealth, or republic. Hume gives as his opinion that it inclines more to absolute monarchy than to a republic. It is true, however, that today the people of our republican government make a more complete surrender of power to the executive than is done in England. Even the Queen cannot overrule the decisions of the house of commons, whose whole power is concentrated in the cabinet, the inner council of the empire. The relative of an individual member of the cabinet and of the cabinet to its premier are not fully understood, except to the initiated. Something similar, but not equivalent, is found in France and the United States. In England the constitution is claimed to be more democratic than in the United States. In that the will of the people can more speedily be brought to bear upon the government. In the republic of France the head of government is not as in England a premier, nor as in the United States, a president. He is served by a prime minister and a cabinet, who hold office on the terms of parliamentary confidence and is eventually simply a minister of the cabinet. In the transmission of power from cabinet to cabinet, he resembles an English king. The Swiss republic has its position among constitutional governments. Time warns me, as it is 12 m. Wednesday November 9th, that I must close my inefficient and unsatisfactory efforts to write a paper on a subject beyond my knowledge or grasp and content myself with the consolatory remark of a literary gentleman friend, who upon learning of my attempt to write a paper on "Forms of Government," said it

would be too big a subject for me. I think I have fully verified the fact, that I may justly appropriate the sentiment to myself, feeling certain that I have furnished you one topic at least for discussion by my inability to perform the task assigned.

The position that woman has in relation to government should fill an important part of this paper, but I can only give it a thought. That woman whose influence in the home and socially is great should be reckoned in political and civil relations a nonentity, entirely ignored in a representative capacity—yet held amenable to laws and taxation, is a mystery which the near future may dispel. It is the problem before the American people, upon which many have diligently thought for a half century and it certainly appears to be nearing solution, in which the hitherto unknown quantity, necessary for highest legislation will stand revealed as woman enfranchised, depositing the silent ballot, potent instrument of her increasing power.

## A TEACHER'S IDEA

As to the Relation of Immorality and the Lack of Will

May 9. Power. 1888.

GOOD PAPER BY MISS MATTHEWS.

The Des Moines Women's Club Considers a Profound Social Problem.

The Des Moines Women's club held an unusually interesting session Wednesday afternoon at the pleasant home of Mrs. Galusha Parsons, president of the club. One of the interesting features of the meeting was the announcement of the chairman of the committees for next year as follows: Art, Mrs. S. S. Huntington; literature, Mrs. James G. Berryhill; education, Mrs. A. L. Frisbie; miscellaneous, Mrs. John Wyman; women's work, Mrs. Lieut. Gov. Hull; social, Mrs. Dr. Potter; current topics, Mrs. J. H. Windsor. The society will be divided, and each lady given a place in one of the several committees. A very able paper on the subject "Is Immorality the Result of a Lack of Will Power?" was read by Miss Elizabeth Matthews and it furnished not only entertainment but food for much future reflection. It was discussed with earnestness by a number of the ladies including Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Hull, Miss Rachael Clarke, Mrs. Dr. Potter, Dr. Liebhart, Miss Edgerton of Waterloo, Mrs. Rutkay, and others. Follows is a synopsis of Miss Matthews's paper:

Morality and immorality are such relative terms that to absolutely separate one from the other, would involve such a breadth of judgment, nicety of perception, fineness of sentiment and intuition, that the most profound philosopher might stand abashed. And when we increase its complexity by tracing back to a cause, we are confounded by the enormity of our subject. What is the criterion of right and wrong? Does each one establish it for himself, according to the highest conception of which he is capable? If that be true, then is he a victim of circumstances? Is man morally the fruit of teaching, conscious or unconscious, true or false, or in other words, the legitimate result of the surroundings in which he is placed and the example before him? Is the man who has the innate power to be morally greater, nobler

than any teachings of circumstances, the only really great man? What is will power, whence comes it, whither goes it? Is it an inherited force? If so, then is the man who is without the legacy responsible for that of which he has no conception? Is it a growth of cultivation? And we are stranded in a sea of questions as incapable of solution, as was perplexed Hamlet on the problem of existence. Again, I state morality and immorality are only relative terms, and what constitutes morality in one is immorality in the other. Steerforth and Martha of Dickens's creation, illustrate the great humane truth more perfectly than any treatise our pen could write. Handsome, gifted, accomplished Steerforth, surrounded by luxury and comfort, was he not, in youth, before entering the paths of absolute vice, was he not morally more culpable for living his life at a low plane with no noble purpose or desire than ignorant untaught, misguided Martha in her life of sin and remorse?

The educational theories of Plato, Aristotle and other Greeks and the place of physical training, music and early moral training in their systems was reviewed and the views of Locke and Rousseau in regard to education were quoted.

The problem of heredity certainly is one of the grandest secrets of nature. When we reflect upon its obscurity and complexity, we may fairly ask what hope there is of discovering its solution, of reading its true meaning, its hidden laws and causes. Fowler says of moral faculties transmitted in regard to intemperance, "Teachers have uniformly answered my question 'Do you observe any difference in the intellects and morals of the children of intemperate parents as compared with those of the temperate?' that the former are worse to manage, less studious and more difficult to teach. And this result harmonizes perfectly with that great physiological law that all alcoholics stimulate the selfish propensities more relatively than the moral sentiments and intellect. Intemperance in parents impairs the grain or texture of the brain and thereby deteriorates the general tone of character and cast of mind of their children. Not only are the selfish propensities stimulated, but depraved tastes, selection of associates, which the child has inherited from his parent, who had not the will power to resist or overcome. Oftentimes it is that children under your immediate control seem to be benefited by the environments, but out of sight the old life claims them. Each cell and tissue of their being takes something of its tone and tendency from the ancestral stock.

New England was settled by the moral sentiments. This hereditary law being true, what could reasonably be expected of their descendants but that religious zeal seen wherever New England sons and daughters have settled? Yet, the conscientiousness in the American head averages less than even in the English and in them far less than in the Swiss, German, and Russian head; doubtless in part, because the Anglo-Saxon nation was founded in Danish usurpation and Norman rapine, and has followed war almost incessantly and their American descendants have driven out the Indian by wickedness and violence, and are now perpetually preying upon each other, in their selfish scrambling after riches and power. Watch a Yankee, or he will trick you, but Germans, Turks and Chinese do just as they agree. That a part of this national and sectarian organization is educational, is admitted, yet that it is partly hereditary is perfectly obvious.

Mr. Lewelling of the reform school in a recent paper on "Psychology of Crime" says: "But whatever the real origin of sin, none will dispute the inborn tenden-

cies of the individual as society finds him to-day. I believe it is established beyond question that the taint of the parent is bequeathed to the child, that the faculties which determine a career of crime are inherited and that the iniquity of the parent is visited upon the

children to third and fourth generations. This I believe, though being once admitted we may be led to strange conclusions. Being true, it follows that before society can inflict punishment upon the criminal it shall ascertain the degree of his moral responsibility. But society cannot do this and it therefore remains that society has no moral right to inflict punishment as such; that its only prerogative is the right to prevent, restrain and reform. No human insight can penetrate the labyrinths of man's moral nature and tell what are the inborn instincts of his life and his responsibility. It is the environment, the outward surroundings, the inward experience and the hereditary instincts which influence his life and actions. He is surrounded by influences from without, from which he is powerless to escape."

By environments, I mean more than the surroundings of his home, his associates, his places of resort, his personal habits, the example of his parents, the filthy air which he breathes, the want of personal cleanliness—everything which forms and develops character.

The boy brings back from his wanderings a rich booty of unfamiliar stones, plants, bugs, worms, spiders, lizards, etc. What is this? What is its name? are the questions asked. Oftentimes he is met with "throw that away, that is horrid!" or "drop that, it will bite you!" If the child obeys, he has also thrown away an essential part of his human power, and later you may say to him in vain, "See, that is a harmless little creature."

Elizabeth Peabody in her lectures to the training class says: "Does anyone person hold a baby up to three years old, and often indeed much later, responsible for the state of its temper, or for the rightfulness of its action? Nevertheless, the child is a moral person all this time, and it is of the last importance whether or not his temper has been kept sweet and his action according to law, or discordant."

We hear of "breaking the child's will." A child's will should never be broken, but opened up into harmony with God's will, through a lower harmony with the will of its loving and loved mother. Besides to choose to give up one's own will is the only complete and salutary giving up, enabling the soul to mount up spiritually, like the eagle and renew its strength. Children should only obey their parents, in the Lord, and parents should never "provoke their children to wrath."

We are always either educating or hindering the development of our fellow creatures. We are always being uplifted or being dragged down by our fellow creatures. Education is always mutual. The child teaches his parents (as Goethe has said) what his parents omitted to teach him. Those persons who feel that education is wearisome have not learned the secret of it. A good true teacher will be as fond of the work as an artist of his painting, a sculptor of his modeling. Teachers who are not conscious of learning from their pupils, may be quite sure they teach them very little. Then, let us really "live with our children," as Froebel says, whose motto explains what Christ meant when he bids us to be converted and become little children. The possibility of doing this will prove to any one who has any heart and imagination that it is no mere poetic phrase, but a profound spiritual truth, that "Heaven lies about us in our infancy", that



children do "come from God who is their home, trailing clouds of glory."

Through association with its fellows, i. e., with other children of its own age, the child learns to love beyond the narrow range of self and the love of human beings leads to the love of God. Religion means binding together, union between God and man, and without loving fellowship religion cannot exist.

What is most essential for the later educational influence of the mother, is that in the very earliest period of her child's development she should have succeeded in gaining its confidence, so that when the moment of the first fault (or fall) comes the child should not think of hiding itself from her. But this confidence can only be won by the mother's living in the child's life, that is to say, playing with it, entering into everything that occupies its little mind—in short, understanding and rightly directing its earliest utterances. If the first fault has been committed, loving sympathy with the child's inward feeling, while at the same time he is made to feel that it is to a certain extent brought on by himself, will have more effect than any scolding or punishment. That these cannot be entirely dispensed with as the child grows older is of course understood; but the natural consequences of a fault are always its most effectual punishment. The youngest child can tell at once whether praise or blame is intended in a look, and if the mother possess true educational tact she can do much in this way. The occasion of the child's first fault is of the greatest importance, because it brings with it the first awakening of conscience. Let children learn through love to give up their own will to others, this is the only right sort of obedience and that which arouses energy for good, whereas obedience from fear produces cowardice. The child's will is too often cowed instead of being guided and directed towards right; and this is the reason why so few human beings attain that true moral independence without which the highest kind of freedom, that of self government, is impossible, and the inner kernel of the character can never fully unfold itself.

The outcome of moral training in home and in schools will be individual lives enriched.

Depravity begins in the nursery, in homes one would least suspect—those of the rich whose children are entrusted almost entirely to the nurse, who because of ignorance of child nature often frighten the child into minding her as "the bears will come and take you" and similar threats we have known to be given. It is the mother who should know that her child was in bed sleeping peacefully, not from fright.

I would not have the mother a slave to her child, as I think as much danger or harm may come from the over-indulgent, self-sacrificing mother.

Oh, mothers, may the time be not far distant when you will study child nature as psychology aids us, when some one inspired for the mission will be able to form and maintain a "mothers' class" and one also for nurse girls, so that their eyes may be opened so they will be able to see the material with which they are working. So that the nurse, when the child cries because he cannot have his own way, will not to quiet him give him the nursing bottle, cookie or banana, but will know how to pervert this by understanding child nature.

Why can't we have a protection or prevention society established, and conducted under the auspices of women of heart and finance? Boys and girls too, encouraged to learn trades, occupied during the long school vacations then we would not have so many candidates for the reform schools. Says Supt. Sabin in a lecture on children of crime:

"The need of to-day is for men and women who can go down into the dark rough places where the children of crime dwell and carry light and hope where light and hope were never known before. We need men and women who can in the interests of humanity pass through the fiercest flames and not even the smell of fire be found upon their garments." If such a society could be established, with a person for the manager of good executive ability, with the knowledge that 100 cents make one dollar, it might reach out a helping hand to many. Ye mothers who live in the midst of your own family and select society, think you, you are doing your part to the less fortunate if ye raise not your voice and take not from your purse? "A little leaveneth the whole." If we had such environments for the class who are on the street the greater part of their lives now, the immorality would be "nipped in the bud" by more pleasant occupations.

Pay for work done, no matter how little, to create independence and individuality. Teach them to sew, knit, crochet, darn, read aloud, cook, keep books, mend, etc.

In the words of Johannot, "The outcome of this moral training in homes and in schools will be individual lives enriched, ennobled and exalted, selfishness duly controlled and motive based upon considerations of human welfare; intelligence, informing in regard to relations and obligations, and guiding to beneficent results; homes in which the gratification of personal desires is always subordinated to the general good; communities where human rights are sacred, and the patent of nobility is, 'service to humanity'; states founded upon individual purity throwing their mantle of protection around the humblest and weakest, furnishing opportunity for the most complete development of all, and establishing public justice upon the sure foundation of private character, and the final realization of the prediction upon the advent of the great Teacher: 'Peace on earth and good will to men.'"

## IMPERSONATIONS.

Historical Characters Presented in Costume at the Women's

Feb. 27 Club. 1889.

## THE SCHOOL ELECTION DISCUSSED

Director Sneer's Position Commented on and Freely Criticised.

"An afternoon of impersonations" had been arranged by the members of the miscellaneous committee of the Women's club for Wednesday afternoon, and that being something a little apart from the usual order, the interest in the programme was unusual. Mrs. John Wyman, who is chairman of the committee, announced that the members would be required to guess the characters taken. Mrs. C. H. Gatch then entered, attired in a quaint costume of half a century ago, a marked feature of which was a huge bonnet, wonderfully made and adorned. She read some bright extracts from the letters of a certain little Scotch woman who had been transplanted to English soil and whose chief solicitude was for the welfare of her literary though dyspeptic husband and her household. Of course, there was no trouble in recognizing Jane Welch

Carlyle, whose name was on every lip. Next appeared Mrs. Ruttkay in a queenly robe of by-gone days. After a brief address, she announced that she was born in the year of the Lisbon earthquake and married in the year of the discovery by Dr. Joseph Priestley of the pneumatic trough. The character taken, Marie Antoinette, was soon guessed. A little old lady with snowy hair and cap of lace then appeared, and after a recitation of some beautiful verses, it was discovered to be Harriet Beecher Stowe in the person of Mrs. W. T. Clarke. A poem was then recited by Mrs. L. F. Andrews, who wore a robe of black and white satin with a flowing bridal veil, and it was some time before it was found that she represented Judith who slew Holofernes. The poem was by T. B. Aldrich. Mrs. H. C. Alverson appeared in somber black with black lace upon her head and in accents almost severe delivered a few brief words, the substance of which was that "We are not here only to be happy". The role was well taken and soon recognized as "Catherine Elsmere." The remaining impersonations were of the comic order, Mrs. Wyman appearing in costume as Mrs. Partington, and receiving as guests a party of grotesque appearing ladies, through whose disguises one discovered Mrs. Tag Hussey, Mrs. S. A. Robertson and Mrs. Andrews. The impersonations were a great success and very much enjoyed. Under the head of Current Topics, the society discussed the propriety of taking steps toward the organization of the various women's clubs of the state so as to secure representation in the national council, the object being to aid and advance the interests of women. The matter of declaring against women occupying leading positions in our own city schools was touched upon, the prevailing opinion being very strongly opposed to any one who took a stand against any candidate simply because of sex. The ladies did not express themselves as favoring women for those positions more than men but simply against the sentiment of what was believed to be a bygone age, that no women need apply.

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April 10 Porter. 1889.

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On behalf of the committee in charge of the day, Mrs. Julia M. Hunting then introduced Mrs. Parlin-Porter, who read a paper on the "Influence of Art in Daily Life," which commanded the close attention of her hearers and furnished much food for future thought. Mrs. Porter, treated her subject with that reverence which an artist alone can feel. After defining art, she traced the progress of the world upwards owing to its benign influence. It is that something put into man that makes him more of a free agent than any of the lower orders of creation. First, the desire for comfort made man's brain more active to create more things, then better, and lastly, those possessing more grace. The merely brute creation may have the desire for greater comfort, but he is not created with the faculty of adapting means to ends, and thus a chasm is formed.

Under a broad definition of art, it is found to underlie all we have and are to-day. Without it, there could be no science, no undertaking of the mysteries of the elements, no versatility of language, no perfect religion as exists to-day and which lifts man up to be an ideal in goodness, purity, loveliness and charity. The two grand divisions of art are the scientific and religious, both having an upward tendency. In delving in science, man comes near to the first cause and learns to revere that power which has put into operation the mighty universe. Too little is thought of the upward tendency of the industrial, useful arts. How much more effective would be the influence of mothers over their little ones if more stress were placed upon a proper reverence of the little things that go to make up the home life, instead of trying to convince children that certain acts or thoughts are wrong. Instead of telling a child that it is wrong to kill a fly, how much better would it be to turn the attention to its beauty, its wonderfully formed eyes, its beautifully transparent wings, and its constantly surprising rapidity of movement, and thus implant a reverence for all these little things, that would place them far above and beyond the possibility of injury.

It is reasonable to suppose that the useful arts in a crude form were long in existence before a thought of implements of a more graceful or beautiful character had entered the mind. The first personal decorations were not designed for beauty's sake but to distinguish man's rank among his fellows. A thought worthy of attention is the oneness of religion and the fine arts. Art symbols have ever been used to arouse the admiration of the ignorant and lead them to a higher morality. Music, poetry and sculpture have all been used to illustrate, describe and emphasize religion, and they are to-day the means by which the world is made to see and understand the highest ideals. The result arising from the higher conceptions of the arts is that the choicest works are no longer used to decorate temples and churches, but are transplanted to the home.

It is in the boundless field of romance that we find the genius of to-day finds its fullest expression. In the wide range of the Fine Arts, nowhere can so great a variety of subjects be handled with such an infinite delicacy of shading. It touches the key-note of all the other arts. All is clothed in the rarest word painting. To be sure, there are good and bad novels in as many degrees as there are degrees of weak and strong moral natures to read them. The good novelist helps his readers to reach their ideals, though his work does not satisfy unless its analysis is verified by actual experience and observation. As a moral educator, hand-in-hand with the novelist, is the



hundred years for the right of suffrage or a representative voice in government, shall we not hope victory alike glorious will here crown her persisted efforts?

Rome in her arrogance as an empire became tyrannical, and her fall was the eclipse of the old civilization and the usher in of the Middle Ages, where darkness and gloom reigned supreme over men for a thousand years. Out of this grew the "feudal system," which prevailed for a period of nearly 500 years. Before the feudalism was well established, in the interim between the downfall of the Roman empire and feudalism, humanity groped in darkness. War and vandalism drove before them every trace of art, literature and civilization, and men were glad to sign themselves to any one who could protect them from the horrors of war and vandalism; hence grew the system of feudalism in which lands were surrendered for the promise of protection and men of their own free will became essentially slaves—and society was divided into aristocracy and vassals, lords or barons owning the lands, the only consideration being that of protection. It would be interesting to trace feudalism in its workings through its various stages or phases. Taxes in specie payment were introduced into England by William I., or William the Conqueror, in 1067 and raised arbitrarily. Under Henry I., 1189, were seen the first faint glimmering of the establishment of the principle of representation and was born of his necessity for more money in order to carry on his war. The next step forward in the recognition of the civil rights of representatives was that representatives should be freely chosen by the people. The right, therefore, of representation in England was in its origin the right to consent to be taxed. A political right granted centuries ago, now withheld from a large

proportion of the—shall I say citizens or women of the United States?—who pay taxes for the support of our government in which they have no representation. Surely our government which claims to be the most advanced in its legislation for the people has in this particular advanced backward, if such a thing be possible, to the days of feudalism in the middle ages of gloom and degradation or of the plebeianism of the Roman republic, where taxation without representation was arbitrarily enforced. Under the reign of King John representative rights culminated in its greatest glory by the adoption of the famed Magna Charta, signed by him, from which event Englishmen date the birth of their national freedom. In 1693, limited monarchy was established as the government of England. Since then the external form has not changed although great silent changes have been and are being wrought. Blackstone and De Lolme regard the government of England as being the combination of the three standard forms, monarchy, aristocracy, commonwealth, or republic. Hume gives as his opinion that it inclines more to absolute monarchy than to a republic. It is true, however, that today the people of our republican government make a more complete surrender of power to the executive than is done in England. Even the Queen cannot overrule the decisions of the house of commons, whose whole power is concentrated in the cabinet, the inner council of the empire. The relative of an individual member of the cabinet and of the cabinet to its premiers are not fully understood, except to the initiated. Something similar, but not equivalent, is found in France and the United States. In England the constitution is claimed to be more democratic than in the United States, in that the will of the people can more speedily be brought to bear upon the government. In the republic of France the head of government is not as in England a premier, nor as in the United States, a president. He is served by a prime minister and a cabinet, who hold office on the terms of parliamentary confidence and is eventually simply a minister of the cabinet. In the transmission of power from cabinet to cabinet, he resembles an English king. The Swiss republic has its position among constitutional governments. Time warns me, as it is 12 m. Wednesday November 9th, that I must close my inefficient and unsatisfactory efforts to write a paper on a subject beyond my knowledge or grasp and content myself with the consolatory remark of a literary gentleman friend, who upon learning of my attempt to write a paper on "Forms of Government," said it

would be too big a subject for me. I think I have fully verified the fact, that I may justly appropriate the sentiment to myself, feeling certain that I have furnished you one topic at least for discussion, by my inability to perform the task assigned.

The position that woman has in relation to government should fill an important part of this paper, but I can only give it a thought. That woman whose influence in the home and socially is great should be reckoned in political and civil relations a nonentity, entirely ignored in a representative capacity—yet held amenable to laws and taxation, is a mystery which the near future may dispel. It is the problem before the American people, upon which many have diligently thought for a half century and it certainly appears to be nearing solution, in which the hitherto unknown quantity, necessary for highest legislation will stand revealed as women enfranchised, depositing the silent ballot, potent instrument of her increasing power.

## A TEACHER'S IDEA

As to the Relation of Immorality and the Lack of Will

May 9. Power. 1888.

GOOD PAPER BY MISS MATTHEWS.

The Des Moines Women's Club Considers a Profound Social Problem.

The Des Moines Women's club held an unusually interesting session Wednesday afternoon at the pleasant home of Mrs. Galusha Parsons, president of the club. One of the interesting features of the meeting was the announcement of the chairman of the committees for next year as follows: Art, Mrs. S. S. Hunting; literature, Mrs. James G. Berryhill; education, Mrs. A. L. Frisbie; miscellaneous, Mrs. John Wyman; women's work, Mrs. Lieut. Gov. Hull; social, Mrs. Dr. Potter; current topics, Mrs. J. H. Windsor. The society will be divided, and each lady given a place in one of the several committees. A very able paper on the subject "Is Immorality the Result of a Lack of Will Power?" was read by Miss Elizabeth Matthews and it furnished not only entertainment but food for much future reflection. It was discussed with earnestness by a number of the ladies including Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Hull, Miss Rachael Clarke, Mrs. Dr. Potter, Dr. Liebhart, Miss Edgerton of Waterloo, Mrs. Ruttkay, and others. Follows is a synopsis of Miss Matthews's paper:

Morality and immorality are such relative terms that to absolutely separate one from the other, would involve such a breadth of judgment, nicety of perception, fineness of sentiment and intuition, that the most profound philosopher might stand abashed. And when we increase its complexity by tracing back to a cause, we are confounded by the enormity of our subject. What is the criterion of right and wrong? Does each one establish it for himself, according to the highest conception of which he is capable? If that be true, then is he a victim of circumstances? Is man morally the fruit of teaching, conscious or unconscious, true or false, or in other words, the legitimate result of the surroundings in which he is placed and the example before him? Is the man who has the innate power to be morally greater, nobler

than any teachings or circumstances, the only really great man? What is will power, whence comes it, whither goes it? Is it an inherited force? If so, then is the man who is without the legacy responsible for that of which he has no conception? Is it a growth of cultivation? And we are stranded in a sea of questions as incapable of solution, as was perplexed Hamlet on the problem of existence. Again, I state morality and immorality are only relative terms, and what constitutes morality in one is immorality in the other. Steerforth and Martha of Dickens's creation, illustrate the great humane truth more perfectly than any treatise our pen could write. Handsome, gifted, accomplished Steerforth, surrounded by luxury and comfort, was he not, in youth, before entering the paths of absolute vice, was he not morally more culpable for living his life at a low plane with no noble purpose or desire than ignorant untaught, misguided Martha in her life of sin and remorse?

The educational theories of Plato, Aristotle and other Greeks and the place of physical training, music and early moral training in their systems was reviewed and the views of Locke and Rousseau in regard to education were quoted.

The problem of heredity certainly is one of the grandest secrets of nature. When we reflect upon its obscurity and complexity, we may fairly ask what hope there is of discovering its solution, of reading its true meaning, its hidden laws and causes. Fowler says of moral faculties transmitted in regard to intemperance, "Teachers have uniformly answered my question 'Do you observe any difference in the intellectuals and morals of the children of intemperate parents as compared with those of the temperate?' that the former are worse to manage, less studious and more difficult to teach. And this result harmonizes perfectly with that great physiological law that all alcoholics stimulate the selfish propensities more relatively than the moral sentiments and intellect. Intemperance in parents impairs the grain or texture of the brain and thereby deteriorates the general tone of character and cast of mind of their children. Not only are the selfish propensities stimulated, but depraved tastes, selection of associates, which the child has inherited from his parent, who had not the will power to resist or overcome. Oftentimes it is that children under your immediate control seem to be benefited by the environments, but out of sight the old life claims them. Each cell and tissue of their being takes something of its tone and tendency from the ancestral stock.

New England was settled by the moral sentiments. This hereditary law being true, what could reasonably be expected of their descendants but that religious zeal seen wherever New England sons and daughters have settled? Yet, the conscientiousness in the American head averages less than even in the English and in them far less than in the Swiss, German, and Russian head; doubtless in part, because the Anglo-Saxon nation was founded in Danish usurpation and Norman rapine, and has followed war almost incessantly and their American descendants have driven out the Indian by wickedness and violence, and are now perpetually preying upon each other, in their selfish scrambling after riches and power. Watch a Yankee, or he will trick you, but Germans, Turks and Chinese do just as they agree. That a part of this national and sectarian organization is educational, is admitted, yet that it is partly hereditary is perfectly obvious.

Mr. Lewelling of the reform school in a recent paper on "Psychology of Crime" says: "But whatever the real origin of sin, none will dispute the inborn tenden-

cies of the individual as society finds him to-day. I believe it is established beyond question that the taint of the parent is bequeathed to the child, that the faculties which determine a career of crime are inherited and that the iniquity of the parent is visited upon the children to third and fourth generations. This I believe, though being once admitted we may be led to strange conclusions. Being true, it follows that before society can inflict punishment upon the criminal it shall ascertain the degree of his moral responsibility. But society cannot do this and it therefore remains that society has no moral right to inflict punishment as such; that its only prerogative is the right to prevent, restrain and reform. No human insight can penetrate the labyrinths of man's moral nature and tell what are the inborn instincts of his life and his responsibility. It is the environment, the outward surroundings, the inward experience and the hereditary instincts which influence his life and actions. He is surrounded by influences from without, from which he is powerless to escape."

By environments, I mean more than the surroundings of his home, his associates, his places of resort, his personal habits, the example of his parents, the filthy air which he breathes, the want of personal cleanliness—everything which forms and develops character.

The boy brings back from his wanderings a rich booty of unfamiliar stones, plants, bugs, worms, spiders, lizards, etc. What is this? What is its name? are the questions asked. Oftentimes he is met with "throw that away, that is horrid!" or "drop that, it will bite you!" If the child obeys, he has also thrown away an essential part of his human power, and later you may say to him in vain, "See, that is a harmless little creature."

Elizabeth Peabody in her lectures to the training class says: "Does any sane person hold a baby up to three years old, and often indeed much later, responsible for the state of its temper, or for the rightfulness of its action? Nevertheless, the child is a moral person all this time, and it is of the last importance whether or not his temper has been kept sweet and his action according to law, or discordant."

We hear of "breaking the child's will." A child's will should never be broken, but opened up into harmony with God's will, through a lower harmony with the will of its loving and loved mother. Besides to choose to give up one's own will is the only complete and salutary giving up, enabling the soul to mount up spiritually, like the eagle and renew its strength. Children should only obey their parents, in the Lord, and parents should never "provoke their children to wrath."

We are always either educating or hindering the development of our fellow creatures. We are always being uplifted or being dragged down by our fellow creatures. Education is always mutual. The child teaches his parents (as Goethe has said) what his parents omitted to teach him. Those persons who feel that education is wearisome have not learned the secret of it. A good true teacher will be as fond of the work as an artist of his painting, a sculptor of his modeling. Teachers who are not conscious of learning from their pupils, may be quite sure they teach them very little. Then, let us really "live with our children," as Froebel says, whose motto explains what Christ meant when he bids us to be converted and become little children. The possibility of doing this will prove to any one who has any heart and imagination that it is no mere poetic phrase, but a profound spiritual truth, that "Heaven lies about us in our infancy", that



children do "come from God who is their home, trailing clouds of glory."

Through association with its fellows, i. e., with other children of its own age, the child learns to love beyond the narrow range of self and the love of human beings leads to the love of God. Religion means binding together, union between God and man, and without loving fellowship religion cannot exist.

What is most essential for the later educational influence of the mother, is that in the very earliest period of her child's development she should have succeeded in gaining its confidence, so that when the moment of the first fault (or fall) comes the child should not think of hiding itself from her. But this confidence can only be won by the mother's living in the child's life, that is to say, playing with it, entering into everything that occupies its little mind—in short, understanding and rightly directing its earliest utterances. If the first fault has been committed, loving sympathy with the child's inward feeling, while at the same time he is made to feel that it is to a certain extent brought on by himself, will have more effect than any scolding or punishment. That these cannot be entirely dispensed with as the child grows older is of course understood; but the natural consequences of a fault are always its most effectual punishment. The youngest child can tell at once whether praise or blame is intended in a look, and if the mother possess true educational tact she can do much in this way. The occasion of the child's first fault is of the greatest importance, because it brings with it the first awakening of conscience. Let children learn through love to give up their own will to others, this is the only right sort of obedience and that which arouses energy for good, whereas obedience from fear produces cowardice. The child's will is too often cowed instead of being guided and directed towards right; and this is the reason why so few human beings attain that true moral independence without which the highest kind of freedom, that of self government, is impossible, and the inner kernel of the character can never fully unfold itself.

The outcome of moral training in home and in schools will be individual lives enriched.

Depravity begins in the nursery, in homes one would least suspect—those of the rich whose children are entrusted almost entirely to the nurse, who because of ignorance of child nature often frighten the child into minding her as "the bears will come and take you" and similar threats we have known to be given. It is the mother who should know that her child was in bed sleeping peacefully, not from fright.

I would not have the mother a slave to her child, as I think as much danger or harm may come from the over-indulgent, self-sacrificing mother.

Oh, mothers, may the time be not far distant when you will study child nature as psychology aids us, when some one inspired for the mission will be able to form and maintain a "mothers' class" and one also for nurse girls, so that their eyes may be opened so they will be able to see the material with which they are working. So that the nurse, when the child cries because he cannot have his own way, will not to quiet him give him the nursing bottle, cookie or banana, but will know how to divert this by understanding child nature.

Why can't we have a protection or prevention society established, and conducted under the auspices of women of heart and finance? Boys and girls too, encouraged to learn trades, occupied during the long school vacations then we would not have so many candidates for the reform schools. Says Supt. Sabin in a lecture on children of crime:

"The need of to-day is for men and women who can go down into the dark rough places where the children of crime dwell and carry light and hope where light and hope were never known before. We need men and women who can in the interests of humanity pass through the fiercest flames and not even the smell of fire be found upon their garments." If such a society could be established, with a person for the manager of good executive ability, with the knowledge that 100 cents make one dollar, it might reach out a helping hand to many. Ye mothers who live in the midst of your own family and select society, think you, you are doing your part to the less fortunate if ye raise not your voice and take not from your purse? "A little leaveneth the whole." If we had such environments for the class who are on the street the greater part of their lives now, the immorality would be "nipped in the bud" by more pleasant occupations.

Pay for work done, no matter how little, to create independence and individuality. Teach them to sew, knit, crochet, darn, read aloud, cook, keep books, mend, etc.

In the words of Johannot, "The outcome of this moral training in homes and in schools will be individual lives enriched, ennobled and exalted, selfishness duly controlled and motive based upon considerations of human welfare; intelligence, informing in regard to relations and obligations, and guiding to beneficent results; homes in which the gratification of personal desires is always subordinated to the general good; communities where human rights are sacred, and the patent of nobility is, "service to humanity"; states founded upon individual purity throwing their mantle of protection around the humblest and weakest, furnishing opportunity for the most complete development of all, and establishing public justice upon the sure foundation of private character, and the final realization of the prediction upon the advent of the great Teacher: "Peace on earth and good will to men."

## IMPERSONATIONS.

Historical Characters Presented  
in Costume at the Women's

Feb. 27 Club. 1889.

## THE SCHOOL ELECTION DISCUSSED

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artist who can sympathize with the story teller, whatever his theme. The decorative arts are standing with one hand resting on the useful, the other on the aesthetic. To-day there is scarcely anything we use either to eat, drink, wear or keep us warm that is not more or less ornamented. Whither is this excess of decoration leading us? It cannot all be thrown away. That which is good must survive. There are many who have the true instinct of the artist, and it is through their influence and example that the decorative arts will be saved and guided into the right paths. Architecture is very closely linked with these decorative arts and like all else is working up into the higher light of beauty. Among the aesthetic arts is poetry, the purest embodiment of the soul's best impulses, as is music one of nature's noblest instincts. Ideal nature is the kingdom in which the true painter's soul breathes and moves and lives. The inspiration going out to the world from the brush is like the gentle breeze of spring. It quiets the troubled waters of life's hard toils, rests the weary, brings back hope, faith, joy.

## AUTHORESSSES.

What they Have Done and  
So. Are Doing. Jan 18/88

### A VERY CREDITABLE RECORD.

Mrs Billington's Paper at the  
Women's Club.

The reading of such a paper as that presented by Mrs. Addie B. Billington before the Des Moines Women's club on Wednesday afternoon proved a decided treat even though it came as one of the series of excellent papers which constitute the year's programme. There is probably no one in the state who is better fitted to speak intelligently of "Women in Literature During the Past Century" than is Mrs. Billington. Possessed of that fine literary and artistic sense and poetic sentiment that render discrimination in the fields of literature an easy task; a conscientious student of the best authors, the mistress of a style at once graceful and strong, Mrs. Billington's paper was one that is worthy a reading in every literary circle in Iowa. The News regrets that only a brief synopsis of this admirable paper can here be given:

The writer first showed that the literary movement of an age is as distinctive as its progress in the arts, in scientific explorations, in commercial enterprises, in political tendencies, in religious growth or moral advancement. As literature receives its greatest impulse from the spirit of the people among whom it originates, so does it mould, model, and to a certain extent, reform public sentiment. It was shown that the eighteenth century was a stage of transition and improvement and an advance in prose rather than poetry, an introduction to the fuller epoch, the glorious dawn of this grandest of the centuries, appropriately called "woman's century." It is most frequently apparent that the active mental forces of women were called into operation under conditions and amid surroundings that would have checked any but the most sturdy genius. In well kept diaries and voluminous correspondence was the first effect of woman's pen traceable, in pen portraits, sketches of character, short biographies, pictures of court life, etc.

A review was given of the early writers among women and their effect upon the literature of the century, including in many instances an analytical character

sketch of the writer and her works. Mrs. Barbauld, Hannah More and others formed a band of early writers whose works had a purifying and strengthening effect on social relations. Madame De Staël reaped her full meed of praise.

The formation of literary partnerships, as that of Charles and Mary Lamb, William and Mary Howitt, was discussed as one of the means to the accomplishment of the growth of the new era, as was also the introduction into the home of some sort of a library and the easier dissemination of current literature, through improvements in the art of printing. Indeed, woman's first entrance upon a genuine literary work was to be found in efforts to build up the cause of education, to enlighten, purify and elevate the home. From this the transit into fiction was easy, in tales embodying home scenes and every day life. The beginning of a literature for children was by woman's hand; alone, and this direction of talent was crowned with immediate success. A charming sketch of Frances Burney showed her to be the first woman to adopt literature as a profession. Miss Edgeworth went a step farther than Miss Burney who aimed at amusement and inaugurated the novel with a purpose, and at the meeting point of the two centuries, it was Miss Edgeworth in Ireland, Miss Austen in England and Miss Ferrier in Scotland, who for Great Britain inaugurated an era of female authorship, standing upon its own merits. Miss Edgeworth was the first woman to make domestic fiction the vehicle of great truths; Jane Austen excelled in portraying manners; Mary Russell Mitford gave to the world a series of sketches of quiet village life; Jane Porter had the distinction of introducing historical romance; Mrs. Hemans was the first poetess to devote her verse to nature; Mrs. Anne Jameson labored earnestly for the mental development of her English sisters and is to day regarded as authority on certain topics of art; Harriet Martineau, who declared she wrote not for money, fame nor usefulness, probably achieved all three. From a purely literary standard, the works of "George Sand" would be accorded merit; but as a factor in the cause of woman, her career, the writer believed, hindered the advancement of women as authors. Mrs. Hannah Adams was the first American woman who devoted herself to authorship; Catharine Sedgwick, as a descriptive novelist, was the first of her class in this country whose writings became widely known; Lydia Maria Child took the lead among women in this country in editorial work and the first monthly periodical for children was published by her.

Further among the women to whom Mrs. Billington paid tribute as writers and as noble, true-hearted women were Charlotte Brontë, Dinah Mulock Craik, "Fanny Fern," Margaret Fuller, Mary Clemmer, and "Grace Greenwood." As translators, also, women have proven valuable helpers, as is shown by the work of Miss Strickland, Miss Yonge, Miss Muirbach and a score of others, while Mrs. Agassiz, Miss Peabody and Maria Mitchell are notable examples of their success in scientific pursuits.

Among poets such names as Rossetti, Procter, Ingelow, Sigourney, Cary, Larcom, Fields and Thaxter will be remembered as fond household words. Others found a place in memory through the merits of a single bit of verse, as Lady Anne Barnard in "Auld Robin Gray," Florence Percy's "Rock Me to Sleep," Phebe Cary's "One Sweetly Solemn Thought" and Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic".

Woman rarely conceals herself long behind a nom de plume. Most women, like Charlotte Brontë and that modern Rosalind who gave even conventional Boston a literary sensation, Charles Egbert Craddock, alias Miss Murfree—confess to authorship as soon as a book is pronounced a success.

Mrs. Tabitha Tenney and Marietta Holley, as humorous writers were well portrayed and an interesting feature of the paper was the discussion of the remuneration which women have received as writers, and in certain cases, the benevolent purpose to which it has been applied. It was with a loving and reverential pen that such names as Louisa M. Alcott and Helen Hunt Jackson were touched. The paper dwelt at some length upon the work of women in journalism, showing that "by some potent process there is not a single department of newspaper work which has not been entered by women".

Among those women destined to live through their works was mentioned in con-

clusion that of George Elliot, who reached the profound depths of philosophy and unfolded treasures of history in her works. Another name inscribed in unfading characters is Elizabeth Barrett Browning and still another is that of Harriet Beecher Stowe, her "Uncle Tom's Cabin" being the only book written as yet by a woman in the United States that has survived the attack of critics. It was written from the inspiration of a soul true to heaven's great trust, the love of fellow-men.



## SOME WORTHY IOWA WOMEN

A Few of the Many Who Have  
Been Leaders in Educational  
and Literary Work.

38.

Their Impress Upon and  
Their Service to Humanity.

Bits of Personal History About These  
Pioneers and Their Worthy Fol-  
lows—Some Names to Be  
Remembered.

May 23, 1888.

### IOWA MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS

The following extracts are taken from a very interesting paper on Woman in Educational and Literary Fields, read recently before the Des Moines Woman's Club, by Mrs. Mary M. Raymond, of this city. The paper gathers up many personal facts about the women who have been most prominent in the educational and literary work of Iowa, and forms a very important contribution to the history of the State:

"Woman's sympathy makes her the natural mediator between those who have knowledge and those who want it. Fine organization, love of detail, makes the knowledge they give better in their hands." "What is civilization? I answer, 'The power of good women.'"—Emerson.

Forty-three years have passed since Iowa was admitted into the sisterhood of States—the span of the average working years of a man's life. But even before this she began as well as she could to lay the foundation of a broad and thorough education. This should not all be credited to the Iowa people, I think. It came with the children of New England homes, or through Illinois and Ohio to that grand old stock, Illinois well born, but it has been wittily said of the rocky farms along the Atlantic, where she was mothered, that "the principal crop is one of boys and girls, than which there is none finer in the world." But this reminds me of something Mrs. Judge Adams, of Dubuque, wrote me recently, and I value it because Mrs. Adams' early life was, through her father and mother, all wrought into the history of the beginning of education for women in the Northwest. I asked her: "Who were the women who were pioneers in enthusiasm and perseverance and self-sacrifice for the cause of education in Iowa?" She replied: "First, the many mothers; and then a few noble women who came in as missionary teachers—the forerunners of the many teachers of to-day." But in writing of the history of Iowa's development in educational matters, how dare I neglect this all pervading and powerful factor of the pioneer mothers. There has been an earnest and praiseworthy effort lately to gather the history of early Iowa, with the feeling that it must be done now before all the actors have passed away or lost. And I hope the work of the women at home—not with her library and elegant pictures, and with a splendid system of schools at hand—but in the log cabin and the log school house with school only three months in the year—will not be forgotten. Some one has said, "As an historical truth every nation since its history began has been great and living in proportion to the excellence of its women and the treatment they have received. And yet the true sovereignty of woman as helpers and fellow workers can hardly be said to have had a national existence." And I believe the first recognition of such a national life will come in the history of education.

As to the "many teachers." The proportion of men to women teachers was at first very large. Though Iowa's first school was taught in 1820, it was eighteen years before, under a school law, the first official report was made. In 1848, thirty-four counties were organized, but six making reports. Lee county had thirty-five men and two women teachers; Washington county, twenty-one men and four women. In 1850, 549 men and 250 women teachers are reported—the proportion being not quite half—and the men remained in excess in number until 1862, when so large a proportion of the young men of the State enlisted in the Union army, their places being supplied by women. The number reported for this year is 3,618 men and 1,187 women teachers. In 1863 the number of men teachers diminished nearly 700, and the number of women teachers in-

creased 1,500. In 1864 there was a decrease of 600 men and an increase of 900 women; since which time the increase has been about equally divided. Supt. Sabin's report, for 1888, says, 5,595 men and 19,518 women were engaged in teaching in the public schools of Iowa. But though years ago women in Iowa had an equal chance with her brother in the work of the common schools, the same principle was not practiced when it came to wages. Equal wages for equal work done was not given her in this more than other callings. For years women taught for half the salary that men received. In the first official report, which I have already quoted from, the men received an average salary of \$25 a month, the women \$12. In 1848, in Buchanan county, women taught for \$16 a month, and Davis county reports two who received but \$4.20. As the advance in all teachers' wages has steadily increased, the advance in women's wages has been very marked. The rule was beginning to become general ten years ago to pay men and women the same salaries for the same grade of work, and now the compensation is determined first, the question of sex being secondary to that of qualification to teach and to govern. Iowa City has the honor of being the first to give equal wages to the sexes by assigning the salary to the position and not to the person. Such action was taken by the board in 1862.

In the so called higher education for women in Iowa the first attempt was what is known as the "Catherine Beecher School," founded at Dubuque in 1854, and after a few years passed into the hands of the Episcopalians, who in turn sold the building to the German Presbyterian Theological Seminary, the Episcopalians centering their interest in the St. Catherine's School for girls in Davenport.

Catherine Beecher was a member of the famous Beecher family and was, with Madame Emma Willard, at the head of a great influence in New England, controlling funds and measures for sending teachers into the west and northwest as missionary educators. Miss Beecher herself came to Dubuque in 1854 and started this school, the Dubuque people raising the money for the building. But Miss Beecher's failing health and the theological discussions then rending the Presbyterian church, prevented her from getting the endowment. From 1855 to 1858 Miss Bradley, now Mrs. Judge Hopkins of Madison, Wis., was principal. She was assisted by Mrs. Robinson, Miss Blanchard and Miss Eliza Eaton, afterwards Mrs. Jesse Guernsey. Miss Bradley is spoken of by all her pupils as a very superior woman, and as one of her most discriminating admirers say, "with a great respect for woman's mind—not so common then as now." As this school was short-lived and much curiosity has lately been created about it, I give a few of its graduates: Miss Sue Hetherington, the teacher and author; Mrs. Julia Clark Ray, associated with her husband as war editor of the Chicago Tribune, and afterwards President of Vassar College; Mrs. Ada L. Collier, the poet; Mrs. H. P. Word, of Washington, and a large number of the accomplished and literary ladies of Dubuque. The influence of this school in Dubuque and Northwestern Iowa was very great.

I find in this part of my subject I can take up only the several women who have been most largely identified with the prominent institutions. And first of all, of course, is Denmark Academy and Mrs. Edson. What she was to Denmark the testimony of pupils since her death, a few weeks ago at Grinnell, have proved again. Men in almost every calling in life, and men in high positions in the State and in the Nation, hastened to write to Prof. Edson of the deep impression she had made on them while they were at the Academy. For twenty-six years her superior education and accomplishments with the power of personal attraction, winning manners and rare consecration by the young men and women in this new State. Some one has said, "God puts of the best material into the foundations of things," and Iowa is thankful that he built Mrs. Edson into "the beginning" of Christian education. Her family name was Kirk. She was born in Parishville, New York, in 1820, fitted for Mt. Holyoke Seminary at St. Lawrence Academy and graduated from Mt. Holyoke in 1848, one of the best products of that extraordinary teacher, Mary Lyon. She was married to Rev. Elipha Maynard, and went with him as a missionary to the Jews in Turkey. In nine months Mr. Maynard died, and two years later, when this mission was abandoned, she returned to New York and taught until her marriage to Prof. Edson in 1852. They were invited to take charge of Denmark Academy that year, and labored there until 1878. For twenty years Mrs. Edson was Lady Principal, and a teacher of special branches the other six. She was always at work for the scholars and the interests of the school in and out of the six hours a day. She always presided over

a large family of the teachers and several students—in all a family not less than twelve. In order to accomplish her house-keeping—which was faultless—and attend to school duties also, her family sat down to breakfast, summer and winter, at six o'clock. She came home at noon to get the dinner, and to put her house in order again before going to the academy again in the afternoon, and after school hours in the evening she taught drawing and painting. We can but pause with reverent wonder at the enthusiasm that could make such intense activity possible, and cease to wonder and the grateful love and admiration for her which is met with wherever the older Iowa men and women are found. The combined firmness of conviction and principle with winning ways to an extraordinary degree, and her resources of judgment, taste, aptness, foresight and skill were unfailing. It only needed the moral beauty of character and life to give the crown to her life work.

At Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Miss Harriet J. Cook's work began in 1857, and has for thirty years, been a great force for higher education through that institution. Miss Cook was born on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee in the village of Sandwich through a grand line of old New England ancestry. In 1833 she graduated from the New Hampshire Conference Seminary, and then taught in the Massachusetts schools until she came to Iowa and Cornell in '57. In 1866 she was made Preceptress, which position she now holds. She was at first teacher of higher mathematics, then of Latin, and then of German. In 1873 she was made Professor of German and History; being, it is said, the first woman to have such honor in the United States. These two departments of the college she established on a firm basis, and in '86 was relieved of the German and made Professor of History and International Law, which chair she now occupies.

Miss Cook brought to Iowa, then a new State, a deep consciousness of the importance of her calling, and an enthusiasm that was immediately recognized. Being unusually rigid in her requirements of her pupils, she gained a reputation for her exactness that was not conducive to her popularity, but with thinking students she soon commanded the highest respect. There are in her nature strong elements of the most courageous kind. She is a fearless and faithful friend and helper. Early in life her face grew serious and careworn from a realizing sense of the fearful responsibility resting upon her. Possessed of an active mind and a physical organization that seems never to know weariness, she has done the work of two. She is a fine teacher in the classroom, and has unusual power in rousing intellectual life, as she has out of it in inspiring to a nobler and longer life.

Miss Helen E. Martin, who has been connected with Tabor College for thirteen years, belongs to this galaxy of Iowa women. She was born in West Fairlee, Vermont, and after a common school education taught several years before entering Oberlin College, where she graduated in 1860. She began teaching at once in the Benedict Ladies Seminary, resigning her place after two years to accept a position in the California Collegiate Institute. Then care for her mother's failing health occupied two years, and six years after her graduation she returned to Oberlin to take the place of Asst. Lady Principal. She was then called to Olivet, Mich., as lady principal of Olivet college, and would doubtless have made that her life work had not Tabor College called her to the same position. So it was with long experience as well as great personal worth that Miss Martin began her work at Tabor in 1886. Besides the position of Lady Principal she is Instructor of History and Higher English. Miss Martin is extremely modest and her pupils and fellow teachers know best what a thorough Christian lady, fine teacher and faithful friend and counselor she is.

How glad I should be if in telling you of Miss Mary Ellis, who gave eight of the best and ripest years of her life to Iowa College, I could make you see the queenly gray eyes, the blue head with its coronet of gray curls, the cordial smile and beautiful manner that made her seem so to grace the position she filled and honored. Mrs. Ellis was born in Uxbridge, Mass., in 1834. She graduated from Mt. Holyoke Seminary in 1855 and was at once elected a teacher in that institution. She taught at Mt. Holyoke for twenty-seven years, the last three years occupying the position of Acting Principal. Then she went to Europe, spending 1873 in Rome with Mrs. Gould in her Italian school, and in 1874 traveling in Egypt, Palestine, and in Europe. She became Lady Principal of Iowa College in 1874, holding the position until 1882. After a year's rest she was elected to the chair of English Literature in Smith College, but her health failed in the fall term, and since then she has been in Somerville, Mass.

One who knows Miss Ellis can hardly think of her work aside from the strong personality which she possessed. In all that she did she was so thorough and yet so unassuming. In the

class-room her patience was unflagging, and her resources in the various branches she taught unfailing. With the French language and literature, which she taught, she had some branch of mathematics, and especially interesting were her classes in Bible Geography, which she illustrated most charmingly with descriptions of her own experience in the Holy Land. Her long experience at Mount Holyoke made her judgment in the care of girls very valuable. She was so straightforward and so just, while her eagerness to have everyone make the most of herself was very contagious. She took such a personal interest in everything that concerned those under her care, she was so companionable, and her knowledge of art and the treasures she had gathered, opened a new field of delight and knowledge to many a student. To those of us who shared her love and her labor, fidelity to trust, perfect sincerity in heart and life, the fruit of earnest intellectual work, and the grace of Christian ladyhood, must ever seem more worthy and more beautiful.

Without doubt the woman who has done the most for the State Agricultural College at Ames is Mrs. Welch. Her maiden name was Mary Beaumont. She was born in Janesville, Mich., her father being a physician and her mother a woman of rare culture and elegant accomplishments. When very young she was married to Professor Dudley, who filled the chair of mathematics in the Normal School at Ypsilanti. Three years after her marriage Professor Dudley died, and the young wife at nineteen became a widow with two babies dependent upon her. Kind friends relieved her of her little ones for a while and she entered the school of her brother-in-law, Professor Sill, of Detroit.

There she both taught and studied. While at Ypsilanti a warm friendship had existed between the families of Prof. Welch and Prof. Dudley. Three years after Prof. Dudley's death, Mrs. Welch died, leaving three little children; and later, after a widowhood of five years, Mrs. Dudley was married to Prof. Welch, who resigned his Professorship in the Michigan school, and the two families united into one and moved to Florida. There Mrs. Welch entered into that most complete of domestic relations, becoming a stepmother with young children of her own. How well she performed her duty, the enduring love and gratitude of her adopted children can well testify. While in Florida Mr. Welch was elected to the United States Senate, and it was at the close of a very brilliant season in Washington that she came with her husband to take upon herself new cares and responsibilities as the wife of the President of a State Institution. For twenty years she has been the central figure in this large and prosperous college. But within a fortnight another great sorrow has fallen upon her, as the husband she loved so devotedly and of whom she was so proud, has been laid to rest beneath the college oaks. Mrs. Welch's plans are unknown; but every Iowa woman will hope that Iowa, and work in Iowa, can still retain one so admired and well beloved.

Mrs. Welch worked and taught with her husband in the twenty years of his life given to Iowa education. She came to a school on an Iowa prairie, with no society but the small circle she helped to create among a lot of half grown boys and girls. Yet no word of discontent ever passed her lips. To the ambitious but unformed girl she was the one bright and particular star; and her pleasant ways and perfect manners were a social training in themselves, and did service in lieu of many lectures. The friends her ready tact and adaptability gained for the college are many. Warm hearted, true-hearted and self-sacrificing; an enthusiast in the lecture room; a literary woman without eccentricity; a clear writer, a model house-keeper, a brilliant conversationalist, and one who was never known to do a rude or ungrateful act. Such is Mrs. Welch, who can claim a place of her own in the history of Iowa colleges.

Probably there is no teacher in the length and breadth of Iowa on which the young and modest school matron looks with such encouragement as that of Miss Phoebe Sudlow, of Davenport. Miss Sudlow began her teaching in Iowa in Davenport in 1853, and has risen gradually from an assistant in a sub-district, through the principality of grammar schools, training schools and high school to the City Superintendent of the Davenport schools, and then to the chair of English Literature in the State University. Miss Sudlow's modesty has kept her from giving me such data as I wanted, and I do not even know her birth-place. I only know that before coming to Iowa she taught in the district schools of Ohio. Miss Sudlow is entirely a self-made and self-educated woman, her only capital at starting being the schooling of a district school and a local academy. And she always hastens to add, when speaking of this, "The work that I have attempted from time to time has been given me, not because I presumed to seek it, but because the friends of



the work thought I could do it. Every advancement has come to her like a surprise and because she earned it without question. It was said of the Davenport schools during her charge of them, that at no time for twenty years was there such absolute freedom from complaint, dissension, jealousy or friction among the teachers. Never had the pupils shown evidence of such thorough instruction and real progress. After thirty years of continuous teaching, Miss Ludlow began to long for a rest, and resigned her Professorship in the University three years after her election. Perhaps no one among the women prominent in Iowa education has had a more marked career than hers, or one that any of us would feel prouder to have made.

There are many other women who have done good work in the colleges of the State. Miss Nicholson, Mrs. Ambler, Mrs. Belle Maassfeld, at the Iowa Wesleyan College at Mt. Pleasant; Miss Bancroft at Cornell, Mrs. Parker, the first lady Principal of Iowa College, Miss Easign of the State Normal school, Miss Susan F. Smith, now Mrs. Tyndale, of Boston—and others, but my time is limited. I must not forget, however, Miss Mathie of the College for the Blind at Vinton, and who has just been appointed by Geo. Larrabee on a State Board for the benefit of the blind. Miss Mathie is one of the brightest and most cultivated women in the State. So full of sunshine and wit, with a beautiful face and a rare gift for teaching, she has done a grand work at Vinton.

Miss Mary McCowen, now at the head of an institution of her own for Deaf Mutes at Englewood, Ill., is one of the most distinguished of Iowa women. She was born in Lebanon, Ohio, and began the care of herself at fourteen years of age. She came to Iowa to teach in country schools, and afterward attended the Normal Department of the University, graduating in 1871. She taught in the schools of Winterset and other Iowa cities, and finally in Omaha where she made a great success in primary work. After several years she was persuaded, for a change, to go into the deaf and dumb institution at Council Bluffs, the Superintendent and Matron being old friends. She learned the details of the work most readily, and astonished all by her comprehension of the difficulties attending deaf and dumb institutions and by her original methods for surmounting them. Not long after she began her connection with the school, audiphones were introduced and experimented with. It was thought to be a failure when she pointed out that though the children might hear what was said they could not understand the meaning of the words, and began to tell them by signs the meaning of the unaccustomed noise in their ears; that such a sound meant such a word already familiar to them by signs. She was given a class of a dozen to instruct, each child with an audiphone. After a month of patient labor she one day turned suddenly to a boy who was idly swinging his audiphone. To her utter amazement he answered her. She could hardly believe it, and asked him another, and still another, the boy answering each one correctly. Then she had the class put their audiphones down and listen, and she discovered that about half the class heard without the audiphones.

This was the beginning of her special work—with the discovery that children whose hearing was so rudimentary that it was practically nil, could by proper and painstaking drill, have that infinitesimal amount cultivated. Additional experience but deepened the conviction and she decided to start a private school, where she could have liberty to carry out her plans and develop her theory. She opened a private school in Chicago with five or six children. The fame of the work soon spread, and when her house could no longer accommodate her pupils, she moved to Englewood, purchasing a fine property and furnishing the home and school with every appliance necessary to her work. Specialists in deaf and dumb instruction laughed at her at first, and said such results could not be gained from the very nature of the case. And when obliged to admit that it was done, they declared the children were not deaf and dumb. The witty Doctor said: "The trouble was that, first, this discovery should be made by a woman; and second, that it should be made in the 'Wild West.'" The school is like any other boarding school. The pupils rise and come to meals at the ringing of the bell. Their calisthenic exercises are guided by the piano. Several children are taking music lessons; one boy has taken lessons on the violin. A number of the children have gone back to the public schools with having so much improved that they can go into the classes with other children.

Miss McCowen's special work has been often misunderstood. The distinctive feature of it is the cultivation of the sense of hearing. At last Christmas, while Miss McCowen was on a brief business trip to Chicago, the building was burned to the ground—the children only being safely cared for.

The next morning the school opened as usual in a large private house offered her for temporary use. Many had hoped she would come back to Iowa, but a new building is in progress and she has no other thought but for her school at Englewood. It is a work that appeals to the sympathy of all, and Iowa congratulates herself that its inception was made within her borders. Surely, although I have told you of Mary McCowen last, in value of life work her name stands among the first.

## PRISON REFORMS.

Their History and Methods  
Thoughtfully Reviewed by  
Mrs. Hunting.

### SOME VERY USEFUL INFORMATION

The Des Moines Women's Club  
Take Up a Very Interest-  
ing Topic. 1888

The last meeting of the Des Moines Women's club, which was held with Mrs. J. C. Macy at her residence on West Locust street, was rendered notable by a fine monthly paper, read by Mrs. Julia Hunting on "Prison Reform." Mrs. Hunting declared prison reform to be a comparatively modern idea, but traced "the earliest breathings" of it back to 1550, when Latimer, in one of his sermons before Edward VI, lifted his voice against the heathenism of London prisons. She reviewed the contributions of Fox in his "Book of Martyrs," Blackstone in his "Commentaries," John Howard the philanthropist in his thirty-one years of devoted prison visitation, and other large-hearted men to prison reform in earlier days, and noted the act of parliament passed in 1779 looking to penal reform. The good work of Mrs. Elizabeth Fry, a Quaker presbyter, and known as "the female Howard," in behalf of women prisoners, was passed in review. But it was not till she came to "the social system of prison treatment," as Captain Maconochie 50 years ago called his plan, that Mrs. Hunting evidently felt on familiar and solid modern reform ground. In her synopsis of Maconochie's system, the basis of which is the belief that a state of cheerfulness, hopefulness and kindly treatment is essential for improvement and reform among criminals, she quoted his system as having four main aims and methods, as follows:

1. A labor sentence instead of a time sentence, so that prisoners know at once that they can, by labor, shorten imprisonment in proportion to industry.
2. To enable them to have their punishment further lessened by their good behavior daily recorded, and cumulative to their advantage, thus placing a constant premium on self-restraint.
3. By giving degrees of social liberty in proportion to the good use made of it, and encouraging the exercise of genial qualities.
4. By giving the prisoner a part of the wages of his labor, to be put in his possession on leaving the institution, or to go to his family, and preparing him to resume a decent place in society by showing confidence in him, and releasing him from restraint in proportion as he develops self-respect and disposition toward good citizenship. Thus the prison life is regarded as one in which the convicts are to be re-reared as a family of peculiar children, each of whose peculiarities was to be considered. It is assumed that the worst of traits in a convict do not prove him devoid of some good ones; and that the incentives to good life should be made much greater

and more pleasant than to a bad one. The work of testing Maconochie's system began by offering the convict pay for his work by marks, with which marks, when earned, he could buy his own food, clothes and other necessities, and form a surplus to be credited to his liberation on the supposition that he is sentenced to a specific number of days' labor or marks. He fixed 10 marks as the equivalent of a day's labor; then paid by the piece, and not by time, and for every 10 marks saved the term of imprisonment was lessened a day. Prisoners could buy their own provisions at three different rates, paying for them in marks at the supply store of the prison. The poorest fare cost 3 marks, the next 4 and the best 5. Thus the zeal for freedom would stimulate not only industry, but the utmost self-denial and economy. Over-work was paid for in extra marks at the same rate as regular work; and misdemeanors of any kind being subject to a fine in marks, the mark record of prisoners was at the same time their industrial and moral spur and their savings bank. He did not attempt to bring about the emulation and ambition which this system is calculated to inspire by at once supposing the prisoners to be ready for it, but divided the terms of their sentences into three periods. During the first, or punishing stage, the men were subject to close surveillance and discipline. At the expiration of this term they could divide themselves into companies of six by mutual consent only. Each six were to have a common fund of marks into which all their earnings were to be paid and from which the fines of any or all that company must be paid. This is, perhaps, the most original reform of the whole system, and at once makes the germ for the growth of all the qualities that are essential to a good member of society. Each man becomes interested in the industry and good behavior of his associates in a manner so direct and palpable in every way that the effect of the voluntary partnership is to keep all the partners in a continual state of watchfulness and emulation, or of shame to the one who may be derelict to the interests of his immediate companions. Dishonest and selfish as they might be, they are thus made to feel that shirking by any one of them hurts all, so that a majority must all the time use a pressure for industry and fair play. As they had no way of punishing each other for short comings, the consequence was the creation of an honorable conception of mutual duty and forbearance. In the third period of the sentence the prisoner was to be thrown on his individual character, and to be permitted under the same system of marks or wages, to profit or lose for himself alone according to his industry and good behavior.

In the tropical island of Norfolk, where the experiment was undertaken, Capt. Maconochie was able to add some privileges to the prisoner in the third term of the sentence not practicable everywhere. He was allowed a hut and garden, pigs and poultry, which might be sold for his benefit to the ships that touched at the island. Thus, by all these means this great reformer taught the prisoners industry, appreciation of the rights of others, the mutuality of rights and obligations in a community, self-reliance and self-respect. He spent four years in this experiment, and thus states the result: "I found the island a turbulent, brutal hell; I left it a peaceful, well-ordered community."

Gen. Brinkerhoff of Ohio, in writing upon prison reform, says: "All honor to Capt. Maconochie, who fifty years ago inaugurated the new era and declared that 'vindictive personal punishments are corrupting in their influence. They appeal to the craven feelings of men, but they more generally stimulate their ferocious and sensual ones'!"

"Sir Walter Crofton succeeded Capt. Maconochie and changed the system, so

as to adapt it more perfectly to the average grade of the persons who have charge of prisons; that is to say, to a much lower level than would be required, were such men as Maconochie in charge. Crofton's modified system also divided into three stages of imprisonment consists of: 1. A separate imprisonment of eight months. 2. A reformatory stage, proportioned to the whole length of the sentence, in which the system of Maconochie is retained in principle, but modified in adaptation, to give the prisoner a progressive or receding position, and a larger or smaller share of earnings, as he advances or fails, in industry or conduct. Crofton put his plans into full operation in Ireland, in 1854, where three separate prisons were provided to accommodate the graduates from lower to higher degrees. Mount Joy, Dublin, with a capacity of five hundred received the newly sentenced; Spike Island at Queenstown, with accommodations for seven hundred, received the probationaries in the second term; and Lusk, 12 miles from Dublin, accommodating only one hundred, held the graduating class. The first prison, punished by solitary confinement, relieved only by labor of the most tedious kind, like picking oakum, and the poorest kind of sufficient food. During this time the convict is thoroughly familiarized with the system of progression, of which he is afterward to have the privilege of availing himself. The prison at Queenstown received the prisoner for the second stage; and here began the system of marks by which he could acquire privileges and curtail his term of punishment, or, by failing to improve, could remand himself back to punishments and original deprivations. This intermediary prison was the main one, where the educational and social progressive system was put into practice. It was divided, like a college, into classes, through which the prisoners must graduate, and, when they had passed through the three into which the prison divided them, the highest class was fitted for the prison of Lusk, and transferred to it. After going through the penal prison at Dublin, the prisoner entered the third class, at Queenstown. He must earn not less than 18 marks to pass to the second class, 54 to get to the first class, and 108 to graduate from that to Lusk. As 9 marks a month is the maximum number that could be earned—three for industry, three for school duties, and three for conduct—the prisoner must, at the best, remain in the lowest class two months; in the middle class six months; and in the last twelve months. The prison at Lusk was the most remarkable fruit of the system. Here the prisoner had a degree of freedom and an absence of restraint that put to the test all his previously acquired self-control and self-respect. There were no walls, prison bars, or armed watchmen before his eyes; no prison garb, physical restraint or check on social intercourse. The prisoners were employed in groups, mostly on outdoor farm work, in company with unarmed wardens, who worked with them. Attempts to leave before the end of their terms were rare among those who reached this stage of reform. The mark system was not continued at Lusk. The appearance of pupillage was avoided, and men were made to feel themselves a part of the community around them, by attending lectures and public worship at the parish church, and in being trusted in various services out of the eye of any prison officer. Prisoners at Dublin and Queenstown were mostly employed in bodies, under surveillance, upon public works. They received no portion of their earnings, but were allowed a cerportion under the name of gratuities, saved for them and paid to them on leaving the prison on the expiration of their terms. These gratuities were earned by marks during the whole time of their stay at Queenstown.



and were forfeitable as one of the punishments for laziness or bad conduct.

The greatest possible reduction of the term, by good conduct, was thirteen months on a period of five years; twenty-eight months on ten years; and three years seven months on a period of fifteen years. But the prisoner's freedom was not absolute until the full end of the term for which he was confined. He was provided with a ticket of license for the intervening period; was free to go to work for himself, but must report at regular intervals to the authorities; and if he failed to keep the conditions of his license, could be remanded back to prison for the remainder of his full term. The same systems, in all respects were applied to the women convicts at the same places. The basis of the Crofton system was hope. The mark system or the plan of earning remission by steady industry has now been introduced in all prisons in the United Kingdom. "Lifers" as they are called cannot claim any remission, but their cases are brought forward at the end of twenty years, and then considered on their merits.

Gen. Brinkerhoff says, "that in the reformation of prisoners the most important requirement, perhaps, is classification. So long as old offenders are retained in association with other prisoners, not much of value can be accomplished by any kind of treatment. This class of prisoners does not include more than 20 per cent in our penitentiaries, or more than 10 per cent in our jails; but they are the teacher, the organizers, the captains of crime, and their separation from other prisoners is the imperative beginning of all reformatory measures. In Ohio, under recent legislation, any prisoner convicted of a third offense is adjudged an habitual criminal and may be held for life; and this policy is commended for adoption elsewhere. This requirement of separation as a preventive of moral contagion is so clearly essential that it seems strange it is so rarely enforced. Especially important is it in the jails for those who are charged with crime, but as yet unconvicted, and is advocated by every writer of recognized authority upon this question. After the transfer of prisoners to the penitentiary, classification must be continued; but the extent of it is a matter about which penologists are not entirely agreed. In the Eastern penitentiary at Philadelphia and in all the con-

vict prisons of Belgium, and also with the more hardened criminals in several other European countries, each prisoner is kept separate from all others during the entire term of imprisonment. This is known as the cellular, or individual system. Some objections have been urged against it. It is said that it unfits a man for the social life in which he must take part when discharged. And recently the director of prisons in Belgium has questioned the wisdom of its continuance; and the general drift of opinion among penologists seems to be in favor of progressive classification, better known as the Crofton system. This system in its most approved form is initiated by a period of cellular separation of sufficient length to afford the prisoner an opportunity for reflection and instruction, and to create an earnest desire for employment under the more natural conditions of congregate labor. He is then put to work, in company with other prisoners of the first grade, to rise or fall under the marking system. The wisdom of the progressive system has been so fully tested by experience, in many countries, that the opinion among prison experts the world over now seems to be almost unanimous in its endorsement. An effort was made last winter to inaugurate the system in this state, and make the penitentiary at

Anamosa a reformatory, where only the first offenders are imprisoned. A bill was introduced, and placed on file in both houses, and there it remained, our legislators not being yet prepared to act upon it intelligently.

"Another requirement of prison reform is the employment of prisoners in such industries as shall not only be productive so as to contribute largely to the maintenance of the prison, but which shall also be instructive, so as to prepare the prisoner for self-support after discharge. In the United States we have never had, to any large extent, what is known as penal labor, which is, labor without production, such as the shot drill, the treadmill, the crank, etc., but we have so conducted prison labor, and so characterized it in our laws as to make it a punishment rather than a privilege, or as a means of reformation, but there is no reason why the prison should not only be self-supporting, but also the best school possible to make the prisoner self-respecting and to teach him how to be self-supporting after his release." An important step in the line of prison reform is what is known as the indefinite sentence. By this is meant a sentence which has no specific limit, but the criminal is simply convicted and sentenced for the crime of which he is charged, and may be held for the maximum period of imprisonment specified by the law, or may be discharged at the minimum period thus fixed. For example, burglary under the laws of Ohio is punishable for a period not less than one year or longer than ten years, so that, under the indefinite sentence for this crime the convict may be held for ten years or may be discharged in one year. An indeterminate sentence is one which has no maximum limit. These forms are similar in effect, and assume as a principle that a person convicted of crime is morally diseased, and should be sent to prison, as a patient is sent to a hospital, to be cured. This form of sentence has been approved by the best authorities in penology in all countries. "Another phase of progress in prison reform, which is of great value, is that of conditional liberation. It had its origin in a blind attempt of the British parliament to deplete the prisons of the kingdom, which had become crowded on account of the repeal of the laws establishing penal colonies. The results were generally unsatisfactory; but fortunately, the administration of the law in Ireland fell into the hands of Sir Walter Crofton, through whose genius the system of progressive classification was invented, in order to sift out the prisoners best entitled to a 'ticket of leave.' The result was the creation of a new era in the management of prisons, which has now become a leading feature in all reformatory systems."

"The ticket of leave" in reality constituted a fourth stage of equal, if not greater value than the others. It was simply a conditional release, and valid only during good behavior; and upon breach of its terms, the prisoner, who was under police supervision, could be recalled, and compelled to serve out his term of sentence within the prison walls. The effect was a decrease of crime. In the United States the "ticket of leave" upon the Crofton method is now in operation in Elmira, N. Y., in Massachusetts, in Ohio and in Minnesota. In many of the states we have what is known as a conditional pardon, which is a form of parole or ticket of leave, which is of some value, but not of the highest, on account of the absence of police supervision.

"Education is a powerful agent for good in the reformation of prisoners. Among the causes of crime, ignorance is probably the most potent of all. Of

prisoners in the United States, one-third at the north and two-thirds at the south are entirely illiterate, and can neither read nor write, and of the remainder, a majority have but a smattering of school education, and but few have any industrial training."

Interesting experiments in developing the mental and moral faculties, through physical training, have been made at the Elmira reformatory by Dr. Wey, the prison physician, and have been so successful, that from being criminal "dullards," men have made rapid improvement in the three-fold line of moral, intellectual and physical capacity, which is most encouraging.

There is no example in history of any permanent progress in prison reform except under the influence of Christianity and its teachings. To-day there are but few American prisons without its chaplain, and none where some form of religious service is not considered essential; but the best work of the chaplain is done outside of the pulpit by daily contact with the prisoners, and no man can acceptably fill the office who is not thoroughly imbued with the missionary spirit. Four great organizations have taken part in the work of reform and hastened its progress.

1. "The Philadelphia society for alleviating the miseries of public prisons," formed originally in 1776, suspended during part of the revolutionary war, and revived in 1787. This society still exists and is as active and useful as ever.
2. "The Boston Prison Discipline society," organized in 1824, and dissolved some 25 years subsequently after having accomplished an amount of good that can never be weighed, sounded or measured.
3. "The Prison association of New York," which still lives with all the spring and pulses of life as vigorous as ever.
4. "The National Prison association of the United States of America," which dates only from 1870, but whose influence in these brief years has made itself widely felt. Many important reforms have been effected, cropping, branding, whipping and torture, in punishment of crime have been abolished, with an unfortunate exception in one small state. The lash is generally forbidden by law, except in the southern states. Imprisonment for debt, is everywhere done away with. Several states have abolished capital punishment, and where it is practiced is confined to the crimes of murder and high treason. New York has just abolished death by hanging and substituted electricity.

A wardens' association for the registration of criminals was formed in Detroit in March, 1887. "Its object is to secure the registration in a central office of the criminal record of prisoners, so far as the same may be known to prison officers, members of this association and the mutual interchange between prisons of such information with a view to distinguishing between habitual and occasional offenders and as an aid to reformatory work in prisons." Mr. Wines says, in referring to this association, that "the country is on the eve of a new departure in its methods of dealing with crime and criminals. A strong feeling has grown up that our past methods have been too lax and for this reason crime has grown more rapidly than the increase of population would indicate that it should. For habitual criminals, sterner and more repressive measures are necessary. But if greater severity is requisite for them, on the other hand there is an equal need for the application of a gentler and more reformatory discipline to novices in crime. Prevention and repression are the two watch-words of the hour. The proposal to register habitual criminals is a step in the direction of real progress, and should be hailed

with satisfaction by those who wish to see the volume of crime in the community sensibly diminished. The "Parole system" begins to find advocates everywhere, several of the states are adopting it. Registration is almost an indispensable adjunct to that system, and the action of the wardens at Detroit tends to hasten its coming, by meeting some of the objections urged against it. A method of identifying criminals invented by a Frenchman, M. Alphonse Bertillon, called the Anthropometric system has been adopted by the American Wardens' association, and has been applied in the prison at Joliet, Ill. It consists of minute measurements by means of instruments. In addition to the photograph of the prisoner, accurate measurements of his height, the length and width of his head, the length of the left middle and little finger, of the foot, the fore-arm, the ear, the stretch of the arms, descriptions of scars, color of the eyes, and so on are recorded; and it is thus possible to identify prisoners assuming false names with greater ease than ever before. It is asserted that in the two years the system has been in operation in Paris, 826 habitual criminals arrested under assumed names have been identified. Besides the practical utility of the system, it amasses very valuable statistical data contributing towards the natural history of the criminal classes. Italy, Spain and the Grand Duchy of Baden have already adopted it.

Several international prison congresses have been held in Europe. The subject of educating prison officials was brought up at Brussels in 1846, also at Frankfurt in 1857, and the more recent congresses at London and Stockholm declared in its favor. As Italy, in 1704, first inaugurated a genuine and solid advance in convict treatment in the establishment of Pope Clement's juvenile prison at Rome, so the same Italy, in 1873, was again the first by founding her normal school for the training of prison officials, also at Rome, to inaugurate the system of the professional education of prison employees. It is thought this system will be of great value in advancing and perpetuating the work of prison discipline and reform. There are in the United States three principal organizations in which questions relating to the prevention and punishment of crime are discussed. The National Prison association already mentioned, "The National conference of Charities and Corrections," and "The American Social Science association."

I intended to have spoken especially of reformatories for women, but I find that the same causes which led men into crime have also led women, and that the same remedies should be applied. In both, intemperance is a fruitful source of crime. Miss Clara Barton, in speaking of the Reformatory Prison for Women at Sherborn, Mass., of which she had charge for a time, gives her testimony in favor of indeterminate sentences, and also advocates entire separation of one prisoner from another. She speaks particularly of the importance of simple food, and of kindness and politeness as a means of increasing self-respect. She also says "I would earnestly advocate in all prisons, in police stations, in houses of detention, in short, everywhere, the placing of arrested women and of women prisoners, in charge of women only. It is just and right for every reason of virtue and decency."

Mrs. J. K. Barney of Providence, R. I., national superintendent of prison work of the W. C. T. U., also urges the importance of having matrons in all prisons and at police stations for the proper care of women under arrest. She states, in a leaflet prepared by her for monthly read-



ing, that in Chicago the first police matron appointed and placed at the Harrison street station reported as the work of the first quarter over 1,500 women and girls in her care.

Massachusetts has passed a bill providing for police matrons and a house of detention in Boston, and police matrons in all cities in the state having 30,000 inhabitants. It is the first state to pass such a bill.

Many women in this country have done noble work in a quiet way. Miss Dorothea Dix devoted a long life to alleviating the ills of humanity and brought hope and peace to the prisoner's heart in many a solitary cell. Miss Linda Gilbert has devoted fifteen years and most of her fortune to prison reform. She has established twenty-two libraries in the prisons of different states and found employment for 6,000 ex-convicts.

The Reformatory prison at Sherborn, Mass., owes its existence to the thought and influence and indefatigable labors of Miss Hannah B. Chickering of Dedham, Mass., who was also the moving spirit in establishing the "Temporary asylum for discharged female prisoners," which has done a wonderful amount of good in the last twenty years. Any woman under arrest may be sent there by the court for a period of probation. In this way many young girls are brought under its sheltering care, at the critical moment after a first arrest, when a sentence to prison would only harden them and lead to deeper sin.

"Some years ago a life convict in the state prison at Jackson, Mich., gave his whole fortune to a proposed fund to establish a home for convicts who have served their time. The gift was made to Agnes L. Darrombal of Kalamazoo, who has devoted her life to charity, and especially to ameliorating the condition of prisoners. The fund has been growing for several years and enough has been raised to warrant the establishing of a home in Detroit."

An agent in prison reform is the Prisoners' Aid association. Its object is to help discharged prisoners to an honest life by procuring employment, which will prevent their falling back into crime.

The first association in England, called "The Royal," was organized in 1856 and had assisted up to 1879 some 11,000 prisoners. There are now twenty societies in England and many in other countries. Several of the United States have associations which are helping many weak ones to stand upright.

This state (Iowa) has but thirteen women prisoners in both penitentiaries. It stands thirty-third in the list of states in this respect; while the ratio of her female prisoners to the female population is the smallest in the Union.

I would gladly speak of the Elmira reformatory, which is called "the model prison of the world;" but if you are not tired of the subject I hope you will be willing to listen to a younger voice than mine.



State Register.

July 17/1886.

THE ladies of the Presbyterian Exchange, the members of the W. C. T. U., the Des Moines Women's Club, and all ladies interested in the formation of a Woman's Exchange are requested to meet at the home of Mrs. Nourse, 774 West Fourth street, Wednesday, June 16th, at 4 p. m. /886.

## A WOMAN'S EXCHANGE.

### A Laudable Effort to Establish One in Des Moines.

#### A Sketch of the Benefits of Such a Bazar.

One of the most interesting topics before the Woman's Club during the past winter has been Women's Exchanges and Woman's work. The members of this club have been discussing the feasibility of interesting women to open an exchange in Des Moines. In view of this fact it seems desirable to state as concisely as may be some of the arguments for attempting an exchange and some of the points touched upon in the discussion. The object of the exchange is the reception, exhibition and sale of any worthy work of women. It is vitally important that an organization founded upon so broad a basis as this should be the organization, not of one club, or of one denomination, but that it should be fostered and maintained by all of the women of Des Moines who are interested in the advancement of women. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped by those eager for success that the Presbyterian ladies, who have already done similar work in their own behalf will, by combining in the formation of the exchange, using the profits to benefit the church, help the new organization; that the ladies of the W. C. T. U. and the members of the Woman's Club will co-operate, employing their profits in philanthropic work, and that private individuals will see in this undertaking an opportunity for struggling women to help themselves, and, therefore, will lend their aid.

Besides zealous founders, some practical supports are needed. There must, in the first place, be suitable rooms for an exchange. These must be centrally located; they must be large, light and airy; they must be cozy enough to attract women, tired from shopping, to come in to see what is on exhibition to-day, and to rest for a few minutes; and above all, they must be adaptable to serving these tired women a dainty and nourishing lunch, and to offer to business men the best of coffee and the most tempting refreshments.

To insure the payment of rent and incidental expenses, a small fund is essential. This, in most cases, comes from the annual membership subscription of five dollars, coming from individuals eager to further the scheme. These subscribers have the privilege of indicating three needy people who may offer work for sale. Women not so indicated place their work on sale by the payment of a dollar yearly. In all cases ten per cent of the selling

price of articles is reserved by the Association for its maintenance. The other ninety per cent is the property of the maker of the article sold.

This means, then, that any woman who can do some one thing well, no matter how small that thing is, may have a chance to make herself some pin money, money possibly needed for giving the sick or aged a few luxuries. No doubt there is to-day many a woman in Des Moines, living in her own family, longing to make her services marketable, who may here find a ready sale for the cake she makes so delicately, or the dainty undergarments she knows so well how to fashion with much prized hand work.

It means, too, that an exchange accepts food, food suitable for the lunch table, that it undertakes to furnish cakes and salads for parties, that it puts on sale pickles and preserved fruit, in short any food for which there may be a demand. The exchange also hopes to have contributors ready to make infants' wardrobes and underclothing. It contracts to have party invitations neatly written, and dinner cards effectively executed. Its aim is, moreover, to establish a bureau advantageous to the maid in securing a place and to the mistress in engaging competent and well-recommended service. In addition to this it plans to keep a list of lodging-houses, so that a woman, a stranger in the city, may on application at the rooms learn immediately where she can spend the night safely at an expense proportionate to her means.

An article in a recent number of the *Chatatauquan* speaks so forcibly upon the usefulness and profits of exchanges that some quotations suggest themselves to close this superficial sketch of a worthy enterprise.

Those societies are the most broadly useful that are educational through and through; that have a high standard of work, in every department; that lay the foundation for good work first, by well-taught classes which give a perennial supply of good workers, and, second, by refusing all that is bad and exhibiting only the good. The clever designer, embroiderer, painter, seer, imitator, and succeeds: the hopelessly tasteless fails, and turns her energies into more profitable and generally into more useful channels. Every poor piece of work received into a woman's exchange injures consignor and exchange alike, and every piece sold doubly injures both.

If asked who are profited by these societies, I would answer that any woman who has no profession and no prestige as a worker, who lives at home and has surplus time of no money value to herself, might find it profitable to offer her handiwork for sale at an exchange. Poor women, too burdened with family cares to seek custom for themselves, are wisely and efficiently helped by these associations.

There was a feeling among many when woman's exchanges were first established that their benefits should be chiefly confined to the class known in England as decayed gentlewomen. Many women of reduced fortunes, whom false pride forbade to be known publicly as workers, were glad to hide themselves behind the friendly shelter of a contributor's number. Fortunately this feeling seems to be on the wane. Word comes from Baltimore—"Many of the better class of our consignors, who shrink at first from being known as such, are now rather proud than otherwise to speak of it."

The higher the standard of work the sooner this false pride will disappear, as it is a feather in any one's cap to have work approved and accepted by critical judges. What tends more than anything else to keep up this shame of work, is the short-sighted restriction put upon so many of the exchanges to receive work from the avowedly needy alone. Many choice and beautiful articles made by women of taste and culture are thus shut out, as the makers feel humiliated by the question, "Do you really need this money?" or by the requirement, as in Chicago, that some member of the society shall vouch for the consignor's poverty. In Boston, Cincinnati and Newark, and, it is to be presumed in the societies fashioned after the Boston plan, no such humiliating conditions are enforced. Mrs. Abby

M. Diaz, President of the Boston Union, puts this matter strongly. She says: "Will you receive for sale the work of the well-to-do, or only those who are in want?" Of both. There is no principle by which to draw a dividing line. Some may want food or clothes, others, the means of education or of benevolence. The rich woman may devote her earnings to philanthropy; the poor woman may spend hers in various unworthy ways. The seemingly rich may be poor and shrink from acknowledging it. The probably better work of the rich woman will help educate the poor woman, and will attract purchasers. Market criticisms will stimulate both to their best efforts, and thus by insuring progression benefit both, and be a service to the public. Also for the well-to-do to place their work on sale helps to make labor honorable and to remove dividing lines.

### Proposed Locations of Des Moines' \$50,000 Y. M. C.

June 20. A. Building. /888.

### SIX LOCATIONS ON THE LIST.

#### A Timely and Interesting Interview with Mr. Cyrus G. Baldwin.

"What locations for the proposed Y. M. C. A. building have been discussed so far?" said a News reporter, buttonholing Mr. C. G. Baldwin, the genial gentleman to whom above all others Des Moines is indebted for the success of that enterprise.

"The locations so far named," replied Mr. Baldwin, "are as follows: Eighth and Locust, northeast corner; Eighth and Grand avenue, northwest corner; head of Fifth street on Grand avenue; Sixth and Grand avenue, southwest corner; Fifth and Grand avenue, southwest corner; Third and Locust, northwest corner."

"Which do you like best and why?"

"That," said Mr. Baldwin with a smile, "is a close question. Eighth and Locust would be one block only from the present quarters, would front the south and west, would be of immense value to the locality and to Locust street, and would not be a bad location. It is farther from the river than would be desirable. Eighth and Grand avenue would give a south and east front and would be one block farther from the present center of business. It would be on the street car line for East Des Moines and within one block of all cars from that side except the Electric cars. Head of Fifth on Grand avenue would add more to the city architecturally considered than any other downtown location, would be nearer, would be within one block of all East Side cars and within two blocks of all cars. Probably more money could be raised from the general public on this location than on any other point, and the property owners thereabouts could afford to do as much as anywhere else."

"Please give a brief description of the proposed building," suggested the reporter.

"The building will give a very complete bathing system for practical purposes in the basement, and the dressing lockers will be of the most approved style, will be 3x8x7 feet and each one connected with the ventilating flues. There will be three good bowling alleys. All of these will occupy the basement, 66x132 feet. The gymnasium will accommodate about one hundred men in dumb bell work and leave room for the apparatus besides. The running track, eight feet above the floor, will be about twenty-six laps to the mile. The room will be twenty-one feet high. The library room in front will be a very beautiful room and plenty large enough, as the

books will be stocked by the Poole system. It will occupy the entire front and will be sixty feet deep. The social room on second floor will be very finely arranged. The most attractive feature will be a grand old fireplace of red rock contributed by the quarry and carved by John Rowat. He makes this his gift to the building. There will be a beautiful parlor with ladies' dressing rooms which can be used for many purposes by the various societies of ladies in the city and can be entered from the hall without disturbing the young men's work. The music hall will be very carefully planned and will be built with a view to a fine organ and with special provision for orchestral music also. The boys will have a fine room on the third floor and the state committee of the association will have a fine office on this floor. A business college will occupy the fourth floor with the offices on the third. And at the top will be a beautiful suite of rooms for art studio and galleries and reception hall. The Des Moines Women's club will attempt to make this floor well known to the genial public as the art museum of Des Moines."

## THREE YEARS OLD.

The Des Moines Women's Club Now Permanent and Well

1885 Established. /888

### WHAT IT WILL DO NEXT YEAR.

The New Committees and the Topics and Work Assigned.

It is almost three years since the organization of the Des Moines Women's club and what was entered upon with not a little misgiving and fear of possible failure, is now confidently believed to be beyond the experimental stage of its existence. The future is contemplated with confidence, so much so, indeed, that when a proposition was made recently by the Young Men's Christian association that the club should interest itself in the erection of their proposed new building with a view to occupying one floor as a permanent home, the condition named was accepted without hesitation; namely, that the club should, as soon as practicable, begin the establishment of an art gallery which, at stated times, should be open to the public free of charge. Accordingly the Women's club has been incorporated, and it now remains to see what can be done towards securing the desired building. The club numbers about sixty ladies, and though it is not asked that they should actively solicit funds for the building, it is understood that such silent influences as they can command are to be used generously in that direction. The time has come when permanent apartments for the club are greatly to be desired. The fact that the meetings have been held for the most part in a hall reached by climbing several flights of stairs, and not any too comfortable when reached, has been one of the strongest obstacles to the growth of the organization, while the increasing membership forbids the continued use of private parlors for meetings, even were they favorable to the control of such a body, which is far from being the case. As an organization



through which it is hoped much good is to come to the women of Des Moines and through them to the society at large, the club must have a place to meet from year to year to which friends may be cordially bidden, where its various committees may meet for study and open discussion, and where in time such a collection of paintings, statuary and curiosities may be made as will be an honor to the city and a credit to those through whose instrumentality it was given to the public. Apart from the specified objects of such a building as the one contemplated, unmistakable in the line of public good, it is expected that the city library shall occupy one floor instead of its present dingy quarters, and that two or more choice rooms shall be reserved for artists' salons and studios. A center of art, literature and philanthropy would thus be established, and the city be placed on a footing with other places of its class in these important particulars.

The News has published many of the valuable papers read before the club and its readers are familiar with the character of the work done as well as with the general aim of the society. Its purpose, primarily, is to secure a thoughtful consideration of such subjects as concern the good of woman, physically, mentally and morally. Where they are selfish and narrow and interested only in those belonging to themselves to the exclusion of all else, they are to be broadened, their sympathies enlarged and their usefulness increased. Not that they are to love their own less but humanity the more. It may be said that the reason for the existence of the club lies in the belief that knowledge is the key by which to reach the most generous and noblest impulses of the heart. The strength which comes from union is sought.

The work of the club for the coming year has been carefully laid out and the following committees appointed;

Art—Mrs. Julia M. Hunting, chairman; Mrs. Isaac Hillis, Mrs. Parlin-Porter, Mrs. James, Mrs. Tac Hussey, Dr. Laura Liebhardt, Mrs. L. B. Abdill, Mrs. Gaylord.

Literature—Mrs. J. G. Berryh II, chairman; Rev. Ida C. Hultin, Mrs. J. K. Macomber, Mrs. F. A. Percival, Miss Rose B. Ankeny, Mrs. Mary H. Wright, Mrs. J. C. Cook, Mrs. Denman.

Education—Mrs. A. L. Frisbie, chairman; Mrs. L. M. Morrow, Mrs. A. E. McMurray, Mrs. Jacob Mills, Mrs. L. M. Wilson, Dr. Frances Carrothers, Mrs. D. G. Edmundson.

Woman's Work—Mrs. Emma G. Hull, chairman; Mrs. A. B. Billington, Miss Elizabeth Matthews, Mrs. M. S. Orwig, Mrs. Emma McCord, Dr. Edith Gould, Mrs. Martha C. Callanan, Mrs. C. P. Holmes.

Social—Mrs. Dr. H. C. Potter, chairman; Mrs. E. R. Clapp, Mrs. Swords, Mrs. F. M. Hubbell, Mrs. C. H. Getchell, Mrs. Henry Plumb, Mrs. J. C. Macy, Mrs. Walter McCain, Mrs. Harry West.

Miscellaneous—Mrs. John Wyman, chairman; Mrs. Ruttkay, Mrs. W. S. Clark, Mrs. H. C. Alverson, Mrs. C. H. Gatch, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Miss Sadie Shriner, Mrs. W. T. Clarke, Mrs. Robertson.

Current Topics—Mrs. J. H. Windsor, chairman; Mrs. E. H. Gillette, Mrs. Ella H. Durley, Mrs. Dr. Patchin, Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Fred Lehman, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Judge Day, Mrs. Martha B. Johnston, Miss Rachael Clarke.

In the course of the year papers will be furnished by the committees as follows:

Art—Short papers on Pottery, Mrs. Hillis and Mrs. Gaylord; Relation of Industrial Art to Popular Education, Mrs. James; Influence of Art in Daily Life, Mrs. Parlin-Porter.

Literature—Matthew Arnold, Poet and Critic, Rose B. Ankeny; Emerson, Ida C. Hultin; Mrs. Browning, Mrs. F. A. Percival.

Education—Amusements and Occupations of School Girls, Mrs. Morrow; American and European Schools Compared and Contrasted, Dr. Carrothers; The Educated Woman of the Past, Present and Future, Mrs. Edmundson.

Woman's Work—A Series as to Woman: 1. Before the Rebellion, the Pioneer Woman, Mrs. Mary H. Wright;

During the Rebellion, Mrs. Emma McCord; What Iowa Women Have Accomplished in Educational and Literary Fields, Mrs. Addie B. Billington; In Charitable and Reform Work and as a Moral Factor in Civilization, Mrs. M. C. Callanan; Home Making and What it Should Be, Mrs. C. P. Holmes; Social Worth, Mrs. Ella H. Durley.

Miscellaneous—An Afternoon on Geology, Mrs. Ruttkay; The Nebular Hypothesis, Earthquakes, and Volcanoes, Mrs. Andrews; Geysers, Mrs. Wyman; Mountains, Mrs. W. T. Clarke; Glaciers, Mrs. Gatch.

An afternoon of impersonations, each member of the committee to choose her own character: Balzac, Mrs. Hillis, Mrs. Durley, Mrs. Wyman.

## A PHASE OF ART.

Mrs. Gillette's Paper on Sculpture Read Before the Des Moines Women's Club.

### HISTORY AND CRITICISM MINGLED

In a Sprightly Essay Illustrated With Specimens of Sculptors' Work.

April 11, 1888.

The room occupied by the Women's club of Des Moines has seldom been so artistically clothed as it was yesterday when Mrs. E. H. Gillette gave her elaborate and scholarly lecture upon "Sculpture." The tables were adorned with busts and statuettes in alabaster, plaster and bronze; while hundreds of photographs of the world's masterpieces, with accompanying glasses, were at hand to illustrate the lecture, and rare curios consisting of cameos, exquisite intaglios, bas-reliefs, Florentine mosaics and other specimens of art added greatly to the general interest. For the greater number of these specimens the club is indebted to Messrs. Abdill, Plumb and Perkins, who kindly contributed from their several collections. Mrs. Galusha Parsons, the newly elected president, occupied the chair and introduced Mrs. Gillette, a synopsis of whose excellent paper is given below, though as the whole was interspersed with explanatory remarks and bright chats given with charming grace and ease, it is impossible to do full justice to the subject in a written report.

By sculpture we mean any process by which the forms of objects are represented by solid substances and it therefore includes carving, modeling, casting, whether in metal or other material and coin engravings. From the earliest times we have records of this art of expressing ideas in stone. We have specimens in the bas-reliefs of the tombs of the ancient kings of Egypt; in the Sphinxes and Colossi found on the

site of ancient Thebes. As early as 2466 B. C., sculpture had reached a high stage of excellence among Egyptian arts, not as an independent art but always in connection with architecture, either as supports, as obelisks or colossal figures placed before grand buildings, to add to their majesty, or as bas-reliefs used to decorate the walls of temples and tombs and to relate the history of the king under whose patronage the work was wrought. These Egyptian sculptures were highly colored, and though over 4000 years old are supposed to day to stand in as vivid and fresh colors as ever. Nothing but conventionalized forms are among them. The artists then, no doubt, were bound by fixed artistic rules, from which none dared to stray—stiff and straight and unnatural; bound body and soul, no life, no action, but fixed, petrified figures—arms, close to the body; feet and legs one piece of stone. There is, however, one piece among the myriads formed that represents action. It is a quoit thrower, found in one of the tombs of the ancient kings. A sitting figure always had the hands laid upon the knees or over the breast, and generally these sculptures are of one isolated figure, very rarely found in groups and when found so, seem really to represent no complete conception but to have been formed, either by one artist or many, one at a time in a sort of Indian file, the principal personage represented being of great size, while his household, officers or whoever surround him seem like pigmies. It is by the sculptured bas-reliefs that literally cover the inside of tombs, the outside of obelisks, the walls of temples that the history of those times is read. Near the Pyramids stands the Sphinx of the world—a lion's body with a human head, indicating great physical strength with the mental development of man. The Sphinx measures 172 feet in length. Great numbers of these strange figures are found in Egypt. Sometimes long avenues leading to their temples were bordered by them on either side. Then their great obelisks form another interesting study as well as their colossal statues on account of their vast weight and size. The colossi at Thebes, 47 feet high, stand on the west bank of the Nile, and are made of a single block of stone, which have been transported a distance of several days' journey. Following Egyptian come Assyrian sculptures, but few and incomplete, and they have suffered so much from exposure and abuse that we cannot judge of their finish. They are small, anything but beautiful, stiff and unlife-like as the Egyptian, probably highly colored, as those found are white, black, red and blue. They portrayed animal and vegetable life in their bas-reliefs. Not until we come to the study of Greek art do we find much to be desired. There alone has the perfection of the plastic art existed. "The very difficulty," says one writer, "which we feel in expressing by means of words the chief artistic characteristics of the words of Greek art points to one of the cardinal virtues inherent in it, namely, its simplicity. The works were meant to be gazed upon, and not to be the subject of learned commentaries." The people in looking upon them understood them; they appealed to their senses, their feelings, their moral and intellectual natures. Everything in the education of the ancient Greek was fitted to make him a producer of the best art, and the people generally were educated to understand art. To-day our critics are too prone to rush into rhapsodies over works of art instead of giving expression to an intelligent appreciation. Art to the Greeks was a great reality, a part of their daily life, their constant need. Their works of art were intended to be lived with daily, not

stored away in museums. Their artists were men of rounded education. Phidias associated with Pericles, who was not only a political leader, a statesman, a soldier, but also a keen student of philosophy and literature and a votary of the highest art. The most potent reason for the high artistic attainments of the Greeks was their unbounded love of beauty. Beauty was goodness in their eyes, and the good was beautiful. Their religion taught them that the body was the God-like temple of the soul, so their Gods were very human,

and their humans, God-like. The Greek artist stood upon the highest scale of the intellectual culture of his age while he had been so trained technically that with clearness and precision he could execute his conceptions in the language of his art. Their early education aimed also to endow the youth with interest and appreciating power. Aristotle distinguished the human soul as possessing two main aspects: First, the active laboring soul; second, the passive, enjoying soul, and thus every Greek's education was for the double purpose of giving the elementary or technical education and the power to appreciate and enjoy the fulfillment of the other. The education which gives appreciation of art differs from that necessary to the art producer, because the latter must learn the causes by which he may produce certain effects. The lover of art learns to enjoy the fruits of the causes without understanding or caring how they are produced. He yields unreservedly to the illusion, and any study back of that is to a certain extent at the cost of the perfect enjoyment of the effect. Dedalus, the first Greek sculptor, is half historical and more than half mythical. Mrs. Clements recalls a pleasant tradition connected with the statues made by Dedalus during those prehistoric times. He was not only a stone-cutter, but a wood-carver and an inventor, an artist and an artisan, one of those rare mortals—a practical and artistic genius. He made the first ax and he and his nephew the first saw. He dared, as an artist, to cast to the winds all rules hitherto binding artists and actually made a statue with arms outstretched, feet separate and open eyes. His countrymen looked on astonished and with one accord ran and chained his statues lest they should run away. The historian Pliny gives a charming little story in connection with the first portrait made in clay. An artist and his beautiful daughter Kora lived at Sicyon, where he wrought out his ornaments for the temple and she made his home bright and brightened, also his workshop daily with flowers on her way home from the market. One of the Greek youths studying with the father persuaded the father to take him into his family to become a teacher of Kora, and the youth and maiden loved, and when the lover was forced to go away with a sad heart, Kora seized a coal from the fire and traced his features on the wall. The father coming in just then, for he loved the youth well, too, completed the portrait by filling in the outline with clay, thus forming the first bas-relief that was ever made. After the marriage of the young people, they lived in Corinth and both became famous artists, and Kora's portrait was preserved for 200 years, when the museum in which it rested was burned. A most interesting review of the chief works of the early Greek artists together with their characteristics was given, including, of course, the work of Phidias, the greatest sculptor of any age, Polycleitus, Scopas, Praxiteles, Cleomenes, Lysippus, while many of the beautiful myths which underlie art at all times were interwoven. Among the works receiving particular notice in the lecture were the



Minerva of the Parthenon; the Olympian Jupiter; the Venus de Medici; the Niobe group; the Laocoon; the Farnesian Bull; the Thorn Extractor; the Dying Gladiator; the Venus of Milo; the Apollo Belvidere; the Diana of the Louvre; the bronze doors of Ghiberti at Florence; Michael Angelo's Moses; the works of Canova. The touching story of Niobe was told while photographs of the group were exhibited. Poor Niobe, the mortal who passed her childhood in intimate relations with Latona, who afterward married Jupiter, forgot the great gulf between them, although she was wife of the King of Thebes and boasted of her fourteen children while Latona had only two, Apollo and Diana. Latona begged Apollo with his silver bow, and Diana, goddess of the chase, to take revenge on Niobe and slay all her children. When the poor mother was left alone, bereft of all her children, she wept herself into stone, or until Jupiter took pity upon her and turned her into stone. The poet says of this statue: "To stone the gods have changed her but in vain. The sculptor's art has made her breathe again." The subject of Medieval art was quite thoroughly discussed and at the request of the club, Mrs. Gillette kindly consented to continue the subject next Wednesday, at which time the work of the present day will chiefly receive attention. Mrs. Isaac Hillis invited the club to meet next week at her home and it was also determined to invite the ladies of the Browning club to attend at that time.

## FINE ART STUDIES.

Mrs. Gillette Concludes Her Lecture on Sculpture at the Women's Club.

*April 18 1888*  
**THE MEETING AT THE HILLIS HOME.**

Modern Art and Artists the Interesting Theme of the Speaker.

It was a rare privilege accorded the members of the Des Moines Women's club, and one of which they very gladly availed themselves, to meet at the home of Mrs. Isaac Hillis Wednesday afternoon to listen to the conclusion of Mrs. E. H. Gillette's admirable lecture on Sculpture. It was a privilege esteemed not only because of the pleasant welcome given her guests by the gifted hostess, but also because of the interesting surroundings and the great number of excellent and various specimens of art with which the house is adorned and which were placed freely at the disposal of the club for their study. There is probably not another home in the city or state that gives evidence of a more cultivated taste. In the front parlor the ladies were delighted to learn upon inquiry that the quaint and highly elaborate wood-carvings of the antique-looking furniture belonged to the Sixteenth century, a time when the carver's art reached its zenith in Italy, from which country these beautiful pieces were brought. A center table with massive legs, in which the coil of a serpent appears amid other heavy decorations, was particularly admired because of its noble style and finely executed

work, while the stately high-backed chairs with their curiously interesting decorations, the arms ending in fierce lions heads, would fittingly adorn an Italian palace of the middle-ages. Upon the table stands the statue of a Venetian page of the Sixteenth century which all supposed to be bronze until a close examination revealed the fact that it, too, was carved in wood and brought to the highest polish. The finely poised, graceful, clear-cut figure is truly a masterpiece and worthy the closest study. On either side of this table, in the corners of the room are two large Sevres vases on pedestals, the dominant color being the exquisite Marie Louise blue, with medallion landscape paintings in front. The hangings of the room are of a rich brocade in pale blue and gold. The walls are covered with valuable paintings, and on every hand are portfolios of fine photographs, which furnish the best possible opportunity for study. Mrs. Hillis demonstrates the possibility of a western woman's being thoroughly familiar with the best art productions of the world, even though her own observation extends not beyond this country. It is pleasant to reflect that such a knowledge is within the reach of all. Mrs. Gillette began her talk by reviewing briefly the works of a few of the ancients, beginning with the Venus of Milo, a beautiful bronze copy of which was at hand for study. The original of this world-famed statue stands in the Louvre at Paris, and is supposed to be the work of Alexandros of Antiocheia. It was discovered in 1820 by a peasant on the island of Melos, where it had long been buried in the niche of a wall. The idea, a comparatively new one, though well supported, was offered, that this Venus represents victory rather than Venus. The majesty and carriage of the head express superiority and dignity. This work stands unrivaled in ancient or modern art for the grandeur of design, perfect proportions, the exquisite moulding of a faultless form, as well as for the freshness of the flesh and apparent softness of the skin.

Michael Angelo and his splendid achievements in painting, sculpture and architecture were also discussed at length and his majestic Moses and finely executed David were studied through photographs. The fascinating story of his life was also related. He was born while his father was governor of the towns of Caprese and Chiusi, while his patron, Lorenzo de Medici, was at the head of the government of Florence. Angelo's works convey the idea of great strength, noble feeling, depth of thought and grandeur. Never for a moment does he care for mere beauty or simply to please. Step by step he contested his way until at the latter end of his long and laborious life he was acknowledged the master of his art. The Italians placed him beside Dante and Raphael—Dante, the greatest poet their country ever produced, Raphael, the greatest painter, and Michael Angelo, great in all arts. He was more than sixty when he first met Vittoria Colonna, and after a wonderful friendship of ten years, she died in a convent in Rome, Angelo being with her to the last. His "Drunken Bacchus" is in the Uffizi gallery at Florence; the Pieta, at St. Peter's. His David weighed 18,000 pounds, and is from one block of marble. It represents David when he declares to Goliath "I come unto thee in the name of the Lord of Hosts". This great statue is graceful, the figure pliant, and the face full of courage. His statue of Day and Night and of Morning and Evening are of exquisite beauty. Our own artist, Mr. Hunt, said: "Angelo was so great that the subsequent generations have furnished no man great enough to inter-

pret him."

The work of the talented Canova, so full of grace, were also considered, and his Orpheus and Eurydice, Theseus, Three Graces, Psyche and Perseus were discussed, the last piece being the first modern work honored by being placed in the Vatican collection.

Speaking of those masterpieces of art, a modern art critic was quoted as saying: "The great artists had great minds and they stood solidly upon the earth. The students of these artists must need bring along all the brains they have and they must keep their feet upon the ground. To study art in this way implies a stalwart love of truth; one must be willing to search unceasingly for truth in order to have beauty in its highest combinations revealed to him. True art belongs to the solid things of life. It is only when art is treated as a luxury, as an accomplishment, simply as a decoration to wealth, that it becomes enervating and tends to mental debility. Art is intimately connected with the highest intellectual development and must be studied with honest sincerity.

The marble and bronze works of Donatello are numerous. It was he who made the first equestrian statue which had been produced since the time of the Romans. He was a thorough realist and followed nature with such great exactness that he often produced very ugly things. A story is told of him which illustrates. Donatello had made a crucifix carved from wood for the church of Santa Croce. When finished he asked his friend Brunelleschi's opinion of it. The latter, relying on his love for Donatello frankly told the artist that he considered his crucifix very ugly; that his figure of Christ represented a day laborer, whereas it should represent a person of the greatest possible beauty. But even with the very best of friends such severe criticism is dangerous to friendship and Donatello was exceeding angry and exclaimed, "It is easier to criticize than to execute." Brunelleschi took the remark to heart, and went home determined to execute his conception of Christ, and when his crucifix was ready, invited Donatello to dine with him. He placed his crucifix in a conspicuous place in his house and then took Donatello to market with him to buy their food. He gave Donatello the parcels to carry into the house, saying he would follow in a very few minutes. Upon Donatello's entrance his eye rested at once on the crucifix and his delight was so great that he dropped the eggs and cheese on the floor and forgot everything, standing gazing on the carving as motionless as a statue, when Brunelleschi entered. "Oh," he exclaimed, "what are we to do now—you have spoiled our dinner?" "Ah!" replied Donatello, "I have had dinner enough for to-day. I confess to you belongs the power of carving the Christ, while to me, that of representing day laborers." Posterity considers Donatello's St. George his masterpiece.

Some cunning devices in gold work were shown by the speaker to illustrate the revival in that art in Florence to-day, it being shown that the curious forms produced by Cellini and his contemporaries are to a certain extent again attempted. One of these pieces was a pin with a miniature grey cat for a head, which was recently purchased in Italy by a tourist. Coming to more modern times a rapid review and study were made of the "Sleeping Ariadne" and other pieces by Dannecker, an artist whose works are among the best productions of modern art; of Flaxman's group of Venus and Cupid, also his monument to Mrs. Morley who with her babe died at sea, and they, mother and child, are represented as rising from the sea and being received by descending

angels; of the Danish Thorwaldsen's admirable works; of the productions of the American artist, Crawford, who worked in Thorwaldsen's studio in Rome; also the productions of Harriet Hosmer; the English Gibson; and of the exceedingly beautiful statue of Queen Louise, the work of Christian Rauch, which the visitor at Berlin is sure to visit in the mausoleum at Charlottenburg; also his masterpiece in the colossal Friedrich's monument at Berlin. Conspicuous among the artists of the present period of whose work every American is proud is Hiram Powers, who produced, among many noble things, an ideal statue of Eve. A year later he finished the model of his pure and beautiful Greek slave, of which six duplicates in marble were made, the original being in the Corcoran gallery at Washington. The interesting story of Clark Mills's conception of the equestrian statue of General Jackson, in Lafayette park, Washington, was related. He was invited to furnish a design for such a statue and one morning while watching some horses as they were running and playing, he noticed one stand for a moment perfectly poised on his hind feet, in the act of rearing. The position was so graceful, so spirited, that the idea took possession of him. If a horse could stand so naturally he must be able to make a bronze one so that the center of gravity should fall over the point at rest on the ground, and that his statue would be secure. Of course he was ridiculed, but his plaster model was a success, and his bronze horse has stood the test of over thirty years. The idea that the greatest work must go hand in hand with with a high moral purpose was brought out distinctly. Sidney Lanier said: "Let any sculptor hew us out the most ravishing combination of curves and spheric softness that ever stood for woman; yet if the lips have a certain fulness that hints of the flesh, if the brow be insincere, if in the minutest particular the physical beauty suggest a moral ugliness, that sculptor, unless he be portraying a moral ugliness, for a moral purpose, may as well give over his marble for paving stones"; and again, "He who has not yet perceived how artistic beauty and moral beauty are convergent lines, which run back into a common ideal origin, and who, therefore, is not afire with moral beauty, just as with artistic beauty,—he is not a great artist." In reference to the present day and the influence of art upon the people of to-day, it was stated that all over our country, in parks, museums, schools of art and design, as well as in private residences are found statues, statuettes and bas-reliefs. Many of these are copies of classic art; much is purely American art. Very little of the latter compels you to look at it the second time, or indeed leaves a pleasant memory from the first impression. This brings us to consider what it is we care for in sculpture—a certain fitness of things, a harmony of the conception and the fact to be expressed seeming necessary. In representing our heroes of to-day we do not wish them clothed as were the ancient Greeks or Romans, nor indeed do we want nude statues of the gods. The realism of the Romans and the idealism of the classic Greeks should be blended. While we want the face and figure of our plain, awkward Lincoln, we must also have the grace of his benevolent spirit. Both are expressed in St. Gaudens's noble statue. In looking upon the sitting statue of Washington before the east front of the capitol it is impossible not to feel indignant. There sits the father of his country chained as it were, to his marble chair, with his hand held out beseechingly towards the patient office where his clothes are on exhi-



bition in glass cases, while he, summer and winter, sits there without even the stars and stripes about him. We should clothe out statues of our own times in the clothes they wore in life. The continental dress was very picturesque and our artists delight to paint and carve that, but, alas, for the dress of to-day, for men and women alike, unless one excepts the graceful and artistic gowns that ladies are wearing at home under the name of tea-gowns. I think a woman dressed in one of these could be as graceful and harmonious as a Grecian or Roman matron, with her long, flowing lines. We are yet almost too near the great men and their great deeds to successfully cast them in a manner to satisfy our real and yet not realistic ideas. Driving once with a friend past the bronze statue of Bishop Brownell, standing in a commanding position in the park in Hartford, my friend said: "My only impression upon seeing this is that the bishop is holding his hand out to see if it rains!" Appreciation of art should be taught in our schools. To a certain extent we are teaching drawing and painting, art producing, or the power of expressing; but the more important branch, the study of art with a view to the understanding receives too little attention. As a country, as a nation, we must encourage public recognition of artists and their works. Museums should be established for all. Every town should have its city hall and public buildings, not stopping with the mere building of fine halls, but encouraging the great sculptors and painters to decorate. The teachers should strive to create in the pupils a lasting interest in the subject taught. Some one has said to teach people the art of being alone and enjoying and profiting by it is of more practical use than much else that is called practical instruction.

The subject was discussed, step by step, as it progressed, and the afternoon was felt to be one of the greatest profit.



Mar 15. \_\_\_\_\_ 1890

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie bravely defended the public schools and the public school teachers, saying that such evils as might be polluted out were due to the system, and where fifty pupils are assigned to one teacher, there must be a system. The work of the teacher must be supplemented by that of the mother, and she had always found that teachers were willing to grant reasonable requests and make reasonable concessions. Mrs. Frisbie said that according to her observation, girls were fully able to stand along with boys in work. She believed that they are fitted to take the higher education. Remarks were made by Miss McClell Day, Mrs. Durley, Mrs. Wyman, M. and others, and the hour closed while yet the interest was high.

"Concerning this portentous subject I would fain have waited for further intellectual development on my own part," said Mrs. Wyman, "but circumstances forbid. Sometimes I have felt that papers already read this year have exhausted the subject assigned me. Papers on early education in America; papers on the American revolution; on American art, on provincial literature, etc., have covered ground that I, too, must tread. I have not touched upon politics or religion, and I shall not unearth the mound builders, and hold up every copper bead and piece of pottery or

"It is time that American intellect and American taste were crystalized as solidly at the points of artistic and critical individuality as it long has been in matters of general worldly wisdom and worldly cleverness. No doubt we lack some of the elements that make



bition in glass cases, while he, summer and winter, sits there without even the stars and stripes about him. We should clothe our statues of our own times in the clothes they wore in life. The continental dress was very picturesque and our artists delight to paint and carve that, but, alas, for the dress of to-day, for men and women alike, unless one excepts the graceful and artistic gowns that ladies are wearing at home under the name of tea-gowns. I think a woman dressed in one of these could be as graceful and harmonious as a Grecian or Roman matron, with her long, flowing lines. We are yet almost too near the great men and their great deeds to successfully cast them in a manner to satisfy our real and yet not realistic ideas. Driving once with a friend past the bronze statue of Bishop Brownell, standing in a commanding position in the park in Hartford, my friend said: "My only impression upon seeing this is that the bishop is holding his hand out to see if it rains." Appreciation of art should be taught in our schools. To a certain extent we are teaching drawing and painting, art producing, or the power of expressing; but the more important branch, the study of art with a view to the understanding receives too little attention. As a country, as a nation, we must encourage public recognition of artists and their works. Museums should be established for all. Every town should have its city hall and house of lectures, and feel a just pride in its public buildings, not stopping with the mere building of fine halls, but in having the great sculptors and painters to decorate. The teachers should strive to create in the pupils a lasting interest in the subject taught. Some one has said to teach people the art of being alone and enjoying and profiting by it is of more practical use than much else that is called practical instruction.

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Mar. 15 1893.

### EDUCATION OF OUR DAUGHTERS.

Mar. 15 1893.

An unusually large number attended the meeting of the Women's club Wednesday afternoon. There were several visitors representing different Iowa towns, as well as numerous Des Moines ladies who are not members of the club. The time devoted to current events was occupied by Mrs. M. Helen Peters, who spoke entertainingly of the Hawaiian treaty, and also of the battle raging at present in Chicago over "fads" in the public schools. Mrs. Peters, in reference to the latter subject, gave the actual status of affairs, but it was evident that her sympathies were with the anti-faddists for the reason that in some portions of Chicago children cannot go to school because of an actual lack of seating capacity in the buildings. It was argued that as long as such is the case, money in such large sums, should not be spent in teaching the children of the wealthier classes German, physical culture, etc.

Mrs. S. A. Marine, chairman of the committee on "Education," was introduced by Mrs. Berryhill and given charge of the exercises. In a very neat and graceful little speech, Mrs. Marine presented Mrs. T. M. Walker as the writer of the day, her subject being "Our Daughters: How Shall we Educate Them?" It was a study, in the main, of how young girls may take a course in the public schools, and come out strong and well-developed physically, morally and intellectually. Great stress was laid on the duty of health preservation so that women may look forward to something besides suffering. Among the grievous faults pointed out by Mrs. Walker was that of insufficient recreation for the children, since in many schools no recess is given, and in the course of the hours the school-room is occupied the air becomes thoroughly vitiated and unfit for use. Far better would be a lively romp in the school-yard with windows wide open for a change of air. It would well repay the trouble of putting on and removing wraps, as much more could be accomplished after such exercises. Parents were urged to visit schools and not only show their interest in what is being done but also be able to speak from actual knowledge of what should be done.

Mrs. Walker does not believe in doing as much written work as is often required of pupils. Such work, she thinks, is too great a strain on the eye and entire nervous system. She spoke with enthusiasm of the work that is done by some Des Moines teachers, who show that they appreciate to the full the importance of the work in which they are engaged.

It was a suggestive paper, evidently inspired by a keen appreciation of the sacredness of the teachers' calling and the responsibility of motherhood. Those who listened to it could not but be encouraged to renew their efforts to meet such responsibility wisely.

Mrs. A. B. Billington led in the discussion, dwelling upon the fact that too much is expected of the young girls of the day. Even such writers as George Eliot and Scott make their young heroines talk like women of thirty. She thought that under the severe pressure of the schools, girls could not be cultured in the duties of the home as they should be.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie bravely defended the public schools and the public school teachers, saying that such evils as might be pointed out were due to the system, and where fifty pupils are assigned to one teacher, there must be a system. The work of the teacher must be supplemented by that of the mother, and she had always found that teachers were willing to grant reasonable requests and make reasonable concessions. Mrs. Frisbie said that according to her observation, girls were fully able to stand along with boys in school work. She believed that they are equally fitted to take the higher education. Further remarks were made by Miss McClelland, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Durley, Mrs. Wyman, Mrs. Hume and others, and the hour for closing arrived while yet the interest was at its height.

### "SOME MODERN USES OF ART."

Mar. 15 1893.  
Mrs. Stewart Goodrell Reads a Paper Before the Women's Club.

The Women's Club held its regular session in the parlors of the Central Church of Christ yesterday afternoon. There was a good attendance of prominent ladies. The paper was by Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, upon "Some Modern Uses of Art," and was particularly interesting. The ladies did not confine themselves to general topics, but took up the Hawaiian annexation problem, upon which Mrs. Begun read a paper. Then Mrs. L. Young spoke about Iowa's art exhibit at the World's Fair. After a discussion upon this latter subject, particularly upon the art of dress, a letter was read from the confederated clubs of Iowa. It asked the club to join in making an exhibit of the clubs' work, including the line of papers and extracts, club calendars showing proposed work, and last, but by no means least, pictures of club officers and leading club women. The request was voted upon by the club with the result that the admiring public, and especially the anxious and interested foreign visitor will look in vain for portraits of Des Moines' intellectual beauties. "The ladies of the club," said one of the members, "were actuated by no motives of bashfulness in this matter, but by a feeling of compassion towards those loyal Iowans who might feel it incumbent upon them to go carefully through this collection, as, of course, every Iowan will inspect severally each manuscript presented in the school exhibit of this state."

The following is the substance of Mrs. Goodrell's paper:

One of the most important modern uses of art is, it seems to me, to furnish a subject for club papers. Any one who has been engaged in club work for ever so short a time, will, I think, see the point I make. Art, art, art! The first committee on every club calendar is the art committee, and the subject has been treated under every conceivable form, until now we must put our minds to the torture to invent new names for the same old subjects.

Clubs may live without poetry, music or books;

They may live without once taking thought of fine cooks;

They may live without aims, without object or heart—

But where is the club that can live without art?

They may live without books, and who is there to question?

They may live without cooks, and have less indigestion.

With philanthropy, advance and reforms they may part.

But they're dead and past hope, without papers on art!

This being the case, what a godsend to us who must write have the ancient Egyptians proved! Hallowed be their memory, and blessed be the sleep of those of them who, overcoming the natural horror of the hideous, evolved for the undoing of future peoples, those nightmare producing phantasies known as Egyptian art!

After speaking of the modern use of art made by the critic, decorative art was touched upon, and in this connection this reminds me to say that I learned a decorative process once myself—in my salad days. It cost me \$10 besides the materials, and was a gift at the price, the artist said. It consisted in having the outline of a spray of flowers stamped on white doeskin (which the artist had for sale—he also carried the stamping apparatus). This doeskin has some peculiar property which renders it invaluable as a foundation for this particular process, though it bears a most remarkable resemblance to cotton velvet. But to return to the process. After the outline is stamped simply put on plenty of green paint where the leaves are indicated, and of red where the roses are, and of blue where that bunch of forget-me-not droops so gracefully—blue unless your taste runs to purple or yellow—always follow your taste in these matters—that is one of the beauties of the process; it allows so much scope for the exercise of taste—and after the necessary paint has been distributed—go carefully over the leaves and flowers with

a select pen—(here is a valuable secret of the craft given away)—and draw deep lines just like the veins would be in the natural flower—the artist said—and lo, a finished piece of Kensington decorative painting.

For a nice, easy way of getting a great deal of effect in a short time, I should like to recommend the Kensington method. To be sure there seems to be a diversity of opinion as to the decorative quality it possesses, and it is open to the objection that it cannot be used upon wooden shoes and wooden spoons and ladles and the like—but then they are pretty enough, anyway, simply gilded and hung by pink and blue ribbons and you save your paint, but for banners—no home should be without one—and "throws" and "tidies" and the like there is no substitute for the Kensington method; and while comparatively inexpensive it goes far toward satisfying that love for the beautiful, which seems born in most of us—that one effort satisfied mine entirely—and I have a very large love for the beautiful, indeed.

Next the benefit modern art had been to "countless hordes of otherwise unprovided for physicians and nurses" was mentioned, and the manner in which it has conferred that benefit was summed up in the sentence: "I make no hesitation in saying that the disease known as nervous prostration was occasioned and nourished in our grandmothers, and developed in our time, by the wall paper and the carpets of the past two generations." After speaking of the new art of photography and the strides it has made toward perfect representation of the beauties of nature and giving much interesting data concerning its use in portraiture, in producing composites in magazine illustration and other uses to which it is, or is likely to be put, and of newspaper art, and the fad just now among book and art lovers—private trading books—the paper closed as follows: I should like to speak of art in dress, but have not the heart to do it, since ladies lately arrived from the east assure me that the hoopskirt is upon us. Shades of our Grecian foremothers, has it come to this again? And do we still prate of a more cultivated taste existing among us, than existed when our grandmothers did this thing!

Once more to the breach, Jenness—once more! or cease to lecture here on dress reform. In safety nothing so becomes a woman as Delsartian languid (save close clinging gowns). But when the hoopskirt menaces our land stiffen the backbone, summon up the courage of your convictions and go forth and cry: This freak shall not prevail!

### THE WOMEN'S CLUB 1893

An Interesting Meeting Yesterday, With the Leading Paper on "America's Intellectual Development," by Mrs. Wyman.

The last literary meeting of the Women's Club for the year, occurred yesterday in the Christian Church parlors, and afforded unqualified enjoyment to a large number of members and visitors. One of the latter, a man brave with that courage which "passeth understanding," and alike the frowns and smiles of the assembled women and drank in wisdom thirstily.

The time usually occupied by the current topics committee was given the ladies who had been so fortunate as to attend the late "Women's Congress," in Chicago, in which to report, and Miss Lizzie Mathews and Mrs. Berryhill talked well and entertainingly of what they had there seen and heard.

The chief paper of the day was given by Mrs. Bina M. Wyman, and had for its subject, "The Intellectual Development of America."

#### MRS. WYMAN'S PAPER.

"Concerning this portentous subject I would fain have waited for further intellectual development on my own part," said Mrs. Wyman, "but circumstances forbid. Sometimes I have felt that papers already read this year have exhausted the subject assigned me. Papers on early education in America; papers on the American revolution; on American art, on provincial literature, etc., have covered ground that I, too, must tread. I have not touched upon politics or religion, and I shall not unearth the mound builders, and hold up every copper bead and piece of pottery or

tinsel to your weary eyes, nor shall I dig up the cave dwellers from their depths nor bring down the cliff dwellers from their rocky heights and expose their musty, dusty skeletons to your eyes or noses; neither shall I tell you of the Norsemen, the Welshmen, the Spanish or the Italians, not even of Columbus, lest you shall say: "Too much of anything is quite enough."

"How shall I cover the period of our four great wars without becoming involved in politics? Especially the revolutionary war which brought our political independence? How can I leave Washington with brief mention? That grand, dignified, silent, almost sad man who carried the nation on his shoulders and in his heart through all those eight years of struggle, when each year seemed to sound a knell to our failure. Truly, as a French writer said of him, Washington passed and left a republic in his place. The triumphant closing of this war and the war of 1812 convinced England that we were a nation, and for sixty years we had peace and plenty. Then the hydra-headed serpent of negro slavery brought trouble, which finally died at the close of the great rebellion.

"As the evolution of the first school of American art may be dated from the Centennial Exposition, we may confidently look for its further development in this grand Columbian Exposition now at hand.

"We are beginning to learn that our Pilgrim fathers, many of them Dutch Hollanders, as well as English, are entitled to more credit than is usually given them. It is only lately that we have learned that the Pilgrims did not persecute. They left England on account of religious prosecution and fled to Holland, where they remained twelve years before they sailed for America in 1620. They were a thrifty, industrious, skillful, intelligent people, who really laid the foundations for our independence. The Puritans sailed twelve years later directly to America. They were a wealthy class and came of their free will, not on account of religious persecution. That they were arbitrary and narrow in their belief we have ample proof, but they had a sincere desire for education, and eventually founded our literature. The spirit of independence was manifest when the Pilgrims rebelled against tyranny, set sail, in their desperation, to get away from it. That spirit has descended to us. They showed their energy and aggressiveness in everything they undertook—in religion, in education, and in battle. Before the Revolutionary war they had colleges and schools. Harvard was among them, where high scholarship in the classics was attained. Even an Indian became so learned there that he wrote verses in Latin! Such was the zeal for learning that the New England mother would say to her son: 'First of all I want you to be a good Christian, then a good scholar.'"

"We feel like saying with Hawthorne: 'Let us thank God for giving us such ancestors, and let each generation thank him not less fervently for being one step further from them in the march of ages.'"

"Sidney Smith once said: 'Who reads an American book?' Since Bryant wrote *Thanotopris*, the world has read American books. 'The next Augustan Age will dawn on the other side of the Atlantic,' wrote Horace Walpole in 1791—so you can see we began early, with our intellectual development.

"Mind has been incited to a rapidity of thought and spontaneity of action, wholly impossible in other times. The facilities for printing and our public schools have brought this about.

"It is time that American intellect and American taste were crystallized as solidly at the points of artistic and critical individuality as it long has been in matters of general worldly wisdom and worldly cleverness. No doubt we lack some of the elements that make



up the highest experience, but we should be loyal to our country in our pictures and in our books and not go abroad for all art and literature. Our culture, it is true, is not founded on aristocratic hereditaments, but in going back through our common schools to the soil it keeps open the veins through which the sap of a vigorous, unshorn nature enters our higher life. "The typical American will, if honestly presented, hold his own in breadth of culture with the typical man of any land. \* \* \* If literature is a criticism of life, then the literature most satisfactory to Americans should be a criticism of life in America. \* \* \*

"Steam and electricity have done so much for us that soon the dream of the poet may be realized:

"I've no muscle to weary, no heart to decay,  
No bones to be laid on the shelf,  
And soon I intend you may all go and play  
While I manage the world myself."

"Music and the drama have done their part in our development, tho' they may yet be said to be in their infancy. Our standard is high and we demand the best. \* \* \* In medicine and surgery such strides are being made that perhaps some of us will live to see the day when a human being will be taken apart and put together again. The next century may see physics so cultivated that one may regulate brain, weight and muscle and know just how to develop himself into the perfect. \* \* \* When we review ever so hurriedly our achievements we can but feel proud of our country and its grand possibilities.

"Columbia, Columbia, to glory arise,  
The queen of the world, the child of the skies!  
Thy genius commands thee, with rapture behold  
While ages on ages thy splendors unfold—  
Thy reign is the last and the noblest of time. . .  
A world is thy realm, for a world be thy laws.  
Enlarged as thine empire, and just as thy cause  
On freedom's broad basis thy empire shall rise  
Extend with the main, and dissolve with the  
skies."

Mrs. Wyman emphasized the fact that while as yet we may be behind Europe in art and literature, we are far ahead in invention, showing ours to be a nation of thinkers upon practical subjects. Mrs. Wyman's paper was supplemented by a short paper by Mrs. Begun on "Influence of American Women During the Revolution" and by Mrs. Reichard, who read from one of her previously published articles a short resume of the Acadians in Louisiana.

The next meeting and last, for the year, will be two weeks hence and is in charge of the society committee. It will probably resolve itself into a picnic.

## IOWA'S ABLE WOMEN

April 27, 1893  
Many of Them Here to Organize a Federation of Clubs.

## BRIGHT FACES AND GAY GARB

Mrs. Berryhill Gracefully Welcomes Them to Des Moines.

The tasteful little silver badge of the General Federation of Women's clubs, with its delicate tracery of silver and its motto, "Unity in Diversity", could be seen on every hand at the Central Church of Christ this afternoon. The assemblage was composed of the ladies of the Des Moines Women's club, who were the hostesses of nearly one hundred delegates from half as many clubs throughout the state. The fine sunshine which burst upon Des Moines this morning after a fortnight of somber clouds and low barometer, served to make everybody happy, and the general pleasure and satisfaction could be seen in the ladies' faces and felt in the heartiness of the greetings exchanged. The meeting is for the purpose of effecting a state organization of women's clubs. Every town in the state of any importance has its literary club or clubs for women. Among the oldest and most thoroughly organized of these clubs may be mentioned that of Dubuque, which works through its various committees, any one of which is a well-equipped organization in itself. This club has many members of ability and note, among the number being Mrs. Mary Newberry Adams, Mrs. Ada Langworthy Collier, Miss May Rogers, Mrs. Fairbanks and others. It is greatly regretted that this club is not represented at this meeting. The Ladies' Literary Society of Waterloo is also of long standing. It has accomplished very good work. Of this club Prof. Swing, of Chicago, said it had accomplished the marvelous task of uniting and bringing into perfect harmony a town which had long been divided by a river. This club is represented by two of its honored members, Mrs. J. Williams and Mrs. D. F. Richards. The Marshalltown clubs are numerous, there being an especially close bond of union between the clubs of that city and this. Mrs. J. M. Whittaker and Mrs. H. J. Howe of the Woman's club came down as an advance guard and were present at Wednesday afternoon's session of the Des Moines Women's club, where their presence was heartily enjoyed. Among the other women of distinction who were present were Mrs. L. F. Parker of Grinnell, Mrs. T. E. Clark of Clarinda, Mrs. George K. Wright and Mrs. Horace Everett of Council Bluffs, Mrs. G. M. Gilchrist of Vinton, Mrs. W. H. Barry of Indianola, Mrs. Mary S. Scott of Nevada.

The body of the chapel, where the meeting was held, had been reserved for the delegates of all the clubs, and the members of the Des Moines Women's club, while visitors were seated in the balcony. A better looking assemblage it would be difficult to bring together. They were ladies who were up with the times in every particular; intelligent, keen, alert and courteous. They were also, as a rule, well and even stylishly dressed, showing very clearly that the club women of the state are not unskilful of personal appearance.

Mrs. James G. Berryhill, the very popular president of the Des Moines Women's club, occupied the chair with her accustomed ease and grace. To her fell the pleasant duty of speaking the words of welcome to the club's guests.

## FEDERATION FORMED

The Women's Clubs of Iowa Organized for Mutual

April 28 Benefit. 1893.

## BRILLIANT WOMEN PRESENT.

Mrs. Berryhill of Des Moines President of the Federation.

The pleasure and profit of the present meeting of the leading club women of the state is not to be told in words. Its value to future work was admirably traced by Mrs. James G. Berryhill in her address of welcome Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Berryhill first dwelt upon the help which comes from solitude, quoting Canon Farrar in his eloquent tribute to his mother. He said it was her habit, each day, immediately after breakfast, to withdraw for an hour to her own room to spend that hour in reading the Bible, in meditation and in prayer. From that hour as from a pure fountain, she drew the strength and the sweetness which enabled her to fulfill all her duties, and to remain unruffled by all the worries and pettinesses which are so often the intolerable trial of narrow neighborhoods. All great natures love solitude, the mountains, the woods, the vast silence of the forests, where they may gather fresh forces and come forth with renewed effort to contact with the world.

But this is the antithesis of another truth, the vital need of contact with our fellows. Organization is the watchword of our time.

Where women have organized for large, definite purposes, they have shown fair ability and encouraging indications for further development. To meet for an essential purpose brings not only the fruits of that direct object, but the indirect one of change of scene, the charm of personal intercourse, the renewal of old friendships, the making of new, the sharing with each other of new ideals or old ones, and especially the dissemination of human fellowship, not a thing to be measured by dollars or weighed in pounds, but just as true and real and valuable a part of human life for all that. There is sincere anxiety in some of the best and truest hearts lest the present day movement among women will be destructive of the best interests of the home. But I believe you could as easily stop the torrent of the Johnstown flood as to prevent the course of women in the great movement driving them forward to-day. It is a power outside of themselves, a power that works for righteousness, a power that will not be stayed till the onward movement is completed in the fulfillment of time. There will be vicissitudes of growth. The peculiar perils of young working girls of London, which has called forth the philanthropic spirit of Mrs. Ormiston Chant, is a case in point, in the effort of women toward self-support. New adjustments never come without friction.

Some sacrifices will be made so great as to make us pause and ask ourselves, is not the cost too great, but out of each catastrophe of human effort, light shines forth, the sun still beams on a beautiful and beneficent world, God's world, and we his creatures; blindly, instinctively sometimes, but hopefully carrying out his prophecies and plans. May this meeting be a source of pleasure and profit to all. In the name of the Des Moines Women's club I bid you welcome.

Following Mrs. Berryhill's address reports were made by the delegates of various clubs, all showing the character of their work, some of the difficulties in its accomplishment and the bright side of club life.

Among the ladies who spoke for their several clubs was Mrs. Whittaker of Marshalltown, a clever little woman with a brisk, energetic manner and entire self-composure. She spoke for Marshalltown's Woman's club, and did it well. Children's day, in which the young members of the club families take part, is a new feature of this club.

Mrs. A. M. Payne told of the club recently organized at Nevada.

Among others who spoke entertainingly were Miss Eliza Ainsworth of Newton, Mrs. Tisdale of Ottumwa, Mrs. Denmead of Cedar Falls, Mrs. W. P. Hepburn of Clarinda, Mrs. Culbertson, representing the Clio club of Carroll, Mrs. Horace Everett of Council Bluffs, Mrs. A. M. Howe of Creston, Mrs. C. A. McCune of Boone, Mrs. P. S. Bibbs of Boone, Mrs. Greig of Clarence, Mrs. A. P. Jones of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. L. F. Parker of Grinnell, Mrs. E. W. Barrett of Iowa City, Mrs. Alice Berry of Indianola, Mrs. Foy of Jefferson, Mrs. Snelling of the Entre Nous club, Marshalltown; Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. T. J. Fletcher of Marshalltown, Mrs. J. C. Cook of Webster City.

Several Des Moines clubs were also represented by delegates in three minutes' speeches. This morning's session was exceedingly interesting. After an impressive prayer by Mrs. L. F. Parker of Grinnell, the work of the day was entered upon. The following report was made by the committee on permanent organization:

For chairman, Mrs. E. W. Barrett, N. N. club, Iowa City; vice chairmen, Miss Eliza Ainsworth, Fritz club, Newton; Mrs. C. A. McCune, Lowell club, Boone; Mrs. W. N. Scott, L. L. C. Creston; Mrs. Horace Everett, Council Bluffs; Mrs. Mary Clay, Art club, Cedar Falls. Secretary, Mrs. H. H. Robbins, Historical circle, Grinnell; reading clerk, Mrs. Margaret Greig, L. R. C. Clarence. Mrs. Barrett took the chair, making an appropriate speech, expressive of her appreciation of the Federation movement.

As a nominating committee the following ladies were appointed: Mesdames Thummel, Weed, M. S. Scott, T. J. Fletcher, Mrs. McCune. Quite a spirited discussion was entered into on the question of making the nominations. The constitution, as adopted, provided for a nominating committee, a feature of which was adopted without discussion, yet which has always proven decidedly objectionable in the general federation. It was finally decided that two nominations should be offered by the committee.

The officers elected for the ensuing two years in the Iowa Federation were, for president, Mrs. James G. Berryhill of Des Moines; vice president, Mrs. May W. Cogswell, Cedar Rapids; recording secretary,

Mrs. Margaret Greig, Clarence; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Anna B. Howe, Marshalltown; treasurer, Miss Eliza Ainsworth, Newton; for auditor, Mrs. A. M. Payne, Nevada.

### CLUB NOTES.

There are seventy-seven delegates present.

An abundance of fresh flowers served to beautify the platform.

Mrs. A. M. Howe and Mrs. H. K. Burket are the representatives of the Creston Ladies' Literary circle.

Mrs. A. P. Jones, nee Alice Ilgenfritz, of Cedar Rapids, representing the Ladies' Literary Circle of that city, is the author of "High Water Mark" and other stories.

Marshalltown has twenty-five women's clubs. The number of Chautauqua circles in Des Moines was said to be twenty-six, but how many women's clubs there are in all is not known.

Mrs. W. H. Brown, president of the T. V. club of this city, made an interesting disclosure relative to those symbols. The club had a membership limited to fifteen; the V stands for five and the T for three. T. V. therefore means three times five, and defines the membership limitation.

The clubs which joined the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs were: Every Thursday club, Council Bluffs; Ladies' Reading circle, Jefferson; Gunsaulus club, Council Bluffs; Study club, Clarinda; T. V. Reading circle, Conversational club, Tourists' club, Monday club, Des Moines; Shakespeare club, Ottumwa; History club, Review club, Women's club, Des Moines; Marshalltown Women's club, Entre Nous, Marshalltown; Tuesday club, Cedar Falls; Athena Chautauqua circle, Unity club, Frank Russell circle, Des Moines; 13 club, Manchester; Ladies' Literary

circle, Creston; Ladies' Reading circle, Clarence; Lowell club, Boone; Ladies' Literary club, Cedar Rapids; The Tourists, West Union; Isabella club, Nashua; Tuesday club, Oelwein; Wednesday club, Webster City; Friday club, Newton; Clio club, Carroll; N. N. club, Iowa City; Monday club, Indianola; Women's club, Nevada.

The ladies of the women's club deemed themselves very fortunate indeed to have placed at their command the elegant home of Mrs. F. M. Hubbell in which to hold an evening reception. That home, so regal in its appointments, was never more resplendent than upon this occasion, and the guests of the evening, especially those from without the city, enjoyed it to the full. The social committee of the club was in charge of everything and to their untiring energy and faithfulness is due much of the pleasure of the evening.

## WOMAN'S CLUB WORK

The First Session of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

## MANY REPORTS ARE HEARD

The Cream of the Intellectual World of Iowa Assembles at the Central Christian Church—Large Attendance—Business Meeting Today.

The parlors of the Central Christian church presented a flowerlike and attractive appearance yesterday afternoon to greet the ladies who, when assembled, represented a goodly portion of the intellectual world of Iowa. The platform was banked with palms and blooming potted plants. The president's table was graced with a large jardiner of pink, yellow, and white roses. Bowls of lilies, tulips, and carnations were used on the other tables. The many flowers, lovely summer bonnets, beautiful gowns, and bright, happy faces of the ladies united in forming a picture of beauty and joyousness not often seen.



The ladies began assembling at the church by 2 o'clock and were shown to their respective places by Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Green, Miss Lizzie Matthews, Mrs. Nourse, Mrs. Homer Cope, and Mrs. Frank Vorse. The members of the Des Moines Woman's club, and the delegates from the various literary clubs of the city and state were seated in the body of the chapel, while the alcoves and the gallery were reserved for the fortunate guests of the clubs.

The attendance at the first session of the State Confederation of Women's clubs yesterday afternoon was very large. The various literary clubs in the city were well represented and every club in the state was represented by two delegates, and Iowa may well be proud of the representatives of her intellectual world of women.

The session was called to order at a quarter of three o'clock by the president of the Des Moines Woman's club, Mrs. J. G. Berryhill. The programme opened with the song "My Marguerite" by Miss Hills, who is the possessor of a rich alto voice.

A beautiful and impressive address of welcome was then made by the president, Mrs. Berryhill. The object of forming a state confederation of women's clubs in accordance with the line of work prescribed by the general confederation of women's clubs was concisely told. In response to the invitation extended by the woman's club of Des Moines several weeks ago a hearty and friendly reply was received from forty-four clubs who have sent delegates.

After the roll call by the secretary, Mrs. Carter, the remainder of the afternoon was devoted to the making of three-minute speeches by the delegates. This proved an excellent idea, for the plan of the work of the various clubs thus became known and appreciated.

The opening speech was made by Mrs. Whittaker, of Marshalltown, who represented the Woman's club of that city. It was organized in 1885 and is now incorporated and has eighty members. It has twenty regular meetings during the year, opening with the president's day and ending with the annual meeting. A new departure made by this club was the inauguration of a children's day.

The Nevada Woman's club was represented by Mrs. Payne. This club was organized in November with eight members. It now numbers nineteen members and its object is the advancement of women.

Mrs. Ainsworth, with a very pretty little address, introduced the Friday club of Newton, which she represented. This club has only twelve members, is comparatively in its infancy but thoroughly believes that a little well done is worth much poorly done.

The State Center Reading Circle, the Class in Literature of Vinton and the Ladies' Literature club of Waterloo were not represented by delegates.

The Tourist club of West Union was found to have for its object a tour of the world, a study of foreign countries, and at present the club is studying the Columbian exposition.

The Shakespeare club of Ottumwa is the oldest in the state and was formed eleven years ago. Its object is a thorough study of Shakespeare and all history in connection. Current events are also discussed.

The Art club of Cedar Falls was represented by Mrs. Denmead, whose speech was one of the finest of the afternoon. The club was organized in September with twenty members. Since its object is the study of art at the Columbian exposition, anyone wishing information is referred to the club.

To devote a little time to literary work is the object of the Study club of Clarinda as explained by Mrs. Hepburn.

The Ladies' club of Chariton which is not named has nine members and makes a study of history.

Mrs. Culbertson represented the Clio club of Carroll which was organized in 1884 and has fifteen members who, while having no regular programme, devote the greater portion of their time to the study of history.

The Thursday club of Council Bluffs, represented by Mrs. Everett, is a very informal club. It is more on the order of a reading circle and was organized several years ago and makes a study of current topics and history.

The Ladies' Literary club of Creston was ably represented by Mrs. Howe. It was organized in 1891 and has twenty members.

An easy and intellectual speech was made by Mrs. McCune in regard to the Lowell club of Boone. Its growth has been slow but certain. The club began work with the study of Russian history in 1887. Chatauqua work was begun in 1891, and at present the members are studying art for world's fair purposes.

Miss Bibbs represents the Monday club of Boone, which is eight years old and was begun first as a class as chatauqua study.

A delightful vocal selection was then given by Miss Metta Hills and Miss Nellie Aikman. This was followed by a report from the Ladies' Reading circle of Clarence by Mrs. Greig. It was organized in 1880 with six members and now has twenty. The thirteenth anniversary of this club was celebrated this year with a banquet. The club meetings close with a criticism on mispronounced words.

An able little speech was made by Mrs. Jones in regard to the L. L. C. club of Cedar Rapids. The club began its history as a social club in 1879. It numbers thirty-five members and study history, art and literature.

The History-Literature circle of Grinnell, represented by Mrs. Parker, was founded five years ago and make a study of history.

Mrs. Barrett is the delegate from the No Name club of Iowa City, which is better known as the N. N. club. It has twenty-five members and began work with the study of English history. One of its prime objects is to improve the conversational ability of its members.

The Monday club of Indianola, represented by Mrs. Berry, is nine years old, and of the twelve original members nine are still members. Literary and social pleasures are the combined objects of the Ladies' Reading circle of Jefferson, represented by Mrs. Poy. The Thirteen club of Manchester was represented by Mrs. Carr and the Clio club of Cedar Rapids by Mrs. Ives.

Mrs. Snelling was sent as a delegate from the Entre Nons club of Marshalltown. It was organized in 1889 and has fifteen members, whose object is literary improvement.

Mrs. Gardener represented the Sakespeare club of Marshalltown, which was organized in 1885. The C. club of Marshalltown was organized in 1887 for the purpose of mutual improvement and has fifteen members.

Mrs. T. J. Fletcher is the delegate from the Hawthorne club of Marshalltown, organized in 1879, and the work consists of a course of general and instructive reading. The membership of the club is limited to sixteen.

The "Council of the Wise" club of Marshalltown possesses a name which by a novice cannot be pronounced. It was organized in 1875 and is the oldest literary club in Marshalltown. Its reading has been very wide and instructive.

Mrs. Cook made the report for the Webster City club which has a membership of fourteen. It was organized in 1888 and its mighty purpose is the study of the literature of the world.

The Des Moines clubs were then called upon to give their reports. Mrs. Kline reported for the Monday club which makes a study of literature, history and science.

The Frank Russell club of Des Moines was represented by Mrs. McCord, which was organized in 1883 for the purpose of Chatauqua study.

The report for the Unity club of Des Moines was divided between Mrs. Fannie Babbit and Miss Emille Stowe. This club was organized four years ago, and its object is progress in all lines.

The Athena Chatauqua club was represented by Mrs. Will McHenry. The club meets every Tuesday morning and covers much ground. The history class was represented by its president, Mrs. Wyman. American history, art, literature and science represents its work for the last three years, and its object has been to develop the charming literary recaptions. The Conversational club was represented by Mrs. Hawley, whose object is literary improvement in every way.

Mrs. Raymond represented the Review club of North Des Moines. It was really organized five years ago as a literary circle under Mrs. Whiting Clarke's excellent supervision, and is composed of young married ladies of North Des Moines. It has two sections, one for the study of history and the other for literature.

The T. V. club's work was outlined by Mrs. W. H. Brown. It was organized by Mrs. Henry Sabin in 1888 and has fifteen members.

Mrs. Rutkay gave the report from the Des Moines Woman's club. It was organized in 1885 with twenty charter members and now has 103 members. The work of the club is placed in the hands of various committees.

This was the last report made and committees were then formed in order to facilitate the work of the business meeting which will be held this morning in the church parlors for the purpose of completing the organization. The interesting meeting, which was one of much enthusiasm, then adjourned until 9 a. m. this morning.

Last evening at Terrace Hill the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hubbell on Grand avenue was given a brilliant reception in honor of the Women's clubs of Iowa. The reception was given by the Des Moines Woman's club, and was a full dress affair. The house was decorated with a profusion of cut flowers and potted plants. Dainty refreshments were served during the evening, and an interesting programme was given.

## NO HORRID MAN WAS PRESENT

The Women's Clubs Have Their Meeting All to Themselves Yesterday.

The State Federation of Women's Clubs Organized with Strong Membership.

The Objects of the Federation—The Slate Fixed by the Leaders Is Smashed—Mrs. J. G. Berryhill Elected President.

### A LIVELY MEETING.

The Women's Club convention concluded its two days' session yesterday afternoon, having successfully passed a severe test of its ability to stand strife and not fall apart. After a session of five hours, in which the feelings of the delegates were often wrought to a high pitch, and many sharp things were said during the contests that were engaged in, the convention adjourned with the most

of its objects accomplished, though not just as the leaders had intended should be done. They were not as good politicians yesterday as they were the day before. Matters got beyond their control and things happened that were not on the programme. But at the close nearly every one seemed to be satisfied and in good temper.

The first astonishing occurrence was the request made to the reporter for THE REGISTER that he withdraw from the meeting. This was not made publicly and a majority of the convention will be surprised that it was done. The request was made by those in charge, who said they foresaw trouble and did not want any "horrid man" present to see it and to embarrass the ladies. They were grateful for the complete and considerate report of the day before, they said, and wanted THE REGISTER to have a good report, which they would furnish. The appeals were so earnest that they were successful and the reporter, who was the only gentleman present, retired from the suspicions of those whom he desired only to befriend. But a newspaper has a great many ways of fixing things out and the report given below is complete and entirely reliable. The secretary of the Des Moines Women's Club, Mrs. Dr. Carter, kindly furnished the most of the information.

### A Good Opening.

Yesterday's session of the Women's Club convention opened at 9:30 with a prayer by Mrs. L. F. Parker, of Grinnell. The attendance was very good, though not as large as the day before.

Mrs. McCord, of Des Moines, chairman of the committee on credentials, reported that there were seventy-seven delegates from twenty-six towns, representing forty-one clubs, in attendance at the convention.

### Objects of the Federation.

The members of the committee on constitution and by-laws then stated what they considered should be the objects of the proposed federation.

Mrs. Brooks, of Manchester, said that the object of the federation was to broaden the views of the members, and to further the improvement, especially in the country clubs.

Mrs. Thummell, of Des Moines, said that one person could not follow a course of study, so the federation was to give the advantages of associated ideas and united work.

Mrs. Weed, of West Union, said in the case of a little country club it would get into a rut if it did not have the inspiration of a federation.

Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown, said that what the club was to the individual, the federation is to the clubs, and by exchanging manuscripts and programmes many new ideas would be obtained. She thought the social side of the club work was also beneficial.

The constitution and by-laws were reported by the chairman of the committee, Mrs. Brooks, and were taken up and adopted article by article with but few changes from the report. They provide for the admission to the federation of any Iowa woman's club engaged in literary work upon the payment of \$2, the annual fee and the signing of the articles of federation. The federation is to hold a session biennially, in May. The name adopted is the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. One of the articles is that no two officers can come from the same town. As stated in the constitution, the object is to bring into communication with one another the various Women's Clubs throughout the state, that they may compare methods, and become mutually helpful.

### Members of the Federation.

Representatives of the following clubs signed the articles and became members of the federation:

Every Thursday, of Council Bluffs.  
Ladies' Reading Circle, of Jefferson.  
Gunsans, of Council Bluffs.



Study Club, of Clarinda.  
Shakespeare, of Ottumwa.  
Women's Club, of Marshalltown.  
Hawthorne, of Marshalltown.  
Entre Nous, of Marshalltown.  
Tuesday Club, of Cedar Falls.  
Clio Club, of Carroll.  
N. N. Club, of Iowa City.  
Monday Club, of Indianola.  
Thirteen Club, of Manchester.  
L. L. C., of Creston.  
Ladies' Reading Circle, of Clarence.  
Lowell Club, of Boone.  
L. L. C., of Cedar Rapids.  
Tourists, of West Union.  
Isabella, of Nashua.  
Wednesday Club, of Webster City.  
Woman's Club, of Nevada.  
Friday Club, of Newton.  
T. V., of Des Moines.  
Tourist Club, of Des Moines.  
Women's Club, of Des Moines.  
Noonday Club, of Des Moines.  
Conversational Club, of Des Moines.  
Athena Chautauqua Circle, of Des Moines.  
Frank Russell Circle, of Des Moines.  
History Club, of Des Moines.  
Review Club, of Des Moines.  
Unity Club, of Des Moines.

#### Permanent Organization.

Mrs. Cogswell, of Cedar Rapids, chairman of the committee on permanent organization, reported the following list of permanent officers of the convention, and they were elected by acclamation:

Chairman—Mrs. E. W. Barrett, N. N. Club, Iowa City.  
Vice Chairmen—Miss Eliza Ainsworth, Friday Club, Newton; Mrs. C. A. McCune, Lowell Club, Boone; Mrs. W. N. Scott, L. L. C., Creston; Mrs. Horace Everett, Thursday Club, Council Bluffs; Mrs. Mary Clay, Art Club, Cedar Falls.

Secretary—Mrs. H. H. Robbins, Historical Circle, Grinnell.

Reading Clerk—Mrs. Margaret Greg, L. Reading Circle, Clarence.

Mrs. Berryhill and Mrs. Durley escorted the new president to the chair and she made a brief address, urging the ladies to study parliamentary law.

## WOMEN ORGANIZE

The State Organization Effected and Officers Elected.

*April 29 — 1893.*  
**MRS. BERRYHILL HONORED.**

The Gifted Des Moines Lady Chosen for the Position of President—Resolutions Passed and Delegates in Attendance.

The convention of the Iowa Women's clubs held its business session yesterday morning in the chapel of the Christian church for the purpose of forming a state federation.

Owing to spirited discussions the meeting was of unexpected length, lasting from 9:30 a. m. until 2 p. m.

Mrs. L. F. Parker opened the meeting with a very impressive and beautiful prayer. Various delegates were then called upon to state the object of forming the federation and the good which would result from so doing. Mrs. Brooks from Manchester was the first to take the floor. She said that it was of as much interest and importance to the club women of Iowa to write in their club work as it was for Iowa to be a member of the United States. Union in club work would strengthen and broaden the field by the exchange of thought and ideas and by federation the noblest and most cultured women of Iowa would be able to join hands across the state. Mrs. Thummel of Des

Moines spoke of the vast advantage to be obtained from the exchange of methods, plans and programmes which the organization would enable, as much superior to individual club labor. Mrs. Brooks of Manchester spoke of the wonderful help it would be to women who have formed clubs in remote districts and who by their necessary seclusion lose their vitality. The joining together gave them an opportunity to see another side of life and is an education not to be found in books and literature.

Mrs. Howe of Marshalltown made plain the need of something new which may be secured in the union. Not only will the federation bring an abundance of new ideas, but will make and cement new friendships. After a general idea of the purpose of the federation was given the regular business was resumed. Mrs. McCord, the chairman of the committee on credentials, was called upon to give her report, which was accepted.

The result of the report of Mrs. Cogswell, the chairman of the committee on permanent organization, was that the following ladies were made temporary officers and took their places upon the platform: Mrs. E. H. Barrett of Iowa City, chairman; Mesdames Eliza Ainsworth of Newton, McClune of Boone, A. M. Howe of Creston, Tisdale of Ottumwa and Clay of Cedar Falls, vice-chairmen; Mrs. H. H. Robbins of Grinnell, secretary, and Mrs. M. Greig, reading clerk.

Following the roll call of the delegates the chairman, Mrs. Brooks of the committee on constitution and by laws, then gave the report. It was later read by the reading clerk section by section and discussed at length, which resulted in its being adopted as a whole. A short recess was then taken in order to give the delegates an opportunity to sign the constitution and pay the requisite dues. A nominating committee was then appointed by the floor for the purpose of appointing the permanent officers for the new state federation. The committee, with Mrs. Thummel as chairman, consisted of Mrs. M. S. Scott, of Nevada, Mrs. Weed, of West Union, Mrs. T. J. Fletcher and Mrs. McCune, of Boone. During the absence from the room of the committee the following resolution was introduced by Mrs. J. M. Whitaker, of Marshalltown:

Madame President: I move the adoption of the following resolutions:

First—That the vote of this entire convention be extended to the Des Moines Woman's club for their generous hospitality to all their guests.

Second—To Mrs. Berryhill, the president of the Des Moines Woman's club, for the very able manner in which she plans this convention of clubs for the purpose of organizing the Iowa Federation of Clubs.

Third—To Mrs. Thummel, chairman of the general committee, for her abundant labors for the comfort of delegates and guests.

Fourth—To the social committee and host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hubbell, for the delightful reception tendered.

Fifth—To the press of the city for the appreciative reports it has made.

Mrs. J. M. WHITAKER.  
The resolution was received with much enthusiasm.

An interesting and appreciative letter from Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, the president of the general federation, was then read. The result of the election of permanent officers for the state federation of the woman's clubs of Iowa was as follows: Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, president; Mrs. Cogswell, vice president; Mrs. Greig, recording secretary; Miss Howe, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Weed, treasurer, and Mrs. Payne, auditor.

After the election of officers the motion was made and carried that the federation be made auxiliary to the general federation. The new president, Mrs. Berryhill, was called to the platform and addressed a few of her inimitable words of appreciation to the delegates.

The meeting together of the representatives of the various literary clubs of Iowa has been of inestimable value, and the sessions have been thoroughly enjoyed by the cultured women who attended. The delegates from Des Moines and abroad included:

Des Moines Conversational—Mrs. F. W. Cherry, Mrs. Carrie M. Hawley.  
Des Moines Review club—Mrs. W. B. Raymond, Mrs. Chet Cole.  
Des Moines T. V. club—Mrs. W. B. Brown, Mrs. J. T. Dunlap.  
Des Moines Monday club—Mrs. C. H. Flint, Mrs. Bell Drake.  
Des Moines History—Mrs. John Wyman, Mrs. Tyler Scoville.  
Des Moines Athena Chautauqua—Mrs. Alice Longley, Mrs. Will McHenry.  
Des Moines Frank Russell circle—Mrs. Emily McCord, Mrs. Tucker.  
Des Moines Unity—Miss Stowe, Mrs. Babbitt.  
Tourist club—Mrs. Breeden, Mrs. Garver.  
Des Moines Woman's club—Mrs. Berryhill, E. R. Clapp.  
Marshalltown, Women's Club—Mrs. J. M. Whittaker, Mrs. H. J. Howe.  
Nevada, Women's Club—Mrs. Mary S. Scott, Mrs. A. M. Payne.  
Newton, Friday Club—Mrs. O. N. Wagley, Miss Eliza Ainsworth.  
State Center, Reading Circle—Mrs. E. H. Schilling, Mrs. W. N. Gilbert.  
Vinton, Class in Literature—Mrs. G. M. Gilchrist.  
Webster City, Wednesday Club—Mrs. J. C. Cook, Mrs. J. M. Jones.  
Waterloo, Ladies' Literary—Mrs. S. F. Richards, Mrs. J. Williams, Alternates—Mrs. J. O. Stevenson, Mrs. Florence Crouse, Chariton, Clithalian—Mrs. Jessie Wilson Manning.  
Carroll, the Clio—Mrs. W. R. Lee, Mrs. W. L. Culbertson.  
Council Bluffs, Thursday club—Mrs. Horace Everett, Mrs. Sarah C. Key.  
Creston, L. L. C.—Mrs. B. N. Torrey, Mrs. W. W. Scott.  
West Union, Tourists—Mrs. Ira M. Weed, Ottumwa, Shakespeare—Mrs. H. N. Tisdale.  
Cedar Falls, Tuesday club—Mrs. Mary Clay, Mrs. A. A. Merrill.  
Clarinda—Study club—Mrs. T. E. Clark, Miss Julia Foster, Mrs. Hepburn.  
Boone, Lowell Club—Mrs. C. A. McCune, Miss Fanny Munn.  
Boone, Monday Club—Mrs. P. S. Bibbs, Mrs. A. A. Dearing.  
Clinton, First Division in Literature—Mrs. H. O. Jones.  
Clarence, Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Margaret Hecht, Mrs. Margaret Greig.  
Cedar Rapids, L. L. C.—Mrs. H. E. Jones, Mrs. Cogswell.  
Grinnell, History Circle—Mrs. L. F. Parker, Mrs. H. H. Robbins.  
Iowa City, N. N. Club—Mrs. E. H. Barrett, Mrs. Milton Remley.  
Indianola, Monday Club—Mrs. Alice Berry, Mrs. Prof Carpenter.  
Jefferson, Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Foy, Mrs. Stillman, Mrs. G. G. Lawrence.  
Manchester, 13 Club—Mrs. E. P. Carr, Mrs. H. L. Raum.  
Marshalltown, Entre Nous—Mrs. A. R. Snelling, Mrs. A. Janney.  
Marshalltown, Shakespeare Society—Mrs. J. M. Fritz, Mrs. Gardner.  
Marshalltown, Calisopian—Mrs. Ellen A. Carr, Mrs. Alice Carver.  
Marshalltown, Hawthorne Club—Mrs. T. J. Fletcher, Mrs. D. T. Denmead.  
Marshalltown, Witanagemote—Mrs. S. P. Knisely.

## IOWA WOMEN'S CLUBS MEET

Representatives of Forty-four Women's Clubs Meet to Form a State Federation.

Reports from Various Clubs Show a High Grade of Work Being Done.

Some of the Objects of the Clubs Stated—They Are Studying for the World's Fair—Meeting This Morning.

#### BRIGHT WOMEN TALK.

The chapel of the Central Church of Christ was comfortably filled yesterday afternoon by the delegates to the convention called by the Des Moines Woman's Club to secure the formation of a state federation of women's clubs. They were present from all parts of the state, the cultured and refined women of forty Iowa cities and towns, come together to consult on the best method of advancing their work and thereby learning how to make of themselves better wives and mothers and more valuable members of society. These are their high and holy objects and the whole spirit of the meeting indicated a determination to succeed and the ability to do so was certainly there. The general response to the Des Moines Woman's Club's invitation was very gratifying to its members and to all who accepted it, too. It promises, under the intelligent and thorough organization that will be effected, to cause a great awakening of the intellectual activities of the women of the state.

The reports of the delegates on the work of the various clubs showed a wide range of study, that the women had been thorough students and had gone on liberal lines. Probably two-thirds had devoted special study to preparation for visiting the World's Fair. The business of the meeting was done without waste of time and the man who saw the way they managed things would never dare say that women couldn't run a political convention. The leaders never let the convention get away from them and they guided it safely toward its avowed object. The visitors are being entertained by the women of the Des Moines clubs and they were all very gracious in acknowledging this courtesy in the reports they made yesterday. In all that was said there was nothing of the manish woman—never a suggestion of the kind of woman who, by her coarseness and unwomanliness, brings reproach upon the cause of woman's advancement. They were all ladies of culture and modesty in manners, in speech and in attire.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, president of the Des Moines Woman's Club. Mrs. Dr. Carter, secretary of the club, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Miss Hills sang a solo, "My Marguerite," and from the enthusiasm with which the ladies received it, it is fair to presume that they approved the sentiment of the song in favor of the rare little flower so sweetly praised.

#### Mrs. Berryhill's Address.

Mrs. Berryhill explained the origin of the meeting. Believing that the interests of women's clubs would be furthered by the organization of a federation of clubs, the Des Moines Woman's Club sent out an invitation to all the women's clubs in the state that it could learn of, other than sectarian and political clubs, inviting each to send accredited representatives to Des Moines at this time as the guests of the Des Moines club, for the purpose of forming a state federation of women's clubs. To this invitation forty-four hearty responses were received.

The speaker briefly stated the objects of such organization to be the fitting of the sex for the larger duties that are so surely coming into their lives. She quoted Canon Farrar's famous tribute to the memory of his mother, whose daily hour of meditation and reading and prayer so helped her through her day's work and strengthened her for her many duties. She thought that the women of today did not take time enough for meditation, and that the club movement would



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"The objection is made that this will be destructive of the influence of the home, but I do not think this can stop it. There is a great work set for women to do; a work for righteousness, to accomplish certain purposes, and until this is done, until woman has attained a greater sphere of usefulness, it cannot stop. Some sacrifices must be made, and we must count carefully to see that the cost is not too much. But it is all coming out grandly and for the greatest good in the end. The women of Des Moines want you all to enjoy this meeting and this visit to the greatest possible extent, and make it of the greatest usefulness to yourselves and those you represent."

#### Reports of Delegates.

After she had concluded her address, Mrs. Berryhill called upon the representatives of the clubs for reports of their work.

The first was the Marshalltown Woman's club. Mrs. Whitaker made the report. The club was organized in 1885, numbers eighty members at present, is literary and educational. It has twenty meetings on alternate Wednesdays. The work is divided into five departments. One of the new features has been an evening devoted to the study of parliamentary law, which resulted in the adoption of the Woman's Manual as our standard instead of Roberts' rules of order. The report took strong ground in favor of a state federation.

The Nevada Woman's club reported through Mrs. Payne. It was organized last November, and has a membership of nineteen. Meetings are held on alternate Mondays at the homes of members. One leading paper is read at each meeting and is then discussed by each member from three to ten minutes each, and there are none but active members.

The Friday Club, of Newton, was represented by Miss Ainsworth. It has twelve members who are studying the history of our country, and are doing thoroughly what they do. The club has been accepted by the general federation of women's clubs.

The Tourists, of West Union, reported through Mrs. Ira M. Weed. The club is the outgrowth of a desire for travel among those whose home cares have prevented them from going abroad. Our purpose is a tour of the world, and having unlimited time at our disposal, we go over each country thoroughly. This year we have devoted our attention to our own country, in preparation for the World's Fair.

The Shakespeare club of Ottumwa, was reported by Mrs. Tisdale, who said it was one of the oldest clubs in the state, but she feared was organized in a very unparliamentary way, having no constitution or by-laws. It has fifteen members, who meet in the parlors of members. The club has studied Shakespeare and contemporaneous history. The past two years the first hour has been spent in the study of current events, which has been very profitable and

agreeable. During the past season we have added an hour for the study of the Columbian Exposition.

The Tuesday club of Cedar Falls

was represented by Mrs. Clay. It numbers twenty-five and has studied art with especial reference to the Columbian Exposition. The club is enthusiastic and harmonious. The club was unanimous in favor of joining the state federation to secure the numerous advantages thus to be obtained.

The Study club of Clarinda reported by Mrs. W. P. Hepburn. It was the outcome of the desire of two women for literary study and is limited to ten members. It meets once a month six months in the year. A programme is made out for the entire year, including papers, discussions and "current events." This year United States history has been taken up on account of the World's Fair.

The Clithalian club, of Chariton, was reported by Mrs. Jessie Wilson Manning. It is a club of nine members which has studied United States history and literature and hopes to join the federation.

The Clio club, of Carroll, reported through Mrs. W. L. Culbertson. It was organized in 1884 and had a membership of fifteen.

The Thursday club, of Council Bluffs, was represented by Mrs. Horace Everett. It was very informal; organized in 1881; devoted to history, literature, Shakespeare, Dante and current events and there were no regular essays or papers required. The membership was limited to twenty-five.

The Ladies' Literary Club of Creston, reported by Mrs. B. N. Towey. It was organized in 1891. During the past year it had studied the history of England and Ireland. The membership is limited to twenty.

The Lowell Club of Boone, reported by Mrs. McCune. They had a strong club. There were four literary clubs in the town. The Lowell Club was organized in 1887. At first the gentlemen were admitted, but it was found that they talked too much, so they were excluded. They had been studying art as a preparation for the World's Fair. She enjoyed this meeting and proposed to absorb all the federated ideas she could.

The Monday Club of Boone was represented by Mrs. Bibbs, who said the club was in its eighth year, and having completed the Chautauqua course was now in its second year of English literature.

Miss Hills and Miss Aikman sang a Venetian boat song and the ladies liked it so well that they insisted with much persistence upon an encore. Miss Aikman responded with a pretty love song.

The Ladies' Reading Circle of Clarence, was reported by Mrs. Gray. It was organized in 1880 and has twenty members who meet every week at the homes of members. The study has been mostly literary, but has been for two months studying the World's Fair by countries. The study of current topics is a very acceptable feature.

The Cedar Rapids Ladies' Literary club was reported by Mrs. H. E. Jones. She said a man had said to her before she started that he understood there was something going to break out here in Des Moines soon, and wanted to know if she was a symptom. The L. L. C. was organized in 1879, and was first a social club for about ten years, and was then enlarged to thirty-five members, and has taken up the history, art and literature of Germany, Egypt and America. The study of the World's Fair had been a feature the past year. It was strongly in favor of federation.

The History Club, of Grinnell, was represented by Mrs. Parker. Our club's work, she said, is a broadening of mind, a liberation of ideas. Our historical literary society was formed five years ago mainly for the study of history and the improvement of conversational powers. We meet once in three weeks from September to June. The last year we have studied current topics and German history. The objects of our club are the elevation of character and the enlargement of the mind, which we think will benefit the home.

The No Name Club, of Iowa City, reported

by Mrs. Barrett. It was organized in 1888 with eighteen, and is now limited to twenty-five members. Has studied English literature and history, Egyptian and Spanish and American history for the World's Fair. The speaker was glad to know that so many intelligent women were going to meet at the World's Fair. The club meets every alternate Tuesday, from September to June, and will be happy to join the federation.

The Monday Club, of Indianola, by Mrs. Berry, reported just closing the seventh year of its existence. Its membership is limited to twelve, who meet at the homes of members twelve times a year, and each lady invites one guest to tea, usually her husband. At the end of each year the programme for the next year is made out, with a leader for each meeting, and time and place.

The Ladies' Reading Circle, of Jefferson, appeared by Mrs. Foy. It had twenty members and its objects were literary and social. It has also studied history, French and the drama. It is a working club, in which each member does her share.

The Thirteen Club, of Manchester, expressed, through Mrs. Carr, its hearty endorsement of the federation scheme.

The Marshalltown *Entre Nous* Club, represented by Mrs. A. R. Snelling, was organized in 1889. It meets weekly for readings and social enjoyment, and is limited to fifteen members. Women, the speaker said, should be prepared to take their places in the new civilization that is dawning for them. They must organize, not to advocate any one idea, but to develop the best that is in them.

The Shakespeare Club, of Marshalltown, was reported by Mrs. Gardner. It was organized in the summer of 1885, and has continued mainly in the study of poetry. It meets each week at the homes of members, and has studied Brice's American Commonwealth and the history and government of Iowa.

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The Unity Ladies' Club was organized



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 Ladies' Reading Circle, of Clarence.  
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 Woman's Club, of Nevada.  
 Friday Club, of Newton.  
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 Conversational Club, of Des Moines.  
 Athena Chautauqua Circle, of Des Moines.  
 Frank Russell Circle, of Des Moines.  
 History Club, of Des Moines.  
 Review Club, of Des Moines.  
 Unity Club, of Des Moines.

#### Permanent Organization.

Mrs. Coggsell, of Cedar Rapids, chairman of the committee on permanent organization, reported the following list of permanent officers of the convention, and they were elected by acclamation:

Chairman—Mrs. E. W. Barrett, N. N. Club, Iowa City.

Vice Chairmen—Miss Eliza Ainsworth, Friday Club, Newton; Mrs. C. A. McCune, Lowell Club, Boone; Mrs. W. N. Scott, L. L. C., Creston; Mrs. Horace Everett, Thursday Club, Council Bluffs; Mrs. Mary Clay, Art Club, Cedar Falls.

Secretary—Mrs. H. H. Robbins, Historical Circle, Grinnell.

Reading Clerk—Mrs. Margaret Greg, L. Reading Circle, Clarence.

Mrs. Berryhill and Mrs. Durley escorted the new president to the chair and she made a brief address, urging the ladies to study parliamentary law.

## WOMEN ORGANIZE

The State Organization Effected and Officers Elected.

April 29 — 1893.

MRS. BERRYHILL HONORED.

The Gifted Des Moines Lady Chosen for the Position of President—Resolutions Passed and Delegates in Attendance.

The convention of the Iowa Women's clubs held its business session yesterday morning in the chapel of the Christian church for the purpose of forming a state federation.

Owing to spirited discussions the meeting was of unexpected length, lasting from 9:30 a. m. until 2 p. m.

Mrs. L. F. Parker opened the meeting with a very impressive and beautiful prayer. Various delegates were then called upon to state the object of forming the federation and the good which would result from so doing. Mrs. Brooks from Manchester was the first to take the floor. She said that it was of as much interest and importance to the club women of Iowa to write in their club work as it was for Iowa to be a member of the United States. Union in club work would strengthen and broaden the field by the exchange of thought and ideas and by federation the noblest and most cultured women of Iowa would be able to join hands across the state. Mrs. Thummel of Des

Moines spoke of the vast advantage to be obtained from the exchange of methods, plans and programmes which the organization would enable, as much superior to individual club labor. Mrs. Brooks of Manchester spoke of the wonderful help it would be to women who have formed clubs in remote districts and who by their necessary seclusion lose their vitality. The joining together gave them an opportunity to see another side of life and is an education not to be found in books and literature.

Mrs. Howe of Marshalltown made plain the need of something new which may be secured in the union. Not only will the federation bring an abundance of new ideas, but will make and cement new friendships. After a general idea of the purpose of the federation was given the regular business was resumed. Mrs. McCord, the chairman of the committee on credentials, was called upon to give her report, which was accepted.

The result of the report of Mrs. Coggsell, the chairman of the committee on permanent organization, was that the following ladies were made temporary officers and took their places upon the platform: Mrs. E. H. Barrett of Iowa City, chairman; Mesdames Eliza Ainsworth of Newton, McClune of Boone, A. M. Howe of Creston, Tisdale of Ottumwa and Clay of Cedar Falls, vice-chairmen; Mrs. H. H. Robbins of Grinnell, secretary, and Mrs. M. Greig, reading clerk.

Following the roll call of the delegates the chairman, Mrs. Brooks of the committee on constitution and by laws, then gave the report. It was later read by the reading clerk section by section and discussed at length, which resulted in its being adopted as a whole. A short recess was then taken in order to give the delegates an opportunity to sign the constitution and pay the requisite dues. A nominating committee was then appointed by the floor for the purpose of appointing the permanent officers for the new state federation. The committee, with Mrs. Thummel as chairman, consisted of Mrs. M. S. Scott, of Nevada, Mrs. Weed, of West Union, Mrs. T. J. Fletcher and Mrs. McCune, of Boone. During the absence from the room of the committee the following resolution was introduced by Mrs. J. M. Whitaker, of Marshalltown.

Madame President: I move the adoption of the following resolutions:

First—That the vote of this entire convention be extended to the Des Moines Woman's club for their generous hospitality to all their guests.

Second—To Mrs. Berryhill, the president of the Des Moines Woman's club, for the very able manner in which she plans this convention of clubs for the purpose of organizing the Iowa Federation of Clubs.

Third—To Mrs. Thummel, chairman of the general committee, for her abundant labors for the comfort of delegates and guests.

Fourth—To the social committee and host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hubbell, for the delightful reception tendered.

Fifth—To the press of the city for the appreciative reports it has made.

Mrs. J. M. Whitaker.

The resolution was received with much enthusiasm.

An interesting and appreciative letter from Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, the president of the general federation, was then read. The result of the election of permanent officers for the state federation of the woman's clubs of Iowa was as follows: Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, president; Mrs. Coggsell, vice president; Mrs. Greig, recording secretary; Miss Howe, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Weed, treasurer, and Mrs. Payne, auditor.

After the election of officers the motion was made and carried that the federation be made auxiliary to the general federation. The new president, Mrs. Berryhill, was called to the platform and addressed a few of her inimitable words of appreciation to the delegates.

The meeting together of the representatives of the various literary clubs of Iowa has been of inestimable value, and the sessions have been thoroughly enjoyed by the cultured women who attended. The delegates from Des Moines and abroad included:

Des Moines Conversational—Mrs. F. W. Cherry, Mrs. Carrie M. Hawley.

Des Moines Review club—Mrs. W. B. Raymond, Mrs. Chet Cole.

Des Moines T. V. club—Mrs. W. B. Brown, Mrs. J. T. Dunlap.

Des Moines Monday club—Mrs. C. H. Flint, Mrs. Bell Drake.

Des Moines History—Mrs. John Wyman, Mrs. Tyler Seville.

Des Moines Athena Chautauqua—Mrs. Alice Longley, Mrs. Will McHenry.

Des Moines Frank Russell circle—Mrs. Emily McCord, Mrs. Tucker.

Des Moines Unity—Miss Stowe, Mrs. Bab-bitt.

Tourist club—Mrs. Breeden, Mrs. Garver.

Des Moines Woman's club—Mrs. Berryhill, E. R. Clapp.

Marshalltown, Women's Club—Mrs. J. M. Whittaker, Mrs. H. J. Howe.

Nevada, Women's Club—Mrs. Mary S. Scott, Mrs. A. M. Payne.

Newton, Friday Club—Mrs. O. N. Wagley, Miss Eliza Ainsworth.

State Center, Reading Circle—Mrs. E. H. Schilling, Mrs. W. N. Gilbert.

Vinton, Class in Literature—Mrs. G. M. Gilchrist.

Webster City, Wednesday Club—Mrs. J. C. Cook, Mrs. J. M. Jones.

Waterloo, Ladies' Literary—Mrs. S. F. Richards, Mrs. J. Williams. Alternates—Mrs. J. O. Stevenson, Mrs. Florence Crouse.

Chariton, Clithalian—Mrs. Jessie Wilson Manning.

Carroll, the Ohio—Mrs. W. R. Lee, Mrs. W. L. Culbertson.

Council Bluffs, Thursday club—Mrs. Horace Everett, Mrs. Sarah C. Key.

Creston, L. L. C.—Mrs. B. N. Torrey, Mrs. W. W. Scott.

West Union, Tourists—Mrs. Ira M. Weed.

Ottumwa, Shakespeare—Mrs. H. N. Tisdale.

Cedar Falls, Tuesday club—Mrs. Mary Clay, Mrs. A. A. Merrill.

Clarinda—Study club—Mrs. T. E. Clark, Miss Julia Foster, Mrs. Hepburn.

Boone, Lowell Club—Mrs. C. A. McCune, Miss Fanny Munn.

Boone, Monday Club—Mrs. P. S. Bibbs, Mrs. A. A. Dearing.

Clinton, First Division in Literature—Mrs. H. O. Jones.

Clarence, Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Margaret Hecht, Mrs. Margaret Greig.

Cedar Rapids, L. L. C.—Mrs. H. E. Jones, Mrs. Coggsell.

Grinnell, History Circle—Mrs. L. F. Parker, Mrs. H. H. Robbins.

Iowa City, N. N. Club—Mrs. E. H. Barrett, Mrs. Milton Remley.

Indianola, Monday Club—Mrs. Alice Berry, Mrs. Prof. Carpenter.

Jefferson, Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Foy, Mrs. Stillman, Mrs. G. G. Lawrence.

Manchester, 13 Club—Mrs. E. P. Carr, Mrs. H. L. Raun.

Marshalltown, Entre Nous—Mrs. A. R. Snelling, Mrs. A. Janney.

Marshalltown, Shakespeare Society—Mrs. J. M. Fritz, Mrs. Gardner.

Marshalltown, Calisoplan—Mrs. Ellen A. Carr, Mrs. Alice Carver.

Marshalltown, Hawthorne Club—Mrs. T. J. Fletcher, Mrs. D. T. Denmead.

Marshalltown, Witanagemote—Mrs. S. P. Knisely.

## IOWA WOMEN'S CLUBS MEET

Representatives of Forty-four Women's Clubs Meet to Form a State Federation.

Reports from Various Clubs Show a High Grade of Work Being Done.

Some of the Objects of the Clubs Stated—They Are Studying for the World's Fair—Meeting This Morning.

#### BRIGHT WOMEN TALK.

The chapel of the Central Church of Christ was comfortably filled yesterday afternoon by the delegates to the convention called by the Des Moines Woman's Club to secure the formation of a state federation of women's clubs. They were present from all parts of the state, the cultured and refined women of forty Iowa cities and towns, come together to consult on the best method of advancing their work and thereby learning how to make of themselves better wives and mothers and more valuable members of society. These are their high and holy objects and the whole spirit of the meeting indicated a determination to succeed and the ability to do so was certainly there. The general response to the Des Moines Woman's Club's invitation was very gratifying to its members and to all who accepted it, too. It promises, under the intelligent and thorough organization that will be effected, to cause a great awakening of the intellectual activities of the women of the state.

The reports of the delegates on the work of the various clubs showed a wide range of study, that the women had been thorough students and had gone on liberal lines. Probably two-thirds had devoted special study to preparation for visiting the World's Fair. The business of the meeting was done without waste of time and the man who saw the way they managed things would never dare say that women couldn't run a political convention. The leaders never let the convention get away from them and they guided it safely toward its avowed object. The visitors are being entertained by the women of the Des Moines clubs and they were all very gracious in acknowledging this courtesy in the reports they made yesterday. In all that was said there was nothing of the manish woman—never a suggestion of the kind of woman who, by her coarseness and unwomanliness, brings reproach upon the cause of woman's advancement. They were all ladies of culture and modesty in manners, in speech and in attire.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, president of the Des Moines Woman's Club. Mrs. Dr. Carter, secretary of the club, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Miss Hills sang a solo, "My Marguerite," and from the enthusiasm with which the ladies received it, it is fair to presume that they approved the sentiment of the song in favor of the rare little flower so sweetly praised.

#### Mrs. Berryhill's Address.

Mrs. Berryhill explained the origin of the meeting. Believing that the interests of women's clubs would be furthered by the organization of a federation of clubs, the Des Moines Woman's Club sent out an invitation to all the women's clubs in the state that it could learn of, other than sectarian and political clubs, inviting each to send accredited representatives to Des Moines at this time as the guests of the Des Moines club, for the purpose of forming a state federation of women's clubs. To this invitation forty-four hearty responses were received.

The speaker briefly stated the objects of such organization to be the fitting of the sex for the larger duties that are so surely coming into their lives. She quoted Canon Farrar's famous tribute to the memory of his mother, whose daily hour of meditation and reading and prayer so helped her through her day's work and strengthened her for her many duties. She thought that the women of today did not take time enough for meditation, and that the club movement would



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"The objection is made that this will be destructive of the influence of the home, but I do not think this can stop it. There is a great work set for women to do; a work for righteousness, to accomplish certain purposes, and until this is done, until woman has attained a greater sphere of usefulness, it cannot stop. Some sacrifices must be made, and we must count carefully to see that the cost is not too much. But it is all coming out grandly and for the greatest good in the end. The women of Des Moines want you all to enjoy this meeting and this visit to the greatest possible extent, and make it of the greatest usefulness to yourselves and those you represent."

### Reports of Delegates.

After she had concluded her address, Mrs. Berryhill called upon the representatives of the clubs for reports of their work.

The first was the Marshalltown Woman's club. Mrs. Whitaker made the report. The club was organized in 1885, numbers eighty members at present, is literary and educational. It has twenty meetings on alternate Wednesdays. The work is divided into five departments. One of the new features has been an evening devoted to the study of parliamentary law, which resulted in the adoption of the Woman's Manual as our standard instead of Roberts' rules of order. The report took strong ground in favor of a state federation.

The Nevada Woman's club reported through Mrs. Payne. It was organized last November, and has a membership of nineteen. Meetings are held on alternate Mondays at the homes of members. One leading paper is read at each meeting and is then discussed by each member from three to ten minutes each, and there are none but active members.

The Friday Club, of Newton, was represented by Miss Ainsworth. It has twelve members who are studying the history of our country, and are doing thoroughly what they do. The club has been accepted by the general federation of women's clubs.

The Tourists, of West Union, reported through Mrs. Ira M. Weed. The club is the outgrowth of a desire for travel among those whose home cares have prevented them from going abroad. Our purpose is a tour of the world, and having unlimited time at our disposal, we go over each country thoroughly. This year we have devoted our attention to our own country, in preparation for the World's Fair.

The Shakespeare club of Ottumwa, was reported by Mrs. Tisdale, who said it was one of the oldest clubs in the state, but she feared was organized in a very unparliamentary way, having no constitution or by-laws. It has fifteen members, who meet in the parlors of members. The club has studied Shakespeare and contemporaneous history. The past two years the first hour has been spent in the study of current events, which has been very profitable and agreeable. During the past season we have added an hour for the study of the Columbian Exposition.

The Tuesday club of Cedar Falls

was represented by Mrs. Clay. It numbers twenty-five and has studied art with especial reference to the Columbian Exposition. The club is enthusiastic and harmonious. The club was unanimous in favor of joining the state federation to secure the numerous advantages thus to be obtained.

The Study club of Clarinda reported by Mrs. W. P. Hepburn. It was the outcome of the desire of two women for literary study and is limited to ten members. It meets once a month six months in the year. A programme is made out for the entire year, including papers, discussions and "current events." This year United States history has been taken up on account of the World's Fair.

The Clithonian club, of Chariton, was reported by Mrs. Jessie Wilson Manning. It is a club of nine members which has studied United States history and literature and hopes to join the federation.

The Clio club, of Carroll, reported through Mrs. W. L. Culbertson. It was organized in 1884 and had a membership of fifteen.

The Thursday club, of Council Bluffs, was represented by Mrs. Horace Everett. It was very informal; organized in 1881; devoted to history, literature, Shakespeare, Dante and current events and there were no regular essays or papers required. The membership was limited to twenty-five.

The Ladies' Literary Club of Creston, reported by Mrs. B. N. Towey. It was organized in 1891. During the past year it had studied the history of England and Ireland. The membership is limited to twenty.

The Lowell Club of Boone, reported by Mrs. McCune. They had a strong club. There were four literary clubs in the town. The Lowell Club was organized in 1887. At first the gentlemen were admitted, but it was found that they talked too much, so they were excluded. They had been studying art as a preparation for the World's Fair. She enjoyed this meeting and proposed to absorb all the federated ideas she could.

The Monday Club of Boone was represented by Mrs. Bibbs, who said the club was in its eighth year, and having completed the Chautauqua course was now in its second year of English literature.

Miss Hills and Miss Aikman sang a Venetian boat song and the ladies liked it so well that they insisted with much persistence upon and encore. Miss Aikman responded with a pretty love song.

The Ladies' Reading Circle of Clarence, was reported by Mrs. Gray. It was organized in 1880 and has twenty members who meet every week at the homes of members. The study has been mostly literary, but has been for two months studying the World's Fair by countries. The study of current topics is a very acceptable feature.

The Cedar Rapids Ladies' Literary club was reported by Mrs. H. E. Jones. She said a man had said to her before she started that he understood there was something going to break out here in Des Moines soon, and wanted to know if she was a symptom. The L. L. C. was organized in 1879, and was first a social club for about ten years, and was then enlarged to thirty-five members, and has taken up the history, art and literature of Germany, Egypt and America. The study of the World's Fair had been a feature the past year. It was strongly in favor of federation.

The History Club, of Grinnell, was represented by Mrs. Parker. Our club's work, she said, is a broadening of mind, a liberation of ideas. Our historical literary society was formed five years ago mainly for the study of history and the improvement of conversational powers. We meet once in three weeks from September to June. The last year we have studied current topics and German history. The objects of our club are the elevation of character and the enlargement of the mind, which we think will benefit the home.

The No Name Club, of Iowa City, reported

by Mrs. Barrett. It was organized in 1886 with eighteen, and is now limited to twenty-five members. Has studied English literature and history, Egyptian and Spanish and American history for the World's Fair. The speaker was glad to know that so many intelligent women were going to meet at the World's Fair. The club meets every alternate Tuesday, from September to June, and will be happy to join the federation.

The Monday Club, of Indianola, by Mrs. Berry, reported just closing the seventh year of its existence. Its membership is limited to twelve, who meet at the homes of members twelve times a year, and each lady invites one guest to tea, usually her husband. At the end of each year the programme for the next year is made out, with a leader for each meeting, and time and place.

The Ladies' Reading Circle, of Jefferson, appeared by Mrs. Foy. It had twenty members and its objects were literary and social. It has also studied history, French and the drama. It is a working club, in which each member does her share.

The Thirteen Club, of Manchester, expressed, through Mrs. Carr, its hearty endorsement of the federation scheme.

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The Unity Ladies' Club was organized



four years ago and was reported by Miss Stowe. It is harmonious, informal and for the greatest freedom of thought. Mrs. Babbitt said it met every two weeks and studied the practical questions of life.

Mrs. McHenry reported for another Chantauqua circle, one of the eleven in Des Moines. She said it was fun to go home and ask their husbands questions about things that made the men wonder where the women learned so much.

The History Class was represented by Mrs. Wyman. It is three years old, and besides American history, it has taken up several American authors. Its literary receptions have been noteworthy and very enjoyable.

The Conversational Club was reported by Mrs. Hawley. It is for the improvement of the use of pure English, for the study of literature and history. No written matter is allowed and each member is expected to talk ten minutes on the topic of the day. It has taken up art, literature, music and current topics. It meets every Tuesday and the membership is limited to twelve. It gives an occasional banquet, following the modern custom of toasts by the members. Its motto is, "Never say can't!"

The North Des Moines Review Club was reported by Mrs. Raymond. It was organized by Mrs. Whiting S. Clark. It studies literature and American history and meets Thursday afternoons.

The T. V. Club was reported by Mrs. Brown, who said it was organized in 1883 and meets every Monday afternoon. It had devoted its time mainly to travel and literature. Its membership was limited to fifteen. The origination of the name, she said, had been carefully guarded from the reporters, but it meant T for travel and V for five, meaning fifteen, the limit of its membership.

Mrs. Rutka reported for the Des Moines Woman's Club, very briefly. She said it was organized in 1885 with twenty members, and now had 122. Its work was divided up into sections in charge of committees, who appeared twice during the year.

#### The Temporary Organization.

At the close of the reports, Mrs. Berryhill suggested that the temporary organization ought to be effected so that the committees could be appointed and do their work before the morning session of to-day. She therefore moved the nomination of Mrs. Whitaker, of Marshalltown, as temporary president, and she was chosen unanimously. Mrs. Dr. Carter, of Des Moines, was chosen temporary secretary. Mrs. McCord moved the appointment by the president of three committees of five each on credentials, permanent organization and constitution and by laws. This motion prevailed and then the president read the list of committees as follows, for she had them all ready:

Credentials—Mrs. McCord, of Des Moines, chairman; Mrs. Remley, of Iowa City; Mrs. Parker, of Grinnell; Mrs. Scott, of Nevada; Mrs. Dearing, of Boone.

Permanent Organization—Mrs. Cogswell, of Cedar Rapids, chairman; Mrs. Thummel, of Des Moines; Mrs. Clay, of Cedar Falls; Mrs. Hecht, of Clarence; Mrs. Berry, of Indianola.

Constitution and By-laws—Mrs. Brooks, of Manchester, chairman; Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown; Mrs. Weed, of West Union; Mrs. Everett, of Council Bluffs; Mrs. Col. Hepburn, of Clarinda.

#### To Form a State Federation.

The convention then adjourned till 9:30 this morning, when the committee will report and the state federation will be formed.

#### The Reception.

The members of the Des Moines Woman's Club tendered a reception last night to the visitors at Terrace Hill, the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hubbell. Each member of the Woman's Club was privileged to invite one guest, so the party numbered over 200, and, of course, it was handsomely taken care of.

The reception committee was: Mrs. Harry West, chairman; Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, Mrs. Fannie Browne, Mrs. A. B. Cum-

mins, Mrs. J. S. Carter, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, Mrs. J. H. Windsor, Mrs. W. F. Thummel, Mrs. W. M. McCain, Mrs. E. H. Carter, Mrs. C. H. Getchell, Mrs. Wm. Jaquith, Mrs. Chas. Watrous, Mrs. H. C. Potter, Mrs. Jas. Callanan, Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, Mrs. F. A. Percival, Mrs. S. A. Robertson, Mrs. J. J. Towne, Mrs. J. B. Hatton, Miss May McClelland.

The ladies appeared in full dress, and altogether the event was one of the most dazzling brilliance from a social standpoint.

The beautiful home was richly decorated with flowers, there was music, and with the cordial spirit of the ladies of Des Moines it was made a very delightful and memorable occasion for the visitors. The following programme was carried out:

Address of welcome.....Mrs. Macomber  
Jewel song, Faust.....Mrs. Belknap  
Chariot race, Ben Hur...Miss Bertha Parce  
Violin solo.....Prof. Schmidt

Mrs. Macomber's address was one of the neatest imaginable and made everyone feel at home. Dainty refreshments were served.

#### The Delegates.

The following were present from outside Des Moines:

Marshalltown, Women's Club—Mrs. J. M. Whittaker, Mrs. H. J. Howe.

Nevada, Women's Club—Mrs. Mary S. Scott, Mrs. A. M. Payne.

Newton, Friday Club—Mrs. O. N. Wagley, Miss Eliza Ainsworth.

State Center, Reading Circle—Mrs. E. H. Schilling, Mrs. W. N. Gilbert.

Vinton, Class in Literature—Mrs. G. M. Gilchrist.

Webster City, Wednesday Club—Mrs. J. C. Cook, Mrs. J. M. Jones.

Waterloo, Ladies' Literary—Mrs. S. F. Richards, Mrs. J. Williams. Alternates—Mrs. J. O. Stevenson, Mrs. Florence Crouse.

Chariton, Clithalian—Mrs. Jessie Wilson Manning.

Carroll, the Clio—Mrs. W. R. Lee, Mrs. W. L. Culbertson.

Council Bluffs, Thursday Club—Mrs. Horace Everett, Mrs. Sarah C. Key.

Creston, L. L. C.—Mrs. B. N. Torrey, Mrs. W. W. Scott.

West Union, Tourists—Mrs. Ira M. Weed.

Ottumwa, Shakespeare—Mrs. H. N. Tisdale.

Cedar Falls, Tuesday Club—Mrs. Mary Clay, Mrs. A. A. Merrill.

Clarinda, Study Club—Mrs. T. E. Clark, Miss Julia Foster, Mrs. Hepburn.

Boone, Lowell Club—Mrs. C. A. McCune, Miss Fanny Munn.

Boone, Monday Club—Mrs. P. S. Bibbs, Mrs. A. A. Dearing.

Clinton, 1st Division in Literature—Mrs. H. O. Jones.

Clarence, Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Margaret Hecht, Mrs. Margaret Greig.

Cedar Rapids, L. L. C.—Mrs. H. E. Jones, Mrs. Cogswell.

Grinnell, History Circle—Mrs. L. F. Parker, Mrs. H. H. Robbins.

Iowa City, N. N. Club—Mrs. E. H. Barrett, Mrs. Milton Remley.

Indianola, Monday Club—Mrs. Alice Berry, Mrs. Prof. Carpenter.

Jefferson—Ladies' Reading Circle—Mrs. Foy, Mrs. Stillman, Mrs. G. G. Lawrence.

Manchester, 13 Club—Mrs. E. P. Carr, Mrs. H. L. Raum.

Marshalltown, Entre Nous—Mrs. A. R. Snelling, Mrs. A. Janney.

Marshalltown, Shakespeare Society—Mrs. J. M. Fritz, Mrs. Gardner.

Marshalltown, Calisopian—Mrs. Ellen A. Carr, Mrs. Alice Carver.

Marshalltown, Hawthorne Club—Mrs. T. J. Fletcher, Mrs. D. T. Denmead.

Marshalltown, Witanagemote—Mrs. S. P. Knisely.



and heart answering back to mind and heart. Congenial relationship. Solitude is also necessary. Man must sometimes be alone for hours of insight and reflection. Either extreme is dangerous. "Solitude," he says, "is impracticable and society fatal. We must keep our head in the one and our hands in the other."

Civilization is a relative time with Emerson. Men have progressed, they are yet to progress. The stars are their messengers and the elements obey them. Greater things are yet to be, and the finest result will be "securing the greatest good to the greatest number."

Eloquence presupposes an aim, ability and honesty. It is men's lives speaking to them from other lips, their own inner sense of duty urging them from without. The home is the hope and symbol of the nation. It is not important how many days a man lives, but what work does he do? What is he? What is he becoming? Character counts and this hour is as good as next year. Emerson does not value books because of any temporary popularity. Only in proportion to the help they bring to the individual and through him to the world.

Emerson finds the unity of the universe—the Over Soul—into which every finite soul is an inlet. Each individual man is one more incarnation of the universal mind. "Every mind must know the whole lesson for itself, must go over the whole ground. What it does not see, what it does not line, it will not know!" He says: "Jesus astonishes and overpowers sensual people. They cannot unite him to history, to reconcile him with themselves. As they come to revere their intentions and aspire to live holily, their own purity explains every fact—every word." Success is not always in appearance. He has succeeded who is equipped and ready for great work, though he has made no great stir in the world, rather than the one who by superficial exertion receives temporary applause. That is a grand old age that can look back upon work well done, hopes realized, fears abandoned, plans perfected.

## A STUDY OF ART.

Valuable Papers Read Before  
the Des Moines Women's

Oct 9, Club. 1889.

## FRENCH, DUTCH, AND FLEMISH ART

The Programme Varied by a  
Study of Photographs from  
Many Masters.

The past fortnight has been devoted by the ladies of the Women's club to a study of art and the programme yesterday afternoon proved a highly interesting one, several ladies presenting in the form of papers the results of their research. Mrs. B. C. Alverson opened the exercises by reading a sketch, brief but very entertaining, of Italy's "faultless" artist, Andrea del Sarto, who lived during the last ten years of the fifteenth and the first thirty years of the sixteenth century. This period of time also includes the lives of the great Italian artists and though Andrea did not possess the genius to rank with these, he was far superior to the group immediately following and may be called the last of the really great Florentines. At this time the Roman school represented all the excellence of Italian art in its highest development and expression.

The family of Andrea had for generations been obscure, his remote ancestors, peasants, his grandfather a weaver of linen, his father a maker of clothes. He was the eldest of five children. The babyhood of boys was in those days exceedingly short and he was apprenticed at the age of seven to a goldsmith; but proved so stupid in chiseling and so skillful in drawing that he was soon placed in the studio of a neighbor. At the age of eleven a life of earnest study began, but with a master whose work he could surpass, but who allowed him every opportunity, being proud of his pupil. He studied the cartoons of Michael Angelo and Da Vinci, but was most influenced by Fra Bartolommeo. The writer traced with graphic pen Andrea's work as seen now in the church of the Annunziata, the appreciation in which he was held by Angelo, his attachment and marriage to the unprincipled but beautiful Lucrezia, his visit to the court of France, his success there and its unhappy consequences, since he was led by his wife to squander the money which the art loving Francis had given him for the purchase of works of art for him, and the blighting effect which this had on his subsequent career.

Following the paper Browning's beautiful poem, "Andrea del Sarto," was read.

A very exhaustive review of French art was presented by Mrs. Charles E. Risser, revealing thorough research. The innate, artistic sense of the French people, she said, has not been without pictorial expression, maintained by a continuous line of artists from the earliest times; while, as a nation, France was among the earliest collectors, its court even preceding any secular power of Italy in acquiring works of art and patronizing artists. In the fourth and fifth centuries the interior of buildings were painted in fresco or were covered with imitations of the Gallo-Roman mosaics. About 800 A. D. art acquired new strength in France as in Germany under Charlemagne. This art partook of the Byzantine character. Under Charlemagne it became a law that the interior of churches should be decorated with pictures. In the twelfth century was found a new expression in glass painting, while the most flourishing period was during the thirteenth century when was practiced the copying of nature, trees, plants and flowers. Louis IX founded a large library of books, most of which were newly transcribed for the purpose of illumination. Long practiced by the monks for sacred subjects only, illumination now became secularized.

Furniture came to be decorated. In the fifteenth century Rene of Angou and Jean Fouquet were the great painters. The former's work was the result of the vigor infused into all departments of life in France as well as in Italy as part of the great movement known as the early renaissance. Fouquet stands to the French school as Mantegna to the Italian, evincing tenderness and grace, skill in perspective and freedom of action. In the two or three of his paintings still extant, his method is shown to be the newly discovered one of the Van Eycks with oil as a vehicle, then attracting all artists to Bruges. Besides the school at Tours there was also a school at Paris, the two differing in style, and each corrective of the other. A general view shows French art of the fifteenth century as having a native under life which was so overborne by Italian and Flemish influences as to be well nigh stifled.

The review of French art and its growth and development up to and including the present time followed; the sixteenth century showing the greater assertion of the individual; the seventeenth century being a period of grand palace decorations. The great

gala day which the eighteenth century made of life in the upper classes affected the art of the time, giving freedom as a reaction from the discipline of the twelfth century. The royal collections were greatly increased by Louis XIV. With the opening of the nineteenth century came a contempt for all things of its predecessor antecedent to the revolution.

That French art stands high in the estimation of the nations is evident from the fact that America eagerly gathers French pictures at any price. True art is not a fashion or a caprice, but a reality. There is no under the seeming a real. Whatever has been true in the past is still true. New art is like new music, the old notes in new combinations. For the future we may anticipate a perfect art, composed of tones tested and approved.

The closing paper, a very excellent one, which was followed by a study of photographs of various works of the masters, was given Mrs. Rose Ankeny-Lewis on the subject of Flemish and Dutch art. The story as well as the literature of the Middle Ages was directed by the church, made to further its ends, and was limited by the church. Individuality was lost in the one great all-governing power. Such methods, however, seemed to have served the purpose of the time. A few Flemish records of art during the ninth century give us solemn madonnas and lean olive green saints; later, crucifixions, representations of eternal torments, numerous martyrdoms, holding refractory churchmen in the ways of the righteous. In the thirteenth century came evidences of a new life through a slight improvement. In the fifteenth century art took up the old familiar themes, but they were freshened and strengthened by personal feeling, warmed by genuine religious fervor, perfected by a closer study of nature. In Flanders the change was greater even than in Italy, marked by the Flemish brothers, Hubert and Jan Van Eyck. Their style may be Dutch, gloomily and placidly Dutch, their simplicity, their lack of emotion, their practical looking madonnas, and gorgeously robed saints may be open to criticism, yet these two mark an era. In ten centuries they were the first to study directly from nature. With them came the re-discovery of perspective. They founded a flourishing school to which Van der Weyden added emotion. Dirk Bouts, depth and charm of landscape and Hans Memling softness of outline, grace and tenderness. During the period of Italianization that followed, the Flemish artists lost themselves in an unsuccessful imitation of the Italian. The intense realism of the preceding period became exaggerated and aimless idealization. Even Rubens, the master who raised Flemish art to a high pinnacle never lifted the vulgar air which religious events took on during this time. Rubens was a courtier, a polished gentleman, a prosperous, easy going man of the world; with an immense capacity for enjoyment, with no mysteries in his life. As a painter he was remarkable for a high sense of animal life and great technical ability, with no perception of spiritual life. When you wish to see Rubens specialized, refined, more courtly, more elegant, look to Anthony Van Dyck. Rubens painted for the church; Rembrandt, the Shakespeare of Dutch art, adhered to actual life, painted for the hospital and public buildings, combining the healthiest and liveliest translation of nature with a vivid imagination, a romantic depth of conception and a love of mystery. He saw in the light and shade of the landscape things hidden to others and seized upon and produced every fleeting expression of sentiment in humanity. In tenderness of sentiment he was lacking; he was too vigorous, too

robust, too symbolic of that peculiarly picturesque country of his, stubbornly struggling with the sea. Following him and contemporaneous with him were many painters of more or less prominence, but none of them were servile followers of this greatest of them all. Each was independent, working out his own ideas in his own way. Terburg gives us as the ultimatum of his efforts a perfect imitation of heavy satin, Gerard Douw astonishes by portraits with an almost inconceivably minute and perfect finish of detail; Steen held his place as the leader of genre painters, and Rysdael stands at the head of Dutch landscape art, throwing over the nature of his native land, a mystic and melancholy grace, painting a glade, a pool, a lonely plain, each picture an elegy. These all of the Rembrandt school but none stooping to object imitation. As the greatness and independence of Holland declined so did Dutch painting fall from its standard excellence. And as Belgium was peopled by a combination of races different from those constituting the Dutch, so when the two countries became separate did Flemish art take on more of the French character.







## IN ITS OWN HOME.

The Women's Club Opens the  
New Year in Its New

Sept. 24 Quarters '90.

FINE PAPERS BY MRS. WINDSOR.

Mrs. Day Tells the Interesting  
Story of the Life of the  
Club.

A home at last! Such was the exclamation often heard as on Wednesday afternoon nearly one hundred of the cultured ladies of the city uncomplainingly wended their way up the five flights of rude stairs leading to that part of the new Y. M. C. A. building designed for the occupancy of the Women's club. The occasion was one of unusual interest and pleasure as was evidenced by the cheerful greetings that were exchanged on every hand as well as by the energy and good nature with which the dizzy heights were scaled. It was the first meeting of the club in their new quarters. Almost every member was present, while a score of visitors honored the occasion with their presence. For five years the club has led a migratory existence, and there is general rejoicing that a permanent home and one in every way so fitting is at length found. Mrs. J. H. Windsor, the president, delivered an address congratulating the club on securing such a home and urging each to endow the new home with the best gifts so that it may become the center of intellectual effort for all the women of the city. The address, which was as beautiful in sentiment as it was choice in diction, was listened to with great interest.

Following Mrs. Windsor's address came the report of the historian, Mrs. J. G. Day, she reviewing in her own inimitable manner, the growth and development of the club from its beginning five years ago. It was just what such a report should be, bright, witty and entertaining, while the record of facts was such as to be of great interest to all.

After an account of the development of women's clubs in this country, Mrs. Day showed that at the very beginning of the association for the advancement of women, Des Moines was represented by Mrs. Martha Callanan and later additions were Mesdames M. S. Orwig, Julia M. Hunting, Addie B. Billington, Mary H. Wright, Margaret A. Cleaves and Ella Hamilton Durley.

The Women's congress of 1885 with its imposing array of earnest and renowned representative women was recalled, the opinion being expressed that our own club and city could more than duplicate any of the leaders of that august body. Of course there was Lucy Stone, but we have Martha C. Callanan, whose name is a synonym for strength, power and devotion wherever the advancement of women is concerned, neither does her dress suggest "Auld Lang Syne."

The Des Moines members of A. A. W. who were enough interested in a permanent club in Des Moines to qualify for membership by paying the fee constitute the charter members and nucleus of this club. The meeting for organization was on October 14, 1885, at the home of Dr. Cleaves, when by-laws and rules were adopted and officers chosen. The first paper read before the club was by Calista Halsey Patchin, the date be-

ing Nov. 10, 1885. Her subject was "Art and Literature" and in her paper was suggested a local place of exhibition for the advancement of art. It has taken five years to materialize the idea then advanced. It was shown that the Woman's Exchange which proved helpful to many struggling women in Des Moines was inspired by the club. The club idea is to inspire work which of itself it could not accomplish without a single devotion which would destroy its character.

The representative and literary character of the club may be estimated in a measure when we realize that its membership includes ministers and co-ministers, authors, editors, newspaper reporters, poets, artists, teachers, physicians, dentists, librarians, reformers, politicians and statesmen; ladies of leisure who have no leisure, mothers, grandmothers and housekeepers, with the great unclassified, comprising every shade of religion and political opinion—all eager for light. The influence of such a "center of thought" cannot be estimated. Our city according to good authority (Dr. Stetson) is fast becoming a city of culture; and the various clubs are helping to make true this reputation.

It is also a club of travelers. One half the globe from Alaska to Palestine has been personally inspected by a number of its members. When these wanderers return the scent of pleasant memories brings them straight to the club and with their widened experience, cosmopolitan views and an increased opinion of their native land they are all very welcome.

Many pleasant occasions were recalled by Mrs. Day and charmingly described, one of which was a social meeting at the delightful home of Mrs. Potter in the autumn of '87, under the management of the gifted Mrs. Berryhill. Mendelssohn was the subject of the rare afternoon's enjoyment and a musical programme was rendered. Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" was softly played while Mrs. Berryhill sympathetically read a choice extract of Lowell's vision of Sir Launfal, beginning with "O, what is so rare as a day in June?" It was an October sun that shone through the ivy-covered window upon the gentle head of the reader and made a picture so bright and touching that it will ever remain a sweet memory.

A social session of a different variety was enjoyed at the Clapp home in January last. It was a mid-day luncheon, the presiding genius, the gracious and hospitable hostess. The responses to the toasts given would have done credit to any assembly of women in the land. Our co-minister, Mrs. Frisbie, always interesting and eloquent; the intellectual Mrs. Hillis, and the spicy and brilliant Mrs. Macomber made characteristic speeches.

The most complimentary attention the club has ever received and one fully appreciated was the social reception at Terrace Hill, where Mrs. F. M. Hubbell, the perfect hostess, and one who never forgets her old friends, invited one hundred of these friends to meet the club. Mrs. Dr. Potter arranged the pleasing programme which was acceptably rendered. The exquisite little poem read on the occasion, "Woman's Life—a Mosaic" was written by one of the club, Addie B. Billington.

The migratory character of the club will hardly be questioned when the records show that twenty-eight different localities have been illumined by the presence of the club exclusive of board and committee meetings.

A review of the steps taken to secure the present home of the club was made and congratulations offered that "we are no longer homeless squatters on another's domain but are at last 'at home.'"

Time alone prevents, said the writer, the mention of some persons that can be

recalled. We might tell of the member who advocated the Australian ballot system because it is secret and then on her own secret ballot wrote "The vote of Mrs. Jay Macomber." There is not even time to mention the different characteristics of our officers—to tell of the peaceful reign of the royal Ruttkay, nor of Sun Dial Windsor, nor of the dignified and intellectual Secretary Johnston, nor of the pithy and pointed Secretary Ankeny-Lewis, nor of the gentle and unflinching Treasurer Gatch, nor yet of the careful and cultured Rachael C. Clarke, who has charge of the bank account and whose star is rising; but we will say that we are proud of the strong, dignified characters of Mary H. Wright and Julia M. Hunting. To the wise business sagacity and legal acumen of Mrs. Lena M. Abdill and to the untiring efforts of the graceful and irrepressible Mrs. Gillette, the club is more indebted for the securing of these permanent and pleasant quarters than to all other agencies.

Among the other items of interest were brought out the facts that for the Des Moines meeting of the A. A. W. we are indebted to the efforts of Jennie McCowen, the enthusiastic and indefatigable Mrs. Orwig, the intrepid and invincible Dr. Cleaves and the sedate and judicious Mrs. Billington; that the first motion made in the club was by Mrs. Ruttkay; that the German motto of the club was suggested by the Hamilton household; that the number of members at the close of the first year was 36, of the second year, 42, third year, 43, fourth year, 66, fifth year, 88. The number of different names on the register of the club during the five years is 111; number of papers read, 90; number of charter members, 21, of whom 15 are still here; of pioneer members, 6, of whom 5 are still on the list.

The charter members as above defined were Mesdames L. B. Abdill, L. F. Andrews, Martha C. Callanan, Wheeler Carpenter, Luella B. Clark, Dr. Margaret E. Cleaves, J. C. Cook, S. M. Dickinson, C. H. Gatch, E. H. Gillette, Ella H. Durley, Julia S. Hunting, L. J. Lanphere, A. E. McMurray, C. C. Nourse, M. S. Orwig, Galusha Parsons, Calista Halsey Patchin, Delia E. Ruttkay, Sara B. Mills, Mary H. Wright. The pioneer members, Mesdames J. G. Berryhill, A. B. Billington, Louise Brown, Dr. Edith Gould, Miss Rachael C. Clarke, Mrs. Pomeroy.

The session closed with a description of the beauties and wonders of Alaska as seen by Mrs. J. H. Windsor on her recent trip.

## A TOLSTOI PAPER.

A Cultivated Des Moines  
Woman's Analysis of the  
Russian Novelist.

FINE PRODUCTION BY MRS. MORSE

The Women's Club Devotes an  
Afternoon to a Timely Lit-

erary Topic.  
Oct. 25. 1890

The committee on literature of which Mrs. Calista Halsey Patchin is chairman presented to the Women's club on Wednesday afternoon a highly entertaining programme, the chief feature of which was a paper by Mrs. Stella Morse on Tolstoi, the first man of letters in Russia. Comprehensive, thoughtful and keenly analytic both as to the character

of the man and his works, Mrs. Morse's paper more than fulfilled the high expectation in regard to it. Tolstoi has been characterized as a great original and independent thinker, a religious teacher and the founder of a something that is midway between a church, a school and a socio-political organization; a man who not only thinks strange things and says them with rugged force and vivid utterance; he does strange things, and what is more induces others to "do the same"; is a man of genius who spends his time in planting potatoes and cobbling shoes, a great literary artist who has founded a propaganda of christian anarchy, an aristocrat who spends his life as a peasant. Mrs. Morse introduced her essay with a graphic description of Russia, with its unmeasured extent, a country which comprises one-seventh of the territory of the globe and one twenty-fifth of its entire surface, with a population of over one hundred and eight millions, five-sixths of whom are peasants living in low log huts, showing that the life of Russia is in the peasants' hut and that very naturally it is for this class that Russia's men of genius have thought and written and prayed. When we read through curiosity some samples of the peculiar literature from this strange country without seizing upon the mental and moral upheaval which soon must take place, it is because we have not studied these tendencies nor the lives of those who are preparing the way for a mighty reform by bringing before the notice of the world the aspirations and the yearnings of this great nation, and when the change shall come, to no man will be long greater credit than to Tolstoi. He has given us perfect pictures of real life, and one of our leading journalists says so long as a copy of Tolstoi shall survive, the world need never be ignorant of what life was in Russia when the nobles owned the serfs body and soul and the czar owned all. Tolstoi's great works are Anna Karenina and War and Peace, the former published in 1875 as a newspaper serial. From it we get the author's ideas on marriage which he regards as indissoluble a sacrament. The writer has been told by cultivated ladies of this city that the book is vile, impure and ought not to be circulated from any library, and by others equally cultivated that it is well worth reading and taught only good lessons, and so thought Canon Farrar and many others of like character.

War and Peace was published in 1869, his literary triumph, and for minuteness of detail applied to huge historical events is truly wonderful. It is a vivid description of the war in 1812 between Napoleon and Russia, culminating with the burning of Moscow, an arraignment of Napoleonism and all kinds of despotism.

First Tolstoi started with this principle: the exclusive development of the ego; he ends with the absolute sacrifice of the ego, which has led him to a life of abnegation, of gentleness and of love.

Mrs. Tolstoi seems in every way worthy of her illustrious husband. She controls and directs everything, her husband taking no part in domestic affairs. In addition she takes the keenest interest in his ideas and works hard as a translator and copyist. Tolstoi sits at meals with the family, but restricts himself to the simplest fare, refusing meat at both dinner and supper, contenting himself with curds and vegetables. To many his religious teachings are most attractive. Mr. Stead says the two books, "My Confession" and "My Religion" was that which took him on his pilgrimage to see Tolstoi, who is a realist and yet a mystic, a rationalist and yet the disciple of the Nazarene; a Russian count, soldier, novelist and scholar, "preaching the doctrine of



absolute non-resistance—was there ever a greater paradox?" To help men, says Tolstoi, is to make them more loving, more kind, more like Christ. What alone overcomes the world is suffering all things, bearing all things and offering a non-conducting medium to the violence of evil men. To be like Christ, you must have no property; if you have money or clothes you must be ready to give them to the first comer.

Mrs. Morse gave it as her opinion that the Kreutzer Sonata is by many misinterpreted. So long as there are people in this country, women educators, who can criticise that beautiful poem, "The Launching of the Ship," so long as there are people so filled with prudery, with imaginations so overwrought that impure thoughts can be suggested by any of the poems of Longfellow, one could not say this Russian work was harmless. There is much in this book which is profoundly true, but unfortunately he is so consumed with wrath against the abuse of passion that he rages equally against the institution by which alone there is any hope of introducing some order into this disordered chaos. His story is a terribly realistic delineation of the Nemesis that dogs the feet of those who in place of true marriage substitute a union for the gratification of physical passion.

When asked the three best things for Russia Count Tolstoi after meditation replied: First, nationalize the land; second, declare absolute liberty of conscience; third, establish the liberty of the press.

## WILLIAM MORRIS.

A Paper Read by Mrs. S. S. Gillette  
Before the Des Moines Women's  
Club April 9, 1890.

William Morris, born near London 1834, the eldest son of a merchant who died in 1844, leaving large estates, was educated at Marlborough school, Exeter College Oxford University.

In 1863, with several partners he set up in London an establishment for the artistic designing and manufacture of various articles, especially wall paper, stained glass, tiles and household decorations; 1858, he published the *Defense of Guenevere*, etc.; 1867, *Life and Death of Jason*; 1868-71, *Earthly Paradise*—4 parts; 1873, *Love is Enough*, or *Freeing of Pharamond*, and with Erikn Magnusson, *The Story of the Volsung and the Nibelungs*; 1889, *The Story of the House of Wolfings*.

Inasmuch as this afternoon is to be devoted to Decorative Art, I shall speak of William Morris not as a poet, although his name first came before the public as such and today stands foremost among them, one afternoon would be all too short for a study of even one of his great poems; nor as a painter, although he began life as an artist and has great knowledge of the true art of painting, he never makes the mistake of trying to imitate nature, but to suggest to make nature live before you; but of William Morris in his chosen life work—as a home beautifier, as a life beautifier in his philanthropic work; of William Morris as a man rather than a machine, in our civilization of today. For he has chosen to be a man before being anything else.

So intimately is the name of William Morris connected with others in these

lines of work that it is with effort I refrain from intruding upon their special life works, but as many of them are to be brought before us this afternoon I shall endeavor to speak only of William Morris even though it may seem that I am forgetful of his co-laborers in the field.

With Merton Abbey, the factory where the Morris fabrics are made, Mr. De Morgan's name is intimately associated from the tiles made there under his care and from his designs, and under his special glaze. Intimately associated also is that of E. Burne Jones, of whom we are to hear this afternoon. With Mr. Morris's philanthropic works are the names whose works and lives are dear to all our households: Ruskin, Morley, Browning, Watts. Browning has lately left us, but the world feels that his spirit is still here and growing in usefulness. With Mr. Watt's paintings we are more or less familiar from the special exhibition in New York a year or two since. And Walter Crane, dear to the hearts of both parent and child, the civilized world over, and many others.

About thirty years ago, in London a wonderful impetus was given to Decorative Art, or the decorations of homes, homes of all grades. A new standard was set up, any quantity of costly and useless things called ornaments were speedily banished from palace and hall. This spirit of iconoclasm was not confined to England, but crossed the water to our shores; and America as well as England looked to William Morris, the originator of this movement, to see what next would be the order of departure from the accepted standards of the day. William Morris was very pronounced in his censure of the existing taste in art then as he is now. He says, "to be beautiful, a thing must be useful, nothing can be a work of art which does not minister to the body, when well under command of the mind, or which does not amuse, soothe or elevate the mind in a healthy state." "If you cannot learn to love real art, at least learn to hate sham art, and reject it; learn to do without, there is strength in that." His every effort is to simplify our tastes and our lives. His likes and dislikes are as positive. He detests the modern habit of over crowding of homes with sham art and stupid bric-a-brac. "Such a home," he says "is more truly savage than a Zulu's kraal or an East Greenland's snow hut." He is specially fond of frank, simple colors, and complains over the idea that has gotten abroad that he is in any manner responsible for the introduction of this sickly, dingy yellow green color for which he has an actual abhorrence.

With these positive views in regard to art, his influence has been most powerful. Standing as he always has, at the very head of the times, "a prophet among painters," the Nation calls him, born as he was to luxury, educated at the classic schools of Oxford. A poet and an artist by nature and expectation, he stood in his early manhood full-handed, with wide open eyes, a well-stored mind, a practiced hand and a soul filled with boundless sympathy with the universe and for humanity. Was it any wonder that he stood still at the beginning of his career, and with deep in-

spiration took in the conditions of all classes of people about him, and their environments, and looked deeply into all questions relating to human needs, and the uplifting of human lives?

From the first every work he has undertaken has been successful. A Poet, a Painter, a Scholar, a Designer, a Craftsman, a Business Man, a Promoter of a legion of philanthropic or helpful guilds, as Editor, of the "Common Weal," a Manufacturer and a Workman; for Wm. Morris is perfectly familiar with the complete details of his factory at Merton Abbey. Even skilled in every branch of

work performed there—the weaving, the dyeing and the printing of his fabrics. "The best designers are men who have this practical acquaintance with the trades for which they design," Mrs. Cadence Wheeler gives as the reason why Mr. Morris has been so pre-eminently successful that he knows not only how to draw, and how to compose a beautiful pattern, but that he knows how to dye, to print and to weave. And Mrs. Wheeler has the right to speak with authority, as she was one of the originators of our own associated artists. And Wm. Morris was the prophet, without doubt, that made clear the way for their organization. It was Wm. Morris that pronounced the words, bringing them back from the middle ages "handicraft," and "craftsman;" and he says to insure true art, we must go back to the methods of those days—to the days of hand labor, and of personal interest in the article till complete. In his unwearied labors he has rediscovered lost methods of coloring, and has proven that simplicity of design and purity of color are always desirable and truly artistic, thus giving pleasure to all. In his designs for furniture he indulges in very little carving, because it generally is not truly artistic, mere wood cutting, and does not enhance the value or enjoyment of the completed article; but his pieces are very plain, in surface and outline the beauty consisting in the wood, finely finished to bring out the peculiar grain, and in the design always having in mind the use to which the article is to be devoted. Many of the Morris designs in furniture are decorated with exquisite paintings on natural woods. I spent several hours last fall in New York trying to learn his peculiar methods of designing in furniture and wall papers, and in fabrics. From what I saw I should say that he employs scrolls and long sweeping effects in his wall papers, to a great extent; the designs in papers and fabrics suggest natural objects in leaves, and vines, and flowers, but are so conventionalized that in general the gardens and fields are in our minds without any of the mental process going on of comparing with the original in nature to see whether the imitation is perfect, as too often, alas, is the case with these realistic designs which fill our shops. His cotton goods interested me, printed on yard wide unbleached cotton, as the margin shows, in different tones in one color with very conventional designs, but which were restful and pleasing. Many of the associated artist designs are similar to the Morris, but I am sorry to say our people have not yet mastered the art of dyeing in fast colors. I was assured that I could depend upon any of the Morris cotton goods to hang in the sun any length of time without fading in the least; and yet the colors were positive and delicate. These cotton goods were selling in New York at \$1 per yard; but I understand that in London they sell at 20c. per yard. The Morris plushes and tapestries were very rich in color and design. But although the working and embroidering of these tapestries is intensely interesting, our associated artists of New York, I think, lead the world now, and it is wise for me to leave that department

severely alone. The Morris designs in carpets are of the same general character as the fabrics.

In the charming gardens at Merton Abbey are grown the herbs and plants from which many of the dyes used in the establishment are extracted. To the visitor while walking in this garden in company with this master, it seems like the grounds of Utopia; for while explaining his manner and method of work he fills his guest with his own faith and enthusiasm and confidence in and love for humanity, and its possible growth from our own changing civilization. Then wandering on to the factory, one is not surprised to see companies of men, women and children cheerful, hopeful and contented about their daily toil amid flowers behind open windows, where sunshine and fresh air and the pleasant odors of healthful herbs, used in the different processes of dyeing, are everywhere present.

Here employer and employed have identical interests, and to a certain extent the same pleasure and satisfaction in doing worthy work, which is being handed over to an ever growing, appreciative public. Here he carries his honest love for his neighbor into the minutest detail of business—his care in not allowing the liquid dyes used, to stain the pure waters of the Wandle, upon which the factory stands, is an instance—for all the waters used are filtered before leaving the grounds, and flow on through the country as pure as when they entered the premises. The library here for the use of the workers within these walls, is as choice as any selected and bound as for Mr. Morris's own family, for he makes it a point that all these which constitute a man's environment, develop and educate, and cultivate the good and true in him. It is simply giving of his best to those whom he loves.

His great aim in art, as in life, is to simplify it, for then, he says, will "rise up longings for true beauty, and we know that nothing can satisfy that demand but intelligent work, rising gradually into imaginative work, which will turn all 'operatives' into workmen, into artists, into men."

His success has not been achieved simply in the honest fabrics, the beautiful tiles and the colored glass produced at his factories, but quite as great and even greater—as the man is greater than his creation—in the hold he has upon his fellow-men, in his helpfulness toward his brother workmen; he has indeed created a new heaven and a new earth in this new life for his employes. And the influence from this work of his, has gone forth throughout the civilized world, giving helpful suggestions that have gone far in aiding to settle this vexed question between capital and labor.

When a man has accomplished some great work, then to the world, his personality is of interest. Let us look at Wm. Morris as a man for a moment, and trace the subtle, elusive connection between the man and his creation. It is such a composite character when analyzed, and is when taken in its entirety so perfectly harmonious that it seems simple.

William Morris stands today the most unique and interesting character of this century; he is the central figure about which congregate painters and poets, artists and artisans; he is a leader in thought and action on all the great questions of the day, indeed is the originator or instigator of many of these.

A little while before her death, Miss Emma Lazarus visited Mr. Morris in Surry, and she said of him: "The idle singer of an empty day, might sit for the portrait of his own Sigurd; he has the robust powerful form of a Berserker, crowned with a tall massive head, covered with a profusion of dark curly hair plentifully mixed with gray. His florid color and a certain roll in his gait, and a habit of swaying to and fro while talking, suggests the sailor or the yeoman; but still more distinctly is the poet made manifest in the fine modelling and lu-



minous expression of the features."

"An indescribable open-air atmosphere of freedom and health seems to breathe from his whole personality." He dresses in an easy manner, generally wears a soft felt hat and gray, woolen clothes; wears a collar, but ignores the necktie. He once said to a friend, in speaking on the subject of men's dress, that while he never considered a stove pipe hat exactly a thing of beauty, nor could he see "any reason why a man should wear two coats in the house, one with a front and no back and the other with a back but no front," but he added "rebel that I am I submit." One word, will more than all others express his peculiar hold upon everybody with whom he comes in contact, it is his boundless sympathy. Mr. Morris is controlled by moral purposes in all his business relations, a double moral purpose, one upon the producer and the other upon the purchaser. In the former, his effort has been to make it possible for the workman to intelligently comprehend his work and find pleasure in it, for himself Mr. Morris eschews wealth and luxury, that for his workman at least, toll may be robbed of its drudgery, servitude of its sting, and that poverty may be unknown among them; upon the purchaser, his aim has been to create, or revive a sense of beauty in home life, to give the true dignity of art to home decoration, and his influence has been so far reaching that it is usually conceded, that he has revolutionized English taste—in household art.

Miss Lazarus says again: "The passion for beauty, which unless balanced by sound and earnest intelligence, is apt to degenerate into sickly and selfish aestheticism, inflames him with the burning desire to bring all classes of humanity under its benign influence. That art, together with the leisure to enjoy it, should be monopolized by the few, seems to him as egregious a wrong as that men should be hungry and naked." With his finely endowed nature, beauty is such a necessity to him that it must be complete in everything. He says: "I do not want art for a few, any more than education for a few, or freedom for a few. No, rather than art should live this poor, thin life among a few exceptional men, despising those beneath them for an ignorance for which they themselves are responsible, for a brutality which they will not struggle with; rather than this, I would that the world should indeed SWEEP AWAY ALL ART FOR AWHILE. Rather than the wheat should rot in the miser's granary, I would that the earth had it, that it might yet have a chance to quicken in the dark."

"One hears today of individual Englishmen of every rank flinging themselves with reckless heroism into the breach, sacrificing all thought of personal interest, in the desperate effort to stem the huge flood of misery and pauperism" everywhere painfully apparent, especially in England, where the pressure of the densely crowded population upon the means of subsistence is alarmingly increasing. Among these men, foremost, stands Wm. Morris. Mr. Morris has developed all sides of a well equipped and powerful individuality; he has plunged vehemently into the rushing stream of current thought and action—indeed he is responsible for the strength of the current—and has made himself at one with his struggling, panting, less vigorous fellow-swimmers."

Again, Miss Lazarus sums up his peculiar character with "He seems intuitively to have obeyed those singular rules for poetic creation, formulated by Walt Whitman."

"Who troubles himself about his ornaments or fluency is lost. This is what you shall do: love the earth and sun and the animals, despise riches, give alms to every one that asks, stand up for the stupid and crazy, devote your income and labor to others, hate tyrants, argue not concerning God, have patience and indulgence

towards the people, take off your hat to nothing known or unknown, or to any man or number of men, go freely with powerful uneducated persons, and with the young and with the mothers of families. Re-examine all you have been told at school or at church, dismiss whatever insults your soul, and your very flesh shall be a great poem, and have the richest fluency, not only in its words, but in the silent lines of your lips and face, and between the lashes of your eyes, and in every motion and joints of your body."

Allowing Mr. Morris to speak for himself, I will read a letter written by him in '84 to a friend in New York. I wish it were six years later:

I have no objection to stating the kind of profit-sharing that goes on in my business; it would not be worth while to give details of it. The profit-sharing only extends at present to the managers and heads of departments, not to use a grand word, foremen if you please, although properly speaking we have no foremen. The greater part of our men are paid by piece work, according to the custom of their trade; this makes it neither so necessary that they should share profits, nor so easy to arrange a scheme. And now I must state that when I began to turn my attention to this matter of profit-sharing, though I had little faith in its proving a solution of the labor and capital question, I thought it might advance that solution somewhat in the absence of any distinct attempt towards universal co-operation, i. e., socialism, and I hoped to be able to put my whole establishment on a profit-sharing basis. I now see clearly why I had no faith in the profit-sharing and at the same time see that things are tending towards universal co-operation, so that there is no temptation to me to try to advance a movement which in its incompleteness would rather injure than help the cause of labor. At the same time, I see no harm in the profit-sharing business within certain limits; if, I mean to say, it only means raising the wages at the expense of the individual capitalists. I have always done this by giving wages above the ordinary market price, and I always shall do so.

I ought to say why I think mere profit-sharing would be no solution of the labor difficulty. In the first place, it would do nothing towards the extinction of competition, which lies at the root of the evils of today; because each co-operative society would compete for its corporate advantage with other societies; would in fact so far be nothing but a joint stock company. In the second place, it would do nothing towards the extinction of exploitation, because the most it could do in that direction would be to create a body of small capitalists, who would exploit the labor of those underneath them as implacably as the bigger capitalists do; just as peasant proprietors do in the matter of rent for land. In the third place, the immediate result of the system of profit-sharing would be an increase of overwork among the industrious, who would, of course, always tend upward toward that small capitalists class above said. This would practically mean, putting the screw on all wage-earners and intensifying the contrast between the well to do and the mere unskilled, the hewers of wood and drawers of water; for all these industrious, successful people would take good care to have people to live on lower down. General result, increase of work done, which all reasonable people should try to curtail, increase of luxury, increase of poverty. Thus you see, so accursed is the capitalist system under which we live, that even what should be the virtues of good management and thrift, under its slavery do but add to the misery of our thralldom and indeed become mere vices, and have at last the faces of cruelty and shabbiness.

The bourgeois system is doomed, that is the long and short of it, and this permissible co-operative system, with its apparent fairness of snaring of profits, is but an attempt at insurance for it, by the creation of a fresh set of petty bourgeois. "So much for sociology; a word or two about the art I have tried to forward. That is a simple matter enough. I have tried to produce goods which should be genuine as far as their mere substances are concerned, and should have on that account the primary beauty in them which belongs to naturally treated, natural substances; have tried, for instance, to make woolen substances as woolen as possible, cotton as cottony as possible, and so on; have

used only the dyes which are natural and simple, because they produce beauty almost without the intervention of art; all this quite apart from the design in the stuffs or what not.

On that head it has been, chiefly because of the social difficulties, almost impossible to do more than to insure the designer (mostly myself) some pleasure in his art by getting him to understand the qualities of materials and the happy chances of processes. Except with a small part of the more artistic side of the work, I could not do anything (or at least but little) to give this pleasure to the workmen, because I should have had to change their method of work so utterly that I should have disqualified them from earning their living elsewhere. You see I have got to understand thoroughly the manner of work under which the art of the Middle Ages was done, and that that is the only manner of work which can turn off popular art, only to discover that it is impossible to work in that manner in this profit-grinding society.

## WAGES OF WOMEN

"Women as Wage Workers" the Topic at the Women's

Club. April 8, 1891.

### MISS DR. RITCHEY READS A PAPER

Views of Intelligent Women on a Phase of the Labor Problem.

That ever fruitful and interesting topic "Women as Wage Workers" was before the Women's club Wednesday afternoon, an able and exhaustive paper having been presented by Dr. Jessie Ritchey, who had evidently made a close study of the ground before writing. From the day when Harriet Martineau visited this country in 1836, when but seven occupations were open to women, till the present time, when so many fields of labor present themselves and invite occupancy, woman's advancement was sketched in a graphic manner. The doors of colleges have been almost forced open, east and west, an entrance has been effected into business circles and the professions, and an interest awakened by the collection of statistics pertaining to women, a work begun by the commissioner of labor statistics in Massachusetts and valiently carried forward there and elsewhere. This has resulted in the organization of women wage-earners in the large eastern cities, which has done much toward securing equal pay with men for equal work. Still the condition of the humblest class of toilers in the large cities is so distressing as to be heart-breaking. It appeals so loudly to those whom fortune has favored, who differ only because of different opportunities from their less fortunate sisters, that no woman should rest content who is not doing something toward securing a better state of things. Think of women making a dozen ladies' wrappers for \$1.50; 600 paper bags for 5 cents; a plain skirt with hem and band for 1 cent; a dozen flannel shirts for men for 50 cents, etc. Dr. Ritchey's study of the subject had led her to the conclusion that women who were not driven to such work by necessity should not engage in it and thus deprive her poorer sisters of the means of a scanty subsistence. The discussion of the question was opened by Mrs. Callanan, who told of the growing intelligence among wage earners themselves, due to their clubs, large numbers of which have been organized in the larger cities. In New York philanthropic women are zealously aiding in this work. Classes are formed where in-

struction in various branches, sewing, type-writing, cooking, etc., is systematically given and girls are thus better prepared to give valuable service. She traced the cause of the trouble to its source and found it in the fact that women do not have the ballot. Mrs. Judge Day was called upon for an opinion but instead of speaking, she begged to read a letter from a friend, addressed to her dear "Interrogation Point" which proved a great treat. Its quaint humor and keen wit were so suggestive of the reader herself, that despite its signature of "Aunt Melissa Old Foggy" many were inclined to the opinion that reader and writer were one and the same. Women's low wages were attributed largely to her willingness, for the sake of getting work, to underbid the men. Mrs. Gillette, who has long studied the subject, took issue with the writer of the paper because she thought that women should work only because of necessity. In her opinion boys and girls should be trained precisely alike with a view to like independence and then women should demand the same wages for the same work. She cited Anna Dickinson, who when she started out as a young woman to get a school was told by the director that they had been paying \$30 a month to young men as teachers, but he thought they could pay her about \$18, whereupon she straightened up and demanded to know whether he took her for a fool or he was a fool. She got \$30 a month. Mrs. Ab-dill thought one of the difficulties in woman's way was her unwillingness to take orders as men do. She also had found that the poor seamstresses in New York deliberately chose to stay and work at starvation prices rather than leave the city or engage in housework. The former idea was combatted and it was claimed that men and women of like intelligence are equally willing to take orders. Further remarks were made by Mrs. Thummel, Miss Clarke, Mrs. James, Mrs. E. H. Carter and others. Upon the whole, the session was one of much interest. Among the guests of the club were Mrs. Dr. Stetson and Mrs. Secretary McFarland. Two weeks hence the meeting will be in charge of the committee on "Miscellaneous Topics," of which Mrs. Henry Sabin is chairman, and the paper will be by Dr. Edith M. Gould on the subject "Hypnotism."

## HYGIENIC COOKING

A Valuable and Suggestive Paper on the Subject Read by Miss

Hutchinson. Dec. 3, 1890.

### MODES OF COOKING MEATS.

Perfect Cooking the Basis of the Highest Civilization.

"The Morals of Cookery" was the attractive subject of what proved to be a highly entertaining and instructive paper which Miss Mabel Hutchinson read before the Women's club Wednesday afternoon. The day's programme was in the hands of the committee on miscellaneous topics of which Mrs. Henry Sabin is chairman and to her excellent leadership was largely due the pleasure and profit of the hour.

In beginning her paper Miss Hutchinson said we probably have all heard the ancient conundrum "Can you tell me the



difference between a mule and a lemon?" and after some thought, having admitted that we did not know the answer, have been told that certainly we would not be fit persons to send to market. But after all, she continued, what is the real distinction between a mule, simply as a representative of the animal kingdom and a lemon as that of the vegetal? What is the difference between a plant and an animal? It is not one of form, for among the lower orders we find them almost identical; nor is it in motion; for although most animals possess the power of motion yet some do not, and though most plants do not possess the power of motion yet some do. After a careful comparison we find that the fundamental difference between the two kingdoms is simply one of diet. The green plants with the aid of sunlight have the power of cooking that which the animals must have to sustain life and which they could obtain through no other medium. Our green sisters can live on a diet much simpler than ours and manufacture for us and for themselves the great essential part of life, namely, a certain combination called protoplasm, the essential part of which is proteid matter.

This is the first and most important department of cookery, and the cooks who preside over it differ from us since their workmanship is always perfect for the rule of their cookery is fixed, and their fire, the sun, can always be depended upon.

When we think that, if we could live on the same food as a plant we should really be one, it gives us some faint conception of the important place in our lives that our food takes, for though we do not "live to eat" we most certainly "eat to live," and our very life and the development of both mind and body depend not simply on our eating, but what we eat. If we were still living on raw flesh and uncooked vegetables might we not still be as rude and cruel, as purely animal in our tastes as any of the savages in "darkest Africa" to-day? Do we not owe to the discovery of fire and to the art of cookery the greatest part of our much vaunted 19th century civilization?

There followed a discussion of the manifold speculations regarding the origin of fire and the beginning of cookery, following the subject through Egyptian, Persian, Grecian and Roman history and showing that it was only when they developed cookery in one direction solely, namely for the gratification of the animal tastes and pleasures, leaving out all consideration of the physical and mental good, that the downfall both of race and system came.

To-day the English speaking nations certainly head the list in cookery and probably as a result in civilization, too. The Germans and French come next in the scale, then the Italians, and then, perhaps, the Russians, and so on until we reach the cannibals, and through all these nations we find cookery and civilization going hand in hand.

Since we have seen that diet makes the fundamental distinction between the animal and vegetal kingdoms, between a highly civilized and practically uncivilized state of animal life, are not we to whom the office of arranging the diet and preparing the food, provided we perform our function to be considered as among the chief moral and civilizing influences at work in the world and is it not our duty and are we not placed under a moral obligation to make a careful and conscientious study of this important subject and to put that study into every day practice? But to-day woman is growing discontented with her lot and thinks she is destined for more aggressive work in a more public field of action and is even in some instances clamoring for the ballot to put her on a so-called equality with man. She forgets that in so doing she is not only neglecting her

duty to the race, but is forsaking the highest office ever offered her, for the functions of a cook are no menial ones. The whole world from the lowest plant to the highest type of the vertebrate, the homo sapiens himself, is at work from year's end to year's end preparing the material for her handiwork; in a sense, all living beings are her servants, doing the rough preliminary work, but leaving to her the delicate finishing touches which she is most fitted to give by reason of her quick sensibilities and the full development of the senses of touch, taste and smell. Can we then with easy consciences leave entirely to domestics the work of which we should take the whole responsibility? Then, too, if we neglect our work it will undoubtedly be taken from us and perhaps man, as he is beginning to, will usurp our functions and we shall be deprived of the greatest opportunity which we have or ever have had, to really benefit our fellow men. Let us then take up the subject in earnest just as we would any other work for the reformation of morals. Yet we must possess our souls in patience and not expect an immediate result, but must rather hold in view the ultimate good of the race. But the immediate result will not be wanting. What has a greater influence in binding families together and preserving a unity of home life than good, hygienic, stimulating food, and by stimulating I mean that which will create the greatest amount of energy. For our food is simply the potential or passive energy which by means of eating, digestion, absorption and assimilation is converted into bodily heat and muscular action.

Why is it that there are so many cross, discontented children about? Simply because they are the victims not only of an ill arranged diet but of bad cooking in addition. A diet of pickles, underdone pastry, rich cake, cheap raggy beef with little or no milk is enough to ruin the sweetest temper and spoil the best disposition, and not only so but it tends to create an unhealthy craving for stimulants. Good, plain, substantial cookery is most important during childhood not only to promote the happiness of the child but to help nature as much as possible in developing a strong, hearty, man. Too many people suffer in after life simply from the unwholesome food eaten during infancy. But our food does not cease to effect us after we have passed the age of childhood. Bad food at any time of life causes bad temper or worse than that it gives rise to "blues" melancholia and general mental depression. It is said that Calvin's liver was the basis for his gloomy views concerning predestination. Perhaps if Nero's digestion had been in good order he would never have burnt Rome. Poor unsatisfying food promotes crime by giving rise to a craving for alcoholic liquors and by the direct effect upon the disposition.

One of the reasons that reformed criminals so often backslide is that in leaving prison they leave their regular, wholesome food and go back to their old irregular habits of eating.

'Tis said that the Australian convicts were not considered wholly depraved so long as they retained their fondness for apple dumplings.

Cooking plays an important part in our social relations. It is doubtful whether we could estimate or realize the happiness and good will that the Thanksgiving turkey or the Christmas plum pudding has brought into the world.

The question of most importance to us is what foods are richest in potential energy and how can they be prepared so that the human body can most easily assimilate them. Nitrogen is essential to the body, for without it combustion could not take place which gives us bodily heat. It is therefore necessary that the greater part of our food be nitrogenous. Now the

food which is richest in potential energy is that which is most nearly similar to the tissues of the body, i. e., the flesh of other animals, since it contains the proper proportions of nitrogen and less waste takes place than in other foods. It is more difficult to digest than vegetal food, but the process of assimilation is more perfect, hence less energy is expended upon it.

The true art of the selection and cookery of meat is one that in many parts of this country is still in its infancy. We do not appreciate the value of good roast beef; we are too apt to depend upon steak, steak, steak, and fried meat is the most unhygienic as well as the most expensive of all meats, for frying renders the fat more indigestible and the waste of the really nutritious parts is more than by any other method. Boiled meat, if properly boiled, is the most nutritious and economical of all meats, but this is a very difficult thing to do since it is almost impossible to prevent the rich juice of the meat from escaping into the surrounding water. The water should be boiling fiercely when the meat is put in and should be kept so for ten minutes in order by means of coagulating the albumen to seal the outer surfaces of the meat to keep in the nutritious juices. After this it should be boiled more slowly and great care should be taken not to boil too long allowing only from fifteen to twenty minutes to every pound weight. Of course in the making of soup the rules will be reversed and the meat should be put into cold water and allowed to stew slowly till all the nutritious portions are set free in the water. Bones are very nutritious in soup because the gelatinous substance boiled out of them is rich in nitrogen. There is sufficient nourishment in bone alone to sustain life, dog life at any rate, for it has been shown by experiment that dogs fed on raw bones live but fed on bones from which all the nutritious part has been extracted by boiling they die. It stands to reason that roast meat, having a much smaller area of outside surface than fried meat, affords less means of exit for both the nutritive and flavoring juices, and hence there is more vital energy stored up in a given amount of roast meat than in the same amount of fried. The harder outside surface is the most indigestible part, and since there is less of this in roast than in fried meat the former must be more digestible.

I have gone thus minutely into the details of meat cookery because I am convinced that perfect cookery does not consist in the manufacture of many varied and elaborately bespiced and be-gravied dishes, pleasing only to the eye and to a degenerate taste; but the perfect cook is she who is a thorough master of all the most minute details of the simple, fundamental modes of cookery, who makes it her aim to bring out the natural flavors instead of smothering them with spices. No spice, however delicate, can begin to compare with the simple, natural flavor of cooked meat and bread.

It is a greater accomplishment to roast one joint of meat perfectly than to make tons of angels' food.

Broiling meat is much better than frying it since the outside is browned quickly thus sealing in the nutritious juices. Baked meat is put into a deep tin and tightly covered, while roast meat is put into a shallow tin and a little dripping is added during the process. The oven in both instances should be very hot and great care should be taken not to over cook, since the flavoring portion would be carried away in the form of a gas if the meat be over cooked, and the fat will be converted into an indigestible, fatty acid.

One of the chief difficulties in obtaining good roast meat is that it is very difficult to get a good quality of raw meat to roast. The best cuts are cut into steak. If we only roasted the parts

that we fried, the result would be far better. The fat of meats differs from the lean in not possessing nitrogen, and is simply a heat generator, while the lean is used to build up the muscular tissue.

The influence of cookery on vegetal food is almost more than on animal. Since starch is the most important in vegetal food that would be affected by heat, the influence of cookery upon all such foods is the expansion of the starch which renders it more susceptible to the salivary digestion.

Cookery is a means of preserving vital energy and hence of increasing both physical and mental strength. As man's mental and physical health improve his standard of morals becomes higher. Can we not then justly say that perfect cookery is the basis of all moral reform? Are we not then placed under a moral obligation to study more carefully and earnestly the great art of cookery regarding the practice of it the highest function which woman can perform?

## HOME DECORATION

Decorative Art Considered at a

Meeting of the Women's Club.

## ART TOPICS HERE AND ABROAD.

Papers by Mesdames Gillette, Lehmann, Cook and Hunting.

The subject of household decorations is one which interests or should interest every homekeeper. Therefore the four papers read before the Women's club on Wednesday on "Decorative Art and Its Apostles" proved as acceptable as any of the many valuable things which have been presented to that body, and called forth a very general expression of opinion. That well known Londoner, William Morris, poet, painter and philanthropist, and the wonderful impetus which he has given to home decorations, proved a delightful topic as treated by Mrs. E. H. Gillette. The manifold genius of the man, his broad and sympathetic nature, his efforts to simplify life, bringing the good things within the reach of the many, called out the enthusiasm of the writer and the admiration of the hearer. He is a man before anything else, a home and life beautifier. One of his first principles is that nothing is beautiful that is not useful. Overcrowding the house with cheap bric-a-brac he does not hesitate to pronounce as savage. Looking deeply into all questions of human need, he has been the promoter of a legion of profitable guilds. He knows not only how to draw but also how to compose and dye, being skilled in all the work done in his factories. He it was who taught that honor lies in the words, handicraft and craftsman, and that art must go back to these if it would be promoted.

In furniture he would have but little carving. It should be plain in surface and outline, the beauty lying in the finely polished wood. In papers he employs scrolls and long, sweeping effects; in cotton goods, conventional designs. Upon the Morris cotton goods you can thoroughly depend, even to hanging them in the sun.

In his tapestries and carpets are the same general effects. His gardens are described as Etopian grounds, and his love for his neighbor he carries into every



line of business. All the water which leaves his factories is carefully filtered before it is distributed, for all things, he believes, which constitute a man's environment develop and educate. And so Morris succeeds not alone in making honest fabrics but in his great helpfulness to his brother workmen, so that his influence has gone out through all the world. His character, which is composite, is probably the most unique and interesting of the century. He is the central figure around which moves the socialistic tendency of the day, eschewing wealth and luxury that his workmen may not be robbed of comforts. It is justly claimed that he has revolutionized English taste in household art, saying, unselfishly, that he does not want art for a few any more than education for a few. Associated with William Morris and advancing the same ideas are Walter Crane and Burne-Jones. A short paper devoted to the former was read by Mrs. F. W. Lehmann. Any thought of English art, she said, was naturally associated with the Royal Academy, entrance to which means for the artist peace and appreciation and forgetfulness of the trials which beset the unsuccessful artist. The annual exhibition opens May 1, and each member is entitled to eight pieces. Of the 8,800 placed in competition last year, 1,000 were accepted. Much fault is found with the judges, who strongly favor, it is claimed, their own members. It was this dissatisfaction which caused the establishment of the Grosvenor gallery. Crane was of a cultivated and artistic family, and his first work was done in his father's studio. His sister Lucy was associated with him till her death, and his brother Thomas is almost his equal. At the age of 17 he had a canvas in the Royal academy "The Lady of Shalott." In 1856 he began designing for children's books in which he is famous as he is also as a painter in water colors and in his design for wall paper and for tiles. He is, however, best known as an illustrator of books and especially of children's books, in which his fanciful humor and expressive drawing are particularly noticeable. His figures resemble those of Burne-Jones. He is aesthetic, blending the poetic and the ideal. He is not a member of the Royal academy, but is the honored president of the arts and crafts exhibition. It is his theory that the arts will not fulfill their higher mission until brought down from the heights and into the homes. Like the poet Burns, he finds his highest inspiration in homely domestic scenes. The illustration of books has furnished a wide scope for his pencil.

Mrs. J. C. Cook of Webster City had a sketch of Burne-Jones, there being on an easel near at hand a copy of one of his most noble paintings, the "Golden Stairway," painted in 1880, and representing a troop of airy, fairy like maids gracefully descending a winding stair. Mrs. Cook gave an explanation of the pre-Raphaelite movement, it being a protest to the end that a healthier taste might be established. Strange, unique, brilliant Burne-Jones is famous alike as a painter and a poet. Not purely an idealist, his presentations are vivid and real, his drawing firm and correct, his meanings subtle and intricate. His essential gift is personification. His colors rich and golden, or in bronze green with great folds of somber drapery. A stained window in Grace church, New York, is of remarkable beauty.

The "Associated Artists of New York" and the excellent work done by them in designing and manufacturing was ably described in an essay by Mrs. Julia M. Hunting, which, in her absence, was read by Mrs. L. B. Clark. Mrs.

Wheeler and her daughter, Miss Dora Wheeler are prominent in this society which is not a co-operative or benevolent association but one of business only. The women who are thus classed are all skilled artists. Their shadow patterns are particularly beautiful, showing many different tones in insensible gradations. The line of work of which they are most proud is their textiles.

The discussion which followed the readings was led by Mrs. W. W. Witmer, who brought out many practical points. There were on exhibition many handsome specimens of the fabrics of the associated artists of New York, and the meeting was, in every respect, one of the most enjoyable of the year.

At the meeting of the board of directors which followed Mrs. J. G. Day was elected historian of the club and Mrs. Nell Parvin-Hall and Mrs. E. E. Israel were elected to membership.







Jan. 29. 1891.

Very quietly the work of the women's club moves along, but it is none the less thorough and exceedingly helpful to those whose good fortune it is to be present and hear the papers and the discussions which follow. Wednesday afternoon's programme was one of very decided interest. Mrs. L. F. Andrews presented the current topic for the day, dwelling at considerable length upon Millet's picture, the "Angelus" and giving a sketch of the very remarkable and varied career of the great master. Following this, the revision of the Presbyterian creed and Nellie Bly's flying journey around the globe were discussed in an interesting manner. Mrs. E. H. Gillette, chairman of the committee on education, then took charge of the exercises, introducing Mrs. Henry Sabin, whose admirable paper on "The Schools of Philosophy" received the closest attention. The subject, though so comprehensive, was treated with a skill and wisdom that called forth general comment. Philosophy, the writer said, was as old as time. Long before the pyramids were built, Egypt had her philosophers and China hers. The origin of the different schools, so far as it is possible to determine it, was traced out and a brief outline of the various leaders in philosophic fields was brought out, touching upon their nobility of purpose with reverence. In the teachings of each some truth existed. Thales was a man of wonderful political power and influence, as well as scientific knowledge. He predicted an eclipse of the sun and found in water what he believed to be the origin of all things, giving life to the universe. The various schools of philosophy communicated their doctrines in secret. Most of the early philosophers taught orally and in many instances, it is marvellous that they came so near the truth. Protagoras was the first who taught for pay and it was said that he received more money than Phidias. Socrates in his long life took but one short journey. He was gray headed when he began teaching youth. Of all his disciples, Plato, that soaring genius who visited many foreign countries, was the only one who founded a school. Plato was a moral and theological philosopher, teaching the immortality of the soul. Aristotle was the master mind of antiquity. A profound naturalist, his purpose was to be scientific, even reducing philosophy to science. After reviewing the work of numerous intervening philosophers and their influence upon the world, the modern schools were reached, Francis Bacon sharing with Descartes the honor of founding them. The work of both of these was great and far-reaching, bringing into use the inductive methods of reasoning. Later came John Locke, whose philosophy was based on the two thoughts that there are no innate ideas and that all knowledge originates from experience. Kant, Hegel and Emerson were treated of with characteristic clearness. Mrs. Sabin closed by saying that she had only gathered a few pebbles by the shore, the ocean remaining for exploration. A discussion participated in by Mesdames Frisbie Ruttkay, Abdill, Gillette and others followed.

## PHILOSOPHY OF CLUB LIFE.

A Breezy Communication from Melissa  
Old Fogey Received Through

Feb. 2nd 1891  
Mrs. Day.

### REFLECTIONS ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS.

A Vain Effort to Be Stylish Gravely Reported—The Rush for the Dining Room.

One of the brightest bits of wit, philosophy and satire which have been enjoyed by the Des Moines Women's club for many a day was read by Mrs. Judge Day at a recent meeting. The News publishes it in compliance with the general desire of the members of the club:

SWELTOWN, Pa., Feb. 2.—Mrs. S. A. Robertson, Chairman of Social Committee—My DEAR FRIEND: Your official and personal invitation so cordially given to attend the social meeting of the Des Moines Women's club has been gratefully received, and while accepting the honor with pride and pleasure, I regret exceedingly that I cannot be present on that occasion, for, you will see by the postmark, I am too far from the scene of action; yet will take this occasion to congratulate you on the welfare and prosperity of your club, and especially on its living up to the club ideal. So many of the clubs are now trying to do too much, and have assumed all kinds of reforms, both political and social, all kinds of charities, co-operative enterprises, and even social usurpations, which, in my judgment, is inexpedient—a perversion of the true object of a club, and is a losing sight of its most important function. The club should be kept sacred to the development of its individual members and should be in truth "a center of active thought", a source of power and thoughtfulness, an inspiration to develop talent, thoughts and forces, a place to learn that every question has more than one side to be considered, and to listen courteously, patiently and unbiassedly to those advancing wrong opinions, which of course means those opposed to our own. It surely is not selfish to prepare for anything that may come by endeavoring to enlarge our understanding, cultivate our judgment and recruit our waning and flagging interest in the current of thought, but is a pleasant duty we owe ourselves, our families, our friends and posterity. If all our energies are concentrated and consecrated to work—even for the good of others and work only—we are still neglecting an important factor in ourselves and become lopsided. The gospel of "rest awhile" is yet to be preached. I feel so thankful that the members of the Des Moines Women's club are conserving their forces, and by so doing are teaching a greatly needed and valuable lesson.

All of the club members have not the same gifts. Nor is it possible for every member to be equally interested and zealous in all the worthy movements of this busy age and yet in every club, each member is associated with one or more of the numerous organizations of temperance, suffrage, charities, reforms, all the different branches of church work, and even the society for the protection of the little hat birds, and to these societies each member can take whatever of influence, inspiration, new thoughts, revised opinions, and broadened views of life, its environments, duties and pleasures which she has received from the club meetings, and is a more valuable member of these organizations for special work, by being a member of the club. And even if it is considered only a recreation, the duties of work and recreation are equally important and imperative. The women's work of the world should and will go on, but I trust, not under the direct supervision of the club. There must be new and untried methods in all reforms to be suggested and discussed, and plans made, before even the best executive ability can be utilized. In one club I know of the impractical idea was suggested of establishing a co-operative laundry, when many of the members attended a weekly matinee, of that character, and would be glad to forget for one afternoon every fortnight that such a necessity existed, and so on, through the entire catalogue of domestic busi-

ness. Some people seem to think that everything beautiful, pleasant and social is unprofitable and selfish. Yet there is no inherent virtue in ugliness, recluseness and misery—that I ever heard of—and it don't help matters to keep our thoughts always on the gloomy side of life, and when we are advanced far enough, we will know that pleasant thoughts are vital towards the perfect development of our best natures.

I am through with my preaching now, and shall trust you to make the application, with my best and earnest wishes for the merited and continued success of the Des Moines Women's club.

Now, if my letter was not already so long, I would tell you why I am here, and of some things I have observed, none of which you would ever see in Des Moines even if you lived until the almond blossoms flourished on the bangs you so mercilessly scorched some months ago.

I would tell you how that my one-time brother-in-law had closed the third volume of his married life, and had issued the preface to the fourth volume, and I was honored with an invitation to witness the introduction, and this rare opportunity I could not afford to miss.

So, of course, my wardrobe had to be reconstructed. The carnival began by securing a home-made dressmaker—and now, between you and me, home made bread and pies and things to eat, may be superior to professional, but when you come to home made dresses, bonnets and cloaks, please excuse me from admiring them, especially if I am the amateur artist and model, as I was in the present case. I was told that in order to be "stylish", I must have a fur-trimmed cloth dress; that, in fact, it was really indispensable. Well, having an old-time fur cloak, somewhat moth eaten to be sure, I thought that enough good fur could be cut out to trim the dress. I had often done such things before, but never, never with fur! But let us draw a lethean veil over that failure! Yet, I never can again look upon a fur-trimmed dress without experiencing a sympathetic tickling in my bronchial tubes and in every avenue to my colossal brain. Oh! the work and worry, the twisting and posing I went through with, in the futile attempt to be stylish! No, I knew better than to expect to be stylish, but I did hope a little to look stylish. It seems to be the one thing we learn slowly, that style is a rare and gracious gift, that some are born rich, some beautiful, some talented, and a very few stylish. It is not in the cost of a garment, nor the material, nor even the make up, but the way it is worn. We are all sensible enough never to expect a dummy to look stylish, but the brave yet vain attempts we all make to look stylish, shows how highly this rare gift is prized. I wish I could tell you of our art critic and the statue of the greyhound, and how her severe critique was exploded by the deliberate walking array of the aforesaid work of art, but you know I have not time.

After some varied experiences, I arrived at the mansion, where the very congenial though hybridized family tree flourished and grew.

On the evening of the wedding reception I saw a great number of well dressed and intelligent looking ladies crowded together in one place and feared some accident had happened and that all were trying to help. So I anxiously inquired of a friend, "What is the matter over there?" and she looked carelessly around and said, "That!" Oh, they are waiting to go into the dining-room, which is right there!"

"Holy Moses," thought I, "those splendid looking ladies so hungry as all that, there is no famine nearer than Russia, and yet I have always heard that real hunger develops the porcine qualities very rapidly—there must be some good and sufficient reason for such manifest rudeness—I cannot understand it at all!"

Well, it was not very long until I did understand it, and perfectly, too.

Somehow, I, too, was moved toward that dining room door, and was standing there with that same expectant look I had observed on the preceding assembly. At last the door was opened and a satisfied and victorious looking set filed out, and then those ahead of me went in, and just as I felt that my humiliation was ended, I discovered it had but just begun, for when the door was shut, I was on the wrong side of it! Left to "Hold the Fort" until that throng, too, was satisfied. Well, as I am a church member I would not like to tell you what I thought just then, but I sympathized, as I never did before, with the man Lazarus, who

waited for the crumbs at the gate, while the rich man deliberately ate his dinner, and mentally I was down on all fours begging par-

don of the ladies I had so cruelly misjudged. I felt small and flat—yes, flatness is a good word, but is hardly flat enough to express my feelings in a supposed "struggle for bread"—and my experience brought me to have the highest respect and sympathy for those who, against their wishes, tastes and judgments, were crowded against that or any other dining room door.

I rejoice that you, nor any member of the club, will never have to pass such an ordeal, as I have understood that in Des Moines the good old fashion of inviting to refreshments, has not been displaced by the independent forward movement, now in vogue in many places.

Again thanking you for your kind remembrances, I remain as ever, Your friend,  
MELISSA OLD FOGY, from Away Back.  
To Mrs. M. M. Day, 1305 Ninth street, Des Moines.

## THE AUTHORS' CARNIVAL.

It Is Under the Management and Control  
of the Ladies of the Des Moines

Women's Club.

### A COMPLETE CAST OF THE CHARACTERS

And a Full Programme of the Carnival  
as it is to be Presented.

The air is full of talk about the carnival. The exposition building has yielded up its festoons of cobwebs under the magic influence of the broom and brush, the carpenter has erected nearly a score of booths, the decorators are busy as so many bees, and everything promises a week of unbounded pleasure during the reign of King Carnival.

Each evening there will be an hour's platform programme, tableaux, music, comic scenes, etc. Mrs. Stewart Goodrell will have charge of the presentation of Irish literature and has chosen to give "The Rivals" with a dramatis personae as follows:

Ireland, Mrs. W. L. Read; Sheridan, Edgar Lewis; Bob Acres, Stewart Goodrell; Sir Lucius O'Tigger, Judge Thos. Burke; Sir Anthony Absolute, Thos. Cheshire; Captain Absolute, Lou Burnett; Falkland, Mr. Crosby; Davy, Fred Walker; Mrs. Malaprop, Mrs. Frank Green; Lydia Languish, Miss Bertha Gilerest; Julia, Miss Jennie Osborne; Lucy, Miss Kittie Ives; Thomas Moore will be represented by George Burnett; Minstrel, Miss Ada Witmer; Goldsmith will be seen in the person of Thos. Cheshire; Dr. Primrose, vicar of Wakefield, P. D. Ankeny; Mrs. Primrose, Mrs. Edgar Lewis; Olivia, Miss Ouse Ankeny; Sophia, Miss Fannie Jones; Miss Wilmot, Miss Jennie Osborne; Mrs. Flamborough, Miss Kittie Ives; George Primrose, Lou Burnett; Moses Primrose, Fred Walker; Sir William Thornhill, Judge Thomas Burke; Squire Thornhill, Mr. Crosby.

Finale—Ireland, Mrs. W. L. Read; England, Miss Jessie Kyle; America, Mrs. Stewart Goodrell; Minstrel, Miss Ada Witmer.

A wonderful Japanese curio shop will be one of the attractions under the graceful supervision of Mrs. Lowry Goode and Mrs. Frank Vorse, and with the following persons in costume:

Messrs. Frank Vorse, Nelson Royal, Walter Paul, Mesdames Frank Vorse, Lowry Goode, Russell George, Misses Josie Culver, Lucy Percival, Helen Percival, Margaret Christy, Helen Johns, Ruth Vorse, also the Masters Cyrus Hillis and Goode and the little Misses Ellen Hillis and Marion Goode.

Matsumura (Daimio), Mr. Frank Vorse; Senzaburo Kodzu (Merchant), Mr. Nelson Royal; Mow (The Jirrikshaw Man), Mr. Walter Paul.

Those lovely and charming Japanese ladies, O-hanna-san, O-kin-san O-ko-san and O-kane-san have kindly consented to serve tea in their own quaint fashion at 5 cents per cup. Parties wishing Chinese nuts and sweetmeats and genuine Japanese flower sparkles—direct from Japan—can obtain them of Senzaburo Kodzu, at the curio shop.

There will be plenty of fun in the "Old Curiosity Shop," which Charles Dickens so graphically pictured. This booth has been entrusted to Mesdames Day and Lehman.

Following are the characters: Little Nell, Hattie Wright; Quilp, John Boggs; Mrs. Quilp, Agnes Holbrook; Quilp's boy, John



# A BRAVE BAND.

The Strong and True Women  
Who Were Pioneers in  
Iowa.

Their Noble Work During the  
Dark Days of the  
Nov 21, Rebellion. 1888.

Interesting Essays Read Before  
the Des Moines Women's  
Club.

Two admirable papers were read before the Women's club Wednesday, the first being by Mrs. Judge Wright on the subject of "Pioneer Women", the second by Mrs. J. H. McCord, on "Iowa Women during the Rebellion". Mrs. Wright's paper was a recital of some of the interesting incidents attending the removal of her family from Rhode Island to Iowa away back in the summer of '39, these incidents being shown as a representative picture of the time. It was in 1839, said the writer, that the young men and middle aged, stimulated by adventure, and with the hope of bettering their condition by growing up with a new country formulated the project of going westward. West of the Mississippi seemed to the then untraveled people, much farther away than what had been the goal hitherto, namely the states of Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. The parents were nothing loth because it seemed best for the adventurous sons and families must not be separated. The boys needed the experience and advice of the elders. It was the family collectively who accomplished whatever was undertaken, nothing being done by either sex alone, the work, energy and patience of both sexes being blended. In a simple agricultural life, where all are equal in the toil, where compensation comes to each in his line; where there is reciprocal endeavor, a kindlier feeling and deeper friendship obtain than when independence crowns successful effort. We try hard to gain wealth, fame, royal living, a palace for a home and succeed only to be bowed with unnecessary care and fear of loss.

The exodus from Rhode Island was by a quiet, sober Quaker people who were satisfied with "well enough." The "good byes" were said and faces set westward. A long period was lived over in those few weeks of preparation and leave-taking, for all had to be taken along in memory and spirit. Women and girls did not know their powers of accomplishing till then, nor in the present do our sex estimate their capacities, nor can they in easy inaction. Movers carried tents for night time or slept in wagons, and from their stores made their frugal meals. Emigration was the fashion then, and to refuse shelter or accommodation put one outside the pale of humanity. Sometimes a rest was taken with an old acquaintance en route. Travel soon ceased to be heard. There were beautiful scenes and views by the way, kind people, some of whom afterwards followed on to Iowa. That portion of Michigan watered by the Maumee was a swamp of two days traveling extent, with thirty miles of "corduroy" road. Chicago was a village, low and uninviting. Across Illinois was an unending prairie with few houses. And what a joy to look upon the Mississippi.

At the end of the long journey women as well as men, commenced to work to bring into realization the old or better conditions. Families lived out doors till a cabin could be erected, floor laid, chinking done, bed rooms were arranged in tiers like Pullman berths, three tiers instead of two. Temporary schools were organized and the daughters taught. The household apparel was prepared from the sheep's back to the finished garment. Fruit nurseries, bee-culture, gardening were engaged in. Indians were no rarity, but they were friendly because over-awed. The expense of correspondence was too great for many letters. In those days of simple pioneer life women probably did more for the shaping and strengthening of family character than now, when so much time and attention are given to refined thought, culture, works of art, embellishment and music. We have exchanged the "do and dare" for "will and can." Our mothers braved the elements for love of the family, brought beauty out of rude nature, taught bravery and loyalty as godly virtues. All honor then to our pioneer mothers, whose memory will ever remain engraven on sons' and daughters' hearts.

Mrs. McCord's paper was really more comprehensive than its title of "Iowa Women." During the Rebellion would suggest, but lack of space makes it necessary to confine the review of it to the portion relating to Iowa, though it was of absorbing interest throughout.

Mrs. Harlan, wife of James Harlan, then United States senator, was one of the first women of this country of high social position, who personally visited the army and ministered to the wants of the suffering soldiery. She visited the army at Pittsburg landing and thousands of men are alive to-day who but for her visits to the field of Shiloh and for her energy in outranking Halleck, might have been rudely buried on that bloody field. She had but recently buried her lovely daughter, Jessie Freemont Harlan, and it seemed that she bestowed all her motherly affection upon the wounded boys. She at first devoted her energies to caring for the volunteers from our own state, but afterward gave time and labor for the general cause, for the good of which she braved many sneers of officers, storms of ocean and many journeys to the army, but lived to see her efforts crowned with success. In many of her visits to the army, Mrs. Harlan was accompanied by Mrs. Joseph T. Fales, wife of Iowa's first state auditor, himself an earnest patriot of the democratic party. It is said Mrs. Fales was the first woman in the United States to visit the camps and minister to the wants of the sick. She has worked in behalf of the blacks since the war.

Mrs. Anne Wittenmeyer (who during the early part of the war was widely known as the state sanitary agent of Iowa and afterwards as the originator of the diet kitchens which, being attached to the hospitals, proved to be of so much value to the medical department as an assistant to the treatment) was at the outbreak of the rebellion residing in quiet seclusion at Keokuk. Her patriotism aroused at the first word of treason to her loved country, she determined to put aside her favorite intellectual pursuits and do whatever she could to aid the government in the care of sick and wounded. The rumors which came to us early in 1861 of the suffering of soldiers who had gone from healthy northern homes to encounter miasma and unwholesome exhalations of more southern regions, as well as the pain of badly dressed wounds, began to thrill the hearts that had sadly, though willingly sent them forth in their country's defense. Mrs. Wittenmeyer saw her field of usefulness. Her first work was to write letters to each town in Iowa urging the organization of aid societies and

Gough; Mrs. Quill's mother, Mrs. J. H. Hume; Nellie Stark; Sally Brass; Mrs. J. C. Hume; Dick Swivelier; Woods Hutchinson; the Marchioness; Edith Robertson Campbell; Mrs. Jarley; Mrs. Day.

There will also be a collection of wax works. Prince of Wales will be represented by D. B. Lyon. Sally Gamp, Betsy Prig and many other familiar characters will be seen.

An authors' carnival would be incomplete without a Shakespeare booth and Mrs. J. H. Windsor will see that that fanciful creation, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be indeed one of unsurpassed beauty. Those taking part are: Theseus, Duke of Athens, W. Dickerson; Egeus, father to Hermia, John Garver; Lysander and Demetrius, in love with Hermia, Homer D. Cope and Albert G. Maish; Bottom, a weaver, Joe Christy; Hippolyta, queen of the Amazons, Mrs. Keith; Hermia, daughter of Theseus, in love with Lysander, Mrs. John Trepanier; Helena, in love with Demetrius, Mrs. Geo. Lendrum; Oberon, king of the fairies, Master Frank Getchell; Titania, queen of the fairies, Susie Knight; Puck, Ira Patchin; fairies attending king and queen, Miss Irene Mansfield, Miss Daisy Brower, Miss Florence Kidd, Miss Birdie Rawson, Miss Helen Knight, Baby Kurtz; Mortal Boy, causing trouble between king and queen, Philip Patchin.

The children will be wild to see Mother Goose and well they may be. Here are the names of the characters:

Mother Goose, Mrs. Tac. Hussey; Mary Quite Contrary, Miss Alice Lyman; Red Riding Hood, Miss Lizzie Lyman; Little Bo-Peep, Miss Bessie Jelley; Jack and Gill, Miss Jennie Lendrum and Mr. Harry Phillips; Tom, the Piper's Son, Mr. Fred Pattee; King of Sixpence, Mr. Abe Weaver; Queen of Sixpence, Miss Edna Kidd; When I was a Bachelor, Miss Florence Stout, Mr. F. Sheldon; Simple Simon, Mr. Emory Kennedy; Little Miss Muffet, Miss Laura Weaver; Sleeping Beauty, Miss Alice Marquis; Prince, Mr. Jed Sperry; What Is Your Fortune, Miss Louise Redfield; Mr. Ed. Beeson; Jack Horner, Mr. Will Clavek; Queen of Hearts, Miss Laura Bussey; Knave, Mr. James Day.

A well-known Scandinavian classic (Fridthjof Saga) is to be an interesting feature. Mrs. D. E. Ruttkay superintending its presentation. Some of those taking part are Beie, King of Sogn, in Norway, A. H. Weber; Helge and Holfdam, his sons, C. McMeekin and C. Fleimken; Ingeborg, his daughter, Lora D. Ankeny; Bing, King of Bingle, in Norway, J. H. Simulfin; Angantye, ruler of Orkney Islands, priest of Baldu, L. Hutchison; Fridthjof, son of Thorstein, Jesse Stevenson; Ladies of Angantye's court, Laura George, Jennie Cookery and Ava Pickell.

Mrs. H. C. Potter and Mrs. F. M. Hubbell are in charge of the Arabian Nights, with the following cast: Sultan, Fennimore Cooper; Sultana, Bertha Clapp; Sinbad, the sailor, James B. Weaver, Jr.; Hinbad, Ward Case; Caliph, H. R. Persinger; Ali Baba, Walter Scott; Aladdin, Harry Prouty; Badroul Boudon (Aladdin's wife), Beulah Hubbell; Arzine, Edna Kidd; Scheherazade, Mrs. John Drake; Fatima, Nell McCord; Parli Barou, Mrs. James Weaver; Glathara, Mrs. Jennie Bowe; Zobeide, Mary Farquharson; maids, Emily Foote, Bazelle Hatch, Bertha Clarkson, May Kidd, Zoe Hammond.

Of course there will be Indians, swarthy braves and maidens. "Hiawatha" is the book chosen by Mrs. J. K. Macomber and the characters are: Nokomis, Mrs. Galbraith; Minnehaha, Miss Ayers; Hiawatha, F. Y. Locke; Kwasind, Howard Lucas; Osseo, F. H. Hunt; Oweence, Miss Bayliss; Chibiabos, F. H. Liddle; Wenonah, Miss Ankeny; Onaway, Miss Winfred Lucas; Wosa, Miss Minnie Newcomb; Wabena, Miss Clarke.

No one has worked more faithfully for the success of the entertainment than has Mrs. Dr. Patchin, whose booth will be the scene of knight errantry, enchantments, quarrels, battles, etc. The cast in Don Quixote is:

Don Quixote de la Mancha, Dr. Polasky; Sancho Panza, O. E. Shannon; Master Nicholas, the barber, E. W. Carrington; Dr. Perez, the priest, W. H. McHenry; The Inn Keeper, G. F. Sellock; The Duchess, Dr. Jessie M. Ritchey; The Housekeeper, Miss Margaret McLoney; Don Quixote's niece, Miss Norma Lake; Lucinda, Mrs. F. S. Fracker; village maidens, Miss Halla Vernon, Miss Ives Gillette; Dulcinea, Mrs. E. W. Carrington.

Mrs. Harry West has selected ladies and gentlemen as follows to present "Pickwick Papers":

Mr. Pickwick, Frank Sherman; Mr. Trupman, H. S. Chase; Mr. Winkle, Walter McCann; Mr. Snodgrass, Kenneth Witmer; Mr. Stiggins, Albert Gross; Mr. Weller, Sr., P. J. Mills; Sam Weller, Carroll Wright; Joe, the fat boy, Fred M. McCartney; Mrs. Bardell's Boy, Raymond Windsor; Mrs. Bardell, Mrs. Norman Lighty; Mrs. Weller, Mrs. Jno.

Wright; Miss Rachel Wardle, maiden aunt, Mrs. Maude Polk; Miss Emily Wardle, Miss Isabelle Wardle, nieces, Mrs. Geo. B. Hippee and Mrs. H. S. Chase; Mary, the housemaid, Mrs. Carroll Wright.

Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women" is under Mrs. L. F. Andrews's management, the characters being:

Tennyson, Mr. J. M. Ross; Helen of Troy, Miss Nora Barnard; Iphigenia, Mrs. Wm. Coleman; Cleopatra, Miss Susie Porter; Jephtha's Daughter, Miss Harriet Gibbs; Fair Rosamond, Miss Mabel Lucas; Eleanor, Queen of Henry III, Mrs. Glen Lewis; Margaret More, Mrs. J. C. Barnard; Joan of Arc, Mrs. E. H. Kerr; Eleanor, Queen of Edward I of England, Mrs. Jessie Bacon; Potter of Philadelphia; The Lady of Shalott, Mrs. H. A. Searles.

The romantic story of Guy Mannering will be told by the following persons who are under the leadership of Mrs. W. H. Bailly:

Guy Mannering, J. A. Jackson; Godfrey

Bertram, A. S. Wilcoxon; Dominie Sampson, J. B. Johnson; Charles Hazlewood, Mr. McKee; Harry Bertram, Henry Mennig; Glossin, Mack Galusha; Dandie Dinmont, A. S. Wilcoxon; Dick Hatteraick, C. W. Mennig and H. H. Lantz; Meg Merrilies, Miss Mary Newman; Mrs. McCandlish, Mrs. E. E. Hughes; Julia Mannering, Miss Fanny Ames; Lucy Bertram, Miss Louise Bailly.

Gypsies—Mrs. Mennig, Misses Gertie Kennedy, Carrie Kennedy, Helen Allabach, Edna Keeler. — Lyman, Fannie Bailly, Bertie Patchin, Robert Bailly and others. Bona fide fortune teller. Tableaux, interspersed with Scotch songs by Master Robert Turner.

Mar 2 1892

Mrs. H. C. Alverson's residence on Fourth street was thrown open Wednesday for the entertainment of the Woman's Club. The program for the afternoon was opened with current topics. Mrs. F. A. Percival, as chairman of the committee, gave a short talk on "Bon Marche" and "Boulevard" and was followed by Miss Rachael Clark in a comprehensive review of current events. The regular program for the afternoon was in charge of Mrs. Wyman, chairman of the literature committee. She introduced Mrs. Durely, who read the paper of the afternoon on "Louise Alcott," prepared by Mrs. J. G. Berryhill. Few papers heretofore presented to the club have been given such a reception as that accorded to hers on Wednesday. Written in a forcible and elegant style, the diction was at all times smooth and easy. Yet the peculiar charm of the writer, her sympathy and insight into the life of the gifted author, made itself felt and had a wonderful effect upon the audience, moving many of them to tears. Mrs. Berryhill, though wintering in the south, seemed to be present, for so thorough and complete were all her arrangements for the afternoon, the program being in her charge. In her beautiful sketch of Miss Alcott the chief enjoyment of the afternoon was found, though much pleasure was taken in the poems following it, several of them being also selected by Mrs. Berryhill. The one, "To My Mother," was effectively read by Mrs. Addie Billington. Mrs. W. W. Witmer followed her in that charming piece of humor, "The Gray Goose," written by Miss Alcott while in Switzerland, and wherein she likens herself to the gray goose that laid the golden egg. Mrs. Gillette read an ode written "To Thoreau." The members of the club were profuse in their thanks to Mrs. Alverson for so kind and entertaining them and to Mrs. Berryhill for preparing such an enjoyable program.

The formal opening of the new Y. M. C. A. building on Saturday next is an event of so much importance to the Women's club of the city that the ladies of that organization will do all in their power to assist in its celebration. This room will be open on Saturday, the entire membership, it is hoped, will be present, at least during the afternoon of that day, and light refreshments will be served to visitors to the rooms from two till six o'clock. The fact that the elevator is not yet in will stand in the way of any elaborate decoration of the rooms, yet an effort will be made in that direction. The reception is in the hands of the directors of the club, though Mesdames Hillis and Berryhill have been appointed a special committee of arrangements, while Mesdames Lewis and Hussey are to look after the decorations. It is expected that there will be a large number of visitors.



commence systematically the work of supplying the imperative needs of the soldiery. These appeals had not long to wait, for from every home almost some loved one had gone. Organizations were effected all over the state and supplies began to pour into the Keokuk Aid society with which she was connected. Mrs. Wittenmeyer went herself to the field to distribute these supplies. Thus her work had its beginning and from that until the close of the war she gave herself no rest, being continually employed in some department of labor for the soldiers. She distributed a total of \$20,564. In about two years and a half she received and distributed more than \$126,000,000 worth of goods and sanitary stores contributed for the suffering soldiers. But while laboring so constantly in the army she did not forget the needs of the destitute at home. In October 1863, 128 ladies met in convention, called by the Soldier's Aid societies, and held at Muscatine. Mrs. Wittenmeyer secured there the association of names in the incorporation of which was the key to the rise and progress of the great work which resulted in the establishment of the Iowa Soldier's Home, an institution of which Iowa is justly proud to-day and which is bestowing bountiful care upon hundreds of children. While laboring in the hospitals of Chattanooga during the winter of 1863-4, Mrs. Wittenmeyer matured her long cherished plan for supplying food for the lowest class of hospital patients, and this led to the establishment of the diet kitchens. Believing her idea could be better carried out by the Christian commission than under any other auspices, she soon after resigned her position as state agent and became connected with that organization. The following stories were told at a soldiers' meeting a few evenings since:

After the battle of Lookout mountain the wounded were placed in rows upon the ground in the valley below and covered with tents. During the night a severe storm arose, leveling the tents, which, of course, fell upon the wounded men. After they were removed, Mrs. Wittenmeyer began at one end of the long row to clothe the feet of the suffering soldiers with good, warm, home knit socks. The row was long but the pile of socks was large, and they lasted until she reached the two last, who were Irishmen, when she had only one pair left. She looked at them and you can imagine something of her feelings. Every one had a pair, and if she clothed one of these poor fellows the other would be left alone, bare-footed, bleeding and weary, the only one in that long row without the thoughtful care. What was she to do? Her heart bled within her as she consulted with a bystander. The two men hearing her, one of them said, "Indade, maam, and there's two of us with only one leg apiece. Sure enough upon turning back the cover 'twas found that each had a leg shot off. She joyfully clothed the remaining feet after which one said, "And may ye be in heaven sax months before the devil knows ye r dead.

The noble and self sacrificing work of Mrs. M. E. Woods of Fairfield, was then spoken of at length. She went again and again to the field and under her supervision an incredible amount of work was accomplished.

It is an old saying that "Blessings brighten as they take their flight", and perhaps if Aunt Becky had stayed with us she or her history would not have been so longingly sought for. But she has gone, and California will appreciate her no more than we until it wants a paper on Iowa women's work during the war. Mrs. Sarah A. Palmer, known to us as Aunt Becky Young, went from Ithica, New York a short time after the 109th regiment had been in the field. In

that regiment her brothers had gone, and she, believing it to be a woman's work to cheer, to nurse, to care for the suffering, said where they go I will be there to care for the sick and wounded.

Miss Mellina Elliott of northern Iowa was one of the brave women who responded to the call and the summer of 1862 found her in the hospitals of Tennessee, where she was untiring in her efforts to relieve the suffering of the soldiers.

Mrs. McCord stated that she had been able to name but a very few of the many Iowa women who worked unremittingly during the war for the soldier's comfort and welfare, and the paper closed with a beautiful tribute not to these alone but to those equally noble ones who watched and suffered uncomplainingly at home.







## WHOSE HAND

Fashioned the Great Dramas So  
Long Attributed to William Shakespeare?

The Des Moines Women's Club  
Devotes an Afternoon to the  
Baconian Theory.

The Fourth Year of the Club Auspiciously Opened at Mrs.

Parsons's.  
Sept 27 1888.

After a vacation of three months, the members of the Women's club came together yesterday afternoon to enter upon their fourth year's work. All felt that it was a pleasure to be entertained on the opening day by the president of the club, Mrs. Galusha Parsons. Her greeting was cordial indeed as she ushered her guests into the cheery parlors where a bright open fire glowed and crackled and leaped up the broad chimney as if adding a warm welcome to all after their walk or drive in the somewhat chill autumnal air which had brought such roses to their cheeks. From the walls on every side great rows of books looked down as if in hearty approval or in pleased expectancy as it may be of what the day was to bring. For was it not to some extent, their day? Who so interested as they in that old, vexed question which had bothered so many wise heads? It was to be known at last, whether they were to do homage to the Warwickshire bard, who had long been so self-assertive among them and who did not hesitate to claim the highest shelf, or whether, after all, Lord Bacon was the real chief and Shakespeare a mere usurper of another's honors all these years. In the club, which now numbers over sixty, there were but few absences, all evidently glad to reassemble, while in addition there were several guests, among whom were Mrs. Watkins, of Clinton, who is visiting Mrs. Superintendent Sabin; Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Cooper, who accompanied her daughter, Mrs. F. M. Hubbell; Miss Beecher, Miss Florence Gillette, Miss Nichols, Mrs. Miller, state librarian, and the Misses Yeomans, recently from England.

When one reflects that books and pamphlets concerning Shakespeare to the number of 10,000 have been written and read with avidity for the most part it is not strange that the question of the real authorship of the plays, once fully agitated, should be of unspeakable interest to every lover of letters.

The exercises of the afternoon opened with the announcement by the president that as this was an age of illustrations, it had been thought well to present some impersonations of certain characters of Shakespeare or Bacon. The first was a scene from "As You Like It," in which Miss Gillette appeared as Rosalind, her costume being a rich golden brown, heavily braided, with full white silk sleeves and vest; and Miss Nichols of Hartford as Celia, wearing a quaint gown of goblin blue. They recited portions of the play with much expression.

Next appeared Mrs. Dr. Potter, in stately robe of black, bordered with snowy ermine, sable-spotted. Her flowing hair fell from a crown of gold and the good queen Constance was proclaimed in the sad accents:

"I am not mad, this hair I tear is mine; Young Arthur is my son and he is lost: I am not mad, I would to heaven I were; for then, 'tis like I should forget myself; O! if I could, what grief should I forget."

The character was admirably taken, as was also that of "Portia" by Mrs. Isaac Hillis, she reciting the well known lines, "The quality of mercy is not strained, etc." Her flowing robe and cap of black added to the learned look of the fair judge. The impersonations were concluded by the presentation of "Imogene" by Mrs. E. H. Gillette, whose interpretation was excellent. She was appropriately dressed in a princess robe of pink, with an abundant garniture of lace.

The president's address was then given, it being a thoughtful presentation of the arguments favoring the Baconian side of the well known Shakespeare-Bacon controversy. A brief synopsis of the paper follows:

There is no name in which the whole English speaking population of the globe take such pride as in the name of Shakespeare. To suggest then, that the laurels which have been twined around his brow do not belong there is a shock to our faith very much like that experienced by the child when he learns that his dearly beloved Santa Claus is a myth. He almost expects to see the stocking with its contents of sweets and toys also disappear, and we seem to imagine that if Shakespeare is a fraud, "The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces, the solemn temples, the great globe itself" evoked by the sorcerer's wand "will dissolve and leave not a rock behind."

But there is a faith, essential to the progress of the human race,—a faith that without patient and persevering labor no great results ever have been or ever will be attained, and this faith has always received a rude shock when we have been required to believe that those rich mines of wisdom and philosophy in which the wisest thinkers find new gems the deeper they delve, were found in the uncultured brain of Shakespeare, whom Voltaire called "a drunken savage" and Pope a man of no education.

It is admitted that the man who wrote the plays must have possessed not alone the knowledge obtained by observation and reflections, but that he must have been thoroughly acquainted with both ancient and modern books as well as with many languages. The latest English dictionary proves that the words now in common use were invented by the man who wrote the plays and all their words are in the first letter of the alphabet so near the beginning that the last word is "air," so that there will be no less than five thousand words, two thirds of which are of classical origin. What a discrepancy between such learning and that of Shakespeare who, according to Ben Jonson, "knew small Latin and less Greek."

Mrs. Parsons said that she had for years believed that the immortal dramas could only have been conceived by that mind which "took all knowledge for its province." An interesting account of the manner in which Mrs. Potts, an English woman, came to believe that Bacon was the author of the plays, was given. She was a busy woman with the care of a large family, yet she found time for the careful study of Bacon which revealed to her striking resemblances of thought between passages there and in Shakespeare. Finally, after an extended comparison of passages, she reached the firm belief that Bacon wrote all the plays himself. A great range of subjects was taken up, she writing side by side what the two authors said, making about three thousand headings, illustrated by thirty thousand passages, all of which proved most convincing to her.

The Promus, preserved in the British museum, is a manuscript in Bacon's hand-writing, containing 1,655 different memoranda consisting of poems of expression, proverbs, etc., and the object of the book which Mrs. Potts published was to show that, while hundreds of these entries bore no fruit in Bacon's acknowledged works, they reappear in Shakespeare.

It was argued further that Shakespeare sprang from an illiterate family; that he is supposed to have left school at the age of 14, though there is no proof that he was ever in school a day; that he gave his daughter Judith no education; that when he fled from Stratford to London at the age of 20 we may be sure he had never seen more than a half dozen books in his life; and that in the face of all this, it is impossible to believe that in a short space of time after his arrival in London he had produced those wonderful and cultured plays and even brought with him from Stratford Venus and Adonis, so scholastic and philosophical. It could hardly be believed that the man who created Portia, Imogene and Cordelia, the man who said "Ignorance is the curse of God," the wisest philosopher, the deepest thinker, the greatest poet the world ever produced, could have allowed his daughter to be thus cursed. The life of Francis Bacon was cited as showing none of these incongruities. He was a scholar and from a family of scholars, and as a mere child was interested in investigating the laws of sound and in his twelfth year was meditating upon the laws of the imagination. Born in a palace and reared in luxury and splendor, he had most extravagant tastes, and could not get from the law enough for his needs, having some concealed source of revenue. Play-going was the chief intellectual recreation for both high and low in the days of Queen Elizabeth and the needy and talented young lawyer turned his hand to play-writing as he does now to journalism. The Comedy of errors made its first appearance at an entertainment given by the students of Grey's Inn, Bacon's law school. In parliament at the age of 33, he was a remarkable orator. The vocation of the dramatic actor was so entirely disreputable as to render necessary the concealment of the authorship of the plays.

The Great Cryptogram of Ignatius Donnelly was briefly reviewed, as proving conclusively that Bacon and the author of the plays are identical, thinking the same thoughts, using the same language, metaphors, quotations and pursuing the same studies. Shakespeare wrote a group of historical plays from Richard the Second to Henry the Eighth with only one break, and Bacon filled that break. They had even identical errors. There is not a simple allusion in the plays to Stratford, but St. Albans, Bacon's home, is often referred to. If the cipher, which Donnelly claims to have discovered and has partially worked out, is a fact, the argument is unnecessary, but it is still a matter of great literary interest. He believes that Shakespeare was aware of the cipher and that that was the reason for the curious lines on his tombstone, invoking a curse upon any who moved his bones.

Shakespeare willed his second best bed to his wife but made no mention of any literary possessions, while Bacon arranged for the preservation of his works.

It was a matter of regret that Mrs. Whiting Clark, who was to have led the discussion on the other side, was called out of the city at the last moment. Among those who presented the opposing arguments was Miss Rachael Clarke, who showed where she stood by the opening remark that she would about as lief doubt the divinity of Christ as the fact that Shakespeare was the author of

the plays. As to the matter of Shakespeare's will, it was not at all strange that a bedstead was of sufficient importance to call forth a mention as they were very rare in Elizabeth's time; and as to Shakespeare's epitaph it was not original there, as similar lines had been on very old German tombs. Shakespeare abounded in fancy, was full of soul, while Bacon was a cool philosopher, devoted to a scientific researches.

Mrs. Ruttkay spoke at some length, arguing that the plays in their crude state, as they came from the hands of the writer, were far from the polished productions they now are and they were not what the aristocratic Bacon would have written. Shakespeare possessed genius, which in all ages and times rose above mere scholarship.

Mrs. Patchin told of the efforts of Della Bacon in trying to settle the question of the authorship in favor of her own ancestor, and how she finally ended her days in a hospital for the insane.

Miss Rose Ankeny thought that if Shakespeare's mind had been moulded in the purely conventional forms, he probably could never have written as he did and that it was easier to conceive how Shakespeare, the man who was associated with common people, could have written the plays than that Bacon, reared as he was, could have gained so much familiarity with common people and things.

The question was further discussed by Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Gillette, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Potter and others. It was urged that Ben Jonson, who knew both Shakespeare and Bacon well, would have had some knowledge of it if the former were not the real author. He wrote in the highest praise of the man Shakespeare.

At the close of the very interesting discussion, the ladies were invited out to the dining-room and seated at tables where an elegant repast was served. At each plate were cards upon which were quotations from the two authors under controversy, the selections being such as brought in much the same expressions, as "I should not be earnest to see the evening of my age, that extremity of itself being a disease and a mere return unto infancy," and "In me thou seest

the twilight of such day, as after sunset fadeth in the west, which by and by black night doth take away"; "O Heaven! a beast that wants discourse of reason would have mourned longer" and "true fortitude is not given to man by nature but must grow out of discipline of reason"; "So our virtues lie in the interpretation of the times," and "The times, in many cases give great light to true interpretation."

The adieux were spoken amid many expressions of pleasure at the auspicious opening of a new year.



# POTTERY

The Theme Discussed by the Ladies at Their Club Meeting.

Papers Contributed by Mrs. Isaac L. Hillis and Mrs. Gaylord.

Oct. 10. 1888.

Numerous Rare Specimens of the Ceramic Art on Exhibition.

Yesterday occurred the second meeting of the Women's club and a special interest centered in it because the club was to occupy for the first time the handsome club rooms of the Savory house, which have been chosen as a home until some permanent quarters can be arranged for. Large and airy, with convenient cloak rooms and possessing a general air of cosiness contributed by a cheerful grate fire and warmly colored hangings, the ladies, one and all, expressed themselves as well pleased with their new home. As the members arrived, many were seen to carry mysterious packages, carefully done up, which they deposited on the large table in the center of the room, and which upon being opened called forth many exclamations of delight, for there were revealed innumerable pieces of rare and exquisite porcelain, brought thither to illustrate the paper of the day which were by Mrs. Gaylord and Mrs. Isaac Hillis. Preceding the regular programme was a meeting of the board of directors at which the following persons were elected members: Mrs. J. J. Town, Mrs. E. H. Capper, Mrs. Charles E. Risser, Mrs. Harriet Merrill Craig, Misses H. Emily Beecher, Florence Gillette and Mary Nichols. The regular session of the club opened with a report of the committee on current topics in charge of Mrs. Lieutenant-Governor Hull. This committee is a new feature of the club, its purpose being to compass a brief discussion of the questions of the day.

It is by no means an easy task to do justice to the paper read by Mrs. Hillis, for the reason that it was supplemented at every point by blackboard illustrations and by the showing of beautiful specimens of the ceramic art. Mrs. Hillis began by saying that it is impossible to tell when pottery was first made as specimens have been found in the tombs of prehistoric races, and every savage tribe makes its own peculiarly characteristic vessels of earthenware, which in many instances furnish history with its sole record of the deeds of political history and progress in the arts of the nation whose product it is. In the catacombs of Thebes drawings have been found proving that as early as 4,000 years B. C. the potter's art was understood, the clay was kneaded by the feet, worked at the wheel, baked in cylindrical oven and lastly painted. Egyptian and Etruscan pottery is traced to an early origin. Pottery in the broadest meaning includes everything made by baking in fire or furnace, into the composition of which clay enters. Objects made wholly or in part of clay and baked, which are opaque are called pottery; if translucent, porcelain. Pottery is of two kinds, soft and hard. Soft pottery is made of ordinary clay, a common house brick being the simplest example. Hard pottery is made by the

mixture of stone or sand with clay, as a fire brick. Soft pottery is usually divided into four classes: Unglazed, glazed, lustrous and enamelled. Hard pottery includes a large number of various wares made in modern times, known generally as stone ware.

The middle ages did not add anything to the progress of ceramic art, though Venice had long before the fifteenth century, achieved wonders in glass-making and other countries excelled in enamelling, especially Byzantium and Limoges. Luca della Robbia, a student of Leonardo, wearying of the unyielding marble, began modelling statues in plastic clay, his first works bearing the impress of a master hand. They were of whitish clay without glaze, but after repeated experiments he discovered an opaque, highly lustrous enamel which gave to clay forms the polish of glass and durability of marble. The transition from enamelled pottery to porcelain seems a simple one to us, who know its history, though probably no secret was ever guarded so tenaciously as was that of the composition of true porcelain.

The most beautiful enamelled pottery the world had ever seen was made at the old chateau of Oiron at the wish and often by the hands of the fair enthusiast, Helene de Hangest-Genlis. It has often been said that women are not inventors. Let those who make the charge remember that but for a woman we would have had no Faience of Oiron or Henry II ware. The decorations were in a novel style for pottery, for instead of painting they were inlaid work. She probably received suggestions from silver and metal vases, and the elaborate bindings of books, though no one has ever fancied that she copied anything. Her fancy work, unlike our modern etching on bolting cloth, is not only "a thing of beauty" but "a joy forever."

Porcelain is an intermediate substance between pottery and glass, more translucent than one, more opaque than the other. It is of Chinese origin, either before or at the beginning of the Christian era. One of the earliest potters was a Chinese girl, Chu Kian, whose vases sold for more than their weight in silver. In the fourteenth century the famous porcelain tower of Nan-kin was erected. Chinese porcelain was not fully brought into Europe until late in the sixteenth century, when Portuguese and Dutch traders first introduced it. The Chinese pretended it was made from egg shells, sea shells etc., mixed in given proportions and buried for one hundred years. The first European manufacture was at Meissen, near Dresden, at the beginning of the eighteenth century. An iron master in riding over his estate, found his horse's feet continually stuck fast in a perfectly white clay. It occurred to him to use this clay for hair powder, and in due time it was for sale in Dresden, and a quantity of it was purchased by the valet of Boettcher, whereupon the unusual weight of his wig attracted the latter's attention, and a portion of the powder went into his furnace, when to his joy he found the clay to be true Kaolin-Boettcher. The king purchased the estate and the clay was carried in sealed barrels, by deaf and dumb men, and all workmen were bound by solemn oaths on penalty of death and confined in fortresses which they were never allowed to leave. Everywhere were hung framed mottoes: "Be secret until death." The secret was preserved at Dresden until 1812 when Napoleon sent the director of Sevres to inspect the Saxon processes. In the Seven Years' war, Frederick the Great took Dresden and seized on the royal pottery, taking it to Berlin. Crossed swords with stars mark the Marcolini period 1745; the initials A. R. (Augustus Rex) from 1709-26.

Sevres porcelain originated at St. Cloud where a soft paste was discovered,

In 1735 a runaway carried the secret to Chantilly and in 1740 it was conveyed to Vincennes. Here again a woman was the potent influence to advance the art. Madame de Pompadour on receiving a visit from Louis XV led him into a conservatory filled with plants in full bloom, lilies, roses, pansies, etc. The king in attempting to pluck them discovered they were all of Vincennes porcelain, scented with essences. Louis took the establishment under royal protection.

Mrs. Hillis said she wished she could say a word in favor of amateur china painting, though much of it was bad. It was better to spend time in china decoration than in making Kensington table covers which are hideous nine times out of ten; or painting scrim or bolting cloth, than which nothing is more perishable. The simpler kinds of china decoration are not so difficult as one would imagine.

Before the reading of Mrs. Gaylord's paper, which was devoted chiefly to Chinese art, considerable time was spent in examining the beautiful specimens that had been collected from various sources. Mrs. Hillis, who probably possesses as valuable a collection of rare china as can be found in the west, had kindly furnished many pieces for exhibition, among which was a tea set of Sevres, also a set of jewels of the same, the ground, a clear azure, with exquisite figure paintings. There were five pieces of wedgwood, worcester ware, of both English and American manufacture, the latter quite as beautiful as the former, though selling for half the price because of the home name; a lovely Dresden medallion, with madonna and child, the property of Mrs. S. S. Hunting, some Mexican vases of the old Aztec ware, uncouth and ill-shaped in appearance, but interesting as a study of the early forms, as well as of the more modern Wadsworth ware, belonging to Mrs. H. C. Potter; Mexican drinking vessels of earthenware which Mrs. C. H. Gatch had collected while traveling in that country, and many other pieces showing excellent workmanship and appropriate and beautiful decorations. It was generally regretted that lack of time prevented that thorough study which the subject justified.

## POET AND CRITIC.

Two Aspects of Matthew Arnold's Work Discussed at the

Women's Club.

The Apostle of Sweetness and Light Criticised and Commended.

Oct. 24. 1888.

Not a Poet of the Highest Rank But a Fine Critic of Manners.

The Des Moines Women's club met yesterday at 3 o'clock at parlor I in the Savory house, under the auspices of the literary committee, the subject for the day being "Matthew Arnold, Poet and Critic". A number of the members of the Marshalltown woman's club were present, among them being Mrs. R. E. Sears and Mrs. Cady, who is to read a paper before the next woman's congress. It was decided at the adjourned business session that hereafter a two-thirds vote of those present at a regular meeting should be necessary to elect a member, and that three black balls should exclude from membership. Mrs. John-

ston as chairman of the committee on current topics introduced Mrs. Hubbard, who made a few remarks on the Russian question, including a short resume of Russian history. Mrs. McCord spoke at length on the Edison phonograph and the Chautauqua work. Mrs. Lehman, Mrs. Gillette, Mrs. Billington, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Rutkay and Mrs. Parsons took part in the discussion of the topic of the day, the regular fortnightly paper being read by Miss Rose B. Ankeny. The paper was as follows:

MATTHEW ARNOLD, POET AND CRITIC.

In reading the poems of Matthew Arnold, the conviction grows stronger and stronger that poets are born, not made; it is forced upon us, however unwillingly, that Matthew Arnold with all his power for self-improvement, his wonderful faculty for working up to a high standard by persevering industry, with all his classical taste and learning, has failed in his endeavor to make a poet of himself. The study of Greek models, a successful imitation of classical lyrics, a labored elegance of style cannot make up for the glad spontaneity, the light touch of a true poet; and a spirit of searching criticism cannot take the place of that strange prophetic power that makes the poet a seer. It seems as if Matthew Arnold, able to grasp some of the fine points of poetry, had from these formed a plan, a recipe you might call it, for making poetry; felt, that to be really complete he must write poetry, then set about writing some. But no amount of refining could hide the innate rough awkwardness of the man, who in his natural prosaicism painfully confuses the functions of prose and poetry. Tennyson has scholarly finish, but it is finish added to a poet nature, not taking its place. Milton is a grand poet, likewise Arnold's hero, Homer, but Arnold was certainly not a Milton nor a Homer; Shakespeare is a heart poet, a head poet, the world's poet; Arnold's intellect shut him off from broad sympathies; Moore and Hood are dainty, full of life, musical, pathetic, Byron musical too, passionate, grand, one of the finest, most spontaneous of poets, Longfellow, refined, broad-souled and wholesome; all these attributes Arnold felt and appreciated, but they were not natural to him and that is evident in his imitation of them. His prevailing idea seems to be, in common with many other people, that to be poetical one must be gloomy, take a despondent view of life, and this idea he follows up so closely that, if you will excuse the expression, I would call him "mentally bilious," positively, morbidly and unwholesomely "bilious." Go with me through the synopsis of a little poem entitled "Growing Old." I take it stanza by stanza: What is it to grow old? Is it to lose the glory of the form? Yes, it is this and more. Is it to feel our strength, not our bloom only, but our strength decay? Yes it is this and more. It is not to feel mellowed and softened, it is not to feel the prophetic power that comes from years of experience, as we imagine; it is to spend long days and not once feel that we were ever young, it is to add immured in the prison of the present month to month with weary pain, it is to suffer thus, dully, and feel no emotion, it is to freeze up within ourselves. Look at the fearful, inevitable hopelessness of this, and think what a misery it is to live! Look at the grand old people around you, and wonder what the advocate of culture and a high plane of living could have been thinking of to give this depressing picture to us, unless to be poetical is to be morbid! And this is supposed to be lyric, not dramatic. Listen, too, to the close of "Dover Beach":

"Ah love, let us be true  
To one another: for the world which seems  
To lie before us like a land of dreams,  
So various, so beautiful, so new,  
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor pain,  
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;  
And we are here as on a darkling plain,  
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and  
flight,  
Where ignorant armies clash by night."



These and many others of the like I read and allowing to poetic license any defective meter, I made this conclusion: If that belief in "the Eternal Power, not ourselves, that makes for righteousness" gives no more consolation than this, no more realization of what is bright and wholesome in this world; if it has only a depressing effect on people, then let them rest on content in their faith in the great "fairy tale". In most of his classic, dramatic efforts, Arnold reaches no sublime heights, and lacks even tact, spoiling many passages by an incongruous combination of ancient style and modern terms. His poem "Thyrsis" to a dead college friend would have seemed more heartfelt without the application of Greek names and forms to an English youth and Oxford scenes.

In "Sohrab and Rustum", which struck me as one of the finest of his poetical works, the one nearest genuine feeling, this strange combination of the ancient and modern was at times striking, but not disagreeably so; and the pathetic story of the warrior son, searching through his young years for his father, then killed by that father, the one unknown to the other, is well finished by a rather stately description of the river Oxus. To me, before I had read very

much of Matthew Arnold's writing either poetry or prose, his name always suggested the word "culture", and later on as I have read more, I have come to feel that this "culture" is one of his hobbies, and that perhaps he, with the common fault of more ordinary people, is apt to think that others are as interested in the subject as he is himself. In that part of "Culture and Anarchy" entitled "Sweetness and Light" he makes a plea for "culture" in the abstract, that culture which is a study of perfection, of which sweetness and light are characters, "sweetness" meaning beauty, and "light" intelligence. I do not think any one could say that the thought in "Sweetness and Light" is such as would touch the minds, the souls grovelling on the lower levels of human life and inspire them to better and higher living. For them it is too vague, treating of something of which they are ignorant; it lacks an element of practicality that would make it of value, and seems more like half fretful railings against a universal tendency toward commonness, an earnest plea for the higher reaches of life all by a man who evidently does not see what beauty there is in the world already, and speaks of culture as a purely intellectual improvement. He is lacking in sympathy, in magnetism, and leaves one discontented and with no visible means of being anything more than discontented. In the other part of "Culture and Anarchy," "Doing as One Likes," the true broad, critical nature of the man appears, and here it seems to me he has done some of his best writing. This is really a criticism on the English people and any American reading it must certainly feel that Matthew Arnold, if he is severe in his remarks on American civilization is not more tender with his own countrymen. Observe this picture of a young English aristocrat: "One has often wondered whether upon the whole earth there is anything so unintelligent, so unapt to perceive how the world is really going, as an ordinary young Englishman of our upper class. Ideas he has not, and neither has he that seriousness of our middle class which is as I have often said the great strength of this class, and which may become its salvation." It is in this essay that his well known classification of the English people appears. The middle class are his "Philistines," and this class "is to be conceived of as moving between its two cardinal points of our commercial M. P. and our fanatical dissenter." The aristocrats are his "Barbarians" ranging "between our chivalrous lord and our defiant baronet." All others

are the "Populace." Philistines, Barbarians, Populace! How Americans would have resented such a classification! In the following reference to an Englishman's notion of personal freedom, somewhat savoring of tyranny, Arnold is guilty of almost the only touch of humor I met with throughout my readings; a flash of sarcasm, a caustic but true criticism, smacking slightly of the style of Macaulay:

"In the first place it never was any part of our creed that the great right and blessedness of an Irishman or indeed of anybody on earth, except an Englishman, is to do as he likes; and we can have no scruple at all about abridging if necessary a non-Englishman's assertion of personal liberty. And then the difference between an Irish Fenian and an English rough is so immense and the case in dealing with a Fenian so much more clear. He is evidently desperate and dangerous, a man of a conquered race, a papist with an alien religion established in his country by us at his expense; with no admiration of our institutions, no love of our virtues, no talents for our business, no turn for our comfort. Show him our symbolical Truss Manufactory on the finest site in Europe and tell him that British industrialism and individualism can bring a man to that and he remains cold. Evidently if we deal tenderly with a sentimentalist like this it is out of pure philanthropy. But with the Hyde Park rioter how different, he is our own flesh and blood; he is a Protestant; he is framed by nature to do as we do, hate what we hate, love what we love, he is capable of feeling the symbolical force of the Truss Manufactory. The question of questions for him is a wages question."

The essay on "Civilization in the United States" is clear, straightforward, much better written than most of Arnold's prose and, with perhaps an exception regarding his half estimate of Lincoln is really just, especially his criticism on American newspapers and American boastfulness. In his religious works, Arnold's style is not particularly clear, is too disputatious; there is too much of a controversy with other writers to make it interesting to the reader. In much of his reasoning he comes up to a point which one disagreeing with his views would like to see him meet squarely and dispose of; but here he is sure to take a turn and answer some one who has written against him and leave the reader quite at sea again.

His religious views are stamped with inconsistencies that leave a doubt as to just what he does believe. He calls the story of Jesus and the miracles a "fairy tale," yet gives us in its stead an indefinite God who is an "Eternal power, not ourselves that makes for righteousness;" he says that "Christianity is the greatest and happiest stroke ever yet made for human perfection," and yet as a knight of "culture" of "perfection" does his best to neutralize and destroy this "stroke," and says that the episode upon which Christianity is founded "is not true; it never really happened."

He again writes that "many theologians have been very able men and their reasonings and deductions have been very close and subtle. Still they have had the defect of going seriously upon data produced and admitted with a want of intellectual seriousness, data furnished by a time of imperfect observation and boundless credulity." This he tells us, then expects us in all seriousness to reform our belief on data furnished by Arnold, who evidently seeks favor for his theories by presenting them under the cloak of a praise of Christianity. In "Literature and Dogma" his plea is for a literary interpretation of the scriptures rather than a dogmatical. The plan is about this: Matthew Arnold forms a certain idea of Christ and the Bible, then takes the scriptures and goes

over them glancing here and there with his own literary touch making them conform to his preconceived idea. As a poet, I cannot think that Arnold is entitled to any but an indifferent rank, as a scholar, a student his rank is high, as a critic of people and peoples he is for the most part far seeing, fearless and just, his style clear and forcible; as an expounder of religious views inconsistent,

## GIRLS.

Their Amusements and Occupations During School and College Years. *Nov. 7.*

An Interesting Talk On a Practical Subject By Mrs. L. T. Morrow. *Nov. 7.*

Various Topics of the Day As Considered By the Women's Club.

The regular meeting of the Women's club occurred yesterday afternoon, and though, owing to other entertainments and the general excitement of the day, the attendance was not so large as usual, yet the cosy club room was comfortably filled. A valuable feature which has been introduced this year is the discussion of Current Topics by a committee appointed to take charge of such subjects. Fifteen minutes or longer being devoted to their report. Under this head Mrs. J. H. McCord spoke of one or two late inventions and also of the increasing good of the Chautauqua work, which, though started by a Methodist clergyman, is altogether unsectarian in its character. Miss Rachael Clarke followed with a brief recital of that which was accomplished at the recent meeting of the Western Alumnae association at Chicago, one of the chief things before the organization this year being to effect a reconciliation with the eastern body of which this is an off-shoot. Much effective work was done in a quiet way in this direction. The association has succeeded also in raising funds for a college fellowship, which was won by Miss Street of Omaha, a young lady who has at times visited in Des Moines, she having presented a remarkably fine thesis on the life and works of George Eliot. Various recent achievements of women were spoken of by Mrs. E. E. Hubbard in a highly interesting manner. Mrs. Isaac Hillis said it had lately come to her knowledge that vivisection was practiced in a certain school in Des Moines, and she thought that it was time for parents who sought to bring up their children with tender feelings for every living creature and a respect for life no difference where it was found to raise their voices against it. She had been informed that a living snake had been taken before the class, fastened by the head and tail to the dissecting table by a spike or other pinion and the knife applied. The tortured creature had literally writhed its head off. Frogs had been treated in the same way and a little kitten was to be taken as a subject this week. A lively discussion was provoked, the ladies expressing themselves very strongly against such unnecessary cruelty, which would surely have a bad effect upon the young persons who were made to witness if not to participate in it. It was questioned whether the students were far enough advanced to derive any good from such investigations, and the opinion

very generally given that they should be confined to the specialist, who has reached mature years. Mrs. F. A. Percival gave some interesting points concerning the diary of the late Emperor Frederick and the present state of affairs in the German empire.

As chairman of the committee on education, Mrs. Frisbie then introduced Mrs. L. T. Morrow, who, in a talk of twenty minutes, succeeded in arousing a great deal of interest in the subject, "Amusements and Occupations of School Girls". She regarded the question as a very serious one. It was very evident to any close observer that young girls were being over-worked, whether it was from too much to do in school or from an excess of amusements out of school. As a rule, they were nervous, excitable, ready to cry at the least reproof, and when questioned it not infrequently was revealed that they had been out the night before until a late hour, that they had previously rushed home and studied till supper time in order to spend the evening out, that they had been roused in the morning before having sufficient sleep, had naturally had but little appetite for breakfast, and to use their own words to their teacher: "Why it just makes me shake when you speak to me." Of the 180 or 140 girls in the West Des Moines high school, it would be hard to find twenty robust girls. There was more demanded of girls than of boys, they had really no time for anything. They were constantly kept on a nervous strain. If girls are required to do the same amount of mental work as boys, then they should be given the same length of time for out-door recreation, and less should be required of them in the way of household duties, the making of their own clothes, fancy work in holiday times, the study of music and painting, or these pursuits should be confined to the vacation period. It would be better if girls were treated more as in other countries. In England and other countries they never go into society until school-days are entirely past. Such a thing is not thought of. The week before the holidays here, thirty per cent of the girls are absent usually in order to finish their presents, which they think must be done. There is excitement all the time. It is customary for the girls to entertain their friends of evenings, even girls of ten years of age do this. All this is highly injurious, if not pernicious in its influence, and interferes with any normal mental development.

A spirited discussion followed, led by Mrs. Frisbie and participated in by Miss Clarke, Mesdames James, Macomber, Edmundson, Getchell, Wyman, Andrews, Hillis and others. Different opinions were expressed as to how much should be required of girls in the way of household work in order to give them such a knowledge of domestic economy as would be of practical service to them in after years, some holding to the view that school should be such a business that nothing else should be allowed in the least to interfere with it, unless mothers were obliged to have the help of their daughters, arguing that the mental acumen acquired by study would easily carry them through when such a knowledge became indispensable; others expressing the view that their physical development demanded such exercise.

At the next meeting the club will be entertained by Mrs. F. M. Hubbell at Terrace Hill, the social committee to be in charge of the exercises.



# SOCIAL.

A Highly Enjoyable Afternoon  
Spent by the Women's Club at  
Terrace Hill.

Under the Auspices of the Social  
Committee Various Imperson-  
ations Were Given.

*Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> 1888*  
The Attractive Interior With Its  
Manifold Decorations Enjoyed  
to the Full.

It was the good fortune of the Des Moines Women's club to be entertained yesterday afternoon by Mrs. F. M. Hubbell at her hospitable home, Terrace Hill, while in addition there were bidden not less than a hundred ladies to meet the members of the club. If the fickle weather clerk, with all his whims and odd freaks had been liberally bribed, he could not have done better in the way of furnishing a perfect afternoon. The air was as balmy as that of September, the sun sent his mellow rays from a sky as serenely azure as was ever that of the Mediterranean and the very grass and flowers seemed to start into new life under influences so genial and encouraging. In order that they might "make a day of it", the hours of the reception were from 2 till 6, and no small emphasis was placed upon the matter of punctuality. Accordingly, as the hour of two approached, carriage after carriage rolled along the broad avenue and up the terraced drive which leads to the stately home. Within the house there was a rich glow of light, and a wealth of bright coloring which it is impossible to describe. From a myriad of jets the soft lights gleamed iridescent; great banks of chrysanthemums, many-colored and gorgeous, extended along the spacious halls and corridors, or gave place to huge vases of luxuriant tropical plants; rich tapestries brodered with gold and rare pictures adorned the walls, while the ladies in handsome toilets added, in no small degree, to the general effectiveness of the scene. Mrs. Hubbell received in an elegant tailor made suit of heavy white with diamond ornaments, and Mrs. Dr. Potter, who as chairman of the social committee with whom rested the afternoon's entertainment, assisted in receiving, wearing also a white robe of a soft, clinging fabric.

One of the charming features of the programme was that the part that each had was unknown save to herself, so that there was all along just enough of the unexpected to make it thoroughly enjoyable. Mrs. E. R. Clapp was the first to appear, her reading being a brief original description of the character she desired to personate. It was announced that she represented a civilization "which antedates by 700 years the founding of Rome by Romulus; by 1,000 years, the conquering of the world by Alexander; by 1,500 years the establishment of the empire of the Caesars; by 2,000 years the beginning of the Anglo Saxon civilization, and by 3,200 years the origin of the American Republic." After some irrelevant guesses, it was finally found that Mrs. Clapp was, for the time being—an Egyptian mummy. The next impersonation was that of Yasodhara, arrayed in black and gold, in Arnold's "Light of Asia", by Mrs. Durley, who

read an extract from that work. Mrs. Walter McCain read a beautiful anonymous poem; Miss Rachael Clarke, apropos of the recent discussion in the club of vivisection, read a gem from Browning on that subject; Mrs. Billington recited the following beautiful lines, which it was discovered a little later were original:

## WOMAN'S LIFE: A MOSAIC.

As when a skilful hand, with wondrous art,  
Bath wrought together piece by piece, so fine,  
No indentation shows where edges part,  
No seam nor scar betrays the blending line,  
An I soft, rich tint of color, trac'ry rare,  
A low harmony o'er all beyond compare;  
So motive, springing from a loving heart,  
Do balance and adjust the deeds which start  
From some pure woman's hidden life, and  
breathe  
Sweet impress upon all the lines that flow  
Through hours and days of patient toil, then  
wreath  
Swift into months and rounded years, and  
glow  
With radiance of good words and works,  
beneath  
Whose blinding impulse flowers of feeling  
grow.

Mrs. C. W. Johnston read "A Message to Women", written by Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, after which a humorous turn was given to the exercises by Mrs. W. S. Clark's reading a selection from Bob. Bardette, and Mrs. Harry West and Mrs. J. C. Macy in grotesque costume, giving, in a very animated way, a conversation between Mrs. Lecks and Mrs. Aleshine in the parlor in one of the hotels on their celebrated trip around the world, as told by Frank R. Stockton in his "Dusantes." This was greatly enjoyed, the two ladies taking the characters and entering into the spirit of it perfectly. Quotations were given by Mrs. Hillis, Mrs. Wyman, Mrs. Ruttkay and others, after which, with much naivete, Mrs. Potter reminded the ladies, in the language of Owen Meredith, that civilized women as well as men could "not live without dining," and the gathering became social. The remaining time was spent in social intercourse and in enjoying the lovely things including many works of art recently purchased in Europe with which the house is filled, and which all esteemed it a privilege to see and study at their leisure. Among the new pictures is an immense canvass showing the giving of the keys of Venice to Napoleon. The stately walls of the Doge's palace rise from the crystal waters of the Grand canal which is filled with the somber gondolas in which are throngs of people, eager to get near the palace. Filling the deep portico and crowding its steps are a number of the Doges themselves in robes of scarlet and ermine, one of whom is spokesman for the party. It is the work of a Roman artist and was purchased and brought from Rome this summer. It is worthy of a close study. There are also a number of less pretentious paintings among the recent collection that are quite as interesting, though in a different way. The portrait of a rabbi pouring over his books, or rather lost in study, his books temporarily closed, is excellent in point of expression, while among the lighter subjects, touched with marvelous grace and piquancy, is the presentation of a bride by a young groom to his parents—a French work, it is easy to see. It is in medallion form, on rare porcelain and delightfully pleasing. A French dinner party has much of the same charm.

Aside from the mere matter of partaking of the good things of life, it was a rare pleasure to be ushered into the dining room, where in relays the ladies were bountifully served. And what a profusion of flowers! A magnificent epergne of delicately fringed ferns, with exquisite roses and softly tinted geraniums occupied the center of the table at which Mrs. Ella Hammond and Miss Mamie Stewart gracefully presided, the one pouring coffee, the other chocolate, making a pretty homelike picture.

Despite the early hour of assembling, the afternoon was declared too short and it was not until the latest possible

moment that the reluctant goodbyes were said. To Mrs. Hubbell and the members of the social committee the club is indebted for one of the pleasantest meetings in the history of the society.

Among the out-of-town guests were Miss Edwards of Clinton; Miss Peck of Omaha; Mrs. Welker Given of Chicago; Miss Ankeny of Clinton and Mrs. B. C. Ward of Prairie City.

# A POET ANALYZED

Mrs. Isaac Hillis's Scholarly  
Paper on Browning at the  
Women's Club.  
*April 25<sup>th</sup> 1888.*

## POET, DRAMATIST AND THINKER.

An Interesting Sketch of the  
Man and Criticism of  
His Works.

Immediately following the meeting in this city of the Women's Congress of '85, a number of the resident ladies belonging to the National Society for the Advancement of Women conceived the idea of establishing here "an organized center of thought and action," which idea when formulated resulted in the Des Moines Women's club. This society has undergone the experiences incident to the beginning of such organizations, none so discouraging, however, but that the growth of the club has been continuous, and to-day when near the close of the third year's successful work the prospect is one altogether satisfactory. The club has become indeed a center of thought and its fortnightly meetings are looked forward to with the utmost pleasure not only because of their delightful social side but also because of the help there received in all that pertains to noble living. It is hoped that another year will see the club in a suitable home of its own, which may be fitted up so far as possible in accordance with the taste of the members. An effort will certainly be made in this direction before many months. Wednesday's meeting of the club was one of unusual interest, the exercises being in charge of the committee on literature. Mrs. E. H. Gillette, chairman of the committee, gracefully introduced Mrs. Isaac Hillis, who read an exhaustive and admirably written paper on "The Brownings." The presence of the ten or twelve ladies composing the Browning club and the part they took in the discussion of the subject added very decidedly to the interest. Among the other guests of the club were Miss Mary E. Edgerton, a leading member of the Women's club of Waterloo, and Mrs. Clara Doty Bates of the Fortnightly, of Chicago. The early departure of the latter for her home in Chicago, called forth a general expression of regret. Following the reading of the essay were enjoyable readings of Browning selections by Miss Rachael Clarke and Mrs. James G. Berryhill.

The News takes pleasure in giving the following synopsis of Mrs. Hillis's scholarly production:

## ROBERT BROWNING.

There was born in Camberwell, a London suburb, in 1812, a boy whose infant mind very early showed itself of a superior mould. His father, a man of wealth and learning, hushed him to sleep with Greek songs, and classic tales were the recreation of his working hours. At eight years he translated Horace; his favorite pastime was walking round and round the dining table, measuring the

scansion of his verses on its polished surface. So surely did he feel that the poetic muse had claimed him for her own that he announced to his friends his determination to become a poet, though he had debated a choice between music, painting and verse. Thirty-five years later he wrote:

"I shall never, in the years remaining,  
Paint you pictures, no, nor carve you statues,  
Make you music that would all express me,  
Verse alone one life allows me."

Robert Browning was fortunate in having a father rich enough and appreciative enough to educate him for his chosen calling.

His studies at the London University were followed by an extensive tour over the continent, ending in Italy, of which he became so enamored that he prolonged his stay for several years, studying art in all its forms, nature and human nature, for he was as familiar a visitor to the peasant's hovel as to the aristocrat's palace.

Mr. Browning's paternal grandfather was an Englishman of west country stock, Robert by name, as was his son and grandson after him, a Puritan whose legacy to the poet was the intensity of religious feeling everywhere recognized in his works. The paternal grandmother was a creole, who furnishes the rich tide of passionate sensuousness and fervid picturesque power. The maternal grandfather was a German from Hamburg, an accomplished draughtsman and musician. From this source Browning is supposed to have received his great love for metaphysics, philosophy, psychology and music. The maternal grandmother was entirely Scotch. Here again comes in the religious and metaphysical element combined with resolution and reticence. To the believers in heredity this pedigree throws a valuable light on the vigor and variety of Robert Browning's genius.

I have listened entranced to Shelly's Skylark, wept over the bridge of sighs and song of the shirt; laughed over the inimitable puns of Hood. I have plucked yellow primroses with Wordsworth, breathed the perfumed air of the home of Lalla Rookh or thrilled responsive to the love songs of Tom Moore. Adored or abhorred the heroes of Lord Byron. Made one of the Table Round with Tennyson; been snow bound with Whittier; chanted the story of Hiawatha or the unhappy quest of Longfellow's Evangeline; been moved to tears or smiles by the singers of the world whose name is Legion, but it is Robert Browning, who does more than all these. He it is who bids us "look forth over the years, thou hast done now with eyes for the actual; begin with the seer's."

Have you ever wandered into the depth of a sunny southern wood? Your every sense steeped in perfume and tropic beauty. Here, the treacherous spiked Spanish dagger, shaking its crown of snowy bells at you, there the alluring crimson cactus hiding in the folds of its sensuous breast the insect with the poison sting; the luxuriance of foliage in tree and shrub and clinging vine, at your feet myriad tinted blossoms hiding under the peaceful ferns nodding to their shadows in the brook, that goes babbling to the sea. Here and there stands a lordly pine, a giant oak, moss wreathed cypress or satin clothed magnolia, showering with nature's largess the great velvety perfumed petals all about us. A little further you leave this enchanted spot. You stand on the brow of a noble cliff. The mighty ocean is thundering at your feet. It is not placid in its beauty. It is not all smooth places. There are giant foam-flecked billows, caverns unfathomable, secrets unsearchable, the storm cries of centuries is heard in its deep sonorous tones. A ragged wave points white fingers to the sky, we look above, all is black, inky clouds make frantic chase, all is power, strength, magnitude, an awesome grand-



eur, but is that all? "Not for behind the cloud is the sun still shining. We forget all else, and remember God."

This is Robert Browning. His the hand that points from the rough places in this life to the "mansions in the sky." We all know who are the poets of the sunshine and flowers; who "steep the senses in joy" and leave us no better than before, and alas! the world has many poets like my Spanish dagger, whose white bells tinkle with fairy music, yet the hand that plucks it is pierced and torn by the lance its beauty hides. To classify Robert Browning as either a lyrical, dramatical, or epic poet is impossible. He is all and equally great in all. As I look back upon my reading of his works I am struck by the distinctness of the impressions made. His characters seem realities. Were I an artist I could paint them, so outlined and colored are they to my imagination. Then the lessons are so plain and so forcibly uttered that even a child must understand much of their meaning.

The development of the soul is his chief study. "Little else is worthy attention," he tells us in the preface to *Sordello*. The history of even the humblest soul contains a tragedy all unwritten except in the record the angels keep.

Browning's sympathetic imagination throws itself as keenly into the nature of Guido and Ned Bratts as in Valence or Luria. It is not Browning we see behind the picture. His men and women are real, every-day people. This power of being outside of himself, if I may use the expression, he shares solely with Shakespeare, in whose dramas we look in vain for personal traits and characteristics, and so closely hid is his personality that nineteenth century iconoclasts are attempting to tear the laurel from his brow. In *Childe Harold's* wanderings and in Don Juan's escapades we see Lord Byron masquerading according to his mood. Goethe carried his personality into his work to such an extent that a knowledge of his books includes acquaintance with the author's history. We see Carlyle in all he has written; but in Browning after his earliest productions we lose sight entirely of the poet's personality, and see only the creations of his fervid fancy.

Browning is as untrammelled and various as nature herself. He smiles and frowns with nature's caprice. He paints "the fields rough with hoary dew," the "buttercup, the children's dower," with the same ease and fidelity with which he unmasks the horrible depths of treachery and revengeful cruelty in the soul of that blackest of his heroes, Count Guido Francischini.

With intense earnestness he has gone straight to his facts, his reasonings, his dealings with the inner workings of men's souls, the meaning of evil, the being of God. He has refused to dally with triflings on the road. When he has occasion to deal with repulsive cases of diseased, corrupted souls he tries to see them as God sees them; he pictures them, not in the Zola spirit, to pander to the morbid and depraved taste of certain readers, but to teach the sublime lesson that God's mercy is broad enough to cover even the most sin-tainted of his children. If we judge Browning by the aim and teaching of his work, and its necessary influence, we unhesitatingly place him first of poets. He teaches primarily the allness of God. Everything leads to and points to God, the All-Loving-All-Wise-Ever-Present. He says in *A Death in the Desert*, "the acknowledgement of God in Christ accepted by thy reason, solves for thee all questions in the earth and out of it, and has so far advanced thee to be wise."

"Man is not God, but hath God's end to serve. A master to obey, a course to take. Somewhat to cast off, somewhat to become? Grant this, then man must pass from old to new. From vain to real, from mistake to fact. Form what once seemed good, to what now proves best."

Browning says in one of his poems he is "very sure of God," and we believe it, for no poet so lifts us to a spiritual atmosphere and puts our hearts in condition to hearken to the still small voice as does Robert Browning.

It has become the fashion in this proud nineteenth century for men of learning to deny the God who gave them talents which lift them from the masses. It was the boast of Voltaire that it took thirteen persons to establish christianity while but one was sufficient to destroy it. But the philosopher of Ferney with all his brilliant following has passed away, like the foul miasma mist at the sun's warm kiss, and the glory of the cross remains. I thank God that the greatest poet our literature has produced in these modern times of infidelity and skepticism declares so emphatically

"God's in his heaven, all's right with the world." Does the soul survive the body? is a question asked by every thinking mind. Browning has written a magnificent argument for the immortality of the soul in "The Ring and the Book." I wish every one would read the Pope's Monologue. He makes much of spiritual personality, which is the only force. Spirit is immortal, the only part of us which endures—consequently the supreme concern.

It has been said that Browning is difficult and hard to understand. My experience is that when I read Browning I must give him my whole attention. If I find him obscure, nine times out of ten the fault is not his, but my own. I like the stimulation his poetry gives; one must reach out, look back, recall much of what one has ever known, as aids to understanding. We read a poem carelessly, and is it a wonder we fail to understand? Browning often deals with the recondite, the abstruse. Often there is a hidden meaning which, if we take pains to find, illuminates the whole in a surprising manner. Holy Cross Day, at first glance, seems mere doggerel on a par with much of Mother Goose, yet when we know it is uttered by a Jew forced to listen to a Christian sermon in a crowded church, it becomes keenest satire of no mean order. Browning has climbed to the highest altitudes of human thought. Perhaps this explains why the way seems sometimes rugged and why some difficult passage to reach this higher atmosphere seems formidable. To the reader accustomed to consider poetry a rest and relaxation rather than the mental exercise it is in the present case, this is true. I think one reason we all read poetry is because the poet has voiced for us these subtle, intangible thoughts which have fled across the mental vision of all of us, which we discern "as through a glass darkly," but in poetry "face to face."

Sometimes, from the vehemence with which he pours out thought, Browning is harsh and rugged to uncouthness.

A volcano, belching forth the lava flood, the pent glory of ruddy flame, and radiant scintillation, little cares where the seam and chasm may chance to be. The power is there, the glory there, the palpitating heart of nature is laid bare. So with Browning. It is the thought, that is brought to us, not the vehicle which conveys it which we consider of first importance. If you do not like hard reading I could point out to you scores of exquisite gems which even the most superficial reader must pause to admire and enjoy, that is if he has one atom of appreciation. Who could read *Andrea Del Sarto* and not feel its pathos? The Flight of the Duchess, *Garden Fancies*, *Count Gismond*, *Incident of the French Camp*, *In a Year*, *By the Fireside*, *My Star*, *Love Among the Ruins*, *The Most of It*, *Too Late*, *The Statue and the Bust*, *Herve Riel*, *A Forgiveness*, *The Confessional*, *One Word More*, *Child Rolande* to the *Dock Tower Came*, *James Lee's Wife* and *My Lost Duchess*.

If the reader seeks more than mere enjoyment, if he craves food for the spiritual man, let him read and ponder *A Death in the Desert*, *Cleon*, *La Saizeaz*, *Karshish and Saul*. I would particularly want him to dwell upon the lessons in *Saul*, a poem so full of vigor and spiritual power as almost to approach revelation, while Rabbi Ben Ezra demands and receives careful reading which cannot but help us in our soul's growth.

It is interesting to recall the fact that Browning is a link binding us to the past. Does it not seem strange that to-day is living in London in vigorous old age, a man whose career in life was settled while Lord Byron still wielded his fluent pen? Shelly, Keats, Samuel Rogers, Southey, Coleridge, Charles Lamb, Sir Walter Scott, Wordsworth, Thomas Hood, Walter Savage Landor, Leigh Hunt, and Procter were all familiar faces if not personal friends of our author. In Browning's boyhood Lord Byron exerted a great influence over his style. Chance made the young poet acquainted with Shelly, a few of whose poems he found, rugged or blurred, in an old book stall. From this time Shelly became the inspiration of his genius. Browning confided to his mother his desire to possess a set of Shelly's works. The good mother ransacked the book shops of London and found but one copy of Shelly's works and three volumes of Keats's poems in all the great city. It is almost incredible. Shelly had only been dead three years, but to-day no private library of the most modest size is complete without its Shelly. Lest I should inadvertently have conveyed the impression that Browning is careless of the methods of his art, I quote from Mrs. Orr's "Handbook of Robert Browning." "The determination never to sacrifice sense to sound is the secret of what ever repels us in Mr. Browning's verse, and also of what attracts. Wherever in it sense keeps company with sound, we have music far deeper than can arise from mere sound, or even from a flow of real lyric emotion, which has its only counterpart in sound. It is the idea, and of it. It is the brain picture beating itself into words."

"The technical rules by which Mr. Browning works, carry out his principle to the fullest extent. First, he uses the smallest number of words which his meaning allows; is particularly sparing of adjectives. Second, he uses the largest number of Saxon (therefore picturesque) words. Third, he uses monosyllabic words wherever this is possible. He treats consonants as the backbone of language, and hence, as the essential feature in a rhyme. He eschews many vulgarisms or inaccuracies which custom has sanctioned both in prose and verse, such as "thou wert," "better than them all," "he need not," "he dare not." The universal "I had better," "I had rather," is abhorrent to him. No prosaic turns or tricks of language are ever associated in his verse with a poetic mood."

In 1833 Mr. Browning published his first poem *Pauline*, a monologue (which by the way is a frequent form with his verse.) It is a confession of an ambitious young man, who feels hampered by the limitations of his nature and in his battle to overcome them he is conquered. He has always lived in and for self yet never wholly forgotten God. It is full of exquisite bits of description.

*Pauline* was followed two years later by *Paracelsus*, a work based upon the life of the alchemist of that name. Mr. Browning proves himself not only a poet but a most profound thinker. The lesson is that of a fruitful and progressive life. The "scientific idea of evolution" is here distinctly foreshadowed, though it begins and ends in that large Theism which was and is the basis of his belief. Mr. Browning intuitively reaches conclusions which the German school of metaphysicians acquire only after long

and painful reasoning. One peculiar feature of *Paracelsus* is the great length of soliloquy. One character has upward of three hundred (300) lines. No wonder the public advised him not to "cultivate Shelly's obscurity minus his beauties." Though most of *Paracelsus* is hard reading, it contains one melodious interlude, the song beginning "Over the sea our galleys went." Though *Paracelsus* fell on dull ears, it was read with delight by Macready, the actor. He cultivated the poet's friendship and induced him to write a play for his theater. Mr. Browning was ambitious to become a dramatist. He speaks of himself as "Robert Browning, you writer of plays." The result of this friendship was *Straford*, a strong play, historically unusually correct, but which, like others of Mr. Browning's plays, met with poor success on the stage. In 1840 *Sordello* was produced. Its story the development of a soul, a poet's soul emerging from the mists of egotism which enshrined it. *Sordello* is said to be the most obscure thing ever put into print. It is claimed by some to be utterly incomprehensible, others, and no small number of most intelligent critics, pronounce it a classic and the work of all others to endure. It is said to require many readings to make it plain. You will understand my position when I tell you I have read it but once only. I confess my gleanings are scant, but I firmly believe a full harvest is there. My excuse for not doing better work with *Sordello* is, "Art is long and time is fleeting." Because I have not the time to mine for the gold in *Sordello*, I do not say it is not there, nor mistrust my friend with greater patience and keener tools who does. Nor do I wish my poet always to write down to the level of my understanding. Rather do I hope to grow with the years and beginning with Alpha to obtain Omega.

We must not forget that anciently the bard whose simplicity we vaunt wrote for a race of people who could not read, a people of simple habits and tastes. To-day the age is introspective. It is asking why? whence? whither? The esoteric is the attractive. Robert Browning is but the outgrowth of the age. We would not have him aught but what he is. Shakespeare may surpass him in dramatic power, Tennyson in tuneful melody, others in finish or grace. It takes many distinctly different colors to make up the spectrum, many distinct tones to make up the harmonious chord.

With all the height of spirituality, with all the keenness of appreciation of human nature, its frailties, its faults and above all its capabilities, with all the intense energy with which he attacks abstruse metaphysical and physiological subjects, Mr. Browning combines a most refreshing sense of humor.

Mr. Browning keenly appreciates the humorous sides of ecclesiastical life. He has done for the monk in verse what Vibert, Meissonnier and Zamacois have done in art. In *Fra Lippo Lippi* we see the old drunken and licentious artist priest, whom Cosmo de Medici had locked up in his room to complete certain pictures he had ordered. A pretty face at the window invites the celibate to the street. Hastily forming a rope with his bed clothes he lets himself down, gives chase to the beauty whom he overtakes in an equivocal neighborhood. When reeling back to his convent he is seized by an officer to whom he relates the story of his life, his art and the best methods of expressing it.

\*\*\* This same humor is seen in the grotesque titles Mr. Browning chooses for his poems, as *Red Cotton Night Cap Country*, *A Bean Stripe*, also, *Apple Eat-*



ing, Joehanan Hakkadosh and Sibrandus, Schnafnaburgensis, and the names Bluphox, Blougram, etc. Ogniben, Luitolfo, etc.

While we believe that Robert Browning is pure in mind, we regret that in some instances, though comparatively few in number, his pages are marred by indelicate suggestion or sensual allusion. This is an age of realism. Perhaps the admirers of the Anna Karenina school would see very little in the works of Robert Browning to criticise as impure. Human nature is made up of lights and shadows, and perhaps Mr. Browning has softened the dark places as much as fidelity to nature would permit.

Mr. Browning has not forgotten the children. What boy has not heard of the Pied Piper of Hamelin and the magic flute which charmed away first the rats and then the boys and girls from the ungrateful city. Dog Tray, who rescued the child and then her dollie from a watery grave. Even the story in Ivan Ivanovitch of the mother who let the wolves devour her babies has the same tragic interest as Red Riding Hood. The Cavalier Tunes, Herve Riel. How they brought the good news from Ghent and An Incident in a French Camp are prime favorites. Let who will come to the feast, there is enough and to spare.

As a word painter, Mr. Browning is excelled by few. John Ruskin says that the poem "The Bishop orders his Tomb in St. Praxaed" contains the substance of upwards of thirty pages of his "Stones of Venice" and he likewise declares that the poem "The Englishman in Italy" is the finest bit of word painting extant.

A reader of Mr. Browning soon observes that he has mannerisms and habits of thought in common with the rest of mankind. In my reading I have noticed how frequently he likens a face to a flower. In that lovely poem, "In a Gondola," we read, "Kiss me as if you made believe you were not sure, this eve, how my face, your flower, has pursed its petals up; so, here and there you brush it, till I grow aware who wants me, and wide ope I burst." In Pippa Passis Jules says to his bride: "Hoverlean this length of hair and lustrous front; they turn like an entire flower upward; eyes, lips, last your chin, no, last your throat turns; tis their scent pulls down my face upon you." In Saul, David, speaking of the King says, "through my hair the large fingers were pushed, and he bent back my head with kind power.—All my face back, intent to peruse it, as men do a flower." The same comparison occurs in many more instances which it would be wearisome to quote.

Mr. Browning has an intense sympathy for Nature and he often makes the action and soul experience of his people, harmonious with Nature's mood. A fine example of this is seen in the closing lines in Paul. But his chief love for Nature, the glory of the sea, the sky and the earth, lie in their being but the manifestations of God's power.

We should feel indebted to Mr. Browning for the fine portraits of women he has painted. Shakespeare alone has drawn women so real, so human, so true to nature. The good and bad alike, only this difference Mr. Browning always suggests that the sin stained Magdalen may be an angel yet.

Mr. Browning calls women "Heaven's most consummate of achievements, God's supremest work." Though love to God is the first consideration with Mr. Browning love to man ranks next. The brotherhood of the race is strongly insisted upon. Life is lent us to learn to prize and use the power of loving. Love is the only good in the world, and learning to love through human fellowship man's greatest joy and loving ser-

vice for his brother, man's highest privilege. Mr. Browning was himself a most ardent lover. We seem to hear the poet speak through Ferishah when he says: "All I seem to know is, I know nothing save that love I can boundlessly, endlessly." The crowning glory of our poet's life was his love for his wife. We all know the story of his impetuous wooing, how at first interview he laid siege to her heart and hand, and finally in spite of parental threats he bore away England's best and strongest of women poets. In sunny Italy began that life of wonderful harmony and fulness of joy, never before seen between two authors. The years in Casa Guida in Florence were years of hard work both to our poet and to "the mother of the beautiful child" as the Florentines were wont to call the tiny dark-eyed woman. If testimony from their own pens and from a hundred others is to be credited theirs was one of the truest marriages God ever smiled upon. One seemed the complement of the other, and great as Robert Browning was and is he never was so great as when he stooped to lift "his lyric love" and pedestal her above himself, calling her his inspiration, his delight, his "moon of poets." To those who love Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning it will ever be a joy to read the Sonnets from the Portuguese in connection with Love Lyrics and Men and Women.

In person Mr. Browning is a handsome man, rather above medium height. The broad smooth brow is shaded by heavy curling hair, once black but now quite white. The face is more German than English and bears an expression of calmness and strength. Mr. Browning is reserved to a fault. He makes no effort to win either admirers or friends. He very early learned that he was a John crying in the wilderness—the age was not ready for his message, and he has been content to wait for it to grow up to his altitude. He has borne with rare sweetness the lack of appreciation and the cold neglect of "the British public which loved him not," though this may have helped make him unapproachable. In his poem titled "House," he says, "A peep through my window if folks prefer, but, please you, no foot o'er threshold of mine." This applies only to his English home, for in Florence before the death of his wife he was hospitality itself. My knowledge of technical rules is too meager to permit of artistic criticism. I do not compare Mr. Browning to any poet living or dead. No two blades of grass are of like color or form, no two stones shine with equal lustre, though both are beautiful. The indolent reader will certainly find some very hard study to do if he masters the poet's work; but let who will be content to play with pebbles which lie scattered thick by the ocean's brim. We are not deterred from plunging into the deepest depth to secure the pearl hidden away from careless eyes. Let us be grateful that the gem is there, tho' shrined in an uncouth shell. The sun has its spots. The Kohinoor has its flaws—but who thinks of the spots when all the earth is flooded with warmth and radiance; who thinks of the flaw when gazing into the prismatic depths of the regal diamond? Robert Browning's faults are to his genius as are the spots to the sun or the flaw to the Kohinoor; and ere the century closes the name of Robert Browning will be a heritage which every English speaking person will prize above all others in our literature.



## AN AFTERNOON WITH A GREAT POET.

The Des Moines Women's Club Devotes a Session to Considering the Life and Works of Italy's Most Gifted Son.

## THOUGHTFUL ESTIMATES OF DANTE'S GENIUS AND ITS BEST FRUITS.

A Sketch of the Poet by Mrs. Percival—A Beautiful Poem by Mrs. Billington—Talks by Mesdames Frisbie, Cummins, Patchin and Hubbard. 1889.

Oct. 23rd

An afternoon with Dante was enjoyed yesterday by the ladies of the Des Moines Women's club, and to say that the papers presented and the discussions which followed furnished a rare intellectual feast is to express the universal feeling of those present. The added experience which each year has brought is shown in a very marked improvement in the character of the papers read and the logical and comprehensive discussion which they call forth. The club met by invitation yesterday in the handsome parlors of the Des Moines club. There was a large attendance of members and quite a number of guests present, among the latter being Mrs. D. T. Devin of Chicago, Mrs. J. B. Stewart of Cambridge, Mass., and Mrs. Smith of Dubuque. The preliminary exercises consisted in a conversation on current topics led by Miss Elizabeth K. Matthews, she making education in Alaska and among the Indians her special subject. Following this conversation, Mrs. Isaac L. Hillis, chairman of the committee on literature, took charge of the programme, which she introduced by paying a graceful tribute to Italy's famous bard. Closing she said that the club happily was not without a songstress, and she took great pleasure in introducing Mrs. Addie B. Billington, who would read an original poem. The following lines, so choice in diction and beautiful in sentiment, were then read by Mrs. Billington:

## DANTE.

## A POET'S LOVE.

O fair Italia, the poet's song,  
Hath told what glories unto thee belong,  
What floods of beauty break upon thy hills,  
What fires of freedom in thy sons' blood thrills;  
Yet land of vine, and sunny skies, thy fame  
Breathes widest in the honored, loving name  
Of thine own gifted poet, sage and seer,  
Thy Dante great—of all lands' bards the peer.

As when across the clouded dome there gleams  
A ray of light, resplendent in its beams,  
E'en so between the learn'd Augustan age,  
And that bright dawn when good Queen Bess  
did wage

Most vigorous war against the pall of gloom,  
Where ignorance sat throned on Learning's tomb,

A Dante's genius—like a guiding star,  
Arose in might and swept o'er worlds afar.

From early youth his temper 'twas to draw  
Deep draughts of learning; Science, letters, law,  
Art, music, troubadours' gay lyric rhyme,  
Grave priestly lore—all knowledge of his time,  
These fed his growing powers; but far above  
Their kindling influence sat Goddess Love.  
Love's subtle spell awoke his soul's desire—  
Bade Beatrice's charms his Muse inspire.

Ill-fated worship—fountain of his verse,  
Life's blessing and withal its saddest curse,  
His lady's face was coldly from him turned,  
Yet fierce the flame of adoration burned;  
Nor death's release this homage would accept.  
Still Beatrice's virtues foremost kept,  
Key note of earthly joys, and hope of Heaven,  
His being's range to one grand passion given.

Dear exile, was his luckless fate for years,  
His loyal nature torn by hopes and fears,  
To unmet doomed, to hate and scorn a prey,  
What heights, what depths, what breadth of  
feeling's sway;

Vast scope of human ills to him made known,  
Whom calm Religion claimed yet as her own,  
For thoughts of Heaven remained—when strife  
was past

And Beatrice's memory ruled at last.

Such glimpse of Hell, and midway—that estate—  
Dim "Limbo," where probed souls in durance  
wait.

Were ne'er portrayed by skill of poet's pen,  
Nor Heaven brought nearer to weak mortal ken.  
Th' Inferno thrills with its live portraiture.  
And Beatrice's image must endure;  
Her loving pity summoned first a guide,  
Then led thro' Heaven's heights—his Angel  
Bride.

Brave Dante, his fond fancy sought to paint  
A sketch of Beatrice, woman-saint;  
The picture lives, a model to engage  
Ripe admiration in this latter age;  
Nor fades the meaning which from thence we  
draw.

A woman's scepter—love's eternal law;  
Her kingdom broadens, as her heart expands,  
Her fittest deeds bear fruit for Heaven's lands.

Following the poem a sketch of the poet was read by Mrs. F. A. Percival which the News takes pleasure in reproducing:

## THE LIFE OF DANTE.

Poets are the great artists of language. They are the sages whose sayings are treasured up and valued from age to age, because of the inspiration that is given to them, the insight into the mysteries of the soul and the secrets of life. So choice are the gifts, so grand are the qualities of truly great poets that few are born in a whole generation in nations that number millions.

The critics assign to Dante a pre-eminence over most of those we call immortal. Only two or three in the whole realm of literature dispute his throne. He is compared with Homer and Shakespeare and perhaps Goethe alone. Dante was a man of sorrows and resentments fierce and implacable, but whose love was as transcendent as his scorn; a man of vast experiences and intense convictions, despising the world, which he sought to elevate, living isolated among princes and nobles; a wanderer and a sage meditating constantly on the grandest themes, lost in ecstatic reveries, familiar with abstruse theories, versed in all the wisdom of his day and in the history of the past. A believer in God and immortality, in the freedom of the will and rewards and punishments. He is said to be not so great an observer of human nature as Shakespeare, nor so great a painter of human actions as Homer, nor so learned a scholar as Milton, but his soul was more serious than either; he was deeper, more intense than they. It would seem from his numerous biographers that he was remarkable from a boy, a youthful prodigy; precocious like Cicero, giving utterance to living thoughts among his youthful companions like Bacon and lisping in numbers like Pope. Born in Florence, of the noble family of the Alighieri in the year 1265, his early education devolved upon his mother, as he was fatherless at an early age. As a mere youth he wrote Sonnets, which he didn't disdain to own in later years. At Paris he maintained fourteen different theses, propounded by learned men on fourteen different subjects and gained universal admiration. He was early selected by his native city for important offices which he filled with honor. In wit he had no compeers. He offended the great by a superiority which he did not attempt to conceal. He affected no humility. He is even offensively con-

scious and arrogant. When Florence deliberated about the choice of an ambassador to Rome he playfully said, "If I remain who goes, and if I go, who remains?" His face as painted by Giotto, so austere and thoughtful, impresses one with a sort of inborn greatness. Without a commanding person physically, he is a marked man among strangers. The women of Verona, when they saw him walking, a proud, poor, lonely exile, through the streets, exclaimed: "Behold the man who has visited hell!" They might well have added purgatory and paradise. He did not live in a cell or cave, but no man was ever more indebted to solitude and meditation than he. The age was still dark in which he lived, and our poet, with all his genius, was not emancipated from leading ideas of his day.

It is recorded by Dante himself that at the early age of nine he fell in love with Beatrice, a little girl of one of his neighbors, and that he wrote sonnets to her as the mistress of his heart. She appeared to me, says the poet, dressed in scarlet, the most noble and honorable color, girded and ornamented in a manner suitable to her age, and from that moment love ruled my soul. After many days it happened that passing through the street she turned her eyes to me and with ineffable courtesy she greeted me. This had such an effect on me that it seemed I had reached the furthest limit of blessedness. I took refuge in the solitude of my chamber to think over what had happened to me. I quote from the Vita Nuova Dante's first work relating to the new life which this love awakened in his young soul. In this book he recounts the story of his love for Beatrice, showing how grief for her loss turned his thoughts first inward upon his own consciousness and failing all help gradually upward, through philosophy to religion and so from a world of shadows to one of eternal substances. As a contribution to the physiology of genius, it is said no other book is to be compared to this, and it is more important to the understanding of Dante as a poet than any other of his works, for it enables one to see how from being the slave of his imaginative faculties he rose by self-culture and force of will to the mastery of it, which is art. Who then was Beatrice? To the little boy Dante she was the little daughter of Folco Portinari. She may have been beautiful, she may have been gifted and she may have been commonplace, it matters little. To the mature Dante it was not the Beatrice of flesh and blood he saw but the image of beauty and loveliness which his own mind created. As an essayist has aptly said, "Prosaic interpreters might as well say that Philosophy who appeared in the form of a woman to Boethius was of flesh and blood. As Philosophy represented wisdom and goodness to Boethius, so Beatrice to the grave poet Dante represented immortal beauty, eternal love." We glean from his poem that he lost her through his own wrongdoing. However that may be (as critics and biographers differ), she married another, and died when he was twenty-seven, leaving him, to use his own expression, "To ruminate on death and envy whomsoever dies."

Boccaccio tells us that in consequence of the death of Beatrice, Dante fell into a deep melancholy, from which his friends attempted to rouse him by persuading him to marry. He followed their advice and repented, for he made choice of a lady named Gemma, of the house of Donati, who strongly resembled Xantippe; and Dante, not possessing the patience of Socrates, separated himself from her with vehement expressions of dislike, though she had borne him seven children. Serenity didn't come to him until he had formed an exalted purpose to write a poem in honor of his love

If it please him through whom all things come, said the poet, that my life be spared, I hope to tell such things of her as never before have been seen by mortal eyes. There could not have been such intensity in Dante's love had he not been gifted with the power of creating so lofty and beautiful an ideal. In one of those domestic revolutions so common in Italy, Dante was banished and his property confiscated. At the age of thirty-five he was sent forth a wanderer and an exile, poor and unimportant, to "eat the bread of strangers and climb other people's stairs; destined never to return to his native city only in dreams."

Too late the Florentine begged for his remains and did justice to his memory. Dante's monument which stands on the boundary line between the ancient and modern is the "marvelous mystic unfathomable song," in which he sang his sorrows and joys, revealed his visions and recorded the sentiments of his age.

The Inferno, Purgatorio and Paradiso were then reviewed in turn, Mrs. Frisbie giving a five minutes' talk on the first-mentioned poem. She said she did not regard Dante's works as deeply philosophical nor indeed as religious, although she knew that such was not the usual testimony. The Inferno could scarcely be regarded as an allegory, since it contained many things truthful and natural. The marked feature of his work was a powerful imagination. He probably came as nearly creating as any writer has done, there being almost no basis for the work of his imagination. He shows that there are different grades of punishment to correspond with different sins. His pictures are repulsive in the extreme, calling into play as a punishment anything which causes physical suffering. Yet he teaches the inevitable punishment of wrong-doing, the poet's idea of the greatest wrong being apparently that which keeps others from attaining their right. The poem, the writer thought, could scarcely be considered a world-poem, since it had to do mainly with Florentines.

Mrs. E. E. Hubbard then reviewed in a very comprehensive manner the poet's journey through purgatory, giving many choice quotations from the poem showing that the thought was elevated, and, considering the time in which it was written, that it was imbued with a religious spirit.

Paradiso was then reviewed at some length by Mrs. J. C. Cummins, who pointed out many of the beauties of the work in a highly entertaining manner. Her study of the work had evidently been close and the review was greatly enjoyed.

"Dore's Treatment of Dante" was the subject of a charming talk by Mrs. Calista Halsey Patchin, who exhibited as she went along Dore's illustrations, calling attention to those of special merit, and criticising what might be regarded as defects. Where the poet had always been dramatic in his pen-pictures, Dore was too often only theatrical.

The programme closed with a discussion led by Miss Rachael Clarke who called attention to the similarity in life, in sufferings, as well as in personal appearance of the two great Florentines, Dante and Savonarola, adding a third also, in the person of George Eliot, who bore many marks of resemblance. Thoughts were added by Mrs. Devin, Mrs. Macomber and others, closing an afternoon memorable for its pleasure and instruction.



## NYPHPS, NAIADS AND GRACES

An Event Which Will be Remembered in  
the Future Soon to be Given in  
Des Moines.

Grecian Tableaux Mouvant Will Bring  
Into the City the Glories of the  
Temples of Antiquity.

### BEAUTY THE THEME.

The aesthetic and literary circles of Des Moines are promised a rare treat in the near future. The event will be the reproduction of the Grecian Tableaux Mouvant which have excited so much favorable criticism in the east during last year. The summer envoys of Des Moines who have witnessed it speak in constantly increasing terms of enthusiasm. Very few people in Des Moines knew that Miss Mable Allyston Yates, instructor of Delsarte in Drake University, was the principal director of these events in the east. Des Moines, after Kansas City had secured Miss Yates to direct the rendition of one in their city awoke to the realization of the fact. The enterprising leaders of the Des Moines Woman's club conceived the idea that a Des Moines audience should also have the same pleasure accorded in other cities. They called on Miss Gates and secured her co-operation. The corps de tableaux was organized and is now busily practicing. The work is very laborious and the date, March 24, set for the entertainment, is none too early to allow the young ladies a chance to become perfect in the difficult and artistic posing and grouping required of them. By a process of natural selection the following young ladies were chosen to sustain the reputation of the city in this challenge of comparison addressed to the classical beauty of antiquity, portrayed in statue and relief, frieze and panel. Miss Kittie Robertson, Miss Ada Witmer, Miss Ethel Mills, Miss Edith Given, Miss Kittie Young, Miss Annie Goodrell, Miss Eder Henry, Miss Sue Ankeny and Miss Bertha Gilcrest; Miss Eva Williams, accompanist. These young ladies, representing the choicest flowers in the coronal of Des Moines' beautiful women, have always been considered admirable in modern dress; but when they add to their own charms the association that cluster around Greek costume and scenes, they will be positively adorable. Dangerous as simple American girls they will be deadly as nymphs, naiads and graces.

The entertainment will consist of seventeen tableaux. The participants remain the stage during the whole time. One scene melts into another to the sound of Schubert's minuet and by a continuous rhythmic motion. The tableaux are actual living reproductions of the famous works of art of antiquity. In costuming, posing, grouping and expression they will bring before the audience those wonderful works of art with which the Greeks adorned their temples and to which they gave a feeling more akin to religion than admiration. Praxiteles and Phidias, although unseen, will be present, and from their crowned position will smile a benignant blessing on the scene, which shows that in a far off western country, unknown and unheard of

by them, the magic work of their brains and fingers is still loved and venerated and that although the scene is in a republic whose instinct is commercial, yet its people have the inclination and appreciation to lead them to pause and cast one fragrant blossom on the grave of antiquity. Such entertainments, perpetuating and increasing as they do the love of the pure and beautiful, give a pleasure which does not stop with the moment's gratification, but is an everlasting source of enjoyment. The series of tableaux is produced here in full in order that those who are interested in the subject may have an opportunity to refurbish the knowledge, which with many has become rusty, but which is absolutely necessary to the keen and artistic appreciation and understanding of such an entertainment. They are as follows:

1. Dance of the Muses.
2. Frieze—Chain Dance.
3. Frieze—Train of Noble Maidens.
4. Frieze—Scene from Battle of the Amazons.
5. The Hours—"Mercury." Young Agrippa. Greek Draped Figure. Cymbal Player.
6. Kronos and Rhea.
7. Toilet of the Bride. (From a painting found at Herculaneum.)
8. The Fates. Three Graces. Orpheus, Eurydice, Hermes.
9. Tribute to the Minotaur. Cowering Venus. Artemis looking at Eadymion.
10. Frieze from Sarcophagus.
11. Achilles and the Daughter of Lycomedes.
12. Night and the Fates.
13. Bacchus and Bacchantes.
14. Niobe Group.
15. Sacrifice of Iphigenia.
16. Death of Virginia.
17. Home Scene, from the Greeks.

The entertainment will be given in Foster's Opera House and the proceeds will be applied by the Woman's Club to the increase of the art collection in their rooms in the Y. M. C. A. building.



NEW BUILDING OCCUPIED 1901.

The formal opening of the new Y. M. C. A. building on Saturday next is an event of so much importance to the Women's club of the city that the ladies of that organization will do all in their power to assist in its celebration. This room will be open on Saturday, the entire membership, it is hoped, will be present, at least during the afternoon of that day, and light refreshments will be served to visitors to the rooms from two till six o'clock. The fact that the elevator is not yet in will stand in the way of any elaborate decoration of the rooms, yet an effort will be made in that direction. The reception is in the hands of the directors of the club, though Mesdames Hillis and Berryhill have been appointed a special committee of arrangements, while Mesdames Lewis and Hussey are to look after the decorations. It is expected that there will be a large number of visitors.

The annual business meeting of the Des Moines Women's club was held yesterday afternoon in the club rooms of the Y. M. C. A. building. These apartments, though not completed in every particular, are now very attractive. Upon the floor of the main room is a handsome brussels carpet in shades of dark blue and wood. The two windows are ornamented with elegant transparencies, landscapes in white and black, above the pretty sash curtains. Handsome polished tables and chairs have been put in for the president and secretary. At the meeting Mrs. C. O. Nourse and Miss Anna Goodrell were elected members of the club, and the following 25 ladies were chosen as a board of directors for the coming year: Mesdames I. L. Hillis, Tac Hussey, C. H. Gatch, D. E. Ruttkay, L. B. Clark, J. G. Day, Henry Sabin, Edgar Lewis, Jay Macomber, J. H. McCord, E. R. Clapp, C. E. Riesser, M. C. Callanan, J. G. Berryhill, Ella H. Durley, A. L. Frisbie, L. B. Abdill, J. H. Windsor, H. C. Potter, E. E. Hubbard, A. R. Hall, C. H. Getchell, F. A. Parcival, A. B. Cummins and Miss Rachel Clarke.

TABLEAUX MOUVANT.

POSES PLASTIQUE,



## HOME HAPPINESS.

A Valuable Paper on Home-Making and What it Should Be.

## A STUDY IN DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

All the Members of the Family Should Work to the Same

May 22. End. 1889.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB REORGANIZED

Names of the Twenty-five Ladies Chosen as the First Directors.

"Home-Making and What It Should Be" was the subject of a paper read by Mrs. C. P. Holmes before the Des Moines Women's club Wednesday afternoon. It was replete with beautiful and helpful ideas, and the News takes pleasure in reproducing the following synopsis:

Quoting the familiar words, "Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home," the writer said that though the lines were wrong from the heart of a weary, homeless man, yet they so strongly appeal to our sympathies that the poet needs no other monument to keep his memory green. Homes there have ever been, varied as are countries, climates and peoples, since the one first attempted in the garden of Eden. These homes have had to be made, built by the sweat of man's brow and woman's, too. It was, however, the homes of our own land and of modern times, which were discussed, together with some of the things which operate for or militate against true home-making. T. DeWitt Talmage says, "If you wanted to gather up all tender memories, all lights and shadows of the heart, all banquetings and reunions, all filial, fraternal, paternal, conjugal affections and had only four letters with which to spell out that height and depth and length and breadth and magnitude and eternity of meaning, you would write it all with these four letters h-o-m-e." The fireside has ever been immortalized as the focus around which have clustered the dearest attractions of life. The Christian home, implying marriage, mutual affection, piety, gentleness, refinement, forbearance, is the ideal of earthly happiness, a beautiful and impressive type of heaven. It is where the heart is, where the loved ones are, husband, wife, father, mother, brothers, sisters, all united in sympathy and fellowship. It may be humble, for the best things for the home can be had without money; there is the wealth of mutual affection which fire cannot consume and no commercial disaster alienate or destroy. Every parent should aim to give his child a happy childhood, its hallowed influence will never be forgotten. The memory of home should be a constant inspiration forward, and a restraint from evil. Money which you may leave the child can never compare with the happiness you may give him in his youth.

Attractive homes make less attractive the seductions of the outside world. Amusements are necessary. It must be made cheery, pleasant and entertaining. There should be a family library, papers,

magazines, etc. The long dull evenings should be enlivened with sprightly and stimulating amusements. After an hour or two of reading, introduce some pleasant games and play these with your children and thus share their joys. A great many homes are like the frame of a harp that stands without strings, suggestive of music, but no melody rises from the empty spaces; the result is that the theater, the billiard saloon, the club, the convivial party out bid the home and draw away the sons and daughters. We must throw open our doors to their companions, for we all need friendship. It leads us out of selfishness and a narrow round of thought to sympathize with others who have their own circle of attachments and duties.

The home is the fountain of civilization. There are trained the voters; there all improvements and reforms must have their inception. For national and social disaster, for moral and financial evils, the cure begins in the household. Where souls and bodies are nourished, fortunes builded, brains trained there must be a focus of all moral and physical interests. No audiences are so receptive as are those gathered around the table and the fireside. Parents must teach by example; for how can they teach what they have not learned? And all influence and training should be on the side of christianity and the Bible. Children should not be watched with a suspicious eye, frowned at on every merry outburst of innocent hilarity, nor corrected for each trivial offense; but, on the contrary, they should be made to feel that we have confidence in them, expect them to do right, are depending on their love and sense of justice for it. Many of the influences of modern life are antagonistic to the integrity and power of the home. The competition of professional and mercantile life, absorption in social festivities, even the intensity of the labors in the church and in philanthropic causes tend to dethrone the home.

If we would build a true home, we must set our faces against the modern craze for boarding house, hotel and "flat" life, born of a desire to shirk care, to lead lives of indolence and ease. Another thing which militates against the home is the tendency to travel, to voluntary exile in foreign lands. An occasional tour for sight seeing is highly beneficial, but the passion has grown so that it is not uncommon for hundreds of families to break up their homes and lead aimless lives in many lands. Mothers are so solicitous for their daughters that they leave husbands and sons in hotels and clubs while they settle down in Paris, Hanover or Rome that their daughters may learn French and German, music and painting, while they are deprived of those fine, indescribable qualities of mind and heart which come only from training in a home. Certainly no objection can be urged to travel in family groups. Three or four months at a summer resort, as many in the cities and the remainder some where else, describes the way thousands of American families spend their time. When to these facts is added one, viz., that in American cities the "flat" is supplanting the house for families, we are in the face of certain conditions which may well cause anxiety. Thus multitudes have no home in the true sense of the word. They are birds of passage living in trunks. Restraints of responsibility are laid aside, and many young people grow up with false ideas of duty.

No home can be what it ought to be without the active co-operation with the family of the husband and father; he must help to mould its character, and must give attention to his sons and daughters as well as to real estate, banking and legal practice. Woman's work in home-

making is of inestimable value. Beautiful and thrice happy is she who can lay aside all worldly ambition and find in her home an abundant field for her affections, her mind and her hands.

At the very foundation of the home lies the idea of partnership. Neither man nor woman can build it alone. Co-operation is absolutely essential, a partnership of responsibilities and labors and necessarily of rights. The wife and mother should be an active and intelligent partner in matters of income and outgo and not a recipient of bounty. With community of interest, unity of purpose, intelligent planning for its accomplishment, to what proportion of beauty and harmony might not the home life rise.

The articles of incorporation of the Des Moines Women's club name the following twenty five ladies as members of the board of directors for the ensuing year: Mesdames L. B. Abdill, J. G. Berryhill, Martha Callanan, Ella H. Durrey, C. H. Gatch, A. L. Frisbie, E. H. Gillette, I. L. Hillis, Julia M. Hunting, J. K. Macomber, Emma G. Hull, Rose A. Lewis, Calista H. Patchin, F. A. Percival, Delia E. Ruttkay, J. H. Windsor, J. G. Day, J. H. McCord, E. R. Clapp, Martha B. Johnson, F. W. Lehmann, H. C. Potter, Galusha Parsons and C. H. Gatchell and Miss Rachael C. Clarke.

## INDUSTRIAL CULTURE

## MRS. PATCHIN DISCUSSES INDUSTRIAL ART BEFORE THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Household Decoration in Its Relation to the American Renaissance—What the Centennial Did for Us—Theodore's Struggle Toward an "Interior"—Valuable Practical Suggestions.

At the meeting of the Women's Club Wednesday, Mrs. Dr. Patchin, representing the committee on art, discussed, in a very entertaining manner, the subject of "Industrial Art." Her paper was so valuable in its practical hints to the housekeeper, the school teacher and the public generally, that though no synopsis can do the writer justice, we, nevertheless, produce such portions of it as space will permit.

The beauty of writing a paper for a club like this is that you have your work cut out and pasted, and all you have to do is to sew your seam. I am requested to write a paper on Industrial Art, not on schools of industrial art, because that would be poaching on the preserves of the educational committee—but simply a paper on industrial art in general, with a special application to household decoration, that being the phase which interests us most as housekeepers. It is a subject at once ideal and practical; one which interests alike the artist and the political economist, for this question of art applied to the industries is part of the solution of the labor question. International expositions have taught us the value of skilled labor and that no high protective tariff will protect the products of untrained American hands in competition with the skilled labor of Europe. The vast sums of money spent by Americans abroad for objects of luxury have called our attention to the fact that beauty has a commercial value. The Centennial gave us our first strong impulse in this direction. From it I think we may date our American Renaissance in the matter of industrial art and household decoration. We saw how much we had to learn. Other nations had had the same experience. I think it was in 1856 that England at a world's exposition found herself at the foot of the list in all work depending on artistic training. She went home, established such schools as

the Kensington, built and filled museums, and we all know how thoroughly good and respected is the artistic quality of British work to day. In this country we work in a somewhat different way. Ours is not a paternal form of government. The state does not found and support schools. Education is not compulsory. The genius of our government tends to develop the individual and so it has happened that schools of art and design in this country are the result of individual energy and enterprise. This same spirit has led to a vast amount of amateur work. The American, quick to see, chose to imitate, and with the national impatience of slow processes of training, has not hesitated to attempt the most difficult work, the country has been flooded with artistic rubbish. Every nation has had its distinctive type and so plainly has the national character expressed itself in this that the history of a nation which has left no written literature may be clearly read in the relics of their pottery. Parchments may crumble and photographs may fade, but the face that is painted "under the glaze" holds its secret a thousand years. The exact degree of civilization may be known from the form and decoration of pottery, or the colors and texture used in the ancient and interesting art of weaving. Hunger is, no doubt, the primal passion, but so soon as that is satisfied the art instinct declares itself. Take so primitive a citizen of the world as the American Indian. The cliff Indian, when he wanted to put himself on record, engraved the story of his triumphs, and when he wrapped the drapery of his couch about him and lay down to pleasant dreams, he carried into the grave with him bits of painted pottery. "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." He, too, had his decorative art craze. He may have been savage and sullen and revengeful and centuries away from us in civilization and race and religion, but he liked a painted plate.

I use a much abused term when I say we must "express ourselves" in our houses, in our furniture, in whatever we make or use. We must do this if our industrial work is to have any permanent value. No sooner do a people become corrupt in their morals than they become effeminate and corrupt in their art. And whenever the industrial art of a nation becomes imitative, it loses its strong national character and becomes mongrel and worthless. It is for women as housekeepers to insist upon strength and beauty in construction. Strength in wood work, for instance, means straightness and squareness, with the grain of the wood going from end to end of each piece. The arch has no place in wood. It belongs to stone, and is essentially weak in any grained material. If furniture is properly finished with oil, you can judge of its construction, but if it is "grained", or if it is painted, you are of course at the mercy of your cabinet maker. There is one golden rule in decoration, that ornament should always be subordinate to use. Thus carving in high relief on furniture is out of place because it is liable to be broken. The same rule would apply to the decoration of vases and pitchers and plaques in high relief, as in the Limoges ware. This Barbatine ware, of which the shops are full, has the same fault. But there is another and more purely artistic reason why a vase should not be decorated in high relief. It destroys the shape. So strong was the Greek feeling in this respect that the figures on a Greek vase are done in one tint, because the use of several colors would shade them into roundness and thus destroy the contour of the vase.

Decorative design should be conventional. But here the character of the material must determine. A panel of flowers may be painted in a method so broad as to be almost vague—but the same flowers carved in wood must be more conventionally arranged, while in stone, a still more inflexible material, the flower must be thoroughly conventionalized. Wall papers in conventional designs are better than those in natural, no matter how true in drawing the latter may be. The most satisfactory papers are those of neutral tint with geometrical figures at regular intervals. Ceiling paper for the same reason should be quiet—of what, is called an all-over pattern—such artists as Tiffany and Colman of New York use for ceiling paper soft light tints with star forms or crystallized snow-flakes. There is a form of wall-decoration which consists in painting on the wall—branches of trees, sprays of flowers, flying birds, owls over the doors, storks on the wainscot, cloud and landscape effects are introduced. I have seen the entire side of a room painted in a rainfall. Mr. Pitman of Cincinnati assures me that the walls of his house are



painted out in this way. With all due deference to Mr. Pittman I submit that it is very bad art. A wall should be flat and it should not be so treated that it will appear anything else but flat. We are sometimes called on to admire work which is interesting because difficult. Does not tapestry embroidery of figures come under this head? In an age when art was not so long nor time so fleeting it may have been worth the while of nuns to work out with the needle, but why should women to-day, with the wide variety of modern art at their command, endeavor to reproduce anything so subtle as the color and expression of the human face with a square stitch on canvass? In this matter of household decoration we have gone through a reign of terror. As I said, the centennial began it. When Theodora went to Philadelphia she spent much time in looking at the furniture exhibits and she fairly haunted the Japanese bazar. Coming home she relegated furniture and pictures to the limbo of the garret and in their place set up bronzes and jugs and screens and bric-a-brac, and finally she took "a course in the hasty decoration of jugs", and painted on vases pictures which it would not be idolatry to fall down and worship, since they are like nothing in the heavens above or the earth beneath. Since the centennial Theodora has also read all the books that have been published on household decoration from Clarence Cook's cheerful talks to Harriet Prescott Spofford's carefully elaborated conclusions. No wonder her brain reels. She takes down a door and hangs up a curtain, sets a bit of majolica on a bracket and congratulates herself on the achievement. Or an "interior". And just here, I should like to predict the return of the door. There is sure to be a reaction and while portieres will always be used to give the added grace of drapery, I predict the return of a door which will shut and on occasion slam. Theodora does a thousand and one things in household decoration that are false and bad because she forgets that the decoration of any object or room must be subordinate to its use. That one central truth would save her from the Snylla of fine decoration at all, and the Charybdis of over-ornamentation. But better days are coming to Theodora and through her to all of us. The success of the Garrett sisters who studied home-decorating, as an art in order to follow it as a business in London, is a matter of congratulation to all women. Anything that will relieve the pressure on two or three overcrowded employments is to be eagerly welcomed, and the Garrett sisters will find their counterparts in many an American cousin. But to do this work she must qualify herself. She must learn to draw. Drawing is the language of all form. Carving in wood is only drawing in wood with tools. Modelling is only drawing in clay. There is no reason why women should not learn even to work in stone and wrought iron. Mr. Pittman tells me that his wife and daughter, besides doing all the interior carving, did the ornamental stone carving for the exterior of their house. If this seems too difficult, it is because we do not appreciate the force of tools and the skilled use of them. With the growing demand for artistic value in manufactures there will be an increasing amount of hand work. While some of the work may be done by machine it must be finished by hand. It is the value of thought; the final stamp of mind on matter and this work women ought to do. Too much cannot be said of the necessity of good drawing. In dutiful art education is the coming education. Everywhere school boards are discussing the practicability of putting manual training into the public schools. But under all and before all comes drawing. This must be taught in the public schools in order to reach the masses. And it must be well taught. Half an hour three times a week from a card set up in front of the pupil, superintended by a teacher who does not herself know how to draw, amounts to nothing. Drawing must be taught by live artists.

Lace-making  
Feb. 12, 1890

Lace-making was the subject of three short and highly interesting papers read before the Women's club Wednesday afternoon by Dr. Jessie Ritchey, Mrs. H. C. Potter and Mrs. J. A. T. Hull. Great quantities of beautiful, filmy laces, old and new, were at hand showing the different varieties from the early Mechlin and Valenciennes to the modern thread and Brussels point. Dr. Ritchey treated the subject historically, showing that in the development of the artistic taste the needle has held no inferior place, as this art comes down to us from prehistoric ages. The book of Exodus describes how the curtains of the tabernacle were embroidered by hand. Homer makes constant allusions to needle work. The immortal web of Penelope and the far-famed garments that Helen wrought are well-known examples of the skill of these fabled women. In several pieces of the ancient vatican statuary there are rich adornments of sculptured lace. In the New York Abbot collection there is a mummy of the Ptolemaic period on whose head is a cap of lace. Lace as we know it had its origin in a class of decorative open embroidery, known as point Conte in Italy and Lacis in France. Two countries claim the honor of originating the industry, Flanders, by reason of old paintings dating from the 15th century which represent persons adorned with lace, the Italians basing their claims upon certain documents written in 1469. It would appear more reasonable that Venice, the first recognized home of lace as an industry, with her great maritime connections, would be the most likely to first learn the work. A pretty story is told of the origin of point lace. A young girl who understood lace work had given her by her lover, who was a sailor, a piece of seaweed which he said was called mermaid's lace. She was filled with enthusiasm over the beauty of this lace from the sea and vowed that upon his next return she would have made lace of like pattern for her wedding veil. Such was the beauty of the new product that immediately all ladies of wealth desired laces of this pattern. The first pattern books of point lace were published in 1557, but it is not improbable that this work was in practice for years before. It was the great financier Colbert who conceived the idea of transplanting the lace-making industry from Venice to France, that she might add to her income of becoming a lace exporting instead of a lace importing country. Lace making was an art pursued by women of all classes for pleasure as well as profit. The needle then could be likened to the brush. The Alencon, as point de France came to be called, grew in beauty and popularity until France became a lace center. Lace being a material consumed only by the wealthy, it thrives or falls with the fortunes of its patrons. The revolution came and the factories of Alencon and Valenciennes were closed. Many, as in the case of the makers of the beautiful Chantilly lace, perished on the scaffold with their royal patrons. Making the Alencon ground is a lost art, and the loss of the Valenciennes factory was a severe one. Meanwhile the workers of Belgium were working away. Their pillow laces, including the more modern Duchesse, have been very successful. The Valenciennes is the most widely consumed of all laces. Brussels continues to be a lace center, and the Brussels point is one of the most beautiful of laces. Only the finest flax is used in making the thread. The only lace originating in England is the modern Honiton. The pillow laces are the principal factory laces of that country. The Honiton is similar to the Duchesse. It was brought into prominence by Queen Victoria, who, wishing to better the condition of the lace girls of England, ordered her wedding gar-

ments of it. Two of her daughters and the Princess of Wales did the same. England has carried the industry into her Indian possessions. The paper closed with an interesting account of the present condition of the art and the means used to forward the industry. Mrs. Potter followed with a highly entertaining paper regarding lace making in the islands in the vicinity of Venice, supplemented by many incidents in connection therewith, while Mrs. Hull's paper was on the broad subject of "Lace making as an Art," which was treated with much thoroughness and vigor.

## WALDO EMERSON.

The Concord Poet and Seer Discussed by the Des Moines Women's Club.

### MISS IDA C. HULTIN'S PAPER.

A Man Who Sought the Truth and Consulted the "Over-

Soul." 1889

A very interesting session of the Women's club was held Wednesday, the chief feature being the reading of a paper on "Emerson" by Rev. Ida C. Hultin of the Unitarian church. A devoted admirer of the great philosopher and in entire harmony with his method of thought, Miss Hultin was able to speak with such enthusiasm and earnestness that every sentence was impressive. A brief synopsis of her excellent paper is here given:

"Prophet and apostle can only be rightly understood by prophet and apostle." This is the affirmation of the man whose works we study to-day. We feel it to be true that only so far as we are able to understand the man and his works can we become prophets and apostles of the thoughts he expressed. The pleasure found in the study may be apology for the presumption of the critics.

Emerson exclaims: "How shall a man escape from his ancestors?" and in his case we find no escape and no need for an escape. He believed in heredity and so must we as we become somewhat acquainted with the history of his predecessors. We find among them good men and thinkers, men who helped to shape the thought and make the history of the times in which they lived and whose influence did not die with them.

In 1823 Emerson began the study of theology, not, however, at the Harvard Theological school. In 1829 he became the colleague of Henry Ware in the pastorate of the second church of Boston. A year after he became the only minister of that church. He remained pastor of the church about four years. At the end of that time, having come to feel that he could not conscientiously conduct all of the forms of worship which the organization required, he resigned his place and never after became a settled pastor. It would seem that then and at all times when Emerson found that form hindered truth or did not adequately express it, he must put by the form. He was among the first to popularize lectures as a means of education, he lecturing not only in this country but in Great Britain. Though living in an ideal world, he kept himself acquainted with the march of events. Though he believed that the reformation of the world could be best brought about by purifying and enlightening the individual soul, he was nevertheless ready to further other meas-

ures when good work seemed possible. We cannot call Emerson a real philosopher. He has no system of philosophy. He is not systematic. He is the seer, the prophet, the inspired inspirer—not the speculative philosopher. He is charged with being inconsistent in his writings. But of this matter he says: "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines." This may mean little or much to us but certainly if we read with an honest desire to gain the truth we shall find an inner verity which unites all seemingly antagonistic parts. The universe presents existence in infinite variety, worlds are suns and systems; the seasons with their benefits; life, death; the bitter and the sweet of the within and the without; the flower, the rainbow and the earthquake; beast and man; all these make up a changing, changeless whole. So with Emerson, truth is many sided and one side never adequately expresses another but may seem to contradict it.

Emerson is an idealist, a mystic, if you please, but he has no score for the little things of every day life. The deep abyss of being is immeasurably more real to him than the material even though it be an illusion, speaks to him and nature becomes a mediator. Where others would find only antagonistic elements, he found resemblances, and a unity that relates all the parts. From the conservative and the transcendentalist; from the fanatic and the stoic; from the individual and from society; from nature and art; from Plato, Jesus, Swedenborg and Carlyle; from all these he gathers truth. No man, no age has a monopoly of truth and none is entirely without it. All truth be long to whoever can find and understand it.

There is with Emerson the possibility of a self forgetfulness, a bowing to the will of the Over-Soul not incompatible with a self reliance that will allow no man to be judge in questions of truth and of faith. He asks the soul to become acquainted with itself, to listen to the voice of the Infinite. He also knows the value of society. He understands that the average counts when we look for progress. His belief in immortality is belief in an eternal now, and prayer must be to him more than form. The condensed character of his writings is a fruitful source of his seeming obscurity. He has refined away so much that sometimes connecting links appear to be gone. There will seem to be a chasm without a bridge. Yet a subtle something binds all the parts together. He is original, painstaking, inviting. Though apparently lacking at times in organic wholeness, yet we must ask of the too scrupulous critic the question Emerson asks under different circumstances. You may condemn his book, but can you fight against his thought?

When Emerson draws his pictures of the English he would have us understand that England means London. We must not think of Ireland, Scotland nor Wales. The essay, the fiction and the poetry of the day he finds cramped. Macaulay is material. He judges Wordsworth to be an exceptional genius; Coleridge is found to be of a Catholic mind with a hunger for ideas, but his work seems to mark the closing of an era. Carlyle seems to have found the best place in his affections.

In Society and Solitude we feel that we are at home with Emerson. The best thoughts of home-life and heart life are expressed. We become familiar with thoughts that had been half-formed in our own minds. Ideas meet us like old friends. It is an unfailing source of pleasure. Society means much to him, not the mere exchanging of news, not the eating together, but it is like meeting-like. Mind



The ladies of the Women's club are making excellent progress in their preparation for the authors' carnival, many of the booths having been permanently assigned. Nicholas Nickleby will be under the management of Mrs. Judge Day and Mrs. F. W. Lehmann and this is sufficient to guarantee that it will be a complete success. Doubtless the public will have an opportunity to meet the doughty Squeers from "the delightful village of Dotheboys" face to face and to become better acquainted with those charming gentlemen the "Brothers Cheeryble." Mesdames Stuart Goodrell and Frank Green are already deeply interested in the direction of the "Rivals" for which they have hopes of securing the services of a fine comedian. Mrs. Jay Macomber will see that the Indian is presented in all his picturesqueness, she having the Hiawatha booth under her care. "Ben Hur," which offers so much that is magnificent and gorgeous in its rich oriental setting, is to be arranged for by Mrs. E. H. Carter and Mrs. D. G. Edmundson, while Mrs. J. H. Windsor will be responsible for "The Last Days of Pompeii," which will likewise afford an opportunity for artistic and beautiful effects. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with its fairies and tiny elves, its beautiful blending of diverse elements, its romantic scenery and dainty elegance will be given under the guidance of Mrs. J. C. Cummins. To provide something Japanese will be the work of Mrs. Lowry W. Goode and Mrs. Frank Vorse and it is sure to be charmingly done. Mrs. Harry West will see that the inimitable Pickwick and his host of fellow travelers, including of course the "fat boy," are duly introduced to an admiring public. Mother Goose, the dear old lady, is to be given a place to be sure, and Mrs. L. F. Andrews will see that it is one of due honor and consideration. "Guy Mannering" as a representative of Scotch quaintness will be in charge of Mrs. W. H. Bailey. Of course there will be a gypsy camp and the usual fortune telling. Mrs. Dr. Patchin, an authoress whom the club is proud to include in its members, was invited to give her own book "We Two," which is charmingly written and abounds in pretty, home-like scenes, but she preferred something else and so will look after the presentation of "Don Quixote". All of the above books have been assigned and it is believed that in addition Mrs. Edgar Lewis will see that the "Old Cabin Home" with its colored occupants, its bales of cotton, its "coons" and other characteristic features will be properly represented. "The Idyls of the King" will also be given, and the "Arabian Nights", the latter probably under Mrs. L. Young's direction. It is expected also to make a special feature of the different periods of American history, the earliest period with its Spaniards, then the revolutionary period abounding in courtly and commanding men and that of the late war with its more familiar aspects. Mrs. John Wyman and Mrs. Homer D. Cope are to look after the tableaux which will be varied and beautiful. There will be Delsartean drills, pleasant music and everything to make up a delightful entertainment. Mrs. Isaac L. Hillis, who once managed a similar carnival in New Orleans with great success, is the general manager now, and her zeal and enthusiasm and willingness to work are accomplishing wonders. It has been decided to make the carnival a feature of fair week and that it will fully take the place of the Seni Om Sed, while it is at the same time much more educating, goes without saying. Associated with Mrs. Hillis, as an advisory committee, are Miss Rachael C. Clarke, Mrs. J. H. McCord, Mrs. P. B. Durley and Mrs. L. B. Abdill.

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SENZABURO KODZU (Merchant).....Mr. NELSON ROYAL  
MOW (The Jinrikishaw Man).....Mr. WALTER PAUL

THOSE lovely and charming Japanese ladies, O-hanna-san, O-kin-san, O-ko-san and O-kane-san have kindly consented to serve tea in their own quaint fashion at 5 cents per cup. Parties wishing Chinese Nuts and Sweetmeats and genuine Japanese Flower Sparkles—direct from Japan—can obtain them of our agent, Senzaburo Kodzu, at the Curio Shop.

## SOCIETY

Society life is absorbed body and soul in the great authors' carnival, which is on the program at the old exposition building for every evening next week, with possible matinees on Wednesday and Saturday, under the auspices and for the benefit of that most potent social organization—the Des Moines Women's Club. It will be the first presentation or attempt of this world-wide celebrated novelty entertainment fad in Iowa's capital city. It is advertised in circus parlance to be the grandest, most elaborate, most instructive, most amusing, most enjoyable, and every other kind of "most" attraction, having drawn on between 200 and 300 of Des Moines' 400 for its character cast in their genuine book costumes, chosen from the famed works of Shakespeare, Tennyson, Dickens, Scott, Longfellow, Bulwer, Arabian Nights, etc, thus guaranteeing an unparalleled cosmopolitan procession of

kings, queens, lords, ladies, soldiers, gypsies, Indians, fairies. The entertainments will begin at 8 every evening with music and the admittance is to be only twenty-five cents. Supper will be served in the cafe from 6 to 8 o'clock. Mesdames Lowry Goode and Frank Vorse, with a corps of pig-tailed lads and lasses will run a Japanese restaurant. Mrs. Stewart Goodrell has impersonated "The Rivals;" Mrs. Tac Hussey will be seen as "Mother Goose" happily surrounded by a flock of gorgeous goslings; Mrs. Dr. Patchin will intimidate the assemblages with the awe-inspiring characters from "Don Quixote," but they are warranted not to be as ferocious as they may look. Mesdames Day and Lehman have peopled "Old Curiosity Shop's" cast, and Mrs. Ruttkay has been exploring Bohemia for a queer lot who will alone be worth the admittance. Mrs. Harry West will give a swell "Pickwick" party, peopled from the very cream of the 400. Mrs. Windsor is in hot rivalry on the program with a "Midsummer Night's Dream" aggregation, including a queen,

king and baccarat prince. Mesdames Potter and Hubbell have turned the "Arabian Nights" into modern reality and Mrs. L. F. Andrews will illustrate Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women," which, however, ought to be the easiest thing in the wide world to do in Des Moines. "Guy Mannering" and his folk will be the poetic guests of Mrs. W. H. Bailey. Mrs. Macomber has fearlessly invaded Longfellow's "Hiawatha" region and decoyed a motley collection of feathered bucks, squaws and papooses. There will be tableaux without number and plenty of red fire to assist the imagination. Altogether, the author's carnival is in it by an overwhelming majority and the state fair, Seni Om Sed and theaters will have to look to their laurels next week.

### SOCIETY'S WORLD TREMBLES.

Enthusiastic Reception Accorded to the Artistic and Gorgeous Authors' Carnival.

### AN ELEGANT PORTRAYAL OF FICTION.

The Opening Night of the Women's Club Season a Very Pleasing Success.

The Exposition building at Eighth and Walnut streets, which in years gone by has echoed to the joyous songs and lively tread of thousands of visitors was brought back to itself last evening. The "Authors' Carnival," the most artistic, realistic, and altogether utterly utter conception which has ever been given to the public in Des Moines, was formally opened last night. And what a wonderfully auspicious opening it was to be sure.

There never was such a jam in the Exposition building. People actually stood on chair rounds and tried to balance themselves on umbrella handles to get a view of the stage and when you come to the booths, the jam was terrible. More room was the need of the two hours of last evening's grand reception.

Coming into the building from the brilliantly lighted street was like passing from a charmed city into an enchanted palace. To describe the effect on one's nerves and feelings would be impossible. Handsomely decorated arches and columns; gorgeous appointments of booths and a stage that gave room for most artistic dialogues and tableaux; the large playing fountain with rainbow spray and the continuous passing of strangely dressed people, made one's head to turn and turn until he could grow to wondering if he were passing through a quixotic sleep.

At 8 o'clock the large stage began to fill with the costumed characters. They came mysteriously in pairs and keeping time to the delicious strains of the Thayer & Kromer orchestra, stationed in the woody glen above and back of the stage. The march occupied several minutes. In the brilliant light of three arc electric globes the scene was thrilling. Following the march came the tableaux of Irish literature, scenes from "The Rivals," Tom Moore and Goldsmith and finally the past, present and future of Ireland, pictured graphically and acted out in most artistic manner.

Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women" was presented, being almost entirely pantomime. It was a difficult thing to dress the parts and arrange action for this grand number. Some of the most noted characters in the world's history were presented. The immense audience, composed largely of the best informed people of Des Moines, was very enthusiastic in its demonstrations of approval of the Rivals and of the Dream.

After the regular programme the occupants of the various booths gave their respective dialogues and pantomime. Word pictures of these booths would fall far short of describing their artistic arrangement and the enchanting scenes enacted therein. You must go and see them.



You can't afford to miss the Authors' carnival. Besides the literary and musical feasts, the inner man can have nourishment, the ladies having a most tempting and excellent supper spread in the eastern part of the building. Such a supper cannot be found anywhere else in the city. It is served from 6 o'clock to 8 and all our business men should take supper there.

The Des Moines Women's club, under whose auspices the Authors' Carnival is given, has demonstrated that Des Moines is among the highest rank of cities and that her people are equal to such difficult undertakings.

The success of the carnival is assured. There will be crowds every night. Excursion trains are coming and Des Moines' citizens will go again and again, and speaking of success, the executive or advisory committee of the club deserves special credit. It is composed of Mrs. J. W. Hillis, Mrs. J. H. McCord, Mrs. L. B. Abbill, Mrs. P. B. Durley and Miss Rachael Clarke. Make your arrangements to attend the carnival as often as possible. It will instruct, amuse and delight you.

## NOTES.

O, that dear old Mother Goose! Isn't she a picture?

Frank Sherman carried off the laurels as inimitable Pickwick. He elicited roars of laughter.

Nothing lovelier than the costumes of the charming ladies and children in the Arabian Nights.

Supper will be served for 25 cents. The European plan has been abandoned and a delicious supper will cost but a quarter.

Mrs. ex-Governor Larabee was a carnival visitor last night. She was enroute for her home in Clermont, from a trip to the far west.

Mrs. Jarley's wax figures were splendid. Mrs. J. A. Jackson was perfect as Mrs. Jarley, with her immense poke bonnet, green veil and curls dancing about her shoulders. The queen of Sheba was taken by Miss Nellie Jenkins; Darwin, C. L. Nourse; George Washington, Walter McHenry; Mary, queen of Scots, Mrs. W. Ballard; Alexander, the great, J. McCoy; Mary Walker, Frank Phillips; Goddess of Liberty, Miss Maude Jenkins; Brother Jonathan, Will McVey; Napoleon, Fred Haskell.

## AUTHOR'S CARNIVAL

It was Opened in the Exposition Building Last Night.

## A SCENE OF MUCH BEAUTY

The Ladies of Des Moines Inaugurate a Splendid Carnival and Thousands of People Visit Their Beautiful Tableaux—Handsome Groups of Ladies.

The authors' carnival opened in the exposition building at 6 o'clock last night and it was a bewildering scene of enchantment. The large building was handsomely decorated with bunting, plants, flowers and a large fountain added to the brilliancy of the scene as the silvery spray flashed beneath the electric lights. It was more like a carnival of nations. You would bow to the sultan of Turkey and jog against a high priest or a Don Quixote, or some one else. But then the ladies! Was you there? Oh, well, you should have been to appreciate it.

The beautiful ladies of Des Moines were out in full force and with their becoming costumes were never seen at a more bewitching advantage.

The building was crowded from the time it was opened until it was closed at 10:30 and even then the crowd was reluctant to quit the scene. Booths to the right, booths to the left, booths everywhere, and each one offered some new and pleasing attraction.

## IRISH LITERATURE--"The Rivals."

MRS. S. GOODRELL,

Chairman.

Dramatis Personæ.  
SHERIDAN.IRELAND  
SHERIDAN

Bob Acres  
Sir Lucius O'Trigger  
Sir Anthony Absolute  
Captain Absolute  
Falkland  
Davy  
Mrs. Malaprop  
Lydia Languish  
Julia  
Lucy

MRS. W. L. READ

MR. EDGAR LEWIS

Mr. Stewart Goodrell

Judge Thos. Burke

Mr. Thos. Cheshire

Mr. Lou Burnett

Mr. Crosby

Mr. Fred Walker

Mrs. Frank Green

Miss Bertha Gilcrest

Miss Jennie Osborne

Miss Kittie Ives

THOMAS MOORE.

MR. GEORGE BURNETT

Miss Ada Witmer

## GOLDSMITH.

GOLDSMITH

Dr. Primrose, Vicar of Wakefield

Mrs. Primrose

Olivia

Miss Wilmot

George Primrose

Sir William Thornhill

Squire Thornhill

MR. THOS. CHESHIRE

Mr. P. D. Ankeny

Mrs. Edgar Lewis

Miss Fannie Jones

Miss Kittie Ives

Mrs. Flamborough

Miss Kittie Ives

Mr. Fred Walker

Judge Thos. Burke

Mr. Crosby

## FINALE.

Ireland

America

Harpist

Mrs. W. L. Read

Mrs. Stewart Goodrell

Populace

England

Minstrel

Populace

Miss Jessie Kyle

Miss Ada Witmer

## Tableaux.

I.  
MRS. MALAPROP: "There, Sir Anthony, there sits the deliberate simpleton who wants to disgrace her family and lavish herself upon a fellow not worth a shilling."

II.  
BOB ACRES: "Hey, Jack, what, this is the Mr. Falkland who—?"

III.  
SIR LUCIUS O'TRIGGER [reading]: "Sir, there is often a sudden incentive impulse in love that has a grander induction than years of domestic combination; such was the commotion I felt at the first superfluous view of Sir Lucius O'Trigger."

IV.  
CAPTAIN ABSOLUTE: "Thus, then, let me enforce my suit!"

V.  
DAVY: "It smells of gunpowder, like a soldier's pouch! Oons! I wouldn't swear it mayn't go off!"

VI.  
SIR LUCIUS O'TRIGGER: "Gentlemen, your most obedient!"

VII.  
MINSTREL: "The harp that once thro' Tara's halls."

VIII.  
DR. PRIMROSE: "Now is my happiness complete!"

## IX. IRELAND—PAST—PRESENT—FUTURE.

MINSTREL: "Our past has been as night."

This carnival is given and managed under the auspices of the Women's Club and they expect to use the net proceeds to further their most worthy objects. The ladies who have given their individual attention to this in order to make it a success are Mesdames Dr. R. A. Patchin, Lowry Goode, Frank Vorse, Russell George and Misses Josie Culver, Lucy Percival, Margaret Christy, Helen Johns and Ruth Vorse. These ladies have worked almost day and night and last night they had the satisfaction of seeing their efforts crowned with more than ordinary success.

There was a large stage in the main part of the building and on this was played in pantomime "The Rivals" and "A Dream of Fair Women." "The Rivals" was presented in nine tableaux, and the following was the cast of characters:

## SHERIDAN.

Ireland ..... Mrs. W. L. Read  
Sheridan ..... Mr. Edgar Lewis

Bob Acres ..... Mr. Stewart Goodrell  
Sir Lucius O'Trigger ..... Judge Thos. Burke  
Sir Anthony Absolute ..... Mr. Thos. Cheshire  
Captain Absolute ..... Mr. Lou Burnett  
Falkland ..... Mr. Crosby  
Davy ..... Mr. Fred Walker  
Mrs. Malaprop ..... Mrs. Frank Green  
Lydia Languish ..... Miss Bertha Gilcrest  
Julia ..... Miss Jennie Osborne  
Lucy ..... Miss Kittie Ives

THOMAS MOORE.  
Thomas Moore ..... Mr. George Burnett  
Minstrel ..... Miss Ada Witmer

GOLDSMITH.  
Goldsmith ..... Mr. Thos. Cheshire  
Dr. Primrose, Vicar of Wakefield ..... Mr. P. D. Ankeny  
Mrs. Primrose ..... Mrs. Edgar Lewis  
Olivia, Miss Oulise Ankeny Sophia ..... Miss Fannie Jones  
Miss Wilmot, Miss Jennie Osborne ..... Miss Kittie Ives  
George Primrose, Mr. Lou Burnett ..... Mr. Fred Walker  
Moses Primrose ..... Judge Thos. Burke  
Sir William Thornhill ..... Mr. Crosby  
Squire Thornhill ..... Mr. Crosby

## FINALE.

Ireland, Mrs. W. L. Read, England ..... Miss Jessie Kyle  
Minstrel ..... Miss Ada Witmer

America, Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, Minstrel ..... Miss Ada Witmer  
The cast of the "Dream of fair women" was:

## CHARACTERS.

Tennyson ..... Mr. J. M. Ross  
Helen of Troy ..... Miss Nora Barnard  
Iphigenia ..... Mrs. Wm. Coleman  
Cleopatra ..... Miss Susie Porter  
Jephtha's Daughter ..... Miss Harrie Gibbs  
Fair Rosamond ..... Miss Mabel Lucas  
Eleanor, Queen of Henry III. ....

Margaret More ..... Mrs. Glen Lewis  
Joan of Arc ..... Mrs. J. C. Barnard  
Eleanor, Queen of Edward I. of England ..... Mrs. E. H. Kerr  
Mrs. Jessie Bacon Potter, of Philadelphia  
The Lady of Shalott ..... Mrs. H. A. Seales  
Each and every one did themselves proud and were heartily applauded. It was a very pleasant part of the entertainment.

The Japanese booth was grand and picturesque. No booth in the hall was more faithfully worked out in detail. The "Irish Booth," with its notable characters and elegant costumes, was most attractive. Mrs. Tac Hussey as Mother Goose should have been "Kodaked" on the spot, so good was the make-up, and the Mother Goose quadrille, with its "Dickery dickery-dickery-dock" drew and held the crowd every time the "mouse ran down the clock." A banquet table, unknighly armor, priestly robe, the sweep of Spanish mantilla and the flutter of Spanish fans were Don Quixote. The wax works, with an energetic Mrs. Jarley in Mrs. J. A. Jackson, was the drawing feature of the "Old Curiosity Shop." "Pickwick" was in an uproar of fun. The Scandinavian booth was unique and a study in costume. The "Arabian Nights" and a dream of fair women were beautiful in grouping and color. Sir du Guy Mannering, booth du play was actively rehearsed. The Hiawatha booth was a howling success. Its characters looking more like Indians than the genuine article. No one who saw Mrs. Macomber in costume will ever forget her.

The Colored Glee club then rendered some splendid selections and the first performance was over. It will be continued every night this week.

The beautiful effect of the fountain was due to the use of a new perfect anti-pressure hose nozzle recently patented by Chas. V. Pollick, and are lights and colored globes.

In the review of the entertainment of the evening before on account of lack of space, due credit was not given to Mrs. Y. T. Andrews and her Dream of Fair Women. Most of the other ladies have had their way blazed, having at hand dramatizations or other analyses. Mrs. Andrews was compelled to do all this herself, and with the assistance of the talented ladies and gentlemen who are in her booth, did it well.

The entertainment has passed beyond the stage where it is speculation whether it will be a financial success. The great attendance is deserved and appreciated.

The ladies particularly wish to call attention to the fact that they are serving supper. It is an early one, and served neatly and elegantly. Besides it is very cheap and visitors get more for their money than at a restaurant or hotel.

The programme to-night will be:  
Overture.  
Grand march.  
Reception on stage.  
"Guy Mannering," Scott.  
"Highland Fling," Donald McDonald.  
Quartet (vocal).  
"Arabian Nights."  
Roger's statuary.  
"Pickwick Papers," Dickens.  
Orchestra.



# 1891.

## Fridthjof's Saga (Scandiavian Classic.)

**MRS. D. E. RUTTKAY, Chairman.**

|                                        |                |                                                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Bele, King of Sogn, in Norway.....     | A. H. Weber    | Thorstein, a peasant, friend and companion-in- |
| Helge.....                             | His sons.....  | arms of King Bele.....                         |
| Holfdan.....                           | C. McMeekin    | Fridthjof, son of Thorstein.....               |
| Ingeborg, his daughter.....            | C. Flenniken   | Bjorn, a sworn foster-brother of Fridthjof.... |
| Bing, King of Bingrie, in Norway.....  | Lora D. Ankeny |                                                |
| Angantye, ruler of Orkney Islands..... | J. H. Smullin  |                                                |
| Priest of Baldu.....                   | L. Hutch'son   | Ladies of Angantye's court.....                |
|                                        |                | ..... Laura George, Jennie Coskery, Ava Pickel |

### First Representation—King Bele Leaves His Kingdom to His Sons.

King Bele and his friend and companion in arms, Thorstein, intending to depart to Valhal, as life's work with them is no longer desirable—they having outlived the capacity of partaking in its warlike activities—King Bele summons his sons, Helge and Holfdan, as well as Fridthjof (son of Thorstein) to his presence to confer the succession on Helge and Holfdan and commend Fridthjof to fealty to them, that the kingdom may prosper supported by his prowess. Fridthjof and Ingeborg (daughter of King Bele) have from childhood to maturity been reared together and known naught but affection for each other.

### Second Representation—Fridthjof Refused the Hand of Ingeborg.

Fridthjof requests from Helge and Holfdan their sister Ingeborg in marriage. They refuse him with scorn, for he is peasant-born and not suited to wed with the royal line.

### Third Representation—Courtship and Parting.

King Bing, of Bingrie, having lost his wife, seeks in marriage Ingeborg, his nobles approving. King Bing sends to Helge and Holfdan asking their sister in marriage, but they refused the suit. King Bing determines to invade Sogn to avenge the insult offered him. Great fear and consternation possess the people, especially as Fridthjof refuses to aid in repelling the invasion. For this he is exiled and sent to the Orkney Islands to collect tribute said to have been paid to King Bele by Angantye, the ruler. In departing Fridthjof thought to persuade Ingeborg to accompany him hence to other climes. This she refuses, "Because my honor must be saved, and thine."

### Fourth Representation—Fridthjof With Angantye.

Fridthjof reaches the Orkney Islands after a most tempestuous voyage, the fury of the sea gods having been invoked by Helge to wreck Fridthjof. He overcomes them and lands in safety, but his good boat Ellide is much damaged. His manly conduct as victor over Atle, one of Angantye's warriors, who meets him in deadly strife, propitiates Angantye. He listens to the wrongs of Fridthjof, as does also his court, with interest and sympathy. Angantye invites him to remain during the winter and to this he accedes. In the spring Fridthjof returns to Sogn, but to find his possessions wasted by fire, at the instigation of Helge, and Ingeborg given in marriage to King Bing after his success in defeating Helge and Holfdan. Fridthjof again takes to his roving life at sea in his good boat Ellide. His love for Ingeborg keeps him in constant unrest. He determines at all hazards to see Ingeborg again. In disguise he visits King Bing.

### Fifth Representation—Fridthjof Appears Before King Bing.

Fridthjof appears at Bingrie in the disguise of an old man. He excites the suspicion of King Bing by the strength he displays in handling a warrior, many of them having ventured taunting remarks upon the unknown stranger. The tumult that ensues causes King Bing to summon him to his presence. King Bing, realizing that such strength as displayed by Fridthjof belongs not to age, requests that his disguise be dropped. Fridthjof remains at Bingrie until the death of the king. King Bing bequeathes his queen to Fridthjof and desires him to guard the crown for his son.

### Sixth Representation—Reconciliation.

Fridthjof determines to return and ask forgiveness from the priest of Baldu for having wooed Ingeborg in the sacred precincts of the temple of Baldu. His repentance of his past deeds wins him forgiveness, and the temple is rebuilt (it was destroyed by accidental fire, but attributed by the people to the displeasure of the gods for Fridthjof's desecration of the temple by his thoughts and words of love near its altars), but for entire forgiveness Fridthjof must have no enmity against those who had wrought him wrong. At the supreme moment of his humiliation Holfdan appears and Fridthjof extends his hand in reconciliation (the news of Helge's death had arrived but shortly before; he was crushed to death by the falling of a god whose temple he was about to desecrate by his entrance), which Holfdan accepts. This, Fridthjof's highest achievement, self-conquest, he has scarcely consummated when Ingeborg, in bridal vestments, enters the temple and is given in marriage to Fridthjof by Holfdan. The blessing of the priest of Baldu is bestowed upon them and their marriage immediately follows.

## A DREAM OF FAIR WOMEN.

TENNYSON.

**MRS. L. F. ANDREWS, Chairman.**

### CHARACTERS.

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| I. TENNYSON.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Mr. J. M. ROSS                            |
| II. HELEN OF TROY.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Miss NORA BARNARD                         |
| The most beautiful woman of her time, whose elopement with Paris caused the Trojan war and sacrifice of Iphigenia.                                                                                                                                                |                                           |
| III. IPHIGENIA.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Mrs. WM. COLEMAN                          |
| Daughter of Agamemnon.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                           |
| IV. CLEOPATRA.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Miss SUSIE PORTER                         |
| V. JEPHTHA'S DAUGHTER.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Miss HARRIET GIBBS                        |
| Jephtha, a judge of Israel, made a vow to offer as a burnt offering whosoever came forth first out of his door to meet him, should he return victorious over the Ammonites. His daughter met him, "and he did with her according to his vow, which he had vowed." |                                           |
| VI. FAIR ROSAMOND.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Miss MABEL LUCAS                          |
| The favorite of Henry III. of England, who it is said built a labyrinth to conceal her from his queen, Eleanor of Aquitaine.                                                                                                                                      |                                           |
| VII. ELEANOR, Queen of Henry III.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Mrs. GLEN LEWIS                           |
| Discovering her rival, kills her.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                           |
| VIII. MARGARET MORE.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mrs. J. C. BARNARD                        |
| Daughter of Sir Thomas More, Lord Chancellor of England, who was beheaded by order of Henry. She was noted for her devotion to her father.                                                                                                                        |                                           |
| IX. JOAN OF ARC.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Mrs. E. H. KERR                           |
| Who believed herself called to restore France to her rightful king, Charles VII. She saw visions of St. Margaret and St. Catharine, who promised her their aid.                                                                                                   |                                           |
| X. ELEANOR, Queen of Edward I. of England.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Mrs. JESSIE BACON POTTER, of Philadelphia |
| "She who knew that Love can conquer Death;<br>Who, kneeling, with one arm about her king,<br>Drew forth the poison with her balmy breath."                                                                                                                        |                                           |
| XI. THE LADY OF SHALOTT.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Mrs. H. A. SEARLES                        |
| There she weaves by night and day;<br>Out flew the web and floated wide.<br>The curse has come upon me," cried<br>The lady of Shalott.                                                                                                                            |                                           |







1891.

## PICKWICK PAPERS.

MRS. HARRY WEST.

Chairman.

## CHARACTERS.

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| MR. PICKWICK                    | Mr. FRANK SHERMAN     |
| MR. TUPMAN                      | Mr. H. S. CHASE       |
| MR. WINKLE                      | Mr. WALTER McCAIN     |
| MR. SNODGRASS                   | Mr. KRAUTH WITMER     |
| MR. STIGGINS                    | Mr. ALBERT GRUSS      |
| MR. WELLER, Sr.                 | Mr. P. J. MILLS       |
| SAM WELLER                      | Mr. CARROLL WRIGHT    |
| JOE, The Fat Boy                | Mr. FRED M. McCARTNEY |
| MRS. BARDELL'S BOY              | RAYMOND WINDSOR       |
| MRS. BARDELL                    | Mrs. NORMAN LIGHTY    |
| MRS. WELLER                     | Mrs. JNO. WRIGHT      |
| MISS RACHEL WARDEL, Maiden Aunt | Mrs. MAUDE POLK       |
| MISS EMILY WARDLE               | Mrs. GEO. B. HIPPEE   |
| MISS ISABELLE WARDLE } Nieces   | Mrs. H. S. CHASE      |
| MARY, The House Maid            | Mrs. CARROLL WRIGHT   |

## SCENES FROM PICKWICK PAPERS.

Scene 1.—The Pickwickians. Mr. Pickwick's address to the club.

Scene 2.—Mr. Tupman, Miss Rachel Wardle and nieces who ridicule maiden aunt. Tender scene between Mr. Tupman and Miss Wardle, interrupted by the appearance of Joe the fat boy, who was never before known to be fully awake, except on the present occasion.

Scene 3.—Mr. Winkle considers himself a sportsman, which, unfortunately, resulted in the shooting of Mr. Tracy Tupman.

Scene 4.—An interview between Mr. Pickwick and Mrs. Bardell. The latter's imagination leads her to believe that Mr. Pickwick regards her with very tender feelings. As a finale, she faints and falls in his arms, much to his dismay. Enter Tupman with Snodgrass and Mrs. Bardell's little boy, who, thinking his mother ill-treated straightway attacks Mr. Pickwick.

Scene 5.—Sam Weller assists Mary, the house maid, with her work. Showing to inquiring minds the proper way to fold a rug.

Scene 6.—Scene between the Wellers and Parson Stiggins. The deputy shepherd being affected to tears by the worldliness of the Samuels, finds it necessary to have constant recourse to his favorite beverage of pine apple rum, to each cup of which he adds four lumps of sugar.

Scene 7.—Mr. Pickwick being under the weather his friends procure for him a conveyance and after making him comfortable leave him to continue their hunting. He falls asleep. In this condition he is found by the owner of the grounds, who, regarding him as a poacher, orders him taken to the pound. His awakening.

Scene 8.—Sam Weller writes a valentine. Entrance of Mr. Weller, Sr., who assists in the composition.

Scene 9.—Mr. Pickwick in his travels meets with a romantic adventure with a middle aged lady in yellow curl papers.

Scene 10.—Christmas Party. Virginia reel led by Mr. Pickwick and Mrs. Bardell. Mr. Pickwick under the mistletoe.

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

MRS. J. H. WINDSOR, Chairman.

## CHARACTERS.

|                                                    |                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| THESEUS, Duke of Athens                            | W. DICKERSON          |
| EGEUS, Father to Hermia                            | JOHN GARVER           |
| LYSANDER                                           | HOMER D. COPE         |
| DEMETRIUS                                          | ALBERT G. MAISH       |
| BOTTOM, a Weaver                                   | JOE CHRISTY           |
| HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons                    | Mrs. KEITH            |
| HERMIA, Daughter of Theseus, in love with Lysander | Mrs. JNO. TREPANIER   |
| HELENA, in love with Demetrius                     | Mrs. GEO. LENDRUM     |
| OBERON, King of the Fairies                        | Master FRANK GETCHELL |
| TITANIA, Queen of the Fairies                      | Miss SUSIE KNIGHT     |
| PUCK                                               | IRA PATCHIN           |

Fairies attending King and Queen—Miss Irene Mansfield, Miss Daisy Brower, Miss Florence Kidd, Miss Birdie Rawson, Miss Helen Knight, Baby Kurtz.

Mortal Boy, causing trouble between King and Queen, Philip Patchin.

## OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

CHARLES DICKENS.

MRS. DAY AND MRS. LEHMAN, Chairmen.

## CHARACTERS.

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| LITTLE NELL                       | HATTIE WRIGHT            |
| GRANDFATHER                       |                          |
| QUILP                             | JOHN BOGGS               |
| MRS. QUILP                        | AGNES HOLBROOK           |
| QUILP'S BOY                       | JOHN GOUGH               |
| MRS. QUILP'S MOTHER, Mrs. Jinifer | NELLIE STARK             |
| SALLY BRASS                       | Mrs. J. C. HUME          |
| SAMUEL BRASS                      |                          |
| DICK SWIVELLER                    | WOODS HUTCHINSON         |
| THE MARCHIONESS                   | EDITH ROBERTSON CAMPBELL |
| MRS. JARLEY                       | Mrs. DAY                 |

Quilp, who persecutes Little Nell and her grandfather, is a dwarf, with a mischievous and malevolent temper. He is assisted in his various and vicious undertakings by Samuel Brass and his sister Sally. Quilp frightens and terrifies all who come in contact with him, not excepting Mrs. Jinifer, his wife's mother, a lady of uncommon spirit. Little Nell and her grandfather are assisted by Mrs. Jarley and Dick Swiveller, and by the Marchioness, who is an underpaid and underfed servant of Miss Sally Brass.

Also a collection of wax works. Prince of Wales to be represented by D. B. Lyon. Sairy Gamp, Betsey Prig, and many other familiar characters will be seen.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," with what seems to us work-a-day people its unnatural shadings and blendings of the real and unreal, a creation of fancy, a stringing of glittering baubles of thought, as it were, upon the golden chain of imagination, strung together in his lighter moods by that master mind of all the world—Shakespeare—was written evidently to elaborate and exemplify the old adage "The course of true love never runs smooth." The first four acts will be presented in pantomime.

Theseus, the Duke, presses his suit; Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, yields to his urgent solicitations and consents to wed. According to an old Athenian law, if a daughter refuses to wed as her father wills the reigning power of the state has a right to cause her to be put to death. One Egeus has a daughter, Hermia, whom he drags before the Duke, desiring him to enforce the law if Hermia should still refuse to wed Demetrius as Egeus wills. The Duke gives her four days in which to make up her mind to comply with her father's wishes. Hermia loves and is beloved of Lysander, who, realizing the difficulty, begs Hermia to meet him at night in the woods and fly to distant parts, where the law cannot affect them. They confide their plans to Hermia's best friend, Helena, who loves Demetrius madly but is not loved in return. Helena reveals the plans of the lovers to Demetrius and they agree to intercept them in the woods that night.

Oberon, King of the Fairies, and Titania, his Queen, are quarreling over a little mortal boy, both desiring to possess him. Oberon is so angry that he desires to punish Titania, so, calling Puck to his aid, he instructs him to search for a little purple flower, the juice of which, if dropped upon the eyelid of a sleeping creature, will cause them to be enamored of the first object their eyes fall upon when awakening. Oberon, invisible, sees Demetrius and Helena enter the wood, Helena begging for Demetrius' love, but being repulsed. Oberon, pitying Helena, determines by the aid of the magical flower to soften Demetrius' heart, and so instructs Puck, but Puck blunders and puts the flower on Lysander's eyes; Oberon squeezes flower on Titania's eyes, taking care that she shall be awakened by a burly clown with an ass's head. Lysander awakens, sees Helena, who is still pursuing Demetrius, and offers her his heart, and immediately the lovers become entangled in a web of misunderstanding that is only unraveled—after great grief—by Oberon and Puck employing another magical flower that counteracts the effects of the first. The Duke, Queen Hippolyta and Egeus appear, are reconciled, and "all goes merry as a marriage bell."



# ARABIAN NIGHTS.

MRS. H. C. POTTER & MRS. F. M. HUBBELL, Chairmen

## CHARACTERS.

|                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| SULTAN.....                          | FENIMORE COOPER     |
| SULTANA.....                         | BERTHA CLAPP        |
| SINBAD, THE SAILOR.....              | JAMES B. WEAVER, Jr |
| HINBAD.....                          | WARD CASE           |
| CALIPH.....                          | H. R. PERSINGER     |
| ALI BABA.....                        | WALTER SCOTT        |
| ALADDIN.....                         | HARRY PROUTY        |
| BADROUL BOUDON (Aladdin's wife)..... | BEULAH HUBBELL      |
| ARMINE.....                          | EDNA KIDD           |
| SCHEHERAZADE.....                    | Mrs. JOHN DRAKE     |
| FATIMA.....                          | NELL McCORD         |
| PARI BAROU.....                      | Mrs. JAMES WEAVER   |
| GIAUHARA.....                        | Mrs. JENNIE BOWE    |
| ZOBEIDE.....                         | MARY FARQUHARSON    |
| MAIDS.....                           | EMILY FOOTE         |
|                                      | BAZELLE HATCH       |
|                                      | BERTHA CLARKSON     |
|                                      | MAY KIDD            |
|                                      | ZOE HAMMOND         |

A Processional Sacrifice to the God Eros.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Feast of Jupiter.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Festival Greeting to Orpheus and Terpsichore.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# GUY MANNERING.

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

MRS. W. H. BAILY, Chairman.

## CHARACTERS.

|                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| GUY MANNERING.....     | Mr. J. A. JACKSON                |
| GODFREY BERTRAM.....   | Mr. A. S. WILCOXEN               |
| DOMINIE SAMPSON.....   | Mr. J. B. JOHNSON                |
| CHARLES HAZLEWOOD..... | Mr. McKEY                        |
| HARRY BERTRAM.....     | Mr. HENRY MENNIG                 |
| GLOSSIN.....           | Mr. MACK GALUSHA                 |
| DANDIE DINMOT.....     | Mr. A. S. WILCOXEN               |
| DICK HATTERAICK.....   | Mr. C. W. MENNIG AND H. H. LANTZ |
| MEG MERRILLES.....     | Miss MARY NEWMAN                 |
| MRS. McCANDLISH.....   | Mrs. E. E. HUGHES                |
| JULIA MANNERING.....   | Miss FANNY AMES                  |
| LUCY BERTRAM.....      | Miss LOUISE BAILY                |

GYPSES—Mrs. Mennig, Misses Gertie Kennedy, Carrie Kennedy, Helen Allabach, Edna Keeler, — Lyman, Fannie Baily, Bertie Patchin, Robert Bailey and others. Bona fide fortune teller. Tableaux, interspersed with Scotch songs by Master Robert Turner.

# HIAWATHA.

LONGFELLOW.

MRS. J. K. MACOMBER, Chairman.

## CHARACTERS.

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| NOKOMIS.....   | Mrs. GALBRAITH      |
| MINNEHAHA..... | Miss AYERS          |
| HIAWATHA.....  | F. Y. LOCKE         |
| KWASIND.....   | HOWARD LUCAS        |
| OSSEO.....     | F. H. HUNT          |
| OWEENEE.....   | Miss BAYLISS        |
| CHIBLABOS..... | F. H. LIDDLE        |
| WENONAH.....   | Miss ANKENY         |
| ONAWAY.....    | Miss WINIFRED LUCAS |
| WOSA.....      | Miss MINNIE NEWCOMB |
| WABENA.....    | Miss CLARKE         |

THE FOLLOWING TABLEAUX WILL BE PRESENTED.

★ 'The Visit to the Arrow Makers.'

"Wooing of Minnehaha."

"The Twirling of the Bowls."

"Transformation Scene."

"Death of Minnehaha."

## ABSTRACT OF GUY MANNERING.

1. Guy Mannering, a young English gentleman traveling in Scotland, finds himself the guest of Godfrey Bertram, the laird of Ellangowan, and through astrology forecasts the future of the laird's only son, born that night. Dominic Sampson, Bertram's companion, discusses astrology with them. 2. The gypsy, Meg Merrilies, tells the child's fortune in her way. 3. While thus engaged, Hatteraick, the smuggler, appears and sees Mannering watching Meg. 4. Bertram becomes strict with regard to vagrant laws, and drives gypsies from his estate. 5. Whereupon Meg curses him, his family and estate. 6. Bertram also executes laws against smugglers, who kidnap his son Harry on his fifth birthday. That day Mrs. Bertram dies, leaving an infant daughter Lucy. Lawyer Glossin, in league with smugglers, finally gains possession of Bertram's estate. 7. Guy Mannering returns from India, where he had been seventeen years, and learns of Bertram's misfortune at Mrs. McCandlish's inn. 8. Godfrey Bertram dies at the sale of his property when Glossin appears. When kidnapped, Harry Bertram was taken to Holland and named Brown, sent as clerk to India, soon enters army, falls in love with Col. Mannering's daughter Julia, of which Mannering disapproves. They fight a duel, in which Brown was supposed to be killed. He follows Mannering and daughter to Scotland. 9. Brown meets a good friend, Dandie Dinmot, at an inn, in which Meg sees them and recognizes Brown as the lost Harry Bertram. 10. Brown and Dinmot beset by robbers. 11. Meg saves Brown's life from robbers in the cave. 12. Brown accidentally shoots Charles Hazlewood, Lucy Bertram's lover. 13. Glossin conspires with Hatteraick in the cave to kill Brown. 14. Glossin arrests Brown for shooting Hazlewood. 15. Meg warns Dominic Sampson of Brown's danger. 16. Hazlewood rescues Brown and Dinmot after Brown's escape from jail. 17. Meg identifies Brown as Harry Bertram. 18. Dominic Sampson also identifies Harry. 19. Harry meets his sister. 20. Julia, Lucy and Harry out walking, meet Meg, with whom Harry goes off to the cave. 21. Followed by Dinmot and Hazlewood, they capture Dick Hatteraick, who shoots Meg. 22. Hatteraick kills Glossin and suicides. 23. Harry and Julia, Lucy and Hazlewood, Col. Mannering and Dominic Sampson all happy.



IN MEMORY OF MISS YEOMANS.

The funeral of Miss Sara Yeomans was held at Woodland chapel yesterday afternoon at 2:30. A number of the ladies of the Woman's Club were present. She was much beloved by the members. The following memorial was prepared at the suggestion of the club and resolutions were adopted:

The death of Miss Sara Yeomans came with a startling suddenness to her friends here in Des Moines. Born in Heaton, England, she lived the greater part of her life in Hereford until her education was completed, when she traveled extensively in Europe and the farther east and America. About the last ten years of her life were spent in this country, where she came to be with her brother, living in Wyoming and the the west and for several years near Indianapolis. The last year she spent in Des Moines, having art classes in the city. This is the brief outline of her life. We who have learned to know her since she has lived in this vicinity feel we have lost a woman well worthy to be remembered. Strong, vigorous, active, the mere thought of death can scarcely be associated with her. But a few days before she died she said with her characteristic cheerfulness, "Life is good and well worth living. I feel as though nothing could daunt me. I am so hopeful of the future." And to those of us who knew the memory of her constant hopefulness, her untiring energy, her quick appreciation for all those lovelier things in life which make for good; the memory of the woman bravely facing a life—we American women think so noble—of self support, though reared and nurtured in all the refinements of an English home of comfort, taking up her new life with an eager thirst for the real beauty which the art she taught could give; the memory of this woman's life will be to her friends a sweet possession, a strong incentive toward their own better living.

To her lonely family in England who must grieve that she has died so far from them and may regret that she had ever left her home there. Comfort would come could they know what an influence her life had in the few years she lived here, and how all who knew her, even slightly, felt strengthened by her courageous spirit.

For them and us who grieve her loss, her own words must speak the best comfort. We are "so hopeful of the future."

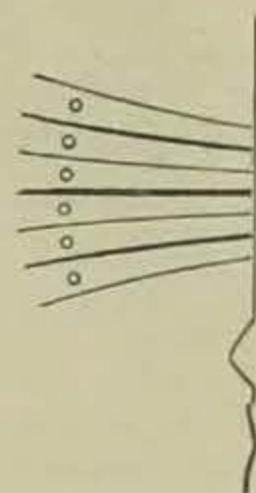
RESOLUTIONS.

Within the last week the membership of the Women's club has been broken up by the sudden and unexpected death of Miss Sara Yeomans. The last work of her life was the preparation of a paper for the Women's Club upon the Hereford cathedral and we deem it fitting to pay tribute in words to her memory as a faithful and valued member of this organization. As a woman she was brave, uncomplaining, faithful to her duties, sympathetic and helpful to those who stood in need, and inspired with an interest for that which is high and noble in life. Her tastes were emphasized in the work which the club has undertaken—the establishment of an art gallery, and had she lived we should have been sure of her hearty co-operation in furthering this project. As an organization we tender to her family and immediate friends our sincere sympathies; and direct that this memorial be made a part of the records of the club, and that a copy be sent to the family and ask that it be published.

*In loving memory  
of  
Sara Yeomans,  
Died*

*Tuesday, October thirteenth, 1891.  
Des. Moines, Iowa.*

A SYLLABUS OF ❖ ❖



TOPICAL ❖ ❖  
TALKS ❖ ❖

UPON THE

HISTORY  
OF ART



BY

MISS SARA YEOMANS,  
DES MOINES.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

PHOTOGRAPHS, ENGRAVINGS, CHARTS, ETC.







## STUDY OF FICTION.

American Novelists the Subject  
of Essay Before the  
Women's Club.

## AN IDEAL WRITER OF STORIES.

A Pleasing Review of One of Mr.  
Geo W. Cable's Best  
Novels.

A highly enjoyable and instructive paper on "American Fiction" was read before the Women's club Wednesday afternoon by Mrs. Tac. Hussey. In opening, Mrs. Hussey referred to the English minister, a learned man, who some years ago sneeringly asked "Who reads an American book?" The answer has been developing so in volume that, substituting the word novel for book, the answer comes from all climes, "Who doesn't?"

The Americans are said to have no history, no ruins, no romance to be fuel to kindle fictitious fires. In reply to this assertion it was pointed out that material for romance may be found in the picture of white sails on turbulent seas bearing our forefathers to unknown rocky shores; in the first sight of the Indian in his fantastic garb; in the war of the Revolution with all its attendant circumstances of bravery and privation, the making of a new constitution, the taking oaths of allegiance, inaugurating a president who refused a crown; the opening of new states and territories; the Mexican war opening our eyes to glimpses of a strange people and a lost civilization; the old south with Africa within its borders; the procession of white wagons carrying the "forty-niners" to far off California; the strange life in the mining countries; our civil war, the freeing of the slave and taking him as an ally into the fight to confront his former master. What more could be asked in the way of material for the novelist's skill? Following this comprehensive outline of what constitutes the material for American fiction, was an interesting review of the work of numerous writers of fiction, with some breezy sketches of that which had served as an inspiration to their pens and many charming incidents of their lives. The paper was devoted chiefly to our native novelists as they have treated of distinctively American themes, and closed with a high tribute to Mr. Geo. W. Cable. Since writing this paper, said Mrs. Hussey, I have had one of the greatest treats of my life in hearing Mr. Cable read selections from his novel Dr. Sevier. For once reality outstripped imagination. Return, O Shumelite, return, that we may look upon thee. What shall we see in the Shumelite? To my mind, he is the novelist of today, he fulfils all my requirements. He has a story to tell that makes you think as well as thrill; he has a style that is beyond all praise; he is pure; he makes us see his visions and dream his dreams; he has humor and pathos; he makes pictures and music for our inner senses. The fire of war is in his veins, but the love of children is in his heart. He describes the beautiful southern land and I close my eyes and lo, I have lived there all my days and palms and pomegranates, sunshine and sweet south winds have been my companions. He speaks of war, and I hear the music of drum and fife, the noise of battle, the frenzied cheers. And how plainly he sees into the souls of men and believes so firmly in the hero that may be imprisoned there that he never fails to strike the spot that may let the heroic deed leap

forth. And how he loves woman! I know of no other author that has handled her so tenderly. If he is amused by Irish Katie's comicalities, he never lets amusement sink into ridicule.

When it is the woman of his dreams he portrays, how perfect and human she is! In Dr. Sevier, Mary is that woman. Do you remember the delicate veil he throws over the love scenes between the married pair, his mention of the holy ailments of maternity, his sigh over "the cradle that will not rock," his comprehension of Mary's delicacy and horror when lying in the hospital bed she sees the medical students approaching; the picture of her as when, thankful that their future is about to mend she is found by her husband at the side of her white bed in her white robes, her white soul shining through flushed cheeks, kneeling, fast asleep. "She has fallen asleep at the foot of the throne." Then her bravery in leaving her husband for awhile that she may be cared for at home and be given a better chance to make their new home which is to be for three. Then after the long waiting which has come to them through pestilence and war intervening, she tries to make her way through army lines, her cheery care of her child, her honesty that cannot lie even to help her on that journey, her exquisite modesty that cannot see the admiration she creates; her courage as she covers the body of her little daughter with her own and runs her horse beyond the picked lines, the bullets falling fast around her. And when she meets her husband just in time to comfort him in death, her forgetfulness of self and her acceptance of the holy duties that would come to her because he had had to lay them down, makes her the ideal woman, that, thank God, is real. Then her ministering life as Dr. Sevier's right hand and he the guardian of the little Alice who is named for his dead wife. Mr. Cable has written their epitaph beforehand. "When they die what weeping there will be among God's poor." Because Mr. Cable so strongly believes in manhood and so purely loves womanhood, I love Mr. Cable and find in him the embodiment of my ideal American author. He is of the new south but his inheritance is America.







## A CONTINUED SUCCESS.

The Authors' Carnival Begun Auspiciously Has Reached a Hey Day of Glory.

The Attendance Increasing and the Merit of the Performances Grows Better.

### A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

The authors' carnival drew another large crowd last night, larger even than the evening before. The booths and their occupants had gotten well in order and all the performances went through smoothly.

The two booths to which especial attention was directed by this performance on the stage were those of Mrs. Patchin and Mrs. Tac Hussey. The former presented the mournful story of Don Quixote. The work had been carefully abstracted and scenes from it prepared and presented in pantomime giving the history of the aberrant knight. They commenced with the books and ended with the enchanted cage. Dr. A. Polasky was the Don and acted the part admirably. Mr. O. E. Shannon was Sancho and was the rotund squire in life. Mr. Gus Mogdeburg was the priest and looked the part to perfection. Mr. E. W. Carrington was an excellent barber. The duchess was Dr. Jessie M. Ritchie, who graced it. The housekeeper was Miss Margaret McLoney, and the niece, Miss Norma Lake, and both were good. Misses Halla Vernon and Ives Gillette were charming village maidens. Mrs. Patchin had a most difficult task to properly present a book of such magnitude and multiplicity of incident in half an hour, but under her management it was successfully accomplished.

In Mrs. Hussey's Mother Goose, next on the stage, all the old familiar characters of the nursery rhymes were on hand, and costumed with fidelity. They made a bright and pleasing picture as they were grouped upon the stage, and then went through a dance as they sang the old jingles. Their costumes were accurate and handsome and their number and variety was bewildering. The characters and those by whom they were taken were as follows: Mother Goose, Mrs. Tac Hussey; Mary Quite Contrary, Miss Alice Lyman; Red Riding Hood, Miss Lizzie Lyman; Little Bo-Peep, Miss Bessie Jelley; Jack and Jill, Miss Jennie Lendrum and Mr. Harry Phillips; Tom, the Piper's Son, Mr. Fred Pattee; King of Sixpence, Mr. Abe Weaver; Queen of Sixpence, Miss Edna Kidd; When I was a Bachelor, Miss Florence Stout, Mr. F. Sheldon; Simple Simon, Mr. Emory Kennedy; Little Miss Muffet, Miss Laura Weaver; Sleeping Beauty, Miss Alice Marquis; Prince, Mr. Jed Sperry; What is Your Fortune? Miss Louise Redfield; Mr. Ed. Beeson; Jack Horner, Mr. Will Clark; Queen of Hearts, Miss Laura Bussey; Knave, Mr. James Day.

The remainder of the evening was taken up by the booth performances and the time of dispersal came before the crowd was half satisfied. An interested audi-

## MOTHER GOOSE.

MRS. TAC HUSSEY, Chairman.

### CHARACTERS.

|                            |                                            |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| MOTHER GOOSE.....          | Mrs. TAC HUSSEY                            |
| MARY QUITE CONTRARY.....   | Miss ALICE LYMAN                           |
| RED RIDING HOOD.....       | Miss LIZZIE LYMAN                          |
| LITTLE BO-PEEP.....        | Miss BESSIE JELLEY                         |
| JACK AND GILL.....         | Miss JENNIE LENDRUM AND Mr. HARRY PHILLIPS |
| TOM, THE PIPER'S SON.....  | Mr. FRED PATTEE                            |
| KING OF SIXPENCE.....      | Mr. ABE WEAVER                             |
| QUEEN OF SIXPENCE.....     | Miss EDNA KIDD                             |
| WHEN I WAS A BACHELOR..... | Miss FLORENCE STOUT, Mr. F. SHELDON        |
| SIMPLE SIMON.....          | Mr. EMORY KENNEDY                          |
| LITTLE MISS MUFFETT.....   | Miss LAURA WEAVER                          |
| SLEEPING BEAUTY.....       | Miss ALICE MARQUIS                         |
| PRINCE.....                | Mr. JED SPERRY                             |
| WHAT IS YOUR FORTUNE.....  | Miss LOUISE REDFIELD                       |
| JACK HORNER.....           | Mr. ED. BEESON                             |
| QUEEN OF HEARTS.....       | Mr. WILL CLARCK                            |
| KNAVE.....                 | Miss LAURA BUSSEY                          |
|                            | Mr. JAMES DAY                              |

ence was gathered before each booth and watched each performance. The entertainment is of such vast scope that it needs several evenings' attendance to see it all, for while at one booth you miss something equally interesting going on somewhere else.

### THE AUTHORS' CARNIVAL.

Costs of Characters in the Guy Mannering and the Mother Goose Booths—Edict from the Queen of Carnival.

The interest in the carnival as a social and artistic event increases daily. The Exposition building has been turned over to house cleaners, plumbers and carpenters, and is rapidly being set in order for the coming pageant. No pains or expense are to be spared to make the entertainment complete and worthy of generous patronage. To gratify the personal interest in knowing who is to be who, below is given the cast of Guy Mannering and Mother Goose booths:

|                                                                                                                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Guy Mannering.....                                                                                                                | Mr. J. A. Jackson    |
| Domine Sampson.....                                                                                                               | Mr. J. E. Johnson    |
| Dirk Hotterack.....                                                                                                               | Mr. C. W. Mennig     |
| Godfrey Bertram.....                                                                                                              | Mr. A. S. Wilcoxon   |
| Harry Bertram.....                                                                                                                | Mr. Henry Mennig     |
| Chas. Hazlewood.....                                                                                                              | Mr. Ed McKee         |
| Dandie Dimmot.....                                                                                                                | Mr. A. S. Wilcoxon   |
| Glossin.....                                                                                                                      | Mr. Mack Galusha     |
| Meg Merrilies.....                                                                                                                | Miss Mary Newman     |
| Lucy Bertram.....                                                                                                                 | Miss Louise Baily    |
| Julia Mannering.....                                                                                                              | Miss Fannie Ames     |
| Mrs. Mac Candlish.....                                                                                                            | Mrs. E. R. Hughes    |
| Gypsies.....                                                                                                                      | Mrs. C. W. Mennig    |
| Misses Carrie Kennedy, Gertie Kennedy, Helen Allabach, Lyman, Edna Keeler, Weaver, Master Bertie Patchin, Robert Baily and others |                      |
| MOTHER GOOSE BOOTH.                                                                                                               |                      |
| King of Sixpence.....                                                                                                             | Mr. Abe Weaver       |
| Queen of Sixpence.....                                                                                                            | Miss Edna Kidd       |
| Maid.....                                                                                                                         | Miss Louise Redfield |
| Mary Quite Contrary.....                                                                                                          | Miss Alice Lyman     |
| Little Bo Peep.....                                                                                                               | Miss Bessie Jelley   |
| Jack and Jill.....                                                                                                                |                      |
| Miss Jennie Lendrum and Mr. Harry Phillips                                                                                        |                      |
| John the Piper's son.....                                                                                                         | Mr. Fred Pattee      |
| When I Was a Bachelor.....                                                                                                        |                      |

rolling orb.

Now these are her commands and the words of her mouth:

To all to whom this edict shall be made known: It is the will and pleasure of her majesty, the queen, that you, and each of you, with your wives, little ones, sweethearts, men servants, maid servants and the stranger which may be within your gates, do assemble yourselves on the evenings of August 31 and September 1, 2, 3, and 4, at the Authors' Carnival, to be held at the Royal Palace, Eighth and Walnut street, to show your loyalty to your gracious queen by joining in the royal feast

## IN GOWN AND WIG.

The Enterprise of the Woman's Club Successfully Launched Last Night.

About 2,000 People Throng the Old Exposition Building to See the Authors' Carnival.

One of the Most Unique, Complete and Lavish Entertainments in the History of the City.

### TWO HUNDRED PERFORMERS.

It is so common in the criticism of amateur performances for the critic to stretch leniency and praise indiscriminately, that the public has become, and in a measure rightly so, suspicious of all statements about them laudatory in nature. The public has found to its sorrow that as a general rule it is not safe to believe the commendation deserved when its recipients are not professionals. It is therefore with great pleasure that it can be stated that at last Des Moines has had and is having a series of amateur entertainments which richly merit any and all words of praise.

It is the Author's Carnival which has been so much advertised and which every body in the city has been on the *qui vive* to see. At last it has come, and the public is gratified. The exposition looked as it never looked before. It has been associated so long with the idea of cobwebs and dirt and printer's ink, that it seems hard to think of it as the abode of beauty, and light, and animation and color. That it has become so is a tribute of no mean merit to the energy persistence and good taste of that one hundred ladies of the city known as the woman's club. They have worked long and faithfully. They have robbed their husbands of their society, their children of their attention and their homes of their ornaments and choicest bric-a-brac and furniture in order that the enterprise launched to help bring an art gallery to the city might be a success.

The idea of an author's carnival is not altogether new and with its general scope the public is sufficiently familiar. The central idea is the bringing together of a dozen or more clever people, who give in costume a life picture of what hitherto has been locked in the coldness of type. Twelve such congregations or booths were designed by the club.

.....Miss Lillian Page and Mr. Frank Sheldon  
Simple Simon.....Mr. Emory Kennedy  
Little Miss Muffitt.....Miss Laura Weaver  
Little Red Riding Hood.....Miss Lizzie Lyman  
What Is Your Fortune, Pretty Maid?.....  
.....Miss Bertha Weaver and Mr. Ed Beeson  
Sleeping Beauty and Prince.....  
.....Miss Alice Marquis and Mr. Jed Sperry  
Queen of Hearts.....Miss Laura Bussey  
Knave.....Mr. James Day  
Cross Patch.....Miss Mabel Holmes  
Old Mother Goose.....Mrs. Tac Hussey

The following edict concerning the carnival was yesterday discovered posted about the city. It comes from the gracious spouse of the great King Senl Om Sed, and from loyal hearts will receive a loyal response:

MYSTERIOUS ISLE, MONTH OF THE BURNING SUN, YOUR YEAR 1891.—To My Faithful Subjects, Greeting: Behold! My liege Lord, the Great King, in whom my soul delighteth, has gone on a long journey. He has heard the cry for bread from his children across the sea. Gaunt famine sits like a wolf at the door of his poorer subjects. He must be driven away.

Lo! His Queen, the sharer of his former mighty triumphs, cometh with a high hand and an outstretched arm, to fulfill his high behests! The breath of her nostrils is like the fragrance of the new mown hay! The lilacs bend and hide their heads from the glory of her stately stepping! The flowers in her pathway call to her: "Come and place thy feet upon us and crush us, that we may exhale our perfume to High Heaven in honor of thy coming!" The scintillations of her eye rival the stars in their brilliancy! Trippingly from her tongue come words of greeting! Sweeter are they than honey and the honey comb! Her words are peace! Behold! She brings presents in her hands! Even bounteous crops, Gladness, Hope, Prosperity! In her heart there are blessings for her children. She scatters her favors to the rich and the poor of all colors, lands and races. To the workmen in their dingy shops; the humble money changers in their wired cages; the busy men of the law amid their musty books; the wise and just judges on their elevated benches, the delvers after earth's hidden treasures; the enlarged and exalted agriculturists; and all of every tongue and kindred; for she has a heart to love every dweller in earth's garden spot, set in emerald upon this



These booths each give a separate performance each night. They follow out the book or story they have to tell in dialogue, pantomime, tableaux, etc. Beside this there is a general performance in which two booths, each more elaborately than in their booths go through their "business."

□ Last night was the first night. Entering, the attention is first chained by the stage and its settings. In front of it is the fountain. The ladies did not reveal this surprise. They have succeeded in reproducing the display of colored water which created such a furore in Lincoln Park in Chicago. It seems as if wine of the deepest red, sea-water of the deepest green, and imprisoned sunbeams, glad to be released, were dancing and wantoning in their own brilliancy. People are seated around it, and their faces seem to catch some of the light and color and all conversation gives way to exclamations of surprise and admiration.

To the right and left of the entrance are placed two of the booths. On the right the booth in charge of Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, which portrays the rare old comedy, the Rivals. Stewart Goodrell is Bob Acres, and Judge Burke, Sir Lucius O'Trigger. They are gotten up in the best style of Jufferson and Florence. Mrs. Frank Green is Mrs. Malaprop and Miss Bertha Gilcrest, Lydia Languish. Sir Anthony is taken by Mr. Thos. Cheshire and the other characters by Misses Jennie Osborne and Kittle Ives and Messrs. Burnett, Crosby and Walker.

On the left of the entrance is the curio hall, where Japanese tea can be sipped. The booth is under the management of Mrs. Lowry Goode and Mrs. Frank Vorse. In this booth so far has realism carried its managers that the little Japs appeared with the head shaven all except a rim of hair such as the dudes of Japan now leave.

The rest of the booths are arranged around the main side hall. First is Mother Goose, with The Hussey as Mother Goose. Mrs. Hussey looked it so well that it needs be that whoever first conceived and pictured the character must have had a prophet vision of Mrs. Hussey's make-up. She had her whole family with her who engaged in all the traditional sports and incidents. Next was the booth of the melancholly knight—Don Quixote, under the charge of Mrs. Patchin. She had worked hard and in spite of the difficulties of the characters, they were all artistic successes. The booth managed by Mrs. Lehmann was next. It was the Old Curiosity Shop and Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works. Mrs. J. A. Jackson was Mrs. Jarley, and her "lucid remarks" were pointed and witty. Her "figgers" were perfect. The next booth was the Fridthjof Saga, under charge of Mrs. Puttkay. Owing to the fact that there was so much else going on this booth did not attempt any performance. Mr. Stevenson was Fridthjof and Miss Lora Ankeny magnificent as Ingeborg.

Pickwick Papers was a great success, the costuming and acting being both excellent. Mrs. Harry West had it in charge and she received many congratulations on her success. Mr. Frank Sherman as the benevolent but unfortunate

## DON QUIXOTE.

MRS. DR. PATCHIN, Chairman.

### CHARACTERS.

|                             |                                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| DON QUIXOTE DE LA MANCHA    | Dr. A. POLASKY                          |
| SANCHO PANZA                | Mr. O. E. SHANNON                       |
| MASTER NICHOLAS, The Barber | Mr. E. W. CARRINGTON                    |
| DR. PEREZ, The Priest       | Mr. W. H. McHENRY                       |
| THE INN KEEPER              | Mr. G. F. SELLECK                       |
| THE DUCHESS                 | Dr. JESSIE M. RITCHEY                   |
| THE HOUSEKEEPER             | Miss MARGARET McLONEY                   |
| DON QUIXOTE'S NEICE         | Miss NORMA LAKE                         |
| LUCINDA                     | Mrs. F. S. FRACKER                      |
| VILLAGE MAIDENS             | Miss HALLA VERNON<br>Miss IVES GILLETTE |
| DULCINEA                    | Mrs. E. W. CARRINGTON                   |

Damsels Errant, Malefactors, Muleteers, et al.

Don Quixote de la Mancha, reading books of knight-errantry till his head is full of enchantments, quarrels, battles, challenges, wounds, complaints, love-passages, torments and absurd impossibilities. The housekeeper and the neice fear for Don Quixote's reason, and would destroy the cursed books of knight-errantry. Don Quixote polishes the rusty armor of his grandfather, and sallies forth in quest of adventures. He remembers that an important act has been omitted, and begs the inn keeper to bestow upon him the honor of knighthood. That night he guards his armor. The inn keeper knights Don Quixote. Village maidens gird on his sword and buckle on his spur. The incredible and never-before-imagined adventure of the windmills, in which Don Quixote is utterly vanquished, and Sancho Panza bears him from the field. The scene in which the priest and the barber condemn the books of knight-errantry, which the housekeeper and the neice destroy. Don Quixote rescues two ladies who are traveling, and vanquishes the Biscayan soldier who conducts them. He meets certain malefactors and strikes off their chains. The inn keeper presents his account to Don Quixote, who, not remembering ever having heard of any knight-errant who ever paid a bill, refuses. A warrant is served on Don Quixote and he is borne away in the enchanted cage.

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Pickwick seemed to have stepped from the pages. Mr. Carroll Wright was Sam, and Mrs. Maude Polk, Mrs. Bardell. Mrs. Windsor's Midsummer Night's Dream was next. The booth was an ideal picture of deep and dark stretches of forests with the silver sickle of the moon riding in the sky. The costuming was elegant and correct. Mr. A. G. Marsh was a great success as Demetrius, and the ladies of the club made a great mistake when in the Grecian tableaux of last winter he was not in the caste. The Arabian Nights was a bvy of beautiful women clothed with all the gorgeousness of the eastern toilet. It was one of the largest of the booths and

the costumes were the most costly of any in the room. Mrs. H. C. Potter and Mrs. F. M. Hubbell had it in charge. Mrs. Andrews' Dream of Fair Women, Mrs. Bailey's Guy Mannering, and Mrs. Macomber's Hiawatha completed the twelve, and each was up to the high standard.

There are two methods of producing a scenic effect. One is by presenting an individual picture, and allowing it to soak it before another is displayed. The other is the cumulative or mass system, of throwing a wealth of color, of incident and of detail at the eye at once and thus confusing it into admiration. This latter is the method of the Kralfy's and the

method of the Woman's Club. Thus all the booths were going at once last night, and although there was turmoil there was beauty, and although there was noise there was harmony and the general effect was excellent.

The stage programme presented last night was an allegorical representation of the literature of Ireland, during which Sheridan, Moore and Goldsmith were introduced. The "Rivals" was skeletonized and the salient scenes presented. The "Banquet Hall" was produced while Miss Ada Witmer, as the minstrel, sang, "The Harp that Once Through Tara's Halls." This booth was followed by the "Dream of Fair Woman" in a series of tableaux remarkable for their grouping.

Although a few features of this entertainment have been presented, they are but as a few pebbles which have at random been picked up. Those in the city, both residents and visitors, who were not present last night are denying themselves a great privilege.



# HONOR TO THEIR SEX.

Women's Clubs' Delegates  
Meet in Philadelphia.

ILLINOIS TO THE FRONT.

It Ranks as the Banner State in  
Point of Numbers.

CANDIDATE FROM CHICAGO.

Mrs. Charles Henrotin May Be Elected  
President.

DAY'S REVIEW BY DR. STEVENSON.



PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 9.—[Special.]—There is something in the air here in the East. The suffrage movement in New York, Coxe at the capital, and the biennial Federation of Clubs in Philadelphia make these three cities of more than usual interest.

Looking at the mass of women assembled here at headquarters, Hotel Metropole, representing some 300 clubs, one can but wonder if the woman's club has reached its climax. Twenty years ago the association for the advancement of women, or, as it was called, the "Woman's Congress," was in the ascendency. It seemed to those who knew the congress at its best that it left nothing to be desired. However, of late years it has diminished in numbers and interest until at its meeting in Chicago last summer a mere handful assembled.

Some ten years ago the International Council of Women was formed. There probably never was held a more successful or enthusiastic meeting than that of the first council in Washington. Two years ago the first federation meeting was held in Chicago, with what great success is well remembered, and now we find the field occupied by these three organizations: The Congress, the Council, and the Federation.

Two of the three must yield their places to the third. One organization can do all the work done by the three. One naturally asks which is the coming third. Life is too short and women are too busy to keep all three alive. This is an individual opinion and does not in the least represent any one excepting myself, and is entirely unofficial. Certain it is that just now great interest is manifested in the federation.

Chicago is largely represented. Already in the corridors I have met Mrs. Charles Henrotin, Mrs. J. M. Flower, Mrs. George Huddleston, Mrs. J. D. Harvey, Mrs. George E. Adams, Mrs. J. M. Chalmers, Mrs. A. E. Clark, Mrs. John Bundy, Mrs. B. Farson, Mrs. Sumner Ellis, Mrs. Charles Fitz-Simons, and others. It is an open secret that Mrs. Charles Henrotin is the most prominent candidate for the Presidency. Her skillful management of the congresses proves her to be capable of taking charge of large masses of people and distributing their interests with an even hand.

What I am wondering about in connection with all this is if we are not approaching the beginning of the end of separate movements for women. In many directions already there is no longer any need for separation.

If ever this country should hold another exposition men and women would act upon the same board of management and there could be no necessity for a separate building for woman's work. In many instances women were compelled against their will to make their own exhibit. This was true of woman's work in medicine. No women were placed upon the staff of the Medical Bureau, although the request was made and promises were given over and over again. Consequently a woman's hospital was erected where the three great occupations of nursing, pharmacy, and medicine were actively exhibited with a clientele of patients. It would have been better for men and women to have combined their forces in one hospital or in branches of the same hospital.

This necessity no longer exists in regard to education, especially medical education. Since the Johns Hopkins Medical School has opened its doors the various lesser lights all over the land cannot afford to keep closed doors. So opposed am I to the principle of separate institutions for women that I have resigned the chair I held for twenty years in the Woman's Medical College of the Northwestern University. No university is wise enough or rich enough to support two medical colleges.

And so I'm hoping that the federation of women's clubs is looking toward consolidation and conservation of our energies. It is well enough to wind up this old century with showing what women can do alone, but I trust the new century will demonstrate the wisdom of coordination of all that is best in both men and women.

While the 350 clubs are working together harmoniously in the City of Brotherly Love there are wars and rumors of wars near by at Albany. The dissension among women themselves on the suffrage question will give the members of the New York Constitution ample excuse for ignoring the question. In the meantime the cloven foot of suffrage hides itself in the federation behind the words "literary" and "scientific," for only literary and scientific clubs are admitted to the federation. It is a curious spectacle to see such pronounced suffragists as Julia Ward Howe, Edna D. Cheney, Elizabeth Boynton Harbert, and a score of others wisely refraining from even a hint of their beloved cause for fear of frightening the timid ones who associate suffragists with hoofs and horns.

The first day's work of the second biennial meeting is over. The gifted President, Charlotte Emerson Brown, has made her final address, for by the laws of the federation she is ineligible to office another term.

Too much cannot be said in praise of her administration. Few women could carry the personal care of details to the extent that she has carried them, and still fewer women could preserve such unbroken good temper. She should likewise receive the thanks of every club woman for her strict punctuality.

This evening the new Century club of Philadelphia is holding a reception in honor of the federation at the beautiful and commodious club house. The women of Chicago are taking notes on how to build or more properly how not to build a club house. The new Century Building would be entirely inadequate to our needs, and the people who wonder why the various women clubs of Chicago are without a home do not take into consideration the cost of our down-town property as compared with that of other cities. The cost of the new Century club is a mere bagatelle compared to the cost

of a building suitable for the Chicago Women's club. Personally I have been hoping that the Memorial Building so generously donated by Mr. Potter Palmer could be utilized for a club building, thereby relieving the over-worked women of Chicago from the necessity of forming a stock company and looking after the business details of such a great undertaking.

You will be glad to know that Illinois is still the banner State, being represented by fifty-nine clubs, thanks to our efficient State Secretary, Mrs. George Huddleston. Our

Chicago candidate, Mrs. Charles Henrotin, is still in the lead for the Presidency.

The question asks itself, "Why shall 350 or 500 clubs meet every two years?" Will Mrs. Charles Henrotin or the President-elect please answer? Cui bono?

DR. SARAH HACKETT STEVENSON.

## SESSION AT THE CENTURY CLUB.

Address of Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, the President.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 9.—[Special.]—The women of the West came upon this conservative city today with an irresistible smile and a force for the good almost cyclonic. The occasion was the biennial meeting of the general federation of women's clubs of the world. The most natural suggestion to the mind upon looking over the convention is, "Has the West gone ahead with woman's work and left the effete East in the background?" True Massachusetts led the list in number of clubs and delegates, but pitted against her is Illinois with its fine array of organizations and scores of delegates. Ohio more than equals New York, while Indiana can give the Keystone State pointers.

This may be due in a measure to the impetus given movements for the betterment of women's condition by the meetings at Chicago in 1892 and also by the gatherings incident to the World's Fair of 1893. But the Western delegates came in with a rush. They had three private cars of their own over the Pennsylvania railroad, and everybody who read the banners on the sides of the coaches learned that these women were on business bent. Their Eastern and Southern sisters came in modestly and unannounced.

It was close to midnight when the National Council of Women finished its labors at the Continental Hotel. A resolution was adopted to the effect that all local councils be invited to send delegates to the meeting in February next at Washington, D. C. The triennial convention will probably last a month. In adjourning expressions of congratulations were interchanged by the women present on the success of the meetings toward illustrating the greatest movement among women in modern times—the movement toward co-operation.

Fifty years ago these were new thoughts to women, though old enough to men. The first meeting which recognized women as an independent factor was held in 1848. Sorosis and the New England Women's club, which gave the club idea to America, were organized only twenty-six years ago. The founders of Sorosis, Alice Cary, who was its first President; her sister Phoebe, Kate Field, and Mme. Demorest, were pictured in public print with feet in the air surrounded with tobacco smoke, wine bottles, and glasses. Today the monthly meetings at Sherry's are anticipated as notable social and literary occasions.

## Over 300 Delegates Present.

Charming weather greeted the federation of clubs today. It gave all a chance to display their new spring costumes, and the gathering at the new Century club-rooms this evening was as brilliant as a flower garden in full bloom. Over 300 delegates were present, and there were more to be heard from, as they kept arriving all day.

When Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown called the convention to order there wasn't a vacant seat in the hall and nearly half a hundred women were standing in the room, some at the reporters' table. There was not a man's face to be seen. There was a ripple of applause as the presiding officer called upon Miss Mary Grew of this city, the valiant anti-slavery fighter, to invoke the divine blessing. Mrs. Edward Longstreeth, President of the new Century club, made an address of welcome, in which she spoke of the happiness in welcoming the delegates to the city and the club-house. To Mrs. Longstreeth's speech the President of the Federation, Mrs. Brown, made an apt response of appreciation, making prominent what she termed the talismanic word of the convention—Love. The President introduced those on the platform to the audience as follows:

Mrs. Julia P. Harvey of Geneva, Ill.; Mrs. J. C. Croly (Jennie June) of New York; Mrs.

Annie Palmer of Rhode Island; Mrs. Linden W. Bates of Chicago; Miss May Rogers of Dubuque, Ia.; Miss Harriet H. Robinson of Malden, Mass. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe of Boston was introduced last as perhaps the greatest on the platform.

An exposition of the state of the finances was made by Mrs. Jane O. Cooper, the treasurer. As something less than \$1 remained in the cash box the federation was declared to be still solvent. So every one applauded and took to quiet chats until a mild sort of a babel was in progress. Against this gentle murmur Miss Julia Plato Harvey, who was telling of the work of the department congress and council meeting at Chicago, struggled unsuccessfully but patiently until several eager spirits in the chatting audience were moved to call "Louder." With praiseworthy humility Miss Harvey took the blame on herself and raised her voice. Still she could not be heard. Some one asked that the speakers come well forward on the stage, adding that they would be heard far better for being a foot nearer the edge of the stage. Miss Harvey looked distressed but obeyed.

## The Girl in the Gallery.

Then far off in the gallery sounded the voice of a brave and hardy woman, strong in conviction and courageous of mind. "I would like to suggest," she articulated slowly, "that every speaker could be heard without difficulty if the ladies in the hall, every one of them, make a firm determination to keep quiet."

A solemn, sudden hush fell upon the meeting, her hearers looked at one another and then up at the gallery. They saw a pretty girl in a black bonnet and a gray dress, who smiled on them with a confiding smile and looked perfectly innocent, but her remarks had their effect and thereafter things went along more quietly.

The address of President Charlotte Emerson Brown was of interest on many points. Among other things she said:

"Constant observation and correspondence have led me to many conclusions. The first of these conclusions is that among the many organizations by and for women that have sprung up in the last half century none is more far-reaching, potent, and helpful than is the literary club movement centering largely as it does in the work and workings of the G. F. W. C. Its spontaneous origin, its phenomenal growth, the enthusiasm which it inspires in its members, the general interest and commendation which it everywhere commands—in a word, its whole short history proves conclusively that there existed a great and growing want in the lives of women which was not met, which no existing agency could meet, and that women's literary clubs were adapted to supply.

"That want was for a higher and broader social, intellectual, and ethical culture. Latent possibilities required development. Women in different positions in life and holding different, often opposing, views on subjects—religious, political, and reformatory—needed in some way to have the old bars of separation broken down and themselves to be



# THE DELEGATES ARRIVE.

HOTELS FULL OF HANDSOME  
WOMEN AND BIG TRUNKS.

Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, President of the Federation, Holds a Reception at Headquarters—The Business on Hand.

There arrived in this city yesterday more than 400 delegates to the second biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which will open this morning and continue to-morrow and the day after. The four hundred and more delegates were much in evidence around some of the hotels yesterday, for every train brought some in from every section. They didn't arrive grip in hand, either, but many of them



JULIA WARD HOWE.

carried baggage checks that called for two or three trunks. The headquarters was at the Hotel Metropole, but this hotel was filled up early in the day, and the constantly arriving delegates were accommodated at the Rittenhouse, the Colonnade, the Hanover and other hotels.

Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, president of the Federation, was kept busy in her room, No. 312, at the Metropole yesterday and the Executive Board held lengthy and weighty deliberations concerning the affairs of the great gathering. During the evening Mrs. Brown held an informal reception in the hotel parlor, but the delegates were too travel-worn and excited last night to care for anything excepting to see that they found rooms somewhere. The crowd in the Metropole lobby was entirely indicative of the kind of gathering which may be expected. There were handsome and sensible-looking matrons, many good-looking young women and a fair sprinkling of ladies who at a glance might be designated strong minded.

The clubs represented number three hundred and fifty, and while the majority are much smaller, they are all on the same social plane as the New Century Club of this city. It is by invitation of the latter club that the meeting is held, and this morning at 9 o'clock, in the handsome New Century Drawing Room, the delegates will meet for mutual greetings, presentation of credentials and the hearing of the officers' reports. The afternoon will be devoted to business,



CHARLOTTE EMERSON BROWN.

and a reception will be given at the club house this evening.

To-morrow afternoon, at the Chestnut Street Opera House, there will be discussed "The Ideal Club and How to Attain It." A whole lot of hints have been thrown to the debaters, and a very lively afternoon should result. At the Academy of Music in the evening the famous daughter of Sorosis, Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, and a number of the best-known women of the country, will deliver brief addresses. Friday is filled up with a program which should delight the delegates, including another discussion at the Chestnut Street Opera House and another round of addresses by notable women at the Academy of Music.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who has been an advocate of woman suffrage since the sixties, is expected to attend the sessions.

## CLUB WOMEN IN CONVENTION

BIENNIAL GATHERING OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION.

### MANY COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Several Hundred Women of Culture and High Social Standing Assemble as Guests of the New Century Club to Discuss Matters Tending Toward the Advancement of Womanhood. The President's Address.

Women of culture, of learning and social standing from all States of the Union and from many foreign countries, delegates to the second biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, overcrowded the spacious hall in the New Century Club's building, on South Twelfth street, when the proceedings were begun yesterday morning. From five to six hundred women sought admission to the room, and many were forced to stand. The aisles were filled and in the ante-rooms and on the stairs was a crowd of patient ladies all anxious to press into the audience chamber. The stage was occupied by perhaps a dozen women, whose reputations in the realms of art and letters are international.



MISS MARY GREW.

In the matter of dress the greatest diversity of taste was shown. Advocates of dress reform and disciples of Dr. Mary Walker touched elbows with those younger and more frivolous ladies who were arrayed in the latest Parisian or London modes. Different climes brought different bonnets to the fore, and the most variegated effects were produced by the many-colored ribbons and flowers that went to make up much of the hats.

#### DELEGATES ASSEMBLING.

Every delegate present and every friend to every delegate wore a blue badge. The delegates, in addition, had a badge upon which their State name or the name of their society

was printed. "Sorosis" seemed to be particularly prominent, but many other clubs were represented by delegates just as earnest and just as active.

Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, of East Orange, N. J., presided. Miss Mary Grew, the anti-slavery advocate of this city, invoked the divine blessing. Then Mrs. Edward Longstreth, president of the New Century Club, made an address of welcome.

#### HEARTILY WELCOMED.

She was happy, she said, in welcoming the delegates to Philadelphia's hospitality, and urged upon her hearers the cultivation of those things that lead to a higher life.

A gracious response from the president of the Federation followed and the corresponding secretary, Miss Mary B. Temple, then made her report. Immediately upon its conclusion those on the platform were introduced by the president. They were Mrs. Julia P. Harvey, of Geneva, Ill.; Mrs. J. C. Croly (Jennie June), of New York; Mrs. Annie Palmer, of Rhode Island; Mrs. Linden W. Bates, of Chicago; Miss May Rogers, of Dubuque, Iowa; Mrs. Harriet H. Robinson, of Malden, Mass.; and Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, of New York, who was introduced as perhaps the greatest woman on the platform.

There was a report by Mrs. Julia Plato Harvey upon the department congress and council meeting at Chicago, but the motion made by Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, president of Sorosis, of New York, that the minutes of the Chicago meeting be read was voted down.

"Jennie June," Mrs. J. C. Croly, recording secretary, and Mrs. Jane O. Cooper, of Colorado, one of the treasurers, submitted their reports; then Mrs. Brown read her biennial address. She began by referring to the anxious work in the office which she has filled during four years. The conclusions she has come to through the very nature of her position were next the subjects of her discourse. The literary club movement she regarded as the most far-reaching, potent and helpful of all club movements. Speaking of the success attained by the Federation during its brief existence she said:

#### A FLATTERING GROWTH.

We began with about fifty clubs. At our first biennial we had nearly two hundred. We have now three hundred and fifty directly federated and a hundred more belonging to us in groups. At our next biennial we shall number five hundred in direct membership and hundreds more in groups, and foreign lands will be largely represented. Instead of 50,000 women now in our three hundred and fifty clubs there should be, and soon will be, hundreds of thousands of club women in thousands of women's clubs. The possibilities and the needs are boundless.

What can women do in times like these without practical culture and training such as women's clubs give to thousands of earnest workers along all lines of life? More and more these advantages will be prized and sought, until most women with aspirations for growth and usefulness will become club members. The club is the training school for women's broadening work. Already our clubs are looked to and sought as centres of social and intellectual power from which efficient workers along all lines are sought, and they will be more and more as the years go on.

And, besides, this club history will not be limited to our own country, but will invade every civilized land, for the principle of life and growth is in it. That was a happy thought in the organization of our General Federation which made its constitution and charter international. Already we are reaping fruit from this international provision. We have now three foreign countries represented in the federation, and clubs from several other nations, and these among the foremost in the world, are in correspondence with a view to joining our body. All this illustrates the greatness and possibilities of our work. It is world-wide and as urgent as it is broad. It must spread and grow.

The Federation, if it is to reap the ripening harvest, must be wisely, faithfully and efficiently conducted. Established business principles must rule our actions. Mismanagement, inefficiency or serious mistake might wreck our Federation fleet that now sails so splendidly. Responsibility, hard work, thought, courage, leadership, tact and constant vigilance on the part of officers are the conditions of great and growing success. Nothing good goes of itself. This shows the importance of thoughtful care in the election of officers, and especially in the choice of president, on whom, of necessity, a large share of the labor and responsibility must devolve.

#### ABOUT MIXED CLUBS.

Several suggestions relative to the election of State chairmen and the summary punishment that should be meted out to all objectionable members were heard with nods of approval. She said:

On the subject of mixed clubs I have come

to this conclusion: That, as a rule and for the present, it is better in most cases that women should work by themselves, apart from men. If inexperienced beginners, they have less of embarrassment, a greater feeling of responsibility, are less likely to be thrown into the shade and will do more and better work. Doubtless there are clubs into which men may come without injury and to advantage. At some future day, along most lines of active life, men and women will work together, but that time in our federated club movement has not yet arrived. When we shall have shaped and polished our armor as men have theirs we can enter the conflict of life side by side.

The Federation should also keep to its legitimate work, and should not, directly or indirectly, commit itself to any diverting or divisive entanglements through connection with other organizations, however excellent or useful in their own departments they may be. We have one aim, one test of union, which is social and intellectual culture, and this, not as an end in itself, but as a means of reaching such ulterior ends as each club woman has a perfect right to select and pursue. Our clubs are composed of women of all shades of thought and feeling on all subjects working together. This is its charm and source of growth, unity and power. Now, let some other combination enter in that should even seem to connect the body with something not contemplated in its constitution. And what would result? One class might be suited, another would be dissatisfied, and the end would be strife and disintegration. Our Federation, considered in its national and international character, is large enough, strong and influential enough to stand on its own broad foundation and work earnestly for what the world needs more than it needs anything else, except the all-pervasive power of love. Let us keep free from divisive entanglements.

#### STATE FEDERATIONS.

Speaking of State Federations, she expressed the opinion that they may be generally helpful and remarked that the National Federation had grown to be strong to an extent never even dreamed of. In conclusion, she said:

When I came, in the hurried, closing hours of last week, to the preparation of this final address, a great sense of mingled emotions came over me—emotions of thankfulness, of gratitude, of love, of hope and of responsibility. I felt that the occasion was so sacred that I could not indulge in flights of rhetoric nor in glittering generalities, but must confine myself to practical questions of special importance to our great work. I saw and felt that the only right and proper thing for me to say was to say the right and proper thing, even where feeling and inclination would have suppressed utterance. I have spoken what I thought was the needed word. I have tried, now as always, to do my duty. That my administration has not been faultless goes without saying. My successors have a vantage ground that I did not possess. It was mine, by hard and constant work, to help build up what I hope they will enjoy and extend until the women of this land, and of all lands, shall attain that degree of social, intellectual and moral culture which alone fits them for useful service in all the broadening vocations that are opening before them. As I have committed this work to divine guidance a thousand times, so again I commit it here, and now, may God's blessing be on it and on us all.

After this brilliant address delivered in an eloquent manner, Mrs. Brown was given great applause and the entire assemblage, by a rising vote, signified its approval of the address.

Mrs. Fanny Purdy Palmer, of Rhode Island, read a report upon the Columbian Exposition exhibit, and the badge committee was represented in a report read by Mrs. Jennie de la M. Lozier, ex-president of Sorosis, of New York. Miss Octavia W. Bates, chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence, was unable to be present on account of sickness, and her report, therefore, was not read. A few announcements were made and the morning session was over.

#### PROGRESS IN THE STATES.

At 2.30 o'clock the convention was again in session. The crowd had thinned out a little, though there were still many unable to find seats. A letter from Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago, president of the World's Fair Board of Lady Managers, expressing her regret at her enforced absence, was read, as were also telegrams from clubs not represented by delegates. Mrs. Longstreth, on behalf of the executive committee of the Women's Christian Association, extended an invitation to the delegates and their friends to inspect the building of the association, at Eighteenth and Arch streets, between the hours of 11 and 4 o'clock on Friday, and Mrs. Miller, of the New Century Club, of Wilmington, Delaware, invited all to participate in an informal tea at her club house on Saturday afternoon between 2 and 5 o'clock. Both invitations were accepted with thanks.

The main business of the afternoon was the reading of reports from the chairmen of the State committees of correspondence. It



was highly interesting to hear the encouraging words from the many societies.

The different intonations and pronunciations of the ladies from the various States were in themselves features of peculiar interest. The beautiful, sonorous tones of the Southern representatives; the sharp, incisive accent of the New Englander, and the forcible, clear yet nasal wording of the Hoosier were at once unmistakable and characteristic.

From far-off California Mrs. Linden W. Bates had come to tell of the progress of the ten women's clubs in her State, one of which, the Pacific Coast Women's Press Association, publishes an official organ, *The Impress*, with a greater circulation than *The Cycle*, the paper of the Federation.

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVES.

Connecticut was represented by Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson Abbot, Delaware by Mrs. Mary Davis Sisson, District of Columbia by Mrs. Jean M. Lauder, Georgia by Mrs. Rosa Woodbury, Michigan by Mrs. L. H. Stone, Massachusetts by Mrs. Melora F. Pratt, Maryland by Mrs. Davis, Louisiana by Mrs. Moore, of St. Louis; Kentucky by Mrs. Barnes, of Louisville; Indiana by Mrs. Mary Wright Sewell, president of the Woman's National Council, Mrs. G. W. Huddleston, of Illinois, reported fifty-nine clubs in the State organization, thirty-one of which had been entered since the last biennial at Chicago. This is the largest of State federations.

The work done in India by Dr. Emma Brainerd Ryder and her associates was made the subject of a letter dated at Bombay. The Federation was the means of bringing together in social unity nine different castes of Indians, a phenomenal result. They selected for a motto the quotation "And the world was made for women also."

At half-past 4 o'clock the session ended with many States not yet heard from. They will receive a hearing at this morning's session in the New Century Club house.

Immediately upon concluding the afternoon work by the main body the delegates from the various States were apportioned to different parts of the club house and to rooms in the Hotel Metropole, where a nominating committee, whose duty it shall be to choose candidates for the offices of the Federation, was selected.

#### PROMINENT PARTICIPANTS.

Some of the prominent ladies present were Mrs. Charles R. Miller, of Delaware; Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, of Illinois; Mrs. Josiah Burnham, Mrs. Eunice Nichols Fraye, Miss Mabel Elwell, of Maine; Mrs. Jennie W. Lincoln, Mrs. Mary S. Gregory, Mrs. Mary A. Grimes, Mrs. Sara T. Leighton, Mrs. Alice J. Breed, Mrs. Electa N. L. Walton, Mrs. Evelyn F. Masury, Mrs. Kate T. Woods, Mrs. Julia K. Dyer, Mrs. Ellen D. Orcutt, Mrs. Laura A. W. Fowler, Mrs. Estelle M. H. Merrill, Miss Grace S. Rice, Miss Calista A. McFarland, Mrs. Harriet E. Shattuck, Mrs. Harriet H. Robinson, of Massachusetts; Mrs. Lillian C. Streeter, of Nebraska; Mrs. G. L. Crowell, Mrs. G. L. Wiley, of New Jersey; Mrs. Fannie I. Helmuth, Mrs. Kate Upson Clark, of New York; Mrs. E. S. Turner, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Hugo Rosenberg, Mrs. Harry Birkinbine, Miss Lou Kepler, Miss Clara Ward, of Pennsylvania, and very many others.

## IDEALS FOR WOMEN'S CLUBS

AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION IN THE FEDERATION CONVENTION.

### IT WILL STAND ALONE

A Proposition to Coalesce With the National Council of Women Summarily Sat Upon—Bright Speeches at the Academy of Music Meeting.

The New Century Club House was again the scene of an animated assemblage of women attendant upon the second day's session of the biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, yesterday morning, but there was not that perfect

serenity that characterized the previous day's proceedings.

It was Mrs. May Wright Sewall, of Indianapolis, who precipitated the wrangling, and, strange to say, the trouble was all about the proposition to affiliate with the National Council of Women, the organization whose executive committee was so recently in session here.

The trouble came out when unfinished business was reached. Shortly after the session began Mrs. Sewall brought out the point that the special order of adjourned business for discussion was fixed upon at the Chicago meeting to be the proposition for amalgamation with the National Council, and she wanted that discussion started. Her wish was fully gratified, although Mrs. Edna D. Cheney at once moved to lay the whole matter on the table. Mrs. Brown, the president, was evidently bewildered.

#### A PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

It looked like fight from the friends of the council, and the question of parliamentary law involved she did not feel herself competent to decide. There was one, however, in the convention whose knowledge of such matters was paramount, and accordingly Mrs. Harriett R. Shattuck, author of the "Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law," was called upon for her opinion. Her decision was that the motion came up in the way of a special assignment, and, therefore, meant the same as postponement to a certain date. This, of course, put in order the motion to lay on the table. No debate was allowed and one strong-minded woman who thought it incumbent upon herself to appeal was summarily forced to take her seat.

There was a great chorus of "ayes" when the question had been put, and a rising vote, that was necessitated by a call of division, gave the victory to the opponents of the mooted amalgamation. Miss Anna H. Markley, who was standing in the rear of the hall, called for reconsideration on the ground that many had not heard the question, but her request was refused. Although some were willing to give the defeated party another chance, others just as warmly opposed any such action.

There was much routine business transacted before the above discussion arose, but its conduct was expeditious.

During the morning an official invitation was extended the federation to send to Atlanta the exhibit which had been at the Columbian Exposition. The suggestion that such a step be taken to secure the valuable exhibit for the Cotton State and International Exposition to be held in Atlanta next year was made by the Georgia Sorosis through Mrs. Eugene Heard, a delegate to the General Federation from Sorosis and a member of the State Exposition Board.

The afternoon exercises took place in the Chestnut Street Opera House. The boxes, the parquet and balcony were filled with the delegates and friends of the club movement. Two venturesome young ladies occupied seats in the upper tier, where the festive gallery god is wont to disport himself at night. The stage was set as a drawing room.

#### THE IDEAL CLUB.

President Charlotte Emerson Brown called upon Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, of Chicago, to open the discussion upon "The Ideal Club and How to Attain It." Dr. Stevenson had not yet arrived, so Mrs. Perkins, of the Cleveland Sorosis, was allowed precedence. It was her idea that a president of tact was a requirement for every club, and besides a person with a good voice should be selected for any office.

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Harbert, president of the Women's Club, of Evanston, Ill., brought a smile to the faces of her interested auditors when she referred to "the men who are now doing double duty at home." Co-operation in love was her model. She was followed by Mrs. Rose, president of the Cleveland Sorosis, who advocated large clubs as tending to teach a greater charity.

By this time Dr. Stevenson had arrived and she soon began her intended opening address. It was her idea that ideal clubs were sufficiently vague to be fascinating, and that ideal membership was almost impossible because ideal individuality is a thing hardly to be found in life. Secretaries, she thought, should be paid officers and they should be seldom changed.

"The great difficulty in clubs," she said, "is to get the members to express themselves.

The proper place for this is in the assembly room and not in the corridors. The proper time is when the question is up and not afterward." In conclusion she said: "The ideal club is one in which we should co-ordinate the very best that men and women have in common."

#### A FEDERATION POEM.

A poem, with its theme the Woman's Club, was then read by Mrs. Evelyn F. Masbury, president of the Danvers Women's Association of Massachusetts. In it the motive of the Federation, the freedom of women, was forcibly illustrated in figurative language.

A request came to Mrs. Brown that Mrs. Emma W. Babcock, of the Belles Lettres Club of Old City, speak upon "Originality," and in response that lady rose from her seat in the left-hand lower box and made an impromptu address replete with poignant suggestions to the latter-day woman.

Mrs. Mary Wright Sewall, introduced as an important club woman of Indianapolis, talked about some tacitly tabooed subjects, such as woman's suffrage, religion, and abstruse psychological problems. In an ideal club she was sure every member would listen to every other member with attention and respect.

Then arose Mrs. Miller, of the Monday Afternoon Club of Passaic, N. J., who suggested some plans for club government. Mrs. Wise, of Freeport, spoke in favor of mixed clubs. She did so, she said, because she thought men needed mixed clubs, not, as might be thought, that there might be less conviviality, but that men could learn to know of the ability of women. Men should be admitted to women's clubs as fast as they were thought fitly prepared to take up the burdens of their new associations.

#### MEN IN WOMEN'S CLUBS.

The New Century Club brought out an advocate of an ideal women's and men's club in the person of Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery. Mrs. Shattuck, with a great number of Boston political clubs at her back, thought she would wait until the men asked the women to join their clubs.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe in her beautifully modulated voice arose from her place on the stage when called upon. "I think the ideal club is the club that has an ideal and follows it," said she. "We must never think in our clubs that we have already attained our ideal. Our endeavor must be to see how we can lead our club harmoniously onward. We must have the separate women's club, but let us have that better club in which we will have hopes and aspirations in common with men."

Mrs. McKinley, of Knoxville, Tenn., thought jealousy was a great fault in clubs, but Mrs. Pardick Palmer, of Providence, R. I., was of the opinion that the ideal club was one with an object. Influence of women in the world and a gain in power was the war-cry she wanted taken up. Mrs. Windsor, who is active in the Des Moines Women's Club, of Iowa, struck a responsive chord in her address upon extemporaneous speaking.

The inevitable bell, limiting speakers to three-minute speeches, cut her short in the midst of a telling sentence.

Women interested in financial matters Mrs. Charles Henrotin, of Chicago, asked to arouse and to manage their monetary affairs instead of allowing men to do so for them.

Mrs. M. B. Spree, of Ohio, sent a paper that Mrs. Hanover, of Dayton, read with becoming accentuation. It was relative to the work that clubs have done and what they could do.

After this, Philadelphia again came to the fore. Mrs. Turner, president of the New Century Guild, had written a paper that Mrs. Nevins, a lady in an advanced reform costume and gold-rimmed eye glasses, read with evident faith in all the doctrines it expressed.

#### CURED BY JOINING A CLUB.

Speaking for herself, Mrs. Nevins assured her hearers that once upon a time she was afraid to speak in public. Often her knees would quake, and her tongue cleave to the roof of her mouth when she was a novice. But now never, and all through club life.

A delightfully foreign accent that hinted of Damascus, is possessed by Madame Korani, the Assyrian lady who is in this country to look after the best means for the betterment of her fellow-countrywomen's condition. She is a dark-haired beauty with sloe-like eyes, and when she came to the front of the stage her appearance was the signal for an instantaneous outburst of applause. Her Oriental head-dress added much to her attractiveness.

In her estimation women belong to too many clubs. She thought one or two clubs

with earnest work in that small number would amply suffice for any well-regulated American woman.

A club home was advocated by Mrs. Miller, of Brooklyn's Colonial Club. Mrs. Inman, of Grand Rapids; Mrs. Barnes, of Baltimore; Mrs. Richards, of Kalamazoo, and Mrs. Childhurst, of Chicago, also made addresses. Mrs. Charles Scribner, of the New Century Club, told of an organization in this city devoted to the study of Browning and containing seven hundred persons, half of whom were men. Strange to say the officers were all women and never was there any trouble.

After the meeting yesterday afternoon, the friends of various candidates for the presidency were busy buttonholing members of the nominating committee with the idea of influencing them for or against some favorite. The rivalry was intense. Not until 10 o'clock this morning will the election take place, but the choice for president is now fairly well established. Mrs. Charles Henrotin, of Chicago, is generally conceded to be the choice.

At the Academy of Music last night there were a number of excellent addresses made by women of the association. Mrs. Estelle H. Merrill, president of the Contagria Club, of Cambridge, Mass., and for six years a newspaper writer in Boston, received merited applause for her scholarly and brilliant effort. Her subject was, "Woman's Demands Upon the Newspapers."

Placing those demands under three heads, actual, imaginary and prospective, she disposed of the first by the single sentence: "Her actual demands are like the snakes in Ireland, there are none." The ordinary woman does not read the newspapers, and speaking of that department especially printed for the edification of feminine minds, she said: "The woman's column or page in a newspaper is the funniest thing in the world." To prove her statement she ridiculed the articles that frequently appear on "How to Live on Twenty-five Cents a Day" or "How to Clothe a Girl Finely on Forty Dollars Per Year." Newspapers, in her opinion, are as much manufactured articles as shoes, and the better the product the bigger will be its sale. So far as the influence of papers goes, she affirmed that they were not leaders in public opinion, but only followers. So closely is the following, however, that it often seems to be leading.

#### VOTING A QUESTION OF MUSCLE.

A sparkling, epigrammatic and witty essay, "What Women's Clubs Should do for Mankind," won for Mrs. Florence Howe Hall, daughter of Julia Ward Howe, much applause. One of her thoughts was that voting to-day was only a question of muscle, and all that can make a man a statesman nowadays is to have been a fireman, a policeman or a pugilist. All men are frivolous, and to correct this little habit she told of a society, now forming by the sterner feminine sex in New York, that has for its object the education and reform of husbands. She also poked fun at man's much-vaunted beauty.

"Only twenty-six per cent. of college women ever marry," was the startling statement made by Mrs. Charles W. Bassett, president of the Vassar Home Study Club, in her essay upon "After College Days." "The matrimonial prospects of the college graduate grow brighter the further behind she leaves her college days," said she. "May we not presume that college women think that matrimony is not the only aim in life?" For all that Mrs. Bassett is married.

Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, who was to have spoken, was not present and in her stead Mrs. Edward Longstreth, president of the New Century Club, gave an address. There are too many laws and too few of them enforced, in her estimation. She instanced the household work done by women as indicating how they would lay streets or put down sewers when emancipation should come.

Miss May Rogers was kind to the men folk in speaking of "The New Social Force." She gave credit to American men for the support given to women in their efforts towards emancipation. Mrs. William T. Helmuth was arrayed in white brocade and made an address intended purely for a coterie, "The Daughters of Sorosis." "The democracy of the woman's club," consists essentially in her mind, in the high moral and mental characteristics of their members. Mrs. Kate T. Woods, president of the Thought and Work Club, talked upon "Club Courtesies and Discourtesies."





MRS. LUCINDA H. STONE.

## CLUB WOMEN'S SESSION ENDS

THE FEDERATION ADJOURNS TO MEET  
TWO YEARS HENCE.

### MORE TALK ON IDEALS

The New Officers Chosen and a Resolution Fired at Colonel Breckinridge. The Proposed Affiliation With the National Council Again Spurned—The Concluding Discussion.

The remarkably brilliant session of the General Federation of Women's Clubs ended yesterday, and to-day will begin the exodus of the many progressive, intelligent participants to their homes in all parts of the Union.

This morning those delegates who do not return immediately to their firesides will be given the choice of various receptions by women's societies or inspection of women's association buildings, but by to-night the last of the visitors will probably be speeding on their homeward ways.

There will in all likelihood be a further display of magnificent dresses differing much from the ones already worn, and bonnets new to the effete East will startle early morning promenaders even more than some of the many gorgeous and frequently changed hats have already done. None of the delegates seem to have brought with them less than three changes of costume, and as many changes of boots and hats. The majority provided themselves with two and sometimes three trunks of apparel. As for evening dress all are amply provided, as the meetings at the Academy of Music and the reception on Wednesday at the Century Drawing Room will well testify.

#### THE NEW OFFICERS.

The main business of yesterday morning was the report of the nominating committee, read by Mrs. Jennie Mallory Thayer, its chairman. The nominees were, for

President, Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, of Chicago, Ill.  
Vice president, Mrs. Mary E. Mumford, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Recording secretary, Mrs. Charles P. Barnes, Louisville, Ky.  
Corresponding secretary, Mrs. Philip N. More, St. Louis, Mo.  
Treasurer, Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper, California.  
Auditor—Mrs. Fannie Purdy Palmer, Rhode Island.

Advisory Board—Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, New Jersey; Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Massachusetts; Mrs. J. C. Croly, New York; Mrs. Virginia J. Berryhill, Iowa; Miss Etta H. Osgood, Maine; Mrs. Lucia E. Blount, District of Columbia; Mrs. Mary D. Steele, Ohio; Mrs. Elizabeth Lyle Saxon, Louisiana; Mrs. McKinney, Tennessee.

Before the session was over the counting of the ballots was completed and the secretary announced that all the nominees had been chosen with but a few dissenting votes.

Personal feeling manifested itself, however, when a motion was made for an unanimous choice of Mrs. Henrotin as president. There were a few dissenters and the motion was lost, amid a storm of hisses from the more generous delegates. "Wasn't that mean?" and "Isn't that small?" whispered some indignant matrons in audible tones, but, nevertheless, the election had to go on record as being not unanimous.



MRS. JULIA WARD HOWE.

Next to the election, the most interesting feature of the session was a resolution offered by Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, president of the Chicago Woman's Club, relative to the famous breach of promise suit against Colonel Breckinridge. It read as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Federation of Women's Clubs declares its belief that one standard of morality is equally binding upon men and women, and that the immoral conduct which debars one from public and social life should also debar the other.

This was evidently the sentiment of most of the ladies present, for vigorous hand-clapping greeted the reading. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe and Mrs. May Wright Sewall seconded the resolution and without any discussion it was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

#### NO AFFILIATION.

The question of affiliation with the National Council of Women, defeated at the previous meeting, was again broached by Mrs. Sewall, but the president decided that it would be unconstitutional for one national association to join another, and the motion was declared out of order.

Mrs. Sherwood gave notice that at the next meeting she would offer an amendment to the constitution to do away with the nominating committee.

The afternoon session was held in the Chestnut Street Opera House. The same stage setting, a parlor scene, that had done service on Thursday, was utilized and was considerably brightened by a display of flowers arranged upon the president's table. There was a very good attendance, but fewer persons occupied seats upon the stage.

Mrs. Gregory, of the *Fortnightly*, of Winchester, Mass., opened the session by offering a resolution relative to the seating of delegates at future meetings. The resolution was adopted.

Miss Rosa Woodbury, of Georgia, presented a supplemental invitation to the federation to send its Chicago exhibit to the exposition at Atlanta, Ga., next year, and made a short address urging the delegates to attend the exposition, extending a hearty invitation on behalf of the South.

Mrs. Brown then stated that the secretary had prepared a full and a short set of minutes. The question was whether the fuller or shorter set should be read. An almost unanimous vote favored the latter.

#### FEDERATION IDEALS.

The discussion for the afternoon was on the ideal federation and how to realize it.

Mrs. Roland, president of the Grand Rapids Ladies' Literary Club, stood on a chair while speaking upon the progress of her association. Miss Mather, of the New Century Club, Wilmington, followed the example set by Mrs. Roland and also stood on the just vacated chair. She made a plea for contributions to the philosophy of the time by women.

Mrs. Mussey, wife of General Mussey, and vice president of the Business Women's Association of Washington, wanted every club to

interest itself in having the law universities opened to women. Short committee reports were advocated. Miss Boyesen, of Sorosis, New York, spoke for the young people in the clubs. She is a handsome young woman who maintains that young people do not go to clubs to be amused, but to get the benefit of the experience of those older than themselves. She got a little away from the set question, of federation, however, dwelling more upon the ideal club.

Mrs. Marble, of Washington, made a few humorous hits in her talk on clubs.

Chicago brought Mrs. Albert Sugschwert to the fore. Miss Kumler read a paper from Miss Steele, a director, from Ohio. Mixed clubs as honorary or associate members of the Federation was suggested as worthy of consideration. Ex-president of Sorosis Mrs. Ella D. Clymer hoped that the Federation, which she considered only the first step towards woman's advance in the affairs of the world, would be even more rapid than it has been.

Mrs. E. D. Cheney, of the New England Women's Club and of the Massachusetts Federation, spoke hopefully of the growth of the organization.

#### THE NEW PRESIDENT INTRODUCED.

Mrs. Charles Henrotin, the newly-elected president, was introduced at this point, and then Mrs. James F. Flower, ex-president of the Chicago Women's Club, told of the great work done by the different Chicago clubs during the past hard winter in aid of the suffering poor.

To be somebody, Mrs. Jennie de la M. Lozier said, it was necessary for a person to be a club member, an ideal organization or one whose members are united on spiritual, moral and intellectual lines.

The secretary interrupted the discourse here in order to read the corrected tabulation of votes. Then came Mrs. Stone to speak in favor of organization.

An old lady is Mrs. Lucinda H. Stone, of Kalamazoo, Michigan. She told interesting little stories of different women's clubs.



MRS. JENNIE DE LA M. LOZIER.

Mrs. Martha Strickland represents the Society for Physical Culture and Correct Dress and when she arose to make an address a voice from the balcony said, "Will you go to the platform and let us see your ideal dress." Mrs. Strickland very graciously did so. Her costume was a peculiar long skirt attached by a girdle above the loosely-fitting waist.

Mrs. Buckland, of Rhode Island, and Mrs. Fry, of Portland's Travelers' Club, made short addresses. Mrs. Wade, of the Woman's Club, Pittsburg, thought the ideal club would never be known until heaven was reached. Mrs. Alice Frye Briggs, of Maine, told of a real club of farmers' wives.

Mrs. Harbett, for the federation, thanked Philadelphia for its kindness and for its sunny weather. Mrs. Mary E. Mumford was consoled with on the death of her daughter and the meeting soon after adjourned.

#### THE ACADEMY MEETING.

Last night ended the convention. The meeting was the largest of any that had yet been held, and a liberal sprinkling of men gave variety to the animated scene in the Academy of Music. On the stage were gathered those who were to make addresses, the president of the federation and the chairmen of each of the State delegations.

Ten minutes was the time set for each address, and although several kept well within the limit there were some who had to be called to order by the warning bell.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, of Boston, Mass., the celebrated authoress, was the first to make an address.

The past, present and future of woman's clubs, she said, have been so fully discussed that one might almost despair of being able to say anything new of them. On account of her years she thought she might be excused for giving a few words of warning.

She then proceeded to speak of the necessity for strict observance of fixed rules and wanted her hearers never to set aside parliamentary laws in any of their routine work. She was accorded a very generous round of applause, giving way to Mrs. B. F. Taylor, of Cleveland, who delivered a clever exposition upon "Club Training as Preparatory for Woman's Work for the World."

#### HOME THE BEST SCHOOL.

It was her notion that the home is the best training school. The club is a larger home and consequently is even better than the best, if such a condition be possible. Prayer, faith and love were the three essentials for women in their preparatory work.

"What is our Shibboleth?" was the question Mrs. James G. Berryhill, of Des Moines, Iowa, set herself to answer. A shibboleth is in more prosaic terms a test word, and she found that in the love of knowledge not only in the club and in the college, but in the busy world. Her language was quite poetic, and added much to the effectiveness of her admirable delivery.

Mrs. Etta H. Osgood was dressed in a light gown, and her fresh young face flushed very prettily when she told of "One Woman." The gist of her address was that when perfect women people the earth, then and not till then will exist an ideal federation.

Mrs. J. P. Clapp, of Michigan, read Mrs. Elizabeth Ballard Thompson's paper on "The Reciprocity of Clubs." She suggested therein the establishment of a bureau for lecturers, readers of essays, etc., to be composed of members of the various individual organizations.

#### WOMEN AND ROCKS.

When Mrs. H. H. Boyce, of Los Angeles, Cal., got back in her talk on "The Study of Archaeology for Club Women" as far as the time of Pharaoh and began to talk of archaic formations, of fossils and granitiferous rocks, no one suspected that she would go still further and resurrect old father Adam, but she did and would probably have continued to go still further back had not the watchful president tapped the bell before the conclusion that women should study rocks had been reached.

Mrs. Johnson, of the New Century Club, read the paper of Miss Louise Stockton, of Philadelphia. It was all about the "Lecture Habit." Women, she claimed, were good listeners, composing the larger part of the audiences at lectures, concerts and sermons. She did not, however, suggest any cure for those who were afflicted with the habit.

"The Benefits to Women of the Columbian Congresses" were presented by the newly-elected president of the Federation, Mrs. Charles Henrotin, of Chicago.

#### THE CONCLUSION.

At the conclusion of the speeches the retiring president, Mrs. Brown, in a few kind words introduced her successor, praying that the federation would at all times give her loyal support, love and attention. When Mrs. Henrotin rose to respond there was more hand-clapping and Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson handed her a magnificent bouquet of yellow roses. Mrs. Henrotin was much affected. She thanked the donor graciously and then proposed the chautauqua salute for Ex-President Mrs. Brown.

At once the whole auditorium of the Academy was a sea of fluttering linen, as each maid or matron waved her handkerchief with an easy, graceful movement. A resolution of thanks to Mrs. Brown for her activity



### SECOND BIENNIAL MEETING

#### WHAT IS OUR SHIBBOLETH?

"With reprieve adjudged to death,  
For want of well pronouncing shibboleth."

There has been no lack of literature and history, as well as current observation, to impress one with the characteristics of New England colloquialisms of speech. You may hardly fail to recognize a Southerner born and reared, by accent, inflection and certain other habits in the uses of words. And in that migratory section which, when your grandmother rode over the Alleghany Mountains on a pillion upon her wedding journey, was situated in Western Pennsylvania; and when your mother took her wedding journey by raging canal and stage-coach, was in Illinois; and later on has been presented to us in rather cheerless aspect, by Mr. Garland, as somewhere in the Dakotas; but to-day, I think, is disclaimed by any section of the United States and transferred to the Sandwich Islands—in that section, so-called the "West"—you might identify yet other habits of speech. There are places where the natives are observed to have a peculiarly broad turn of the "r," and say skillet rather than spider, and bucket instead of pail.

Now the Ephriamites said "sibboleth," not being able to pronounce the "sh," and this proved a very useful way for the Gileadites to distinguish them from the other Israelites.

It is a pleasant custom to have a family motto, a fitting expression for an organization, "Unity in Diversity." And it is essential for an army in encampment to have a countersign. Most organizations have a reason for their being expressed in creed or dogma, the underlying sentiment that binds them for their work and penetrates their action, and I am prompted to inquire before this organization what is our shibboleth, our test word? What pre-eminently distinguishes us, and what binds us together? Not that I can expect after we have talked upon this subject more or less for two days to develop anything new, but with the belief that truth bears reiteration, and that our own experiences of it, as our individual faces are varied. The impetus of learning among women, represented by the wonderful development of women's clubs throughout the land, is a noteworthy fact. That the results may be somewhat proportionate to the effort, is to be expected, and by these results we shall mean some actual addition to the world's product of information, knowledge and culture.

The love of knowledge is awake, not only in the colleges of the land, and the cool and quiet groves of learning, but in the busy world. The opportunities for knowledge are offered by such facilities for communication as never before has the planet earth seen the counterpart. For the need of knowledge society stands with outstretched arms! Ho! for the

one who can solve the complex problems of education, of capital and labor, of the unemployed, of railway regulation, of free trade and protection. Ho! for the one who can add a line of beauty to the world. Ho! for the one who can invent a smoke consumer for Chicago.

And to whom among us has it been given to fix the boundary upon the limit of human knowledge? The circulation of the blood was once that limit. The wonders of the spectroscope was once that limit. The marvel of modern biology was once that limit. The miracles of mind and spirit are yet that limit. It stretches out into the unfathomable and the unseen, a fairy goddess, beckoning us with happy gracious mien, holding her draperies filled and overflowing, like the happy child, a mass of summer flowers, hugged close in covered apron, tempting our curiosity to follow her with eager, hopeful step—perhaps she'll show us something!

Is anyone content to say, "My life is dull and I am sick of ennui?" Nay, rather hearken, ye ardent and enthusiastic neophytes of wisdom! Do the planets chase each other in their ambition to be earliest in their race around the sun? Are ye not governed in your orbit by the law of duty? Filling your sphere by the law of capacity? Choosing your place by the law of necessity? My work may be the investigation of angle worms, yours of angels; but let us obey our laws, and perchance, while doing that, you may be called as was one among us, in the night time arise! and pen the poem that shall bless the world and make its author immortal, or dip the pen in words of fire, and write the book that thrills the soul of nations.

Remember, too, that it was no less a subject of investigation than beetles, beans and butterflies, that gave the "Fertilization of orchids" to the world and the great law of evolution, but the inspiration will be given to the one who can master the appliances, and whose character is capable of the conception. And the real additions to this world's product of knowledge are coming through the patient, conscientious adherence to a line of work with a purpose.

The Woman's Club movement may be said to embody the conception of woman's search for wisdom, and so to wisdom crowned and recrowned by poet and sage, since man became self-conscious. We build anew an altar; but stands she alone?

There is a law called "The correlation of forces" known to exist. It is understood that force and heat and light and motion are capable of being transformed, the one into the other; and the opinion is gaining ground that these are equable transformable into other physical and psychical forces. So this power of wisdom and knowledge is closely inter-related to

another force.

You no sooner set about forming an organization for study or investigation, than the uses immediately develop the relations to each other. Who shall be admitted? Who shall be rejected? Who shall be first? Who shall be last? We are in the domain of ethics. Let us limit ourselves to knowledge. It is impossible! Take for example the charity organizations of our cities, inspired primarily by the spirit of love.

How soon they find the need of the widest experience and wisdom that can possibly be brought to bear upon their work; and with such a partnership, as charity and wisdom, how much has been accomplished. The mother filled with the divine instinct her life cast in the balance, is as nothing for the child, but how wasteful, how impotent, without the fine balance of judgment which must accompany love.

It was my sad experience to have been upon a north-bound train at one time, when among the passengers was one of those disappointed health seekers to the land of sun and flowers, returning home for those last days, whose termination was now a certainty. The brave companion with her little child was patient, watchful, cheerful as a woman can be, even with hope stricken from her life. In the midst of a heavy April storm, the heavens black, the rain coursing in torrents down the mountain side, the train rushing onward to its destination, the spirit passed. Probably none of those passengers will ever forget the deep sense of pity that filled every heart, and the question, "What can we do?" was uppermost with each. It was then discovered that a gentleman was present, who sustained to those in need, the tie that binds an organization—an organization too well known to need mention here. He came forward, all yielded to his right; he telegraphed to the members of the organization in the nearest city; he said: "Be comforted; we will do all that can be done for you now." It may not chance that so great and pressing an opportunity for human obligations may ever come to the wearer of the blue pin of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, but the world is wide, and the cup of cold water is a lasting symbol.

Shall wisdom stand alone! She is cold—she is lifeless. But wisdom and love—that dual power, which has its prototypes in nature, whose union is light and life—wisdom and love—shall we be known by that shibboleth?

VIRGINIA J. BERRYHILL,  
President Iowa F. W. C.







MAY 11, 1894.

# JUST AVOIDED A BATTLE.

## WOMEN'S CLUB DELEGATES HAVE A LIVELY SESSION.

The Trouble Was About the Old Question of Uniting with the National Council—They Put Off the Debate in the Convention and Said Sharp Things About Each Other in Another Discussion.

PHILADELPHIA, May 10.—The town swarms with women. Between the New Century Club and the Hotel Metropole they seem to be moving in a constant procession. The blue-ribbon badges of the delegates to the second biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs can be counted by the hundred. The headquarters are at the Hotel Metropole. There are several hundred delegates in the hotel, and this evening the lobby looked and sounded as if half a dozen afternoon teas had melted into one.

The restaurants for blocks around are crowded at meal time, and it takes about two hours to get anything to eat. At the session yesterday morning it was announced that two restaurants nearby were ready to accommodate all who would come. In consequence of this pleasing promise, the delegates poured into the two places mentioned. In each one just five complacent, deliberate Quaker City waitresses were provided to serve fully a hundred persons. Two well-known New York women went into one of these places. After long waiting, they were served and received their checks. The woman from the Cambridge Club found a charge of 50 cents set down on her bill opposite a perfectly blank space. The other delegate, from the Wheaton Club, had been charged 32 cents extra in the same man-



MRS. MAY WRIGHT SEWALL.

ner. It seemed to be an invidious distinction in favor of the Wheaton Club member, but as the whole thing was so utterly without explanation the two delegates agreed not to indulge in any mutual discussion, but to bend their energies toward making the Philadelphia mind perceive that it isn't quite customary to throw in little arbitrary charges just to swell the receipts. It is a compliment due to the two New York women to say that they succeeded.

The house of the New Century Club, which entertains the delegates here, is an \$80,000 building at 124 South Twelfth street. The ground floor is occupied by parlors, reading rooms, and committee rooms. On the floor above is a lofty hall seating about 700 persons. This morning it was crowded, and even the aisles were filled with women unable to find seats.

"Isn't it beautiful to see all these women flutter in?" said a romantic delegate.

"Yes, but it's more beautiful when some of 'em flutter out," replied her practical neighbor, who couldn't see because of those standing in front of her.

Half of the women carried some kind of a bag. Mrs. Lozier of Sorosis had a black silk one. Mrs. Croly had a large square one with embroidered sides. Mrs. May Wright Sewall carried a leather one with Japanese decorations. One woman called the crowd "the bag brigade."

"They'd better form one more club," she said, curling her lip scornfully, "and that is a club of dressmakers who will put pockets in their gowns."

There were scores of well-known women in the hall. They were scattered all through the audience, for the platform is too small to accommodate many. Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, President of the Women's Club of Chicago, sat near the center of the hall. She is a fine-looking woman, tall, and dignified, with gray hair, and a firm, fine face. She is an exception, too, to most of the delegates in that she is well dressed. Just why "social and intellectual culture," which is the motive of the federation, should involve ill-fitting gowns and unfortunate hats is not to be explained, but it is a fact that there was a large sprinkling of this sort of thing in the audience this morning. Mrs. Helmuth, President of Sorosis, was the center of a group of her friends. Mrs. Croly and Mrs. Lozier sat on the platform. Kate Tannatt Woods of Salem, Mass., a tall woman, who would always attract attention, by her fine face and bearing as much as by the heavy mourning she wears, sat in the front row. Near her was May Wright Sewall of Indianapolis. Mrs. Charles Henrotin and Mrs. Flower, both prominent Chicago women, sat in a corner on the back row and chatted confidentially.

The plot thickens, and Mrs. May Wright Sewall and her friends think that the villain still pursues them. It all came up at the morning session. The day was fine and warm. The curtains blew back and forth at the open windows. Several hundred fans waved an accompaniment to the monotonous reading of reports, and a peaceful drowsiness most appropriate to the atmosphere of the Quaker City had fallen on the audience. It was within half an hour of the time for adjournment, and the delegates were beginning to think of going out and snatching a few crumbs from the sleepy waitresses of the town, when Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, the President, announced that there was a special order of business left over from the last meeting at Chicago, and that if no one wished to speak the Chair would order it suspended. Immediately the members who were familiar with the inner workings of the Federation sat up alert and eager. Some of them sniffed at the idea that no one wanted to speak on the special order mentioned by Mrs. Brown. They looked at Mrs. May Wright Sewall expectantly, and they did not look in vain.

Mrs. Sewall of Indianapolis is the President of the National Council of Women, which is composed of representatives from seventeen large organizations, such as the W. C. T. U., the National Woman Suffrage Association, and other societies representing various lines of work. Two years ago, at the Chicago meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Council wanted the Federation to join its body. A big fight was waged over the matter, and the National Council women were defeated, though, as one of them said yesterday, "it was by a parliamentary trick." Almost the same thing happened again this morning. Mrs. Sewall, when she arose in response to the expectant glances of her friends, said that if there was a special order of business it must be discussed, and she would therefore like to speak about it. Now it happens that Mrs. Brown, the President, is one of the opponents of union with the National Council, and therefore it was just what everybody expected when she did not smile on Mrs. Sewall's desire to speak.

"You cannot speak to a proposition, because there is none before the house," said Mrs. Brown.

Up jumped Mrs. Martha Strickland, a woman lawyer from Michigan. All the morning the delegates from the rear of the hall had been shouting "Louder," but when Mrs. Strickland got up everybody heard.

"Madam President," she said, "I rise to a point of order. When a special order of business is laid over from one meeting to another, it is before that meeting, either confessedly or impliedly, whether you call it a motion or a resolution or anything else."

There was a murmur of applause from Mrs. Sewall's friends. That's right, that's right," they exclaimed, and they beamed admiringly on Mrs. Strickland. But the light faded from their eyes when Mrs. Cheney of Boston rose.

"If it is true that this special order of business is before the house, I move that it be laid on the table."

"Second the motion."

"Madam President."

"I object."

Buz-z-z-z.

Everybody talked at once, until the President, with evident relief, recognized Mrs. Shattuck of Massachusetts, author of a book on parliamentary order. Mrs. Shattuck, who seems to be a kind of Sir Oracle for the Federation when it comes to rules, announced that the special order must come up, and that the motion made was in order if it had been made by a delegate. She looked skeptically at Mrs. Cheney.

"I am a delegate," said Mrs. Cheney, with an air of offended dignity.

"Is she a delegate?" Mrs. Shattuck asked her next neighbor, who pulled her down to her seat while she whispered that Mrs. Cheney was a very important woman from the New England Woman's Club of Boston.

Mrs. Shattuck was no sooner down than Mrs. Flower of Chicago was up. She demanded the vote on Mrs. Cheney's motion. The Chairman said that if there were no remarks the vote would be taken.

"You cannot hear remarks," announced

Mrs. Shattuck, out of the depths of her parliamentary lore. "A motion to lay on the table is not debatable."

"Oh," said Mrs. Brown, and then she put the motion.

Mrs. Sewall and her friends in the front row said "No" very loud, but the "Ayes" were quite as loud. "Division," called the members. A rising vote was taken, and the motion to lay on the table was carried.

Then Miss A. H. Marclay got up and said what has been said on an average once every fifteen minutes since the meeting began. "We can't hear," she protested. "The women around me don't know what is being voted on."

A woman in the second row jumped up and said, "Neither do we."

Mrs. Cheney then offered to withdraw her motion to lay on the table, and there was a moment's pause, broken by Mrs. Brown.

"It is too late," she said. "If the delegates could not hear they might have said so before the vote was taken. The Chair rules that the vote must stand."

"Oh, my, isn't that awful," said a sympathizer of Mrs. Sewall, who, however, made no reply. Afterward, however, she said to a SUN reporter that she was not sure that the time had come for the Federation to come into the National Council, but she thought it very arbitrary to shut off discussion in that way. Mrs. Brown said she did not intend to shut off discussion, but that an international body such as the Federation is cannot be eligible to membership in a national organization like the Council. Rachel Foster Avery, a prominent member of both societies, said that the who a difficulty was that some members of the Federation were afraid that the union with the Council would commit them to support of woman suffrage.

"That's all nonsense," she exclaimed. "They might just as well say it would commit them to kindergarten work or Unitarianism or Free Will Baptism, all of which lines of work are represented in the Council. I have an official message from the Council, however, which I shall deliver to-morrow morning, when we will make an effort to take this question from the table. The Council isn't asking the Federation to join it; it is standing on its dignity. It isn't by any means sure that the time has come for the Federation to join, but it is simply ready to welcome it if it wants to come in."

So to-morrow morning there will probably be a lively skirmish when the representatives of the Council tell the delegates of the Federation that they needn't be so cold and haughty. The other business for this morning was merely routine reading of reports from State Chairmen.

In the afternoon the Chestnut Street Opera House was almost filled by an audience gathered to hear a discussion of "The Ideal Club and How to Attain It." The disturbing subject of the morning came up again and again. Mrs. Sewall hit right out from the shoulder in her little three-minute speech when she said that the greatest necessity for an ideal club is the ability to see a thing from another point of view. She said that in her own club in Indianapolis certain subjects had been tabooed for nineteen years.

"It was understood," said Mrs. Sewall, "that no one was to talk about woman suffrage or politics or temperance or any other subject on which these subjects bore. This rather limited the range of discussion, and on our twentieth anniversary we made out an entire programme of tabooed subjects and enjoyed ourselves hugely talking about them. It is fine to have the courage of one's own opinions. It is finer to have the courage to hear some one else's opinions."

Mrs. Dyer of Boston, sitting back under the gallery, drove home the remarks of Mrs. Sewall by saying in stentorian tones:

"The ideal club, Madam President, will forbid caucuses in the anteroom which decide that half of the delegates shall not have a chance to hear something they want to discuss."

Mrs. Brown, who is an accomplished diplomat, smiled genially at these decided thrusts, but made no reply. She came in for her share of sympathy, however, when Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson gave her ideas on the ideal club. Dr. Stevenson said that one of the requisites is rotation in the office of President, so that every member could learn the difficulties and responsibilities of the position.

"Another thing I would say," she added, "is that the proper place for expressing views is on the floor, not in the corridors, and the proper time is before a vote is taken, and not afterward. It would save the President many a wakeful night if the club members would remember this."

Mrs. Brown dropped her official dignity long enough to give this sentiment some heartfelt applause. Dr. Stevenson, by the way, is one of the handsomest and most brilliant women in the Federation. She is the President of the Chicago Woman's Club. Another handsome Chicago woman, who wears fine gowns, is Mrs. Chalmers of the West End Club. Mrs. Helmuth, President of Sorosis, has appeared in six or eight different gowns and the country members have been quite dazzled by her magnificence. On the surface it isn't supposed that the delegates are interested in anything so frivolous as clothes, but privately they have picked out every gown they have seen before and have been much shocked to see some of the delegates wearing last year's bonnets.

Thirty women from all over the country gave three-minute speeches on the subject of what they thought clubs needed. Most of the thirty agreed that women need to learn to speak on their feet, and their audience showed that it thought so, too, by shouting "Louder!" and "We can't hear!" at every other speaker. Rose Cleveland spoke in favor of large clubs. Mrs. Avery and Mrs. Shattuck spoke for mixed clubs of men and women. Julia Ward Howe said that the ideal club is the one that has an

ideal and follows it. Mrs. Henrotin, who will probably be the next President, advised club women to give more attention to finances. Mme. Rorany of Syria told the delegates that if they would not try to belong to five hundred clubs at once they would stand a better chance of belonging to an ideal one.

At one of yesterday's sessions Mrs. Lozier gave a bright, brief report of the badge committee. She said that pins were made to hold things together, hence a pin was an appropriate Federation badge; that the color chosen was that of the blue sky spreading over all the world, as the spirit of the Federation should; that the representation of the rising sun signified the dawning of a new era and the sunshine which woman diffuses. The motto is "Unity in Diversity," although an iconoclastic man said it ought to be "Diversity in Unity."

In the evening the Federation met in the Academy of Music, where an audience of about two thousand gathered to listen to ten-minute addresses.

The ta-ra-ra strains of the Columbian guard march were for some reason selected by the orchestra to accompany the appearance of Mrs. Brown and the speakers, and, if a few red lights had been thrown on the stage, the effect would have been complete.

Miss May Rogers of Dubuque, Ia., spoke first on "The New Social Force," which she defined as "associated womanhood." She said that in past times the club woman would have been an anomaly, for self-development used to be the prerogative of man, while self-sacrifice was a feminine virtue. Only in America, according to the speaker, could women receive the encouragement and applause they do.

Mrs. Helmuth spoke on "The Daughters of Sorosis," who, she said, are 50,000 in number. She said that Mrs. Croly was the mother of Sorosis, and the Federation its pet daughter. Mrs. Florence Howe Hall spoke on "What Women's Clubs Should Do for Mankind." She said that she emphasized the man, not because she did not think that men were kind, but because she feared that they were a portion of humanity which is falling into neglect. Mrs. Hall succeeded in highly amusing her feminine audience, but she proved even more absorbing to the only men there, those in the orchestra.

Mrs. Longstreth, President of the new Century Club of Philadelphia, read a paper on the need for women in municipal reform, and Mrs. Hall of the same club spoke on the influence which higher education has on women.

Mrs. Charles W. Bassett of Sewickley, Pa., President of the Vassar Home Study Club, spoke on "After College Days." She reminded quondam college girls how they used to consider the air a robe of State for their special benefit, the earth their throne, and the sea a mighty minstrel singing purely for the pleasure of the college girl. She said that statistics proved that only twenty-six per cent. of college girls marry, but added that Maria Mitchell of Vassar said, "My girls marry late, but they marry well."

Kate Upson Clark, who is always expected to be funny and never disappoints the expectation, says it is her ambition to be taken seriously, and for a while to-night seemed about to succeed. But the audience very quickly went off into peals of laughter over her paper on "The Democracy of the Woman's Club." Mrs. Estelle H. Merrill of Cambridge, Mass., who is known in journalism as Jean Kincaid, spoke on "Woman's Demands in the Newspapers." She said that the average woman's page is "the funniest thing out," and that if she were a man, a New Yorker, and used slang, which, being a woman living in the shadow of Harvard College, she did not, she would call the woman's page "Tommy rot."

Kate Tannatt Woods of Salem, Mass., spoke on "The Duties of Club Women," and gave a list of "don'ts," which, if obeyed, ought to produce the ideal club so much discussed.

## FEDERATION OF WOMEN ENDS ITS BIENNIAL.

Mrs. Charles Henrotin, of Chicago, Elected the New President.

## IDEALS UNDER DISCUSSION.

Prominent Delegates from All Over the Country Talk of What the True Club and Federation Ought to Be.

It was election day yesterday morning in the General Federation of Women's Clubs with the polls at the New Century Club. The avidity with which the women availed themselves of the privilege of the ballot and the feeling that was displayed by those who were

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disappointed gave an object lesson on the women's suffrage question. Those concerned went at the work like old-time politicians. They held little caucuses, where everything was all fixed up as nearly as "the combine" could have done it. The caucus called itself the Nominating Committee and its report settled the matter, although the formality of an election was gone through with so as to let the women know how it feels to cast a ballot. There were some in the gathering who view the machinations of the Nominating Committee with disfavor. Mrs. Kate B. Sherwood, of Ohio, was one of them, and she gave notice that at the next biennial session she will offer an amendment to the constitution to do away with the Nominating Committee and to provide that all nominations hereafter be made upon the floor. She said she was a firm believer in the old saying that conventions are safe and caucuses are not always.

Mrs. Robinson, of Willimantic, Conn., wanted the body to go into executive session to the exclusion of all but delegates. Her motion was declared out of order and the applause that followed that announcement was an index to the desire of the Federation in general for an open convention.

#### THE NEW OFFICERS.

The nominations were then announced as follows by the chairman of the com-

mittee: Mrs. Jessie Mallory, of Iowa; President—Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, Chicago.

Vice-President—Mrs. Mary E. Mumford, Philadelphia, Pa.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. C. P. Barnes, Kentucky.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Philip N. Moore, Missouri.

Treasurer—Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper, California.

Auditor—Mrs. Fanny Purdy Palmer, Rhode Island.

Advisory Board—Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, New Jersey; Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Massachusetts; Mrs. J. C. Croly, New York; Mrs. Virginia J. Berryhill, Iowa; Mrs. Etta H. Osgood, Maine; Mrs. Lucia E. Blount, District of Columbia; Mrs. Mary D. Steele, Ohio; Mrs. Elizabeth Lyle Saxon, Louisiana; Mrs. McKinney, Tennessee.

The election of the candidates named being a foregone conclusion, several attempts were made to expedite matters by motions to instruct the secretary to cast the ballot for the body. In every instance there were two or three dissenting voices, which defeated the object sought for, inasmuch as consent was not unanimous. There seemed to be a desire on the part of some to cast their little ballots all by themselves, and they did. The few men in the hall wondered how the ballots would be collected and had their hats ready to lend for the occasion. They were not called upon.

The president appointed these tellers: Mrs. Lorraine Emmm, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Abbott, Connecticut; Mrs. Wiles, Illinois; Mrs. Gamber, Colorado; Mrs. Lloyd, Tennessee, and Mrs. Nichols, Massachusetts. They distributed and collected the ballots, and reported to the convention that 290 votes had been cast, of which 146 were necessary to a choice. Mrs. Henrotin received 251; Mrs. Fannie de la M. Lozier, of New York, 5, and Dr. Stevenson, of Chicago, 19. Mrs.

Henrotin was declared elected amidst considerable applause. Dr. Stevenson moved that the election be made unanimous, and when the motion was put there were four or five dissenting voices. This caused much indignation, and some went so far as to hiss. The other nominees were in due course declared elected.

#### NO COMBINE HERE.

Another effort was made during the morning session to bring together the General Federation and the National Council of Women, but it was promptly put down. Mrs. May Wright Sewell, of Indianapolis, president of the latter body, was given the floor on a question



Mrs. Edna P. Cheney, one of the Massachusetts Delegation.

of personal privilege, and after explaining her position in the matter, she moved that a committee be appointed to examine and have published together the constitutions of both the General Federation and the National Council, together with the strongest arguments for and against the proposition to be presented at the next biennial.

President Brown explained to the delegates that when the question had been discussed in the board meeting an investigation was made, and it was decided that it would be unconstitutional to join the National Council. An international body, she said, is not eligible to membership in a national body and the motion made by Mrs. Sewell was declared out of order.

As has been expected during the three days of the meeting of the Federation, Colonel Breckinridge and his counsel received a slap at the hands of the women, though their names were not mentioned. Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson, of Chicago, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, created great applause when she offered a resolution stating: "That the General Federation of Women's Clubs declares its belief that one standard of morality is equally binding upon men and women and that immoral conduct which debars one from public and social life should also debar the other."

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe seconded the resolution, as did Mrs. May Wright Sewell.

There was no discussion of it, and it was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

#### THE IDEAL CLUB.

The afternoon session was held at the Chestnut Street Opera House and a large audience of women was present. There was a little preliminary business, after which there was a general discussion on "The Ideal Federation and How to Realize It." Mrs. Poland, president of the Ladies' Literary Club, of Grand Rapids, first arose to speak. She was in the front row and spoke very clearly. But that didn't suit the other women. There was no pleasure in hearing if they couldn't see the speaker, so as a compromise Mrs. Poland stood on a chair and finished her brief talk.

Mrs. Mather, of the New Century Club, of Wilmington, Del., then climbed up on the vacated chair and made a plea for a definite contribution by women to the philosophy of the day.

"Mrs. General Mussey, vice president of the Business Women's Club, of Washington," announced the Chairman.

She was greeted with applause and spoke of the business methods of the clubs, whose machinery ought to be the best and warranted to run smoothly without too much friction. She suggested that one day be given to a meeting of sections, to consider subjects in which all are individually interested.

Miss Boyesen, of New York, was a charming representative of "the young people in the club," for as she naively told the audience, she is "the youngest or one of the youngest members of the Sorosis." She said she didn't think that an ideal club needed to have ideal members, but it ought to have ideal subjects which will tend to make the members ideal. She also said that she did not go to clubs to be amused, but to get the benefit of older and wiser heads than her own. She didn't think the ideal club would include men.

Mrs. Marble, of Washington, and Mrs. Albert Eugschwert, of Chicago, spoke briefly and Mrs. Kumlir read a paper by Miss Steele, director, from Ohio, in which she stated that the present clubs are the means of serious preparation for



Miss Boyesen, "I Am the Youngest Member of the Sorosis."

an ideal club of both sexes. If the time is not ripe to welcome men as active members, she suggested, that they be invited to become associate members. In conclusion, the paper said that the Federation owes much of its success "to our ideal president." A billowy wave of applause, which swelled and was prolonged, greeted this allusion to the retiring president, Mrs. Brown. She bowed her thanks and said a few nice things in reply.

Mrs. Ella Diet Clymer, ex-president of Sorosis, who presided over the first convention called to organize the woman's Federation, was then presented. She thought that the ideal organization was the one that was many-sided and the ideal club the one that represents the greatest number of interests. She, too, was greeted with prolonged applause.

Mrs. E. D. Cheney, of the New England Woman's Club and the Massachusetts Federation of Clubs, was next presented. She is one of the gray-haired members of the Federation, whose zeal in the cause is as great as the youngest. Her favorite watchword for the club is "mental hospitality." She was glad to know that the clubs had reached the point where they could discuss any subject, including politics and religion.

#### THE NEW PRESIDENT.

After Mrs. Cheney had finished President Brown presented the new president of the Federation, Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, of Chicago. There was another demonstration of applause to which Mrs. Henrotin bowed her thanks and then sat down to better view her constituency through her lorgnette. She wore a handsome dress of black figured silk, trimmed with lace with a preponderance of red at the cuffs and yoke. A red rose was artistically pinned on her dress. A dainty hat completed her toilet. She did not say anything during the session.

Mrs. James F. Flower, ex-president of the Chicago Woman's Club, spoke briefly, saying that one of the great missions of the ideal club is the moral reform of the politicians of to-day. Mrs. J. de la M. Lozier said the ideal club must be united on a moral, spiritual and sympathetic plane. She urged the care of "unclubbed women" and suggested associate membership of a practical method of reaching them. Mrs. Lucurde H. Stone, of Kalamazoo, Mich., suggested that special efforts be made to reach college girls.

Mrs. Martha Strickland arose in the rear of the opera house and claimed the attention of the Federation. In the customary manner she introduced herself, saying that she was a delegate from the

Society for Physical Culture and Correct Dress of Chicago. She had no sooner said that than there was a general craning of necks and bobbing of heads to get a glimpse of her. Woman nature would out, and finally one, who could not see because of some obstructing bonnet, arose and said to the chairman:—

"Will you kindly ask the lady to go to the platform so we can see her ideal dress."

The request was granted and all had an opportunity to see how ugly an ideal dress can be.

#### THE WAITING LISTS.

"What Shall be Done With the Waiting Lists of Clubs?" was the next subject under discussion. Mrs. Buckley, of Rhode Island, proposed that those waiting for admission into clubs form a new club of their own. Mrs. Frey, president of the Travelers' Club, Portland, Me., and Mrs. Wade, of the Woman's Club, Pittsburg, also spoke. The latter thought they would never get an ideal club until they get to Heaven.

Mrs. Alice Frey Briggs, of Maine, aroused great enthusiasm by telling of the devotion of some Maine farmers' wives to the cause for which they were all laboring. Mrs. Robinson, of Massachusetts, also spoke. Mrs. Harvey presented resolutions of thanks to the Philadelphians who had treated them so kindly, to the New Century Club especially and to the press of the city for their "nice accounts of the meetings and their pretty pictures of some of us." The sympathy of the federation was extended to Vice-President Mary E. Mumford for the loss of her daughter, Miss Jean Mumford.

The evening session was held in the Academy of Music before a large audience. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, of Boston, made the opening address and was given a warm welcome. She spoke a few words of encouragement and exhortation to the federation and likened the organization to the Union of the States. Though there may be differences on minor matters yet in essentials they were one.

Mrs. B. F. Taylor, of Cleveland, O., spoke of "Club Training as Preparatory for Woman's Work for the World." She presented first the home, the beginning of all work for humanity and then the club, which is the assistant in this work.

#### WOMAN'S SHIBBOLETH.

Mrs. James G. Berryhill, of Des Moines, Ia., had for her theme, "What Is Our Shibboleth?" She said women had developed an impetus in learning and had made some actual addition to the knowledge and culture of the time. The Federation embodies the conception of woman's search for wisdom. Shall wisdom stand alone? It is cold and lifeless, but wisdom and love that dual power, shall they not be known as our Shibboleth?"

Mrs. Etta H. Osgood, of Portland, Me., spoke of "Our Woodman." She said: "In the present age we must get down to the unit in everything. Every woman must cultivate her individuality as a heritage from heaven. When every woman has become one perfect woman, then will we have the perfect club."

Mrs. J. P. Clapp, president of the Shakespeareana, of Grand Rapids, Mich., read a paper by Mrs. Elizabeth Ballard Thompson, of the same place, on "the Reciprocity of Clubs." She said that the old power of contact was to be used to keep up into club sympathy. She suggested founding a bureau to which each club should contribute essays and then from the lists thus obtained each club should choose some one to come and visit them and talk to them on the subject chosen because of its interest. At first all might want the same women, but failing to get them they would choose others. This would be an incentive to others and would help the growth of American literature.

Mrs. H. H. Boyce, of Los Angeles, Cal., recommended the study of archaeology for club women, it was full of interest and gave habits of concentration and close investigation. Owing to hoarseness, her voice could be heard by but few of the audience.

#### THE LECTURE HABIT.

Mrs. Johnson, of the New Century Club, read a paper by Miss Louise Stockton, of this city, on "The Lecture Habit." She said women were better listeners than talkers and that women of to-day had a thirst for knowledge which was totally lacking in discrimination and prudence.

Mrs. Charles Henrotin, of Chicago, was introduced and spoke of the benefits to women of the Columbian Congresses. She praised the Board of Managers of the Fair, saying that they secured national recognition of women. Out of the 577 speakers at the Congresses 147 were women. For the first time she took her place as a specialist and advisor in great social questions.

The retiring president, Mrs. Brown, then made an address thanking the Fed-



"Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea,  
Our hearts, our hopes, our all with Thee."

# Reception

Tendered by the Des Moines Women's Club to the  
Visiting Women's Clubs of the State.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF  
F. M. HUBBELL, TERRACE HILL.

Thursday Evening, April 27, 1893.  
AT 8:00 O'CLOCK.

## RECEPTION COMMITTEE.

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mrs. J. G. Berryhill. | Mrs. E. R. Clapp.     |
| " Fannie Browne.      | " J. H. Windsor.      |
| " A. B. Cummins.      | " W. F. Thummell.     |
| " J. S. Carter.       | " W. M. McCain.       |
| " E. H. Carter.       | " Stewart Goodrell.   |
| " C. H. Getchell.     | " F. A. Percival.     |
| " Wm. Jaquith.        | " S. A. Robertson.    |
| " Chas. Watrous.      | " J. J. Towne.        |
| " H. C. Potter.       | " J. B. Hatton.       |
| " Jas. Callanan.      | Miss Mary McClelland. |

## Programme.

|                                           |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Short Address,                            | - - - Mrs. Macomber              |
| Jewel Song,                               | - - - MRS. BELKNAP.              |
| Chariot Race,                             | - - - MISS BERTHA PARCE.         |
| Nocturne, op. 37, No. 2, Valse (E Minor,) | - - - Chopin                     |
|                                           | MRS. BONBRIGHT, Late of Leipsic. |

## SYNOPSIS OF THE JEWEL SONG.

Margarita appears, and slowly advances towards an arbor where her spinning-wheel is placed, and, sitting down begins to wind the wool round her spindle. Her mind is dwelling on the young stranger who so boldly accosted her, and she acknowledges herself curious to know his name and rank. While thus yielding to the interest which Faust has already awakened in her breast, she pursues her work, and accompanies it with a ballad; the King of Thule, who having received a drinking-cup from his dying love, goes on drinking to her memory, his eyes filling with tears as he empties the cup, until, feeling the approach of death, he casts the cherished goblet into the ocean, and, having watched it fill and sink, is about to enter the pavilion, when she perceives the flowers left by Siebel, and recognizes them at once as his gift; and the next moment her eye lights on the rich casket left by Mephistopheles. Yielding to a natural curiosity she opens it, and its dazzling contents are displayed before her wondering eyes. She is tempted to try the effect of one or two of these glittering ornaments upon her person; and, a looking-glass being very opportunely placed within the casket, she proceeds to fasten a pair of ear-rings; and, pleased with their effect, she surveys her image in the glass, she wonders what the stranger would think of her thus splendidly bedecked.



## Notice to the Federated Clubs of Iowa of the First Biennial at Cedar Rapids.

(Please confer with your President and read this notice in your club.)

The first Biennial of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs will be held in Cedar Rapids on the **8th and 9th of May, 1895.**

At **9 o'clock A. M.** delegates will meet at the Congregational Church for presenting of credentials and receiving badges prepared for delegates.

The **first session**, commencing on **Wednesday morning** at the Congregational Church at **10 A. M.** will be occupied with reports of Officers, reports of Chairmen of Committees, and an address by the President.

The **afternoon session**, commencing at **2 o'clock**, will be occupied by two-minute addresses from delegates, one speaker from each club, upon subjects relating to their line of study.

**Wednesday evening** a reception will be given the delegates and visiting members by the Ladies' Literary Club, at the home of Mrs. Skinner.

The **morning session** of the 9th, commencing at **9 o'clock**, will be occupied with the election of officers, delegates to the next Biennial of G. F. W. C., and general business.

The **afternoon session**, commencing at **2 o'clock**, will be occupied by ten minute addresses by prominent club women.

**Evening session at 8 o'clock.**—Addresses and music, and Introduction of President.

**Delegates.**—Each club may send its President and one other delegate; or, if the President cannot attend, another member may be elected in her place. Federated Club members may attend all meetings and take part in discussions.

**Entertainment.**—The members of the Cedar Rapids Ladies' Literary Club generously offer to entertain in their homes the delegates. All delegates will please notify the chairman of the committee on entertainment, Mrs. Adelaide Lawton, No. 283 Second avenue, in no case later than May 1st, who will return to them cards of introduction to their entertainers.

**Hotel Rates.**—Visiting members can secure accommodations at the Grand Hotel, according to room desired, at from \$2 to \$4 a day. At the Clifton from \$1.50 to \$2 per day.

**Railroad Rates.**—The Transportation Committee has secured one and one-third fare to Cedar Rapids, providing one hundred members attend. Members are requested to secure a certificate from the agent upon purchasing ticket, in order to obtain this reduction.

**Committee on Roll.**—All regular delegates are earnestly requested to notify the chairman of Credential Committee, Mrs. Emma Van Vechten, No. 314 Second avenue, not later than May 1st of their intention to attend, giving the name of the club, and stating whether they are ex-officio vice-presidents or delegates, that the list may be printed.

Mrs. Ira M. Weed, West Union, Federation Treasurer, requests that all biennial dues be forwarded to her by April 24th, to avoid delay at Cedar Rapids.

By order of the Biennial Committee,

VIRGINIA J. BERRYHILL, President.

Des Moines, Iowa, January 23, 1895.



## THE BIENNIAL.

The Federation Opens With the  
Greatest Enthusiasm.

Addresses of Mrs. Skinner and Mrs. Berryhill—Many Noted Ladies on the Platform—Reports of Officers—Addresses of the Afternoon.

The federation opened yesterday with great enthusiasm. The Congregational church was filled with delegates and visitors. The delegates wore a blue satin badge upon which was printed in silver the words, "First Biennial, Cedar Rapids, 1895," and in a crescent were the initials, "I. F. W. C.," and many of the delegates also wore the color or badge of their individual clubs and the badge of the G. F. W. C.

Potted palms and Easter lillies were a background for the platform, where were seated the president of the Ladies' Literary club of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Skinner; Mrs. E. R. Burkhalter, and the officers of the Iowa Federation, Mrs. Berryhill, Mrs. Cogswell, Mrs. Greig, Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Weed, Mrs. Payne, and Mrs. Henrotin, who was stylishly gowned in green and like an incarnation of the spring.

## Address of Mrs. Skinner.

Mrs. G. R. Skinner, president of the Cedar Rapids club, welcomed the federation with these cordial words:

Mrs. President and members of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs, welcome to Cedar Rapids. On behalf of the Ladies' Literary, and all other federated clubs of our city, I bid you welcome, and I esteem it a privilege to be permitted to come before this representative body of the women of our state, and welcome you as delegates to this first biennial meeting of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs.

Not with the formal utterance of the lips do I bid you welcome, but with heartfelt rejoicing that the time has come in which women realize the need of conferring together over those problems of life which belong especially to their share in the activities—the uplifting of the race—and the development of a higher humanity.

A few days ago a prominent business man of the city, hearing some of us planning for this occasion, asked, "What is this meeting for—what is its object?"

In true Yankee fashion he was answered, interrogatively, thus: "Why do business men hold mass meetings? Why do railroad officials meet and bankers hold their conventions; or why do physicians have their annual conferences?" "Oh," replied he, "the doctors must meet to compare notes, to discuss physical ailments and the best methods of curing them."

For similar reasons, said the woman interrogated, will we hold this meeting—to discuss those topics that are allied most closely with the mental, moral and physical welfare of humanity. Therefore I welcome you for the principles you represent—the onward and upward progress of mankind, for

"With lofty thoughts, and noble deeds  
The sands of life are gold;  
With petty thoughts, unworthy deeds  
They're but earth's heavy mold."

We believe that a broader, more completely developed womanhood means better homes and more efficient mothers. Efficient mothers will have nobler sons and daughters—nobler sons and daughters means nobler manhood and womanhood, the influence of whose lives will preserve and prosper the life of this nation, until it shall become the grandest, most christian land of the

world. As another has said, "The work is great, the opportunities manifold; the laborers willing, the field limitless."

For the "Unity in Diversity" which shall join our minds and hearts in a common cause—the highest good of all—I again bid you welcome, thrice welcome to our city and to our homes.

## Mrs. Berryhill's Speech.

Mrs. Berryhill prefaced her address with a graceful acknowledgement of the courtesies of the Ladies' Literary club.

Mrs. Virginia J. Berryhill, the president of the Iowa Federation spoke eloquently of its work and mission. She said:

The cause of state federation, grown out of the necessity for closer local organization, has reached the first milestone of its growth. I deem it not unfitting here to recall in brief our past and give prophecy of our future.

Animated by a common cause, the Iowa federation was the outgrowth of the necessity for community of thought and purpose of the women's clubs of Iowa. Conceived through the generous hospitality of Marshalltown and effected through the Woman's Club of Des Moines, the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs became an accomplished fact. From various parts of Iowa, in response to the call, we assembled April 27, 1893, in Des Moines to bear greeting, to give counsel, to aid and encourage, to receive inspiration and give impetus to a movement which will be reviewed in history as one of the wide-spreading influences of the present century—a century which has seen the intellect of women given free scope for that development without which repressed faculties degenerate or spend themselves in hopeless discontent.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs, called into existence in 1890, was the first movement to unify the work of intellectual and social organizations over the land. The phenomenal growth of this movement, beginning with fifty clubs, numbering nearly two hundred at the first biennial, and at the last published list nearly four hundred and fifty indicates the need for such an opportunity of contact and unity.

The World's Columbian Exposition, whose auxiliary congresses set more forces in motion than any movement of modern times, assigned certain parts of the work of preparation to the natural divisions of the states; a state pride was aroused that each should do its part well and have its representation as complete as possible. It was this centralizing effort which made the focus of the desire already felt in Iowa for a local or state organization of clubs. At the meeting in Chicago of the G. F. W. C. in the congress of representative women, the delegates from Iowa presented the cause of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs, and asked to join the main body. The G. F. W. C., itself in its infancy, guarding carefully any tendency to draw away interest from its own forceful though untried organization, received the Iowa federation under the clause in its constitution which says: "Any state or territorial association of eligible women's clubs may upon application be received into membership, and shall enjoy the same privileges as any local club."

Already there was a main federation formed, which was upon the same basis but working independently, and Massachusetts was hesitating to form a state body lest the results might be detrimental to the one to which we had already given our fealty. The necessity for state federation, however, has grown with the national; fifteen states are now federated and the problem has become, not shall we have state

federations, but how shall the state and general work together for the greatest harmony and efficiency.

One of the conditions to effect this purpose was considered by the Iowa Federation to be the plan for holding biennial rather than yearly meetings. So long as the state federations belong to the national only as individual clubs, it is most necessary that each club should be represented in both state and general federations, to have the true value of both these organizations. One of the reasons for forming state federations grew out of the necessity for acquaintance among ourselves, so that when we meet away from home we may know each other's faces, capacity, and powers for action. The drain upon the finances of the individual clubs, especially those which defray the expenses of delegates to both organizations, becomes then only a yearly expenditure instead of twice in one year as would occur if our state meetings were held annually. An annual meeting, alternating between the state and the general, serves to keep up the interest in both and to keep us more in touch than if the period were the two years which elapse between the biennial of either body alone.

The problem of adequate state representation in the general is one with which we must soon have to deal. Already fifteen states are organized, and the movement continues. It is to be hoped that by the next meeting in Louisville, 1896, the wise heads who are at work upon the problem will have it solved to the satisfaction of all.

In the meantime the states must consider what is their best interests in the matter and aid in that solution. The fact is urged that so large a body as the state represents should have more delegates than two, and with equal force, that so many members should pay dues in proportion to the membership, it being disproportionate for a club of ten members to send two delegates and pay \$10, and for a body of several hundred members to have the same representation. These problems are the complicated ones upon which to test the powers of wisdom in development.

A high order of organization requires careful systematizing, and as the federations of clubs grow in power and efficiency the relations of individuals to the mass must be carefully considered. At no time is it so important as in the beginnings, that wise consideration should be given. Foundations should be securely laid; society is conservative, and a position once taken is difficult to change or make over; constitutions once formed are difficult to alter. To make any change now in the constitution of the United States would be a task of much magnitude, if not well nigh impossible. Happy for us that our fathers builded even better that they knew and gave to us a basis of government which has withstood many a shock of the friction of progress, and still stands a bulwark of individual liberty, a protector of her children's rights.

The growth of the State Federation of Iowa has been steady and continuous; from a beginning of thirty-five clubs we now number ninety-eight. There has been little of the forcing process in the growth. Such avenues of ordinary publicity as have been open to us to disseminate the knowledge of the federation, have been used. A genuine enthusiasm for the cause has been evinced by every officer connected with it, and devotion and adherence by the working clubs. The various sections of the state are well represented, showing that the movement is a general one, and like the arable land of Iowa, not confined to spots. The power of a mo-

mentum of a force which has once become established is indeed one of the elements of stability; but this is the least of the forces of true progress.

The inherent vitality of a cause is its true impetus. But even this will not keep it from the dangers which beset it. All life must contend with obstacles and we must be on our guard; and judgment, tact and wise consideration must be ever at the helm.

There will be differences of opinion. All progress is made through movement. There will be opposing views of methods to gain certain ends, the ends being those desired by all. Nor will we ever find that one side has all the truth and the other has none; but when it comes to the issue, that one is nearer right, that one has more of truth, than another, and that side must in the end prevail.

Truth, too, will shift its basis. Truth is relative. Absolute truth—absolute goodness, is the ever-fleeting chimera, the mirage of the desert; we approach it, but it lies beyond; another vista opens up to us once this end has been attained. "Time makes ancient good uncouth." Behold, new questions, new ideas, command us. The past is history; the future, prophecy; but the present confronts us with ever-pressing needs.

The past two years have given us the benefit of working under the present constitution, and testing its merits and defects. A revision at the present meeting will be impossible, as our constitution provides no revision shall be made unless submitted to the clubs with the call for the meeting. As no request for revision had been received from any clubs, the feeling prevailed that the subject should be one for future consideration. And I offer for your attention such subjects as have been brought to my notice.

We meet the same problem of representation in our state organization as in the general, and the question of small and large clubs being represented by an equal number of delegates. We have clubs of two hundred and four hundred members, and clubs of ten and twenty members, represented by two delegates apiece. It is urged by some that this is not a proportionate representation; and some of the state federations have solved the difficulty by making the following ratio: New Jersey allows clubs of fifty or more members to have two delegates; three for one hundred, four for two hundred, five for four hundred. The dues are \$2, and \$1 additional for each additional delegate above two. The objection to this ratio can be made that large clubs may have a balance of power, and localities unduly influence important questions; on the other hand it is a more equal opportunity for the individuals in the large clubs.

The experience of the officers has proven that the board of directors, as provided for in the constitution, has been an unwieldy and unnecessary provision. The call of the vice presidents and executive board would amount so nearly to the same thing as the sending of delegates to a regular meeting, and was open to the same objections as to frequent meetings of the entire organization; that the call was not made for such a meeting. In many states, the board of directors consists of the general officers and a board of nine directors, who meet upon the call of the president to transact business. This gives a large enough board to be representative of the interests of clubs in various sections, and by making a quorum of such size as to be readily available renders it possible to expedite business and yet not leave it in the hands of too small a number for efficient work. It makes a number for



the responsibility of the work and thus adds to the zest and interest that comes with that responsibility. Indeed, I know of no greater incentive to work in the individual clubs and to the genuine success of the clubs, than to have each member feel the sense of having a share in the work and responsibility for the efficient performance of that work. Her personality then becomes involved; the pleasure of feeling the successful outcome of an undertaking is experienced; and the individual and the organization are both benefited.

Upon no subject have I spent more deep and conscientious thought in the true interest of this organization, than the subject of election of officers; to find the best, fairest and least objectionable plan upon which all could unite. The objections to a nominating committee were raised in our own convention by those who felt the opposition to it in the general meeting at the first biennial at Chicago. The method of the general federation is now to allow a committee composed of delegates from each state to nominate a ticket which the convention votes upon. New York and Massachusetts have nominating committees. New Jersey's by-law reads, "The first election on November 16, 1895, shall be on nomination from the floor. After that date, nominations for general officers and for such members of the board of directors as are to be elected, shall be made by informal ballot at the morning session prior to the afternoon on which the election shall take place."

Mrs. Shattuck, our received authority on all parliamentary subjects, says: "So far as I am at present convinced, I think on the whole the fairest method is nomination by informal ballot at one session and election by the Australian system at a subsequent session. All names nominated on, or all receiving a certain number of votes on the informal ballot and not declining the nomination, would then be considered candidates and their names printed on a ballot, which ballot would then at a subsequent session be distributed to all entitled to vote; a majority electing." She adds that this method is also open to objections; so that I think we shall find, after long experimenting, no perfect method. The most perfect will be found in the fairest minded attitude of the members of a convention—each one feeling her individual responsibility in the election of officers, endeavoring to secure those who have fitness for the places, to allow no feelings of personal rivalry to dominate, to secure prompt and effective action, and to have the cause of the organization, its interest and perpetuity, always at heart.

Rotation in office I consider one of the important features of the educational value of the organizations of woman. Many develop ability unrecognized and until the force of circumstances calls it into action; self-confidence and self-control are gained through the opportunity for exercising these faculties, and as many as possible should be given the opportunity for this self-development. Moreover, the work is arduous—to those who undertake it with a keen sense of responsibility, it demands hard work, conscientious thought, and attention to details, if the work be efficiently done. Rotation in office shares this work and responsibility, and a change of shoulders eases the burden.

I know full well that women's clubs will not be able to make over "this wise old world." The lines of selfhood and self-sacrifice are narrowly drawn. There is the law of self-development—each one having upon his brow the seal of honor to be the best, to do the best, to live for the best, by every obligation for the privilege of existence. The

individual knows first himself, his life and his effort—but this thought unmodified belongs to the childhood of the individual, to the childhood of the race. The conscious relation to the family, the clan, the tribe, is the higher and final problem to be solved. Women have known this individual problem; faithfully have they kept the family relationship, its obligation of duty, devotion, courage and development. In the realms of sovereignty have they shown power. Semiramis inscribed her name upon stupendous monuments; her heroism commanded a king's devotion; her conquering armies went forth to do battle and win renown; and by strange contrast, but in harmony of the conception of the ever-womanly, she reappears after her life is ended, to be worshipped as a deity in the form of a dove; Cleopatra, dusky queen of the pyramids and the sphinx, swayed the destiny of nations; Elizabeth, daughter of a monarch who knew no law but self and his supreme command, dictating her subjects' coming and going, life or death—well have these exemplified sovereignty. But it is for the nineteenth century to exemplify the power and opportunity for women to identify themselves in their relation to the whole as factors and integers in the fabric of society; of finding their position for adjustment to the mass, and moving in it to the effective accomplishment of the one great human purpose.

The social and literary club life has aided in this adjustment. Here many women have come first to feel that sense of relationship to the outer world; from here they may go on to other work as fitness and demands impel. The reason of being for the intellectual center of club life exists; the movement is virile and destined to go on to its fulfillment—what that end may be, who can prophecy? but with our hearts open and our intellects poised we shall attain the chief good.

Already the question is pressed upon us, what are your women's clubs doing; what active, visible work? And the question is an open one in many organizations. These questions must be relegated to the individual club for final decision; to the opinions of its members and to the necessities demanding attention. If the state federation should feel this demand outside of the pale of activities already open—the activities of culture, of education, of mutual acquaintance and unity of thought and purpose—a most fruitful and concomitant subject is that of public libraries. Surely a public library is one of the most efficient factors of education for young or old; an invaluable aid in a town or city of whatever size to the investigation of any line of thought or study, and one to which women's clubs could well lend a helping hand.

The I. F. W. C. might aid this cause by appointing a committee to investigate the number and condition of public libraries in the state, and report at a future meeting. Individual clubs might take up the cause, as has already been done in some places, and movements made to establish libraries where none exists. In Massachusetts a law exists whereby a small grant of state funds is made on condition that the town itself appropriates a certain sum, and Massachusetts is noteworthy for the number of libraries in the towns of her state.

The theory of university extension, which in name suggests its educational tendency, could be well adapted to the field of intellectual club effort. In many instances, where valuable papers requiring much time and study and careful work have been prepared, the authors are willing to present them before other clubs, thus serving several ends—the exchange of courtesy among

organizations, extending fellowship, disseminating knowledge, and the immediate end of purpose for which the paper or lecture might be engaged. Already some of our club members are winning reputation and reward by undertaking work in line with these suggestions. The state federation could, through a committee appointed for such a purpose, unify a system whereby a list of those willing to give their services for this work might be obtained, and those wanting such reference could find ready access to it.

The avenues of opportunity in the numerous directions for furthering the cause for which the woman's club movement stand; are numerous, so numerous that in pointing out the ways of usefulness I would also add a caution, "make haste slowly." Let us do what we have undertaken, well. Let us pay attention to detail that each step may be secured as we go. Let us not spread our forces too much to give efficient work to what we have undertaken. "Nothing to excess," says the old Latin proverb. Let us hold the nice balance which gives true power and usefulness. Let us uplift and inspire; let us be and let us do; let us look for the noble purposes of life, and hold them aloft as a banner where those who see its folds waving shall say—behold the influence of goodness, of purity, of knowledge, of truth!

She who stood as an ideal representative of these motives and principles; who inscribed this banner and carried it so nobly and so well in the beginnings of this great movement of women's clubs, has passed away. We revere the memory of Charlotte Emerson Brown, and honor her noble name. We bow our heads to the mysteries of life; but we rise from our sorrow and with the new leader of our choice, Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, she who is with us today, pledged to our beloved interest, respected for her strength and loyalty, her spirit of progress, her devotion to truth—we rally round her with our faith and hope renewed, to press on to further glories.

The state, a union of sisterhoods, let us cherish and uphold her. The nation, a union of states, may we never be divided!

In fulfilling the allotted time of my election to this office, I cannot lay it down without expressing to you the sense of honor I have felt in the repose of trust and confidence offered me. I felt unequal to the task imposed upon me and accepted it with reluctance. I see many ways where I have failed in being all I could wish to have been; but I have given conscientiously of my time and efforts to this cause, which has inspired my belief—I wish it all success and prosperity.

I wish to return thanks for the efficient help that I have received from the general officers of this organization; they have ever been ready and willing to spend themselves in the interests of this organization; they have been faithful helpers and devoted friends, and I express my sincere and profound gratitude for their devotion.

To my successor, I give my heartiest good wishes—my trust and confidence in her ability to serve you is complete.

And to you all, may success ever crown your efforts.

The reports of the routine work of the federation were listened to with interest, namely that of the recording secretary, Mrs. Greig, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Howe, treasurer, Mrs. Weed; auditor, Mrs. Payne, local committee, Mrs. Cogswell; badge committee, Mrs. Weed and I. F. W. C. delegate, Mrs. Howe. Mrs. Weed reported that there was \$163.70 in the treasury and Mrs. Payne displayed the soul of wit by saying, "I have examined the treasurer's report and find it correct." Mrs. Howe gave a comprehensive and condensed account of the work of the Iowa clubs. She said that she had received 476 letters and had written the past year 460 and mailed 125 constitutions. She said in conclusion that the inquiries of the club secretaries were her inspiration and that their appreciation of her services was her compensation. Among the club mottoes she mentioned that of the Ottumwa club which is: "Let us be a light in the window if we cannot be a star in the sky." Mrs. Howe gave a very entertaining report of the Philadelphia biennial and concluded with words of regret for the death of Mrs. Brown.

The morning session closed with remarks from Mrs. Henrotin. The president was greeted with a hearty hand-clapping. Mrs. Henrotin told the Iowa federation that they represented the best elements in their state and she asked them to what purpose were they going to direct their forces. She reviewed the work of the various state federations. She said that the Illinois organization was interested in literature, education and civics; New York in education, literature and philanthropy; Massachusetts in philanthropy; Ohio in public libraries, and she said in Maine the farmers' wives were becoming more and more interested in their clubs. She praised the work of the state correspondent, Mrs. Windsor, who had almost made Iowa the banner state in membership of the national federation. Mrs. Henrotin gave a very appropriate summary of the talents and services of the late Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, and she concluded with a tender and beautiful tribute to her memory.

Among the newspaper correspondents who are here to report the Biennial, is Mrs. Martha Everts Holden, who represents the Chicago Times-Herald. She is the "Amber" of wide reputation and the delight of home circles throughout the west. Mrs. Holden is a woman of most ready wit, and genial temperament and received much attention yesterday, and she was kept busy shaking hands with her admirers who were glad to know the woman whose writings they had long read with pleasure. Among the other correspondents were Miss Bertha Damaris Knobe, of the Chicago Tribune, and Mrs. Huffaker, of the Marshalltown Statesman, and Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley of Des Moines, who has had a long experience in club work.

The afternoon session was devoted to the two minutes' reports of the delegates of over ninety clubs. It was evident to a listener that the Iowa clubs are a post graduate course for our women. If we accept Matthew Arnold's definition that literature is a criticism of life our women who are having this insight into the life and habits of mankind as individuals and social groups, must become citizens of the world and to this is added the knowledge of the life of mankind as nations. There was besides history and literature, clubs studying nature scientifically and also clubs interested in civics and in political economy. It was evident that Iowa women ought to be proud of this record of their intellectual energy.



## BIENNIAL CONCLUDES.

Assemblage of Brilliant Iowa Women at an End.

New Officers Chosen to Serve the Federation—Import of Resolutions Presented and Adopted—Able Papers are Presented.

Yesterday morning the federation was in executive session for the election of officers and miscellaneous business. The new officers are:

President—Mrs. Anna B. Howe, Marshalltown.

Vice President—Mrs. Mary W. Cogswell, Cedar Rapids.

Treasurer—Miss Mabel Dixon, Ottumwa.

Secretary—Mrs. W. H. Bailey, Des Moines.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Jennie M. Thayer, Chariton.

Auditor—Mrs. Ada Langworthy Collier, Dubuque.

The Dubuque Literary association extended an invitation to the federation to hold their next biennial in that city.

Mrs. Ada L. Collier in a speech of earnest power presented the following resolutions to the federation from the Dubuque Ladies' Literary association, and they were adopted by a majority vote:

Whereas, We have observed with deep regret the failure of our state legislature to change the present law that fixes the age of consent at the unseemly period of 13 years, thus holding our otherwise progressive state in an attitude of opposition to the improved moral standard demanded by the increased intelligence and ethical enlightenment of our high civilization; and

Whereas, This matter has been thoroughly discussed in several states recently with the result that the age of consent has been raised in all of them; and

Whereas, We have been informed that various petitions having source in the W. C. T. U., and likewise the efforts of individual legislators, bearing upon the betterment of this same unjust law have failed of success, therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully urge upon the I. F. W. C. the necessity for firm and connected action in this matter, that if possible the needed reform may be brought about and the disgraceful law changed upon the statute books of Iowa.

Resolved, That we recommend for consideration the importance of presenting a great petition to the legislature at its next session urging that body to raise the age of consent to eighteen years, and in furtherance of this design that committees be appointed to cause a petition to be circulated soliciting the signatures of men and women and further, so far as possible, the newspapers be asked to contribute their powerful aid to this movement, thus bringing the case before the entire intelligent community and thereby securing a popular verdict favorable to and in accordance with justice and philanthropy.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

Resolved, 1st, That the thanks of the entire assembly be extended to the Ladies' Literary club of Cedar Rapids for their unbounded hospitality and unceasing efforts to make the first biennial of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs a complete success.

Second. That we are especially in-

debted to Mrs. C. H. Cogswell, vice president of the I. F. W. C., and to Mrs. G. R. Skinner, president of the L. L. C. of Cedar Rapids, for their great efficiency in planning so successfully for the comfort, convenience and entertainment of their many guests.

Third. That to the chairmen of the various local committees, particularly to those in charge of the hospitality and credential committees, we are greatly indebted for their untiring labors in our behalf.

Fourth. That we are very grateful to the press of Cedar Rapids for the liberal manner in which they have reported the proceedings of the biennial, and to the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Times-Herald, the Des Moines News, Marshalltown Statesman and other journals for the same courtesy.

(Signed) JESSIE M. THAYER, Committee on Resolutions.

The first address of the afternoon was by Miss May Rogers of Dubuque, who said in her talk on "Old and New:"

"Science has recently contributed to the woman question Professor Drummond's 'Ascent of Man,' and woman's share in primitive culture by Professor Otis T. Mason of the Smithsonian institute. Anthropology which reveals primitive women was the founder of industrialism in America. Savage man was a hunter and a warrior. Savage woman began the arts of peace. She planted the seed, harvested the grain, gathered the fuel, dressed the skins, made the garments, cooked the food, built the tent and carried her child and all the household burdens on her back. She was the first agriculturist on our continent, the first worker in leather, the first domesticator of animals and the first common carrier. Notwithstanding arduous toil, she cultivated aesthetics. Our museums have preserved her basketry, her pottery, her weaving and her embroidery. She was the first American worker in the plastic and textile arts. She did the first free-hand drawing and made the first geometric patterns. She prepared the dyes for the first color schemes, copying nature with her accurate eye. The primitive woman should be held in remembrance by all who till the soil, and wherever the arts exert their refining ministry, let it not be forgotten that she was the first, between our two oceans, to seek beauty. With crude implements and laborious necessity, the primitive woman began the industrialism which is now the pride and wonder of nations. The Indians who still despise industry and think it effeminate to work, remain with the disabilities of uncivilized people who are the helpless wards of their conquerors. In the process of civilization man has become the superintendent of the industrialism of machinery, and woman is emancipated from the burdens of toil except in Continental Europe where militarism exalts the soldier and makes a drudge of the peasant woman who is often yoked with beasts.

The modern woman feels the century's impatience with theory and eagerness to put ideas into practice. She wishes to adjust her educated faculties to the working forces of our day of intellectual power. She claims the right as an individual to the highest development of her talents for self-culture and self-help. There are people who resent unsupported women seeking self-support, but there is no other alternative for them, unless a generous public should offer to maintain them, or the bachelors should gallantly consent to be taxed in their behalf. The women who are succeeding in literature, in art, in the professions and in business are bringing to their work the training and devotion expected of men in the same vocations. They are ask-

ing no favors because of their sex and no recognition should be denied them because they are women.

The German poet gave to literature the phrase "The Eternal Feminine," which defines woman old and new, but the humorists are using the new woman for their mirth, and old fashioned alarmists are attributing to her absurd intentions. Humor was neither safe nor prevalent in the time of the primitive woman, but one of the sorrows of civilization is the person who thinks that he is funny and there is no civil service examination for wits. We should only smile at the caricatures which represent the new woman as an athlete in bloomers making love to a timid young man of the future. She may have bloomers in her wardrobe if she rides a wheel, but fathers and husbands will probably never have relief from bills for those stylish gowns which are one of the charms of woman. She may ask for the earth but she will never trespass on man's right to be woman's lover. The rumor that she intends to dictate to man what he should wear must be a serious matter for our brothers. It certainly is the apex of audacity for us to offer to reform their comfortable clothing while we are imprisoned in wire and haircloth and walk in the shadows of our sleeves. All this nonsense seems very silly to us but it has been said that as a sex we are deficient in the sense of humor. In time to come these jokes of our humorists about the new woman will not be understood and neither will it be believed that it was once thought that the advancement of women was undertaken in animosity to men. The only criticism that a dignified woman should resent is the assertion that her new ambition will make her indifferent to her nearest duties. Her loyalty to her home and family through the ages is her answer to this intrusion on her sanctities.

Professor Drummond in his "Ascent of Man" reviews Darwin's theory of evolution. He goes a step beyond the struggle for existence and the "survival of the fittest" and discovers that nature's severity is softened by the "evolution of the mother." He thinks that her "struggle for the life of others" is the consummation of man's evolution from animalism to spirituality. Altruism is also the motive of Herbert Spencer's Data of Ethics, but Drummond was the first to see that philanthropy began with mother love.

The imperative demand of primitive people was for food, clothing and shelter and Professor Mason has told us how much of this physical need was supplied by the muscular labor of the savage woman. The modern woman is envied by a civilization of material glory. The energies of mind and body are concentrated upon the strife for wealth and power. Neither self-support nor personal ambition is the chief incentive of the new woman's public activities. She feels that the gifts of spirit are needs of the hour. Long inheritance of maternal tendency has ripened her impulse to struggle for the life of others. She wishes to give a consecrated service to heal the wounds of life's battle, to join the hands of brotherhood and to uplift those ideals which will bring peace to weary brains and restless hearts. She knows the limits of the eternal feminine and she is the best judge of its liberty of development.

"Mrs. Charlotte B. Tisdale of Ottumwa spoke in favor of conservatism in her 'Observations on the Case,' of the women of today. Mrs. Tisdale said:

"In public, social, and domestic life, I have ever found it easier to teach twenty what were good to be done, than to be one of the twenty to fol-

low my own teaching."

If, therefore, these observations of mine seem somewhat didactic, it is because I have chosen to consider myself, as it were, "licensed to preach" for these few minutes allotted me, though I am no orator, but only a plain, blunt woman, that love my friends, and womanlike, (as our calumniators would say) I shall only talk right on, tell you what yourselves do know, show you as I see them, our sphere, our strength, our weakness, and bid them speak for me.

In these latter days scientists and theologians have much to say of the evolution of matter, mind and morals, and from the many newspaper accounts some wise, some otherwise—upon the so-called "new woman," we are forced to conclude that our sex has reached another round on the ladder of development. Woman is primarily unselfish and from the recent municipal reform movements, from the inclination among nations to arbitrate rather than to fight, and, greatest of all, from man's charity towards woman, which "suffereth long and is kind," we are willing to concede that our brothers, too, are marching on! That progressive woman, however, is a fact and a factor in American society is undeniable; also that she has privileges and opportunities unprecedented. How to use and not abuse them—to be aggressive but not aggressive—is her serious and yet unsolved problem.

In the final elimination of this yet unknown quantity, "the new woman," into her best development, three steps seem necessary to us as individuals:

1st. To fix a standard of excellence.

2nd. To study how best to approximate that standard, and then to follow the well known educational maxim, "We learn to do a thing by doing it."

After the statement and formula comes the labor of the life problem, in its solution:

Individual character, temperament and surroundings largely influence the individual standard of life.

To my mind, which I fear is prosaically domestic, woman can have no greater privileges than wifehood and motherhood; no richer jewels than those of Cornelia, no nobler life work than to direct and curb youthful minds and morals, and no greater crown of glory than to "have her children rise up and call her blessed."

I do not wish it understood that I decry the thousand and one channels, literary and artistic, business and philanthropic, into which woman's surplus intelligence and energy are so well directed. Far from it, I glory in them, and believe the "Mrs. Jelleby" type to be the rare exception.

The German emperor's modern housefrau, whose talents are expended in the cultivation of the three K's, Kuche, Kinder, and Kirche, (the prominence given the first indicating the masculine weakness) is hardly up to date.

American womanhood acknowledges no inferiority in mental or moral calibre to her brother, but as vast a difference as in their physical natures. We may hold to a double standard, not in ratio of 16 to 1, but co-equal and dependent each upon the other.

I may state without fear of contradiction that no true woman has a desire to abrogate or even to infringe upon those manly attributes, the use of profanity or tobacco, or the privilege of standing in the crowded car.

As to the so-called right of political suffrage, the franchise of today, too often a thing of barter or caprice, is no desirable thing. And too, "the grapes are yet sour." When this privilege does come to us, as the signs of the times indicate it will, it should be the outcome of woman's intelligent interest in, and knowledge of affairs, and of her efficient performance of her present duties. It is far better to deserve



success than to command it.

In the shaping of public sentiment, however, through her social and philanthropic functions, woman exercises her undisputed prerogative, and in the recent municipal reform movements her conscientious, organized persistence was the power behind the throne, a certain reverend doctor to the contrary notwithstanding.

To that other and more vital question, in the settlement of which our power is unlimited—the question of social purity—we seem too often strangely indifferent. Why is it?

One of the serious phases of this transition period in women's development is the state of "nameless longing and unrest" to which we are none of us strangers. Like children crying for the moon—striving for something we know what! Whether the cause be physical or psychological, dress or digestion, I know not, but I do know that work—work of the hands, the heart, the brain—is a sure panacea; work which takes one out of the narrow realm of self, and that with effort, though ever so slight, comes a desire for and an inspiration to still higher living and thinking.

These club organizations of ours, if entered into with honesty and sincerity of purpose, should subserve the same end; yet danger lurks even here. Are we, as individual clubs, paying too much attention to intellectual growth, and social pleasure and advance, for getting the humanitarian needs of the day? It is only "in blessing others, we ourselves are blest."

Do we keep a sharp look-out for the "little foxes" or selfishness, envy, and pride, lest they steal in and spoil the vines of our planting? Let us hedge them about with a firm growth of those womanly virtues of sympathy, love and charity, charity even towards our sometime hypercritical brethren.

Mrs. Tisdale has a very pleasant style of speech, which unites seriousness and bright wit in an entertaining manner.

The address of Mrs. Sarah C. Parker of Grinnell, was entitled, Wanted, The Strong Woman. She said: "Three thousand years ago a writer portrayed the ideal woman. He endowed her with industry, foresight, business capacity, governmental ability, care for the poor and wisdom, adding, strength and dignity are her clothing."

We shall all agree that the inexorable cares and duties of home, of benevolence and society, demand abounding strength and vigor, and see to it that our daughters have the physical and intellectual culture necessary.

But woman's power lies in her ability to influence and her truest influence is moral. From earliest childhood the moral law should be her standard; she should be the conscience of the community, strong in disapproval of petty as greater vices.

The state gives her a most sacred trust as teacher. What masterful sympathy is needed to win the little child and keep him from evil, what strength of character to mould in honor, truth and loyal citizenship, the older ones, to fire them with noble purposes, more needed than knowledge.

Woman's greatest work is home-making, for the aggregate of the homes is the nation. The greatest need of our republic today is a higher standard of morality for our citizens. This is to be elevated by the daily inspiration and watchful care of mothers and teachers, often against the influence of companions and of public opinion.

The life of a community is no higher than that of its women, and public opinion on all moral questions is largely what she makes it. So with social life. Can we write and make it simple in form, while great in inspiration to better living and truer sympathy?

Shall we associate with Trilby and her companions in the privacy of our rooms, and turn away from the homeless and tempted girls who need us so sorely? This is woman's work if true to her sex, her community and the coming man.

The problems of the future are to be more complex than the past; it is ours to rear in honor the future statesman. The assimilation of multitudes of foreign peoples is to be done largely in our kitchens, our schools and by our kindly care in sickness.

Charitable societies and industrial schools claim our most thoughtful consideration, that latent forces may be developed and pauperism checked.

Just before us is the new problem of franchise, requiring study into the conditions of our country today. Are we ready, and brave enough to endure public criticism for a righteous cause as our Colorado sister has done?

The demands on woman today are legion. "Not many but much," is a wise Latin motto for this hour. Are we strong enough to choose out of the many that which suits our needs, and make much of it for ourselves and others?

The Historical and Literary clubs of Grinnell have opened these meetings with a short talk on current topics of interest. The study this year has been chiefly German cities, their history, art, architecture, educational institutions and prominent musicians, authors and statesmen. In our social evenings we have listened to a lecture on German Unity by Prof. L. F. Parker of Iowa college and a talk on Modern Athens by Mrs. John Campbell of Colorado Springs.

Mrs. Sarah C. Parker was the first lady principal or principal of the ladies' department in the Iowa college and kept the place till 1870. At the state university she conducted her husband's classes in history while he was in Europe. Since her return to Grinnell she has been president of the Historical Literary club for several years.

For twenty years she has been state secretary for the W. B. M. L., the Congregational Foreign Missionary society for women.

"No Club Liveth to Itself," was the subject of the address of Mrs. Harriet B. Windsor of Des Moines, state correspondent of Iowa. Mrs. Windsor has a delivery which is a delight in its clear utterance and she speaks with the calmness of a woman whose subject has grown with close study and heart conviction. Her speech was able in its scientific exactness and its epigrammatic brilliancy. She said:

A great proportion of the strength and life force of the human race is wasted and crippled by vain struggles against the inevitable.

Certain conditions imply positive results or sequences, and to struggle against them, means merely loss of nerve force, but succumbing after all. The state of inter-dependence of the human race, is a condition into which we are born, and to deny it is folly. Civilization fosters dependence. No act of ours but must affect some human soul. Then let us beware.

\* We do not come into the world unshackled; we owe our spiritual life to God; our physical life to our parents, and to all humanity, past and present, we owe a debt that a life devoted to altruism would not suffice to repay. The women of America—you would have me say the women of the world, but it is truer of the women of our own country than those of any other—have been vainly striving to attain to this chimera of independence.

\* \* \* We need the contact with other lives. Those who go to a club to talk and those who go to hear are equally dependent upon each other.

Every person brings into the club ideas only half worked out, more or less tinged with local needs and colors. One needs a broader experience, and the friction of other minds. Even ideas have their germ stages as well as physical bodies. They are generated by the cross fertilization of minds as flowers by the cross fertilization of insects; and after the life principle of an idea has once developed, its growth depends wholly upon the nourishment it receives from the soil in which it has been planted.

Many ideas have mushroom growth and substance, yielding little profit to those who absorb them. While the great ideas that form the bone and sinew of the mental realm have been evolved through the centuries and by cross fertilization, pruning, grafting and cherishing have come to their present stage of development. But the end is not yet. Our forefathers had not the penetration to see the comparatively perfected state of the present; neither have we the insight to more than guess, in a very vague way, what the result of our thoughts and actions will be upon the future, but one thing is certain, no life impetus is lost whether it be physical or mental. The club women of the present have it in their power, by working together, in dealing with the problems of the hour, to remold, reconstruct and fashion according to the needs and demands of the people and the times. Concentration of effort will be irresistible. This state federation is an absolute necessity for the growth and best development of the state, clubs. It is an object of our help, widening the range of vision and opening up a branch of character study that will be a liberal education in itself. This earth is the Babel of our souls, and the meaning of life is revealed to each through a different language. We are constantly striving to understand one another, but presumptuously insisting that our language is the only rational key, and if the vocabulary of our soul happens to be restricted, we work blindly, losing many of the finer shadings and gradations of meaning that exist for other lives.

One of the great results hoped for by this movement among women is that her character may broaden and deepen so that she may look at life with more charitable eyes; that she may lose that narrowness, that petty self-consciousness and she speaks with the calmness that is so dwarfing. Let her shut her world's eyes to the limitations of others, but open her soul's eyes to that in them which is good and develop a strength thereby that will overshadow her own weaknesses. It is through club work and club influences that this is to be accomplished. Then let the women of the state clubs come forward and join hands with the women of the general federation, and by the giving and receiving of that which is best and most helpful in each, all will gain new life and renewed inspiration. The individual clubs of this country linked together by the invisible bands of a mighty purpose, form the complete circle or tire to the wheel of progress for women. From this circle of individual clubs, radiate as the spokes of a wheel, the state federations centering; being held in place, and finding unity and strength in the general federation or the hub. A central pivot woman as portrayed in history, Miss there must be for all great purposes. King spoke of her perfect liberty to-day, in choosing her life work. Yet has the sun: our physical being depends upon the heart; and our mental ways woman was often bewildered. Her upon the brain; and the predominating longing heart often lingered in its motif that must run through all is persistent, untiring effort. This is all that take the pen of a Mrs. Browning or a makes club work valuable, because it generates conditions by which we grow.

To work together for a purpose will move the telescope of a Maria Mitchell, create an interest in the fellow-work-hold the text book of a Mary Lyon, or

ers and in the object; in the coldest, most ill-conditioned soul. Women who will not work are drones in the hive. Work is the great emancipator of the human race; the panacea of all evils. Through it the barbarian lifts himself to a civilized plane; and the flower of civilization, by means of it, is unraveling the hieroglyphics of the past, and translating the cryptograms that God has written on Nature's page. It is the alkali that neutralizes the acidity of life.

To toil as the beasts, not because we must, but because we will, is where labor becomes degrading. I believe the spirit with which work is accomplished differentiates the moral character. \* \* \* If our organizations means anything, let us work together, for it will give us strength, two qualities that are absolutely necessary to the success of any cause. There is a principle underlying this movement of women that is worth the struggle. Give the weight of your influence, then, toward carrying it out. Do not weigh the matter selfishly and cry, Where am I to be benefitted? What is our club to gain? There are values we do not find quoted in the open market, values that man cannot compute. The greatest reformers of the world have not reaped the harvest of their efforts, but posterity recognizes, reverences and appreciates the unselfishness and nobility of their struggles.

Humanity is but a grand orchestra. Our little lives each represent a separate instrument. The great keynote to which we are all striving is set forth in the life of Christ. That some lives are failures, is that some have ears as it were less sensitive to the true note of harmony, and for that reason their lives make discord. But there will come a time in the great hereafter when the grand symphony of souls will move on in majestic rhythm with the music of the spheres."

We are glad to claim Miss Alice King as a native of Iowa, the daughter of a distinguished officer in the army of the United States. Though educated in the east she has taught chiefly in the west, first in Lake Forest University for three years, and nine years in Coe College, Cedar Rapids, at the head of the department of history and English literature. Extensive travel in our own country, Mexico, South America and Europe, the latter with special regard to improvement in the history and literature of the old world, have contributed to her thorough preparation for the work she has in hand. She has also, we understand, taken a post-graduate course in philosophy, history and literature at Michigan University. Her college life is of necessity a very busy one, leaving little time for social or literary effort outside of the classroom. But she has ever taken a deep interest in the literary clubs of Cedar Rapids, often reading papers before them, and always to their pleasure and profit.

"Liberty and Limitation" was the title of Miss King's address. She used the words as expressive of a principle which pervaded all our living. No earnest soul ever made an earnest effort after a higher or a broader life without finding itself at once hindered by some barrier. Tracing the life of woman as portrayed in history, Miss King spoke of her perfect liberty to-day, in choosing her life work. Yet has the sun: our physical being depends upon the heart; and our mental ways woman was often bewildered. Her upon the brain; and the predominating longing heart often lingered in its motif that must run through all is persistent, untiring effort. This is all that take the pen of a Mrs. Browning or a makes club work valuable, because it generates conditions by which we grow. To work together for a purpose will move the telescope of a Maria Mitchell, create an interest in the fellow-work-hold the text book of a Mary Lyon, or



carry the night lamp of a Florence Nightingale.

Some of woman's limitations were enumerated, and then it was shown how even the greatest of these must yield to the higher laws of liberty. The senses were limitations only when viewed in their grossest aspect. Even the sense of taste is elevated. When we remember that it was at the feast that Plato and Socrates, Mecenas and Cicero, Johnson and Goldsmith, Coldridge, Luther, Addison, Macauley and others had spoken their noblest utterances, and that table-talk has become almost a synonym for eloquence. Many examples were given of what woman has already accomplished in the improvement of social life, education and municipal government through the ladies' clubs of our great cities. And yet Miss King urged still greater attainments. All studies should lead to higher realms of thought, to nobler conceptions, to a more perfect womanhood, a true womanly character being the supreme object of all effort.

Mrs. Alma D. Whitaker of Marshalltown delighted the audience with her humorous paper on "Simon Says."

Perhaps you have heard the story of the little boy who wanted to go to sea and the captain wanted to know what he could do. He said he could do the multiplication table backwards and paste sea-weed in a book; that he knew how many times the word "begat" occurred in the old testament and could recite "The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck" and Wadsworth's "We Are Seven." "Very good; very good, indeed," said the man of the sea, "and can you carry coals?"

When it was suggested that for the sake of variety for this afternoon's program all should not talk on purely club themes, it seemed that to leave the main traveled road of precedent and present something different before this gathering of representative clubbing with the cooking school club, and women and their honored guests, would be as difficult as the presentation of Hamlet with Hamlet and the ghost left out. But like the would-be sailor boy, a club woman must learn to be useful when necessary, and so I come trying to carry coals.

I present to you an old friend—Simon. The autocratic Simon of our childhood, who said "Thumbs up; thumbs down; thumbs wiggle-waggle!" and demanded immediate obedience.

Have you had leisure to think how often the civilization of the last decade of the nineteenth century voices itself in the word fad. We find it used in the world of science, finance, ethics, fashion, education, politics, religion, philanthropy, literature, art, architecture, music, and the drama. [Till finally we exclaim: "Are we naturally a people of fads or has an epidemic of fads struck our country?"] How best shall we interpret these fads of humanity? They may mean one thing to you, another to me, and still another to our neighbor.

There are fads that make the world a rare and gracious place to dwell in and like a friend improve on acquaintance. They are able to command, control and lead and are a power for good and should be permanent. To these may Simon say, "Right! Fads up."

There are those that are wrong. They bring into our lives useless toil, useless burdens and useless perplexities. The one who could eliminate these and all the lurking remnants would be a social reformer indeed. The average length of life would be increased; fret and friction would disappear, the race would travel smoothly on in a palace car to its final destination. Let Simon order them down.

There are fads that—  
"Since they were soon to be done for  
We wonder what they were begun for."

They are harmless and when Simon says "wiggle-waggle" go zigzagging across the mind and community like an aimless fashion of the day.

It is questionable when this word commenced its use. One authority states that it originated in a debate in the Israelitish camp over a prominent feature of the face. Here is the account:

"Says Aaron to Moses  
Let's cut off our noses,  
Says Moses to Aaron  
'Tis a fad to wear 'em."

I leave you to judge if it be veracious.

"I cannot tell how the truth may be,  
I say the tale as 'twas said to me."

No attempt is necessary to furnish the connecting links between then and now showing the growth of the word, neither is it necessary to be a Mrs. Methusalem to remember the breeze that stirred the waters of life, when Simon announced the actual practical fact of its existence. Suffice it to say, that at the present it is of strength in the warp and the woof of our modern life and its current literature. For a few weeks I have been interested in gathering information in various different ways on the subject. Verily I believe, could the right compiler be found, the result might be a book to rival the fad of fads, "Trilby," or at least "Marcella," "The Manxman" or "Coin."

Time will not permit me to dwell in detail; I can but touch upon a few which are prominent, and trust they may serve to illustrate.

Admirers of clear heads, sound lungs, strong limbs and correct forms may find exercise for fads in physical culture classes, gymnasiums, dress reform, tennis, riding, boating, walking and the bicycle.

To one who thinks it is easier to live without books than to live without cooks, fads present themselves beginning with the cooking school club, and passing through various forms and stages, with the necessary accessories of embroidered linens and painted china, till at the present moment Simon says, the arc of the chafing dish terminates the curve of the circle.

That there are fads in philanthropic work need not be affirmed. A student of social conditions declares, "We have had enough of fads in charity, all that is needed now is simple justice."

Fads accorded us by modern scientific thought, tempt us to think that only men and women who cannot read have sound eyes; that every third person we meet is partially deaf; teeth are failing for want of scientific employment, and for other scientific reasons we are becoming bald headed; that each of us is eating and drinking and breathing beyond the shadow of a doubt, the germs of disease, that chaff and water is much safer than milk that the outer air itself is teeming with entities which only wait for an opportunity to fasten upon and reduce our bodies to their original elements. While all this is suggestive and a great deal of it true should not Simon be tempted to say as of old:

"Much knowledge increaseth sorrow."

A traveling American is said to have formulated his opinion of the new architecture which as a fashion has probably by this time reached its highest level, in the remark that it seemed to be "Queen Anne in front and Mary Anne at the back." A jest which may serve to accentuate that it is not worth while to counterfeit appearances or to conceal them in the building of homes and that our furnishings should be speak (appropriateness and) individuality.

In recent years woman and electricity have been indulging in a spirited rivalry for supremacy in the 19th century

fad line. Both are capable of sparkling and sometimes shocking results, but just now the opinion seems to prevail that electricity is being relegated to the obscurer realms of less powerful factors and woman is to the front. The woman fad is absorbing the minds of many women today and it cannot be denied but that it is meeting with remarkable results. It is forcing Simon to say, "The management of the affairs of the world are in charge of human beings, men and women."

In fashion and society Simon has willing votaries in servile imitation. 'Tis here, differing according to taste, collections are made. It may be gems, fans, laces, spoons, forks, cups, bugs, birds, butterflies. 'Tis here the bunch of natural violets that were so pretty on the breast of somebody's dainty sweetheart has found its flimsy imitations till the charm is gone. 'Tis here the anglo-maniac affects tram for horse car and luggage for baggage. 'Tis here the moving fingers write and having written move on, and in haste to keep pace we cry,

"Why lose the old sweet things  
Though sweeter prove the new?"

'Tis here time and strength is spent for things which speedily perish with the using and which add nothing to happiness nor to others, merely because Simon says, "It is the thing to do or have."

From this excess of imitation must come the revival of simplicity, for in human life as in picture, there runs a certain law of average which never fails.

It must be well to follow as far as one can without sacrifice of higher things, the customs and usages of the times, for as a rule at bottom there is a wise foundation. But can there be any true elegance that does not rest on the solid foundation of fitness, which shall bring simplicity of life, dress and manners with leisure and the peace that passeth understanding? It is possible with the setting of today's sun may dawn the golden morrow which shall make abundant leisure a reality. Time for quiet homes with book or pen, time to think, time to grow, time for music or for art, time for general hospitality which can be found in perfection only, when there is leisure for social enjoyment.

The vital question now is leisure. High or low, rich or poor, learned or unlearned, all are in a hurry; all trying to crowd ten hours of work or study or pleasure into six. Alike in city or in country we meet men and women with harassed faces and tired eyes, nervous, restless, robbed of their birthright. They are by no means the people who have the most really necessary work to do.

Is there no way to help? Yes. Let us stop and ask the Yankee question, "Does it pay?" and then institute the sorting and sifting process which shall result in the survival of the fittest, for we have no desire to be entirely fadless.

Out of this shall come the most beautiful object of our age. The individual who by genuine thinking has learned to weigh and balance and is strong enough to command himself and who needs not wear any chain upon his spirit except that gold fetter which God fastens to every waist—Liberty.

During the afternoon Miss Helen Hall whose rich contralto voice was so much praised in Philadelphia sang "Oh Stars that Tremble." The afternoon session closed with the singing by the audience of the following song:

IOWA.

TUNE: AMERICA.

God bless our noble state,  
And make her doubly great,  
In progress grand,  
Nor fear to right a wrong;  
Protect among the throng,

The weak as well as strong,  
By her command.

Long may her banner bright  
Wave in the morning light,  
And all her laws  
Approved by justice stand,  
Her sons a manly band,  
Her daughters hand in hand,  
The home her cause.

It is gratifying to Cedar Rapids that Mrs. Cogswell has received the recognition of a re-election and that she is chosen delegate from the federation to the next biennial of the G. F. W. C.

Mrs. Jessie M. Thayer spoke on the "Village Improvement Clubs," speaking very practically of municipal improvements in cleanliness and comfort she said: That Mrs. Henrotin has endorsed heartily the work of the Improvement clubs of Florida.

That Iowa is especially adapted for the work of these clubs from the fact it has so many country towns, lacking the embellishment and care to be found in prosperous cities. That the work is one in which men, women and children can unite and is especially useful in training the children to be

good citizens, developing their civic patriotism.

That great tact and discretion must be used at first, to avoid antagonizing a certain element in all communities. Once united in a common interest and enthusiasm, great work can be accomplished. That we have an abundance of civic laws; it is their enforcement that we need.

Unless the people of a town uphold their laws, their officials dare not enforce them for fear of a loss of votes.

Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer was formerly state chairman of G. F. W. C., and formerly national president of the P. E. O. sisterhood, and is now president of the Chariton Improvement association. Mrs. Thayer is the newly elected corresponding secretary of the federation.







## THE IOWA WOMEN.

FEDERATED CLUBS MEET IN BUSINESS SESSION THIS MORNING.

Welcomed by Mrs. Skinner, President of the Ladies' Literary Club--The President's Address--The Work of the Clubs Ably Presented--Other Officers Report.

There was a brilliant assemblage of women in the Congregational church this morning when the time came for the meeting of the Federated Women's clubs of Iowa. The attendance of delegates is larger than was expected, and the local club women were also generally present.

It was 9 o'clock when the president called to order. An hour was spent in receiving the credentials, after which came the regular order of business. Prayer was offered by Mrs. E. R. Burkhalter and Mrs. Dr. G. R. Skinner, president of the Ladies' Literary club of Cedar Rapids, delivered the address of welcome. She said:

### Mrs. Skinner's Address.

Mrs. President and members of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, Welcome to Cedar Rapids. On behalf of the Ladies' Literary, and all other Federated Clubs of our city, I bid you welcome, and I esteem it a privilege to be permitted to come before this representative body of the women of our state and welcome you as delegates to this first biennial meeting of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs.

Not with the formal utterance of the lips do I bid you welcome, but with heartfelt rejoicing that the time has come in which women realize the need of conferring together over the problems of life which belong especially to their sphere in its activities--the uplifting of the race and the development of a higher humanity.

A few days ago a prominent business man of this city, hearing some of us planning for this occasion, asked, "What is this meeting for, what is its object?"

In true Yankee fashion, he was answered interrogatively thus, "Why do business men hold mass meetings? Why do railroad officials meet and bankers hold their conventions, or why do physicians hold their annual conferences?"

"Oh," said he, "the doctors must meet to compare notes, to discuss physical ailments and the best methods of curing them."

"For similar reasons," said the woman interrogated, "will we hold this meeting. To discuss those topics that are allied most closely with the mental, moral, and spiritual welfare of humanity."

Therefore, I welcome you for the principles you represent, the onward and upward progress of mankind, for

"With lofty thoughts and noble deeds  
The sands of life are gold;  
With petty thoughts, unworthy deeds,  
They're but earth's heavy mold."

We believe that a broader more completely developed womanhood means better homes and more efficient mothers. Efficient mothers will have nobler sons and daughters; nobler sons and daughters mean nobler manhood and womanhood, the influence of whose lives shall preserve and prosper the life of this nation until it shall become the grandest, most christian land of the world.

As another has said, "The work is great, the opportunities manifold; the laborers willing, the field limitless."

For the "Unity in Diversity" which shall join our minds and hearts in a common cause--the highest good of all--I again bid you welcome, thrice welcome to our city and to our homes.

Mrs. Virginia J. Berryhill of Des Moines, president of the federation, re-

sponded and delivered her annual address. It was a concise presentation of the work of the clubs. Mrs. Berryhill is one of Iowa's brightest women and in her able and well delivered address



MRS. VIRGINIA J. BERRYHILL.

indicated most forcibly her practical lines of thought, natural leadership, and ability to comprehend conditions that need correction, or something. She happily combines practical action with a charming manner that renewedly drew to her the affections of the assemblage of loyal associates. The essential features of her address are given below:

### The President's Address.

The cause of State Federation in Iowa, grown out of the necessity for close or local organization, has reached the first milestone of its growth. I deem it not unfitting here to recall in brief our past and give prophecy of our future.

The General Federation of Women's clubs, called into existence in 1890, was the first movement to unify the work of intellectual and social organization over the land. The phenomenal growth of this movement, beginning with 50 clubs, numbering nearly two hundred at the first biennial, and in the last published list, nearly 450, indicates the need for such an opportunity of contact and unity.

The World's Columbian Exposition assigned certain parts of the work of preparation to the natural divisions of the states. It was this centralizing effort which made the focus of the desire already felt in Iowa for a local or state organization of clubs. At the meeting in Chicago of the G. F. W. C. in the Congress of Representative Women, the delegates from Iowa presented the cause of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, and asked to join the main body. Already there was a Maine federation formed, which was upon the same basis but working independently; and Massachusetts was hesitating to form a state body lest the results might be detrimental to the one to which we had already given out fealty. The necessity for state federation, however, has grown with the national; fifteen

states are now federated, and the problem has become not, shall we have state federation, but, how shall the state and general work together for the greatest harmony and efficiency?

One of the conditions to effect this purpose was considered by the Iowa federation to be the plan for holding biennial rather than yearly meetings. So long as the state federations belong to the national only as individual clubs, it is most necessary that each club should



MRS. DR. COGSWELL.

be represented in both state and general federations, to have the true value of both of these organizations. One of the reasons for forming state federations grew out of the necessity for acquaintance among ourselves, so that when we meet away from home we may know each others faces, capacity, and powers for action.

### The Growth of the State Federation

of Iowa has been steady and continuous; from a beginning of thirty-five clubs we now number ninety-eight. There has been little of the forcing process in its growth. Such avenues of ordinary publicity as have been open to us to disseminate the knowledge of the federation, have been used.

### A Genuine Enthusiasm for the Cause

has been evinced by every officer connected with it, and devotion and adherence by the working clubs. The various sections of the state are well represented, showing the movement is a general one, and, like the arable land of Iowa, not confined to spots. The power of momentum of a force which has once become established is indeed one of the elements of stability; but this is the least of the forces of true progress. The inherent vitality of a cause is its true impetus. But even this will not keep it from the dangers which beset it. All life must contend with obstacles and we must be upon our guard; and judgment, tact and wise consideration must be ever at the helm.

And I offer for your attention such subjects as have been brought to my notice. We meet

### The Same Problem of Representation

in our state organization as in the general, and the question of small and large clubs being represented by an equal number of delegates. We have clubs of two hundred and four members, and clubs of ten and twenty members, represented by two delegates each. It is urged by some that this is not a proportionate representation; and some of the state federations have solved the difficulty by making the following ratio: New Jersey allows clubs of fifty or more members to have two delegates; three for one hundred; four for two hundred; five for four hundred. The dues are \$2.00, and \$1 additional for each additional delegate above two. The objection to this ratio can be made that large clubs may have a balance of power, and localities unduly influence important questions; on the other hand it is a more equal opportunity for the individuals in the large clubs.

The experience of the officers has proved that the board of directors, as provided for in the constitution, has been an unwieldy and unnecessary provision. The call of the vice-presidents and executive board would amount so nearly to the same thing as the sending of delegates to regular meeting, and was open to the same objection.

Upon no subject have I spent more

deep and conscientious thought in the true interest of this organization, than the subject of

### Election of Officers:

to find the best, fairest and least objectionable plan upon which all could unite. The objections to a nominating committee were raised in our own convention by those who felt the opposition to it in the general meeting at the first biennial at Chicago. The method of the general federation is now to allow a committee composed of delegates from each state to nominate a ticket which the convention votes upon. New York and Massachusetts have nominating committees. New Jersey's by-laws reads, "The first election on Nov. 16, 1895, shall be on nomination from the floor. After that date, nominations for general officers and for members of the board of directors as are to be selected, shall be made by informal ballot at the morning session prior to the afternoon on which the election shall take place."

Mrs. Shattuck, our received authority on all parliamentary questions, says: "So far as I am at present convinced, I think on the whole the fairest method is nomination by informal ballot at one session and election by the Australian system at a subsequent session. All names nominated on, or all receiving a certain number of votes on the informal ballot and not declining the nomination, would then be considered candidates, and their names printed on a ballot, which ballot then at a subsequent session to be distributed to all entitled to vote; a majority electing." She adds that this method is also open to objections; so that I think we shall find, after long experimenting, no perfect method. The most perfect will be found in the fairest minded attitude of the members of a convention, each one feeling her individual responsibility in the election of officers, endeavoring to secure those who have fitness for the places, to allow no feelings of personal rivalry to dominate, to secure prompt and effective action, and to have the cause of the organization, its interest and perpetuity, always at heart.

### Rotation in Office

I consider one of the important features of the educational value of the organization of women. Many develop ability unrecognized and unknown until the force of circumstances calls it into action; self-confidence and self-control are gained through the opportunity for exercising these faculties, and as many as possible should be given the opportunity for this self-development. Moreover, the work is arduous--to those who undertake it with a keen sense of responsibility, it demands hard work, conscientious thought, and attention to details, if the work be efficiently done. Rotation in office shares this work and responsibility, and a change of shoulders eases the burden.

### The Social and Literary Club Life

has aided in this adjustment. Here many women have come first to feel that sense of relationship to the outer world; from here they may go on to other work as fitness and demand impels. But the reason of being for the intellectual center of club life exists; the movement is verile and destined to go on to its fulfillment--what that end may be, who can prophesy; but with our hearts open and our intellect poised we shall attain the chief good.

Already the question is pressed upon us, what are you women's clubs doing; what active, visible work? And the question is an open one in many organizations--shall we engage openly in philanthropic work? Shall we influence social economics by active cooperation, or shall we through education and discussion make our persuasive influence felt?

These questions must be relegated to the individual club for final decision; to



the opinion of its members and to the necessities demanding attention. If the state federation should feel this demand outside of the pale of activities already open—the activities of culture, of education, of mutual acquaintance and unity of thought and purpose—a most fruitful and concomitant subject is that of public libraries. Surely a public library is one of the first and most efficient factors of education for old or young; an invaluable aid in a town or city of whatever size to the investigation of any line of thought or study, and one to which women's clubs could well lend a helping hand.

The I. F. W. C. might aid in this cause by appointing a committee to investigate the number and

#### Condition of Public Libraries

in the state, and report at a future meeting. Individual clubs might take up the cause, as has already been done in some places, and movements made to establish libraries where none exist. In Massachusetts a law exists whereby a small grant of state funds, is made on condition that the town itself appropriates a certain sum, and Massachusetts is noteworthy for the number of libraries in the towns of her state.

The theory of university extension, which in name suggests its educational tendency, could be well adapted to the field of intellectual club effort. In many instances, where valuable papers, requiring much time and study and careful work have been prepared, the authors are willing to present them before other clubs thus serving several ends—the exchange of courtesy among organizations, extending fellowship, disseminating knowledge, and the immediate end or purpose for which the paper or lecture might be engaged. Already some of our club members are winning reputation and reward by undertaking work in line with these suggestions. The state federation could, through a committee appointed for such a purpose, unify a system whereby a list of those willing to give their services for this work might be obtained, and those wanting such reference could find ready access to it.

She who stood as an ideal representative of these motives and principles; who inscribed this banner and carried it so nobly and so well in the beginning of this great movement of women's clubs; has passed away. We revere the memory of Charlotte Emerson Brown, and honor her noble name. We bow our heads to the mysteries of life; but we rise from your sorrow and with the new leader of our choice, she is with us today, pledged to our beloved interest, respect for her strength and loyalty, her spirit of progress, her devotion to truth—we rally round Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin with our faith and hope renewed, to press on to further glories.

The state, a union of sisterhood, let us cherish and uphold her. The nation, a union of states, may we never be divided!!

#### Report of the Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. Anna B. Howe, the corresponding secretary made an extended report that covered the whole club of the state. Among other things she said:

The oldest club in the federation is the Conversational club of Dubuque organized in 1868; the O. O. P. of Marion was organized in 1869; 1876 produced the Clio club of Cedar Rapids, the Dubuque Ladies Literary association and the Wit-enagemote of Marshalltown.

Fifty towns are represented in the federation. Des Moines boasts the largest number of clubs, having nine; Marshalltown eight; Cedar Rapids seven. Only twelve of these clubs are incorporated. One might infer from this that the women of our state were not amenable to law. Not so, but as May Wright Sewell once said of

Indiana women, "they are simply a law unto themselves; what they do is right, is legal, because they do it." The largest club is the Dubuque Literary association, membership 264, with \$750 in its treasury. The Des Moines Women's club membership 189, with \$4,000 in its treasury, making it the richest club in the federation, with the object in view of establishing an art gallery of which it has already made a beginning. Last December the club joined with the "Society of Fine Arts," and brought to the city a collection of paintings by American artists. The Manchester C. L. S. C. and the Marshalltown Women's club have memberships of 90 and 91, the latter being the only club reported as having started a building fund. The Anakrisian society of Sioux City, membership six, is the smallest in numbers, but not in the amount of work it accomplishes.

The membership of 72 clubs is limited, 38 of them having a waiting list. Nearly all elect their officers by ballot several months before they take their seats, and the work for the coming year is planned before or during the summer vacation; 54 clubs issue printed calendars or programs of study annually, semi-annually or quarterly; 37 exchange them with other clubs of the federation; 32 take the "Cycle" or it is taken by several members of the club. The large clubs are divided into classes, departments or committees, which generally or weekly or fortnightly meet at the home of the chairman or leader for study in their special line of work, these classes or divisions furnishing miscellaneous programs for the regular club

meetings. Clubs not divided into classes, but having miscellaneous programs, have a program committee who lay out the work for the year.

Mrs. Howe gave the work of the clubs in detail, showing the lines of study and



MRS. ANNA B. HOWE.

reading pursued. In closing Mrs. Howe said:

I have not told half these federated clubs are doing, but to do any one of them justice would take hours instead of minutes. A few I received no report from. My duties in the office to which you called me have many times been heavy and confining, but it has taught me much and brought compensating pleasures. I have received 429 letters, 63 club constitutions and by-laws, 47 club calendars and programs of study, 22 club reports in 1894, 93 in 1895. I have written and sent out 400 letters, 125 copies of the constitution and by-laws, 123 notices of the biennial meeting, 89 list of questions, 100 postal cards. It was my fate as it was my pleasure to be interested in this organization from the

moment of its conception, and it has convinced me that if Women's clubs were doing nothing else but teaching us the promptness, the exactness, the dispatch, which is absolutely necessary in any undertaking, they would still be doing a great work. My position has brought me in close sympathy with the secretaries, and I only hope every state federation has as many good secretaries, as many lovable,



MRS. ELLEN M. HENROTIN.

helpful women as the Iowa, and to them for their kindly aid I extend my thanks; your letters of inquiry have been my inspiration; your letters of gratitude, my recompense.

## IOWA WOMEN'S CLUBS.

### GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERATION IDEA.

Sketches of Iowa Women's Clubs and Some of the Leading Members—Lines of Work Pursued—Development of Literary Work—Women of Whom Iowa is Proud.

Probably in no state in the union, especially in the west, have women's clubs become so numerous, so strong and so thoroughly equipped in literary, artistic and musical pursuits as in the state of Iowa. Four-fifths of all teachers in the public schools, many of the county superintendents, principals of high schools and professors in colleges are women, among whom are some of the noted writers of the country. Iowa was largely settled by young, well-to-do people from the best families of Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and New England, and the present intellectual attainments of the women are no doubt largely due to the tastes and inclinations inherited which have become especially marked under the free educational influences dominant in the west. In every village and hamlet there are women's organizations, and while more generally connected with some christian or reform work, yet in all of the larger towns, as well as in many of the villages, they have developed literary features, and the federated clubs just now attracting so much attention are the legitimate outgrowth of the cruder forms of organized literary efforts among the women.

Only one state preceded Iowa in the formation of a club federation and when it was proposed to organize a national federation Iowa was the first to ask for admission, and was represented by two delegates at the biennial session at Philadelphia.

Mrs. Dr. Cogswell of this city, who is the Iowa vice-president of the national federation, has sketched the history of the formation of Iowa federation. She says that the idea of a state federation, which is spreading so rapidly of late, took possession of the minds

of Iowa women, and by invitation of the Woman's club of Des Moines, a meeting was called in that city April 27, 1893, when the Federation of Women's clubs was organized. It commenced with twenty-seven charter members and the number has now grown to ninety-five. However, the federation idea dates back more than a year prior to the Des Moines organization, when a number gathered at Marshalltown to unite with the Woman's club of that city in celebrating its seventh anniversary. It was expected that a federation would be organized at that time, but for some reason it was deferred.

In no sense has women's "clubs" any relation to the "club" as designating a resort for men. In the cities some of the clubs have elegantly furnished apartments, where luncheon is served and where the visitor can find the best in current literature, or where she can meet her friends for pleasure or business. The essential difference between men's clubs and women's clubs is this: The former are organized and sustained primarily as a place of pleasure, with literary diversion a secondary consideration, while with the latter literary work is the prime motive that prompts the formation and sustenance of the clubs, with personal enjoyment and recreation a secondary consideration.

### THE IOWA CLUBS.

The growth of women's clubs in Iowa is truly marvelous. The federation has trebled in two years in number and in the way of systematic work, efficiency and enthusiasm, has advanced beyond the expectations of its promoters. THE GAZETTE invited the federated clubs to furnish sketches of their work. Many have responded and the following indicates the kind of work being done and the efficiency of the system for federation and central direction:

The William Shakespeare Society of Marshalltown is represented by its president, Mrs. M. L. Bradford, and Mrs.

L. W. Robbins as delegate. This society was organized in 1885 as a neighborhood reading circle for the study of Shakespeare. During the years of its existence, the society has taken other studies, prominent among which are two years given to "Brice's American Commonwealth" combined with a study of institutions of the United States, and particularly the state of Iowa. The past year the study of Shakespeare has been resumed. The autumn and winter were given to "King John" and "Richard II." The present study is "King Henry IV." The membership is limited to eighteen and the meetings are at the homes of the members in alphabetical order Tuesday afternoons of each week.

The Shakespearean Club of Osage was organized in the year 1881 by a few admirers of early English literature for the purpose of studying Shakespeare.

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MRS. L. W. ROBBINS



MRS. M. L. BRADFORD.





MRS. LILLIAN J. GIST.

now confined to Shakespeare. Byron, Lowell, Longfellow, Whittier and other modern poets were read and discussed.

The Nevada Women's Club.

now closing its third year's work, consists of twenty-two members.



MRS. ADALINE M. PAYNE.

at the homes of the members. The program consists of brief business preliminaries, a discussion in which a carefully prepared paper leads, and is followed by a five-minute talk from each member present, excepting the essayist, on a sub-topic of her own choice, and ten minutes of informal conversation. Continual share in the work maintains interest, and freedom in choice of study permits the contribution of one's best. While a majority of the subjects call for research, there is growing preference for those which draw upon observation and experience and for such treatment as makes both the essay and the talk something more than a rehearsal of the thoughts of others.

Charlton Zetamatheans.

Every educational movement is the result of an inspiration. This impulse when regulated by enlightened judgment is the agency upon which the great doers in the field of life must rely. In the summer of 1892 one of the noble women of Charlton, feeling the genuine thrill of inspiration, conceived the idea of forming a club whose object should not be a alone sociability and pleasure, but the mutual improvement of its members in history, literature, art, science and the important events of the day. She unfolded her plans to a number of women who readily responded, but no formal meeting was held until the second week in October. A course of study was decided upon for the year, which consisted of English history, English literature and the current events of the day. A committee drew up a constitution and by-laws and it was agreed that weekly meetings should be held for discussing the lesson. As the club appeared to be strong and healthy from the first, it was very soon decided that a name was necessary, and after considering the matter the name "Zetamatheans," searchers after knowledge, was decided upon. The motto, "Man grows as higher grows his aims," was found to be true.



MRS. BELLA W. BROWN.

The second year the same course of study was continued and each member felt gratified with the result. The present year the course of study for the first five months consists of civil government and parliamentary law. The remainder of the year to be spent upon history of the United States with a paper each week bearing upon some event or character, pertaining to the lesson. A short time is also spent upon the current topic of the day. The officers for the present year are Mrs. Bella W. Brown, president; Mrs. Mary S. Bartholomew, vice president; Mrs. Ella M. Van Dyke, secretary; Mrs. Cora L. Beem, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Mira McFarland, treasurer.

Theristrial of Marion.

Theristrial club of Marion has charter members of the old "Theristri," organized in '69, one of the oldest clubs of the state. This club had a history of "ups and downs" for many years. The reorganization under the old name in the feminine gender occurred four years ago, June 23d. Since that date the records show that the members of the new Theristrial have been alive to their work, which has been full and rich in both the class and social life of the club. This club was elected to a membership in the State Federation of Women's Clubs in March of '94.

The studies of the club have been many and varied; we have been taken into many lands; among curious and interesting people; into the realms of poetry and literature; art and sociology; we have visited the dark ages, lived with the present minds and enjoyed dreams of the future.

During the past year our theme has been the study of the drama, beginning with the early Grecian drama, then followed each country as it became prominent along this line, leading to the present time. The work has proved wonderfully interesting, but the club found the subject too broad to confine to one year's work. The committee on program for the coming year decided to continue the work of the present year, confining its study to the Shakespearean drama. We have at present a resident membership of twenty; have but one department and meet Tuesday evening of each week from September to the middle or last of June. During the winter the club secured George B. Williams of New York for one evening, who delighted all with his recital of King Henry IV, at which time other clubs of the city were received and light refreshments served.

Miss Emma Tyler was chosen delegate to the biennial meeting of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, with Mesdames Lillis and Parsons as alternates. The following officers were elected in March for the ensuing year:

President, Mrs. May Esgate.

Secretary, Mrs. J. S. Twogood.

Treasurer, Mrs. F. H. Hilliard.

Librarian, Mrs. Dora Lillie.

The Tourist Club of Manchester

was organized almost three years ago. The object of the organization was to enjoy the pleasures of travel while combining with them the comforts of home. The first year the points of interest along the New England coast and up the St. Lawrence were visited. The next year the journey was more extended. The Tourists entered Germany and not only tarried in its cities and feasted their eyes on its treasures of art and examined its great universities, but also studied its history, both political and religious from its earliest records to the present time. This year the society has virtually been changed into an art club, although it retains its original name. The history of art has been studied

from its foundations and the work of the year devoted to Ancient Egypt. The twenty ladies who comprise the club have earnestly and persistently delved into the annals of this ancient land and studied the patterns marked out thousands of years ago many of which modern art have not been able to reproduce. At each meeting the results of the researches of the ladies are given in instructive papers and entertaining discussions. The club meets every alternate Tuesday from October to July.

The Ohio Club of Carroll

was organized in 1884 with 9 charter members for the purpose of literary improvement and social intercourse. At the time of organization the membership was limited to fifteen, but two years ago the constitution was revised and now the membership is unlimited. During most of the time since its organization the club has been engaged in the study of history, both ancient and modern—one year, however, being devoted to American and English authors. Two years ago the club began to feel that it was a little selfish in working only for its own improvement, and conceived the idea of starting a public circulating library, which idea has been successfully carried out, and it has now under its management a library of about 650 volumes, which is open to the public. The membership numbers thirty and the interest in the work has increased proportionally.

The Frank Russell Circle

of Des Moines is the outgrowth of twelve years' Chautauqua work by three enthusiastic students who have won diplomas and twenty-two seals. The class began their work under the present name in the fall of 1892, twelve members answering to roll-call. They have no special program, but do the regular work as outlined in the Chautauquan, beginning this year with "The Growth of the English Nation," by Katherine Coman, professor of History in Wellesley college, and "Europe in the Nineteenth Century," by H. P. Judson, professor of Political Science, University of Chicago. Finishing these studies, they began "Renaissance and Modern Art" by W. H. Goodyear, lecturer in the Brooklyn institute, and "From Chaucer to Tennyson," by Henry A. Beers, professor of English Literature, Yale university. At present they are studying "Walks and Talks in the Geological Field" by Alexander Winchell, and take great pleasure in the discussions which the subject calls forth.

Knowing that any club devoting their time exclusively to literary themes is almost sure to receive criticism, when there are so many vital topics to engage attention, Chautauqua vindicates its right to existence by its grand work in character building. The system of home study accomplishes untold good in the atmosphere of culture which it creates, and in development of will power. The student, who in the four years' course makes time for the necessary work, has gained a victory over self which has brought every faculty under the direction of an invincible purpose.

Class in Literature at Vinton.

Early in the spring of 1880, a faint murmuring of that mighty wave of club thought, which has since swept over the country from Maine to Oregon was heard and felt in Vinton. If ladies elsewhere were organizing clubs for their exclusive benefit; why should not we? We had tried a mixed club, which somehow had proved a lamentable failure. A gentleman's club, too, had risen Phoenix like, but it also was doomed to a short existence.

Nothing daunted by these failures and realizing the need of some systematic and combined effort in the line of self culture, some ten ladies met at the home of Mrs. G. W. Burnham in February of that year and the result was the organization of the "Class in Literature"; fully officered and equipped for systematic study in the field of history and literature. The club was fortunate in having for its first president and leader, Mrs. Nellie M. Rich, a former teacher in the State University and one well endowed and equipped for such leadership.

The club has now its full complement of members—as twenty-five is the limit—a library of some 130 volumes, and carefully prepared programs are issued at the beginning of each year, giving a complete outline of the work for the coming year.

The club gave several years of careful study to English authors and their works, beginning with Chaucer, the father of English literature; coming to our own country, with themen of letters and their works, American history with all its political changes was carefully considered. Passing then to foreign countries, the history and literature of Germany, France and Ancient Egypt, each in turn occupied the attention of the "class." Our social days have been confined to individual efforts, but good lectures have been given each year in connection with the special line of work for that year and these pleasures have been shared with our friends.

The Ottumwa Shakespeare Club

was organized Sept. 5, 1882, with fifteen members. It is a member of the General Federation. During the present year it has given much attention to the study of current topics involving systematic reading of newspapers. It follows the public opinion classification viz: Political, congressional and legislature, foreign affairs; commerce and finance, sociological, educational, literature and art, religious, miscellaneous.

These are reported by committees weekly and the reports followed by discussion. That this branch of work may be carried on intelligently, in connection with it the study of the nations has been taken up, embracing their origin, form of government, form of religion, system of education, social condition, and relation to other nations. Each nation is brought before the club in a carefully prepared paper by some member and she is expected to be so thoroughly prepared that she can answer any questions asked her at the close of the reading.

The study of Shakespeare to which the club originally was exclusively devoted, is confined to the one act weekly. The reading this year includes Hamlet, Merchant of Venice, Julius Caesar, Winter's Tale, and Henry VIII.

Culture Club of Corning.

The Culture club of Corning is, as its name implies, a distinctly literary club. Its membership is limited to fourteen members, and it meets once a week. It has been in existence four years, devoting each year primarily to some specific study. German literature having been the study for the past year.

Among special features, at each meeting a half hour is devoted to a discussion of current events, each member calling attention to one or more noteworthy events and leading the discussion which follows. Papers are also presented and discussed upon selected subjects outside the regular course of study. Once a month a paper or talk on the literature of the month is presented and discussed. Music, pictures, and readings, illustrative of subjects presented or under discussion, have been pleasant and profitable features.

In so small a club strict adherence to parliamentary usage is hardly practicable, but formality in procedure, especially in business details, has been practiced, while informality and perfect freedom have characterized discussions and social intercourse. The meetings of the club have been uniformly well attended, and constantly increasing interest gives assurance of its prosperity, usefulness and permanency.

The Pierian Club, LeMars.

The Pierian club of LeMars, Iowa,



was organized in 1885 by several ladies meeting to read and discuss the works of some novelist. The next year, in order to do more systematic work, they began a four years' Chautauqua course.

Then followed a year's study of American authors and their works. The seventh year was devoted to the reading and study of some of Shakespeare's plays. The year 1893, "Exposition Study Classes" was taken up. Last year the subjects under discussion were education, history, literature, science and political economy. Two papers are read and discussed at each meeting. All members are expected to be prepared and take part in the discussion.

During the business part of each meeting, strict attention is paid to parliamentary rules. One open session was held where the Rev. Mary A. Safford addressed the club and invited guests. A complete story was written by the club during the year. The work this year is a continuation of last year's work with additional Spanish history. Roll call is responded to with current events or parliamentary law. Meetings are held every alternate Wednesday from September until June. Three open meetings were held during this year. On the 23d of January Mrs. Martha B. Johnston of Des Moines gave a lecture, followed by a recitation. The next afternoon Mrs. Johnston read a paper on the "Poetry of Tennyson." A social meeting was held at the home of the president, Mrs. Geo. A. Sammis. The present membership is sixteen, limited to eighteen. The members vie with each other in their efforts to make the meetings both instructive and entertaining, and each succeeding year finds the club doing more efficient work, not only reading more but thinking more.

#### The Lowell Club, Boone.

We have been in existence about nine years, under different names and with changes in our membership.

Four years ago we commenced the study of the Chautauqua Course. Then we took unto ourselves the present name and organized in regular form. We commenced with the American year and close with the present English year. The programs have been varied and interesting throughout, and especially the present year. Our studies have been the History of the Growth of the English Nation, followed by the History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century and English Literature.

We have also had a very thorough three years course in architecture and art, commencing with the Greek. After giving close attention to this study the following summer we visited the World's Fair and saw Grecian architecture exemplified in the fullest extent. Our work this year is Renaissance and Modern Art. We have traveled through the various cathedrals and palaces of the old world, admiring the architecture, sculpture, and frescoes of the old masters, always grand in their conception and wonderful in execution. Much interest has centered around the beautiful Madonnas from Giotto's time on through the ages, showing the religious influence which the Virgin and Christ child have had upon the people of the times. Surely we have been well repaid for the time spent in the study of such works.

The last book in the course is on geology, which promises to be very interesting, and lead us back to younger days when we went geologizing. While we feel that we have gained much that is helpful to us, and that will lighten the burden of the busy home-maker, yet we have not failed to cultivate the social side of our natures.

Two years ago we joined the State Federation of Women's clubs, and as we are readers of the "Cycle," have been able to keep in touch with the great body of thinking, busy women.

#### The Tuesday Club, Ottumwa.

This organization was formed in the fall of 1890 for the systematic study of some chosen subject.

An outline of the political history, literature and art of the nations compiled by a cultured teacher of Chicago has been its model. In addition thereto, an hour each week is devoted to a discussion of current events.

This winter the Tuesday club, realizing its ignorance of parliamentary usages and recognizing the injunction "Let all things be done decently and in order" has added the study of parliamentary law to its curriculum, and on alternate Tuesdays spend a half hour in rehearsal and practice demonstration of the lesson assigned the previous week.

The Tuesday club is modest in numbers, its membership being limited to ten, and modest too in its aspirations as its motto indicates: "Be a light in the chamber if you cannot be a star in the sky."

#### West Union Tourist Club.

"Thought once awakened never again slumbers" is the adopted motto and sounds the keynote of the tie which binds together forty of the most ambitious and intellectual ladies of West Union. They are known as the Ladies'

Tourist club and are eleven years old. With an early membership of twenty-five they have grown year by year in numbers, till now their limit of membership is reached and they stand on a firm foundation, an incorporate body, having not only faith in their own resources, but the confidence and good will of the community. Meetings are held on alternate Saturdays at 2:30 o'clock from October to May, each day devoted to a literary program, with the occasional variation of music or stereopticon illustrations of the subject in hand. The original plan of study was to travel in foreign lands, gleaning on the journey all information possible on the history literature, people and customs of the countries traversed. Each year this course has increased in interest and profit, little changes and improvements have been made from time to time, and never for a moment has the ardor and enthusiasm of the members been known to drop. Roll call is answered by quotations, which, during the year just closed, have been preserved for publication.

A question box is an interesting feature at each meeting, and a critic is appointed for corrections in pronunciation, etc., with Webster as the adopted authority. For the past three years parliamentary law has been carefully studied and practically illustrated in the club work, with strict adherence to the rules. The club was incorporated under the laws of the state in 1891. Has membership in the National Federation and is one of the charter clubs in the Iowa federation. At the meeting in Des Moines two years ago, was represented by the president, Mrs. Maria C. Weed, who was elected treasurer of the federation. The club has a substitute membership list and allows only out of town visitors at the meetings. Printed programs are issued annually to members and exchanged with other clubs. The adopted colors are white and gold, symbolical of their aim in acquiring knowledge, that which is pure and simple combined with intrinsic value. Its officers for the past year were:

Mrs. Maria C. Weed, president.  
Mrs. Hattie A. Hoyt, vice president.  
Mrs. Florence Fisher, treasurer.  
Mrs. Harriet M. Talmadge, secretary.  
Program committee—Mrs. C. H. Talmadge, Mrs. S. E. Robinson, Mrs. H. B. Hoyt and Mrs. Jennie Lacy.

The Every Thursday of Council Bluffs was organized January 13, 1881, as a reading club to hold a two-hours' session, as its name indicates, every Thurs-

day. The membership was limited to twenty-five persons. The executive board consisted of four directors and a secretary. The first hour of the meeting was given to history, the second hour to literature, art, topics of the day, etc. With but one interruption of a few weeks in the summer of 1890 the club has maintained its meetings regularly during the nearly fifteen years of its existence.



## THE IOWA CLUBS.

THE LITERARY WORK AND HOW THEY DO IT.

Women Find Diversion in Literary and Artistic Pursuits—Sketches of Clubs Prepared for The Gazette—Interesting Accounts of How They Grow and Prosper

### Marshalltown Woman's Club.

It was this society which first set in motion the movement that eventually led to the formation of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. It is one of the strong clubs of the state and numbers in its membership the corresponding secretary of the state federation. The present officers are: Mrs. Mary H. Knisely, president; Mary C. S. Wells, Maria McGarvin, vice presidents; Mary B. Holt, recording secretary; Alma D. Whitaker, corresponding secretary; Adella DeB. David, federation secretary; Anna B. Howe, treasurer. The membership numbers ninety.

### The Ladies' Literary Circle

of La Porte City was organized May, 1893, and joined the State Federation of Women's Clubs in June of the same year. Our line of work consists of reading, followed by discussion of same. Papers on articles read are given monthly. Half an hour at each meeting is devoted to discussion of current events. At every alternate meeting we give half of the time to parliamentary work, Mrs. Shattuck's Manual of Parliamentary work being our guide. Our membership is limited to twenty-five. Our members are all very much in earnest and the interest is steadily increasing. We meet every Friday.

### The History Club of Chariton

was organized Feb. 14, 1878. The purpose of this organization is the study of history and the mutual improvement of its members in literature and keeping up with the general interests of the day. The club is limited to twelve members and all the work is performed individually. We meet once a week at the homes of the members, the president presiding when a business question is before the club, and a previously appointed leader conducts the lesson. Our reading has been chiefly in history, though we have drifted into many other channels in the course of our work. The program for 1895 is "A Year with Shakespeare" and we aim to make as thorough



MRS. M. H. KNISELY.



MRS. E. C. TRIEM.



MRS. A. L. MALLORY.

a study of the dramas selected as may be possible with our limited resources in the matter of reference books and distance from any large library.

The officers of the club for the current year are: President, Mrs. Anna Mallory; vice president, Mrs. Ellen Brant; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Laura R. Gibbon.

### The Sorosis, Glidden.

was organized March 19, 1890, by twelve ladies, of whom five are still active members. The number immediately reached fifteen, the limit. Its continually changing membership has comprised a number of bright women. The first president is now an enthusiastic member of the famous "Friday Morning Club" of Los Angeles, and the first secretary, at present, holds the same office in the "Shakespeare Club," the leading

club of Pasadena, California. Each received the initial training in club work in the Glidden Sorosis. Thus it is a ray of light in the general illumination. Meetings occur weekly, and the social life of the club receives due attention. The work embraces the study of literature, history, art, and the vital interests of the day, with most gratifying results. Sorosis was a charter member of State Federation.

### The Entre Nous Club

of Marshalltown, Iowa, was formed in January, 1889, for the mutual improvement of its members, in a mental and social way. It is simply an afternoon reading club, consisting of not more than sixteen members. Meetings are held in alphabetical order at the homes of the members. The club is called to order at 2:30 and adjourned at 5 o'clock. The last Thursday evening in each month we have a supper to which our husbands are invited, and the evening is spent in a social way. Our research has been along the line of historical and biographical literature, one year being devoted entirely to American history. We have also made quite a study of parliamentary law, using the Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law, by Harriet B. Shattuck, as a text book. At the present time the work of the club is the study of Dante.



MRS. ANNA R. SNELL.

### The Columbian Club

of Brooklyn is primarily a reading club, secondarily a social club and always a wideawake, enterprising and progressive club. It was founded early in 1892 by Mrs. Frederick Fowler, and was the pioneer among literary clubs of the town. Not satisfied with the good work done along literary and historical lines the club is now seeking to be helpful outside the limits of its own member-



JENNIE E. DUNKLE.



MRS. C. F. DEE.

ship, and in conjunction with the other literary societies, the "Sorosis" and the "Garrett," is pushing forward a movement to secure for Brooklyn a town library.

Mrs. L. V. Sibley was elected president of the club in January, 1893. Her zeal, experience in club work and her broad sympathies and literary tastes fitted her well for this office, and she has endeared herself to the club by her faithful service. The other officers are: Mrs. James Mowatt, vice president; Mrs. N. H. Wright, secretary; Miss Margaret Cummings, corresponding secretary.

### The Woman's Club of Le Mars

Is the outgrowth of a small informal gathering of ladies who met together at more or less regular intervals during the spring and summer of 1894, for the purpose of taking up a course of light reading. A general desire for a more permanent organization with a stated and varied line of work culminated in a call for a meeting September 20, 1894, for the purpose of organizing a club. There was no thought at that time of joining the Federation of Women's Clubs, an organization and a plan of work being

the only object. At the first called meeting a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, and on October 18, 1894, an organization was effected by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws, under the name of the "Woman's Club of Le Mars." The object of the club was stated to be "the advancement of its members in friendship, art, science, literature and the vital interests of the day." A program of work was at once entered upon, being for the most part a study of Shakespeare; current events and sundry topics giving variety to the work. The following officers were elected. President, Delia Dier; first vice-president, Mrs. Julia McGrew; second vice-president, Alice McDuffie; secretary, Anna Cole; treasurer, Luella Bedell. The charter membership was thirty-two and the present membership is thirty-five. The club formally joined the State Federation of Women's Clubs November 21, 1894, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs December 5, 1894. Regular meetings have been held every two weeks since the organization, the year's work closing May 22, 1895.

Much interest and genuine enthusiasm has been shown, and the work done has been original and of a high grade of excellence.

### Cliothean Club, Chariton.

On the 11th of November, 1886, the Cliothean club of Chariton was organized by six ladies. The name was an original one compounded from the mythological characters, Clio the muse of history, and Thalia, one of the graces supposed to preside over the banquet.

History is regarded as the principal work of the club, although a secondary study is often added. In turn we have studied Grecian history, Gibbon's Rome, Guizot's unabridged France, and Green's "History of the English People."



DELIA DIER.



JESSIE M. THAYER.

Shakespearean readings and other dramas, biographical and critical reviews of the poets, a thorough course in mythology, serious work in grammar, orthography, and geography have proved a never-failing source of profit and pleasure to the members. A most comprehensive program was taken up

during 1894 on the civil war. The current program is a review of the Aztec civilization and the conquest of Mexico. The club membership is limited to ten and meets bi-weekly at the homes of the members. The social feature is a prominent one in our club. After spending two hours with our work, the "club tea" is served and music and games are the order of the evening. Once in every two months a special meeting is held when the History club and the Cliothean club are alternately entertained.

### The Tama Women's Literary Club.

began in a very informal manner, some two years ago—four of us meeting once in two weeks with some topic for especial study, such as "Nihilism," "Communism," "Mormonism," etc. We had no officers, not deeming ourselves pretentious enough even to bear a name; but on the receipt of a letter from Mrs. Cogswell of Cedar Rapids, urging us to unite with the Iowa federation, we invited several other ladies who take an interest in such matters, to unite with us; and at that time, which was in June of last year, we elected officers, adopted a constitution, made out programs for the entire year, sent our constitution into headquarters, and in due course of time, were taken into full membership in the Iowa federation.

We have had a wide range of subjects, including those of a literary and historical character. One of the first was "The Moors," being divided into topics, thus: Who were they? The Moors in Spain, Extract from Alhambra, reading from Othello, siege of Granada, song, "In Old Madrid," Moorish palace at the World's Fair.

At an other time we studied the lives of old masters. At an other meeting we discussed the chemical properties of different articles of food. Our club has twelve members, the officers being: President, Mrs. J. L. Bracken; secretary, Mrs. Margaret Lesser; treasurer, Mrs. Nettie Beal.

### The Hawthorne Club.

This is the second oldest club in Marshalltown and is now in its fifteenth year. It enjoys the distinction of being the most progressive and liberal of the smaller clubs, its membership being limited to sixteen. The object of the club is literary and social enjoyment. The literary work for the past



MRS. J. L. BRACKEN.



MRS. C. J. WONSOR.



MRS. ALICE FLETCHER.



two years has been the regular Chautauqua course. Although one of the smallest clubs in numbers, these ladies have done much for the Marshall county public library, considering it their especial protegee. One-half of the yearly dues and fines we give to the cause, the club owning fifteen shares of stock at \$5 per share. Each month the ladies entertain their husbands and a limited number of guests at a supper. The yearly dues are \$3, absence twenty-five cents, and tardiness five cents.



MRS. MYRA C. GLICK.

Dubuque Ladies' Literary Association.



MRS. ADA LANG-WORTHY COLLIER.

very nearly twenty years ago a number of ladies realizing the necessity for such a movement organized a club for the purpose of "mental improvement by means of systematic study," and although it had small beginnings and much opposition, "The Dubuque Ladies' Literary Association" has gone on steadily increasing from year to year until it now numbers two hundred and sixty-five members, nearly half of whom are actively engaged in study in its various divisions. Its officers are a resident, vice-president, secretary and treasurer chosen annually by ballot and it is governed by a constitution and by-laws. It is divided into sections or classes of history, English Literature, Art, English Literature No. 2, Classical Literature, History, Literature and Art, Historic Art, Current Events, Biblical History. Each division has its own leader who arranges the course of study for the year as well as the program for the weekly or fortnightly meeting. Quarterlies are held during the year of the entire body at which time the secretaries of each division report what has been done in their respective lines of study. Special meetings may be called at any time by the president for the reading of papers or for any other form of entertainment provided; occasionally light refreshments are served and a social hour enjoyed. During the past year the association has entered into its own cosy and comfortably furnished rooms in the Odd Fellows' temple, having also the use of the large auditorium above for its general meetings, while under the same roof is the public library easily accessible to all. The members of this association are earnest women, loyal to its best interests as well as to the cause of womankind everywhere and have come to be a recognized power in the community.



MRS. E. J. INGHAM, Toledo.



MRS. A. B. WALDROFF, La Porte.

torium above for its general meetings, while under the same roof is the public library easily accessible to all. The members of this association are earnest women, loyal to its best interests as well as to the cause of womankind everywhere and have come to be a recognized power in the community.

MRS. PARSONS, Marshalltown.

The Boone Monday Club

was organized in 1885 as a Chautauqua circle. In 1889 it adopted its present name and constitution and began the study of English history and literature, continuing the same for two years. Then giving two years to American history and literature, followed by a years study of American and English literature. Special attention being given to some of the Shakspearian plays. The present year the time of the club is given to German history and literature, a short time being given each meeting to questions on civil government. For two years a most pleasant and instructive feature of the club has been the conversational held once a month when each lady has a ten minutes talk on a given subject, and at least once during the season the club entertains friends at a parlor lecture. The club is limited to twelve members and since its organization in 1889, Mrs. Maria C. Bibbs has been its president.

The Monday Club of Indianola

was organized in October, 1886, with twelve members, the limit of membership. It meets every third Monday at homes of the different members, except during the summer months. The club meets in the afternoon for literary work being joined at six o'clock by the guests usually the husbands, for the members are all married and each one is privileged to invite one guest. The hostess serves refreshments, limited as to variety, and the evening is spent in a social way.

The study during the nine years included English history, American history, authors of England, America and Russia, reviews of periodicals and current topics.

The Monday Afternoon Club, Dubuque.

was organized in 1890, at Dubuque. The club year consists of eight months—from October to June, with meetings weekly from two to four o'clock, at the home of the president. The club is composed of two divisions. The first, or Chautauqua division, consisting of fifteen members, has made, during the past year, a particular study of Europe in the nineteenth century, with especial attention given to the history of France. The latter half of the present season has been occupied in the study of the Renaissance and Modern Art supplemented by a study of literature in the departments in which Macaulay and Carlyle have done their most enduring work. The chief end and aim of the members in thus attempting to gain a knowledge of the history, art and literature of a time and of a people, is that the underlying meaning of the work perused, may be grasped, and



MRS. D. N. COOLEY.



MRS. A. B. WALDROFF, La Porte.

its theme or message for personal application and upbuilding be won.

The two hours allotted for the discussion of the topics given by the leader have proven all too short for venturing far into the vast fields of history thus unfolded; but a perception of their existence and a modest glance over their borders have resulted in great profit. The outlines of study while full enough to assure complete mastery of the subjects, if closely followed, are at the same time flexible enough to permit any changes that seem advisable for their adaptation to the different members. The scheme of study necessitates much thoughtful preparation in order to join in the discussions. No prepared papers are presented in the sessions. The club is essentially a study club and the good gained is that which all well directed study gives when aimed at the apprehension of truth as the essential thing.



MRS. ALICE ARNOLD, Manchester.

The poetry, influence, and work of the great poets have been studied thoroughly and systematically with the profitable aid, in way of lectures by Prof. McClintock of Chicago University. Various special meetings through the year have added much to the social life of the club and

it, recognizing the great moral benefit of voluntary cooperation, paid tribute

to much latent ability unrecognized until we came in contact through our organization. We have learned also that in club life as elsewhere, good work, well applied, both inspires and enriches; that club life develops mental hospitality and intellectual philanthropy; promotes rather than diminishes the spirit of womanliness; nourishes rather than impoverishes the home life. From our Monday Afternoon club we have gained inspiration, discipline and joy in the degree in which we were individually capable of receiving these gifts. We recognize our club as a force for self-improvement and widening influence. In the State Federation as in the General Federation, look for the encouragement, help and strength which members having the same high aims should insure.



MISS W. N. GILBERT, State Center.



MISS MARGARET MAHON of Ottumwa.

Fortnightly Club of Ottumwa.

In November, 1894, several ladies met at the residence of Mrs. William Dalrymple-Elliott and organized the Fortnightly Literary club. Three meetings were informal; given over principally to forming a code of by-laws and deciding upon the work for the year, which was mapped out and is in the form

Each part was assigned at the commencement of the year. This time was ample for preparation, and I am proud to state that every member commendably filled her part. Taking as their motto, "Light seeking light, both light of light beguile." With twenty-seven active and two honorary members, on January 14, 1895, the club held its first regular meeting, with a program consisting of papers, conversations, readings and music. The subjects—foreign countries, their rulers, historians, poets, artists and musicians. At every alternate meeting a conversation on current events was held, with leader and two assistants. Each program closed with a general conversation, subject announced a fortnight before. At the end of each year the papers and conversations are to be put into writing and together with the calendar bound and kept as books of reference. Miss Walker, a guest in the city and sister of W. W. Walker, at one time a resident of Cedar Rapids, gave to this club several very interesting talks; especially so was that on Hawaii. Next year's calendar is under preparation. Thus I am able only to give a partial outline of the work, viz: Studies on the schools of architecture, oriental countries, Russia; the women of the French salon in connection with the women of England and America.

Friday Club, Newton.

We do not propose, as Pope advises, to be total abstainers from the Pyrean spring just because we have not the time and opportunity to be thoroughly intoxicated with the love of learning, but we do not deny that were there no dishpans, clothes baskets, and brooms awaiting our constant attention we might become hard drinkers at that deep, deep fountain. As we are all largely cumbered with household cares, we must be contented to sip lightly.



ELIZABETH L. SLONAKER.

Our club is now in its fourth year, the kindergarten epoch of few accomplishments and great possibilities. We have had but one short vacation of one month during the World's Fair and even the glories of that "dream city" were not sufficient to prevent a fair attendance.

We meet every Friday afternoon. The number is now limited to eighteen. The president or leader changes each month and the secretary and treasurer hold office three months.

While we often shrink from these responsibilities we nevertheless recognize the advantage gained from their exercise in business methods and better powers of expression.

Within the last two years we have studied economics, Roman history and



Roman literature, and for the last few months have been learning to love the immortal genius of Stratford. We have studied his Julius Caesar, Henry VIII, Macbeth, As You Like It, and Richard III.

The social phase of our club has not been very prominent, although we have had several very delightful parties.

#### Oelwein Tuesday Club.

Eight charter members formed the Oelwein Tuesday club, which was organized Jan. 2, 1893, for the purpose of promoting our intellectual growth. Our club meets every alternate Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. from Oct. 3 to June 25. Our membership is limited to twenty-five and we have already grown to that number. When we first organized our meetings were held at the homes of the various members, but the club increased so rapidly it was deemed advisable to rent a furnished room, centrally located, for a club room. At each regular meeting we devote one-half hour to the study of parliamentary law and the meetings are conducted in accordance with parliamentary usage.

The first year we studied United States history and also spent a portion of our time in discussing current events. The following year the work was of an entirely different nature. A paper was read at each meeting by a member on a subject decided on by the class at the previous meeting. This year we have taken up the study of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Our work is not yet completed but as far as we have gone our course of study has proved exceedingly interesting and profitable. At the beginning of the year we had programs printed of the entire year's work and it gave ample time for each member to prepare a paper on the topic assigned to her. We have also adopted the plan of assigning to a member a subject on which to deliver a two minute address.

We find as our club grows older and the membership is increased the interest manifested by the members is greater.

#### The Des Moines Women's Club

was organized in 1885 and may be considered an outgrowth of the National Association for the Advancement of Women, which that year held its annual meeting in Des Moines.

In the first paper read before the club by Mrs. C. H. Patchin from the art and literature committee, the writer suggested the opening of a place of exhibition for the advancement of art. The suggestion was endorsed by those present, and the establishment of an art gallery in Des Moines is now one of the avowed objects of the club.

The presidents of the clubs have been Mrs. Dr. Cleaves, Mrs. M. C. Callanan, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. Della A. Ruttkay, Mrs. Harriet B. Windsor, Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley, Mrs. Virginia Berryhill, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode.

The club has worked on the line laid down in its certificate of organization in

which it declared its intention to "create an organized center of thought and action among women." It has not been a working club, in the sense of undertaking and carrying on practical charitable or philanthropic work. Neither has it been a study club, in which work is done in sections, and the results reported to the club at large. But its program, consisting of the reading of papers assigned at the beginning of the year, has brought out much that is strong in thought and firm in expression. It has been a great mental stimulus. Its standing committees now number ten, its board of directors twenty-five, its active membership nearly two hundred. It has its influence in the formation of public opinions and this rather through the newspaper reports of its proceedings than through its own efforts, as the club has seldom shown a disposition to take a hand in public affairs. In 1886 it promoted the organization of a woman's exchange; and the same winter passed a resolution which was afterwards embodied in a bill for an act to prohibit the sale of tobacco to minors. At another time a discussion of a paper read by Mrs. L. F. Andrews resulted in the appointment of a committee to consult with the school board on the need of increased industrial education. The social events of the club have been varied and brilliant, from the "club teas" which were a pleasant feature of the first year, to the large receptions given to Mrs. Julia Ward Howe and Mrs. Henrietta.

The Des Moines Women's club was represented at the World's Fair by a massive album containing photographs of its presidents, photographs of the carnival, an elegantly bound volume of "Memorabilia," the Greek play, the historian's record and club papers. No club represented made a better showing. At this writing the club is closing a most prosperous year, and its future is full of promise.

#### Gradatim Club, Boone.

This club was organized three years ago and is composed of young married women. The line of study has been confined mostly to history interspersed with papers on prominent literary and political personages. The past year we have devoted our time to Grecian history exclusively, making an outline one month in advance, several members being prepared to bring into special prominence central characters occurring in our lesson. Our aim is intellectual improvement.

#### The Cary Club of Marion,

Iowa, was organized Jan. 16, 1878, by Mesdames A. B. Billington, L. N. Latham, Jennie L. Wilson, Anna Stone White, Webster and E. A. Rathburn.

The object of the organization was the study of literature and such other general topics as should secure to its individual members a higher cultivation of mind and keep them in touch with the progress of the times.

English and American authors and their works and English and American history have received special attention but there has also been some time given to French and Grecian history.

The range of miscellaneous subjects studied and discussed has been wide and diversified. The club took its name from the gifted Cary sisters, they and their work furnishing the program at the initial meeting.

The constitution of the club limited the membership to twelve, each of the charter members inviting a second. In 1889 the constitution was revised so as to admit a membership of twenty.

The meetings of the clubs are entertained by the members in alphabetical order every alternate Monday from the first Monday in September to the last Monday in May.

So great has been the change in membership by removal and death, that few of the original twelve remain. Of the

charter members Mrs. Rathbun is the only one now in Marion, Mrs. Billington being in Des Moines, Mrs. Wilson in St. Louis, Mrs. White in Minden, Neb., Mrs. Webster in New York and Mrs. Latham, deceased.

The following are the names of the present members of the club: Mesdames G. R. Alexander, A. J. McKean, Geo. Cook, Thos. Maddock, A. R. Crowley, D. Marson, J. C. Davis, S. W. Rathbun, Wm. Dobson, E. L. Samson, Wm. Dunn, B. F. Seaton, M. J. Hindman, F. L. Taylor, E. D. Humphrey, D. E. Voris, C. A. Hurlburt, J. G. VanNess, R. M. Jackson, M. Voris.

#### The North Side Club.

In the autumn of 1891 the thought came to some of the ladies living in Highland and Oak parks, these new suburbs in Des Moines, that a literary and social club would be a pleasant and profitable organization. In pursuance of this idea a meeting was arranged for and a large number of ladies responded to the invitation. A plan was adopted to meet each week a month at a time at a home and elect a leader to serve each month. The study for the first year was decided to be upon foreign countries. France was taken up, its geography, history, literary, art, commerce and industrial pursuits, studied about. Then Russia was considered after a similar fashion, the state religion and Siberian exile system coming in for a share in study and discussion. The second year was occupied in the study of American history and a careful study of the projected buildings and exhibits for the World's Fair. Knowledge was obtained from all the almost innumerable sources and stored away so that the members of the club were enabled to better understand and appreciate this wonderful display of the world's products. We read and talked of the things which became realities and of those as well that never were constructed save in the brain of a newspaper correspondent. In 1893 the club was reorganized. A constitution and by-laws adopted and named "The North Side Club." The study of English literature was agreed upon. A very interesting and comprehensive program was made out and English history up to the fifteenth century was studied in connection with the literature from its beginning to the time of Ben Jonson. Considerable time was spent in studying Shakespeare and giving critiques on his most popular plays. Mrs. E. D. Graber was the president of the club the first year of its reorganization and re-elected for the next year. English literature was studied again in 1894, character studies and book reviews appeared as the subjects on the program. Roll call was answered by current events which were generally discussed. One of the pleasant features of the club is the social meetings to which the husbands of the members and some guests are invited. They occur four times during the club year from October to May. The social meetings are varied with literary and musical features. One afternoon last November the club issued invitations to seventy-five guests, presidents or members of other clubs in the city to attend a regular meeting. Special music and literary programs were arranged and a very enjoyable meeting had of the women of the city prominent in club work. It suggested the idea of city federation of clubs which would seem to be a feasible idea in this community where clubs are so numerous. The club has a limit of twenty members which is reached and a waiting list. Mrs. W. T. Johnston is the present president of the club and president-elect for next year. Mrs. O. H. Longwell is the delegate to the biennial federation.

#### The Entre Nous of Marion,

organized in November, 1889, with five charter members, the membership to be limited to twenty-five resident members

and to consist of married ladies only, and to be known as both a literary and social club. We still have a mingling of both but feel we may be justified in saying we are each year gradually growing more literary. We have a membership now of fifteen resident members and eight non-resident. Our line of study for a few previous years has been mostly French and English history. But this year, allow me to say, soared higher. We are studying United States history and civil government, thus bringing us into closer apprehension of the matter that should most interest us, the great America. We also have original papers from each member during the year, appointed the previous week by the president. Our line of study for next year will be English literature, with additional papers on literary people.

#### The Woman's Club of Emmetsburg

was organized in August, 1890, by Mrs. Irene Brown Case, who has been the leading spirit of the club since its inception. She has been ably seconded during all these years by Mrs. Lucy F. Beckman, the president of the club. The club has never had a large membership, but a most loyal one, only four meetings being omitted in the five years, two owing to Iowa blizzards and two on account of the World's Fair, which was visited by every member.

This is a Public Opinion club, that journal being its chief study. It meets every two weeks and each hostess of the club prepares the program for next meeting, selecting nine of the most important topics treated by the Public Opinion during the current fortnight. In addition to these nine studies, each program has a book review, summary of foreign affairs and fortnightly survey of American politics, so that the club is thoroughly posted on the daily doings of the world.

There are no "readings" or other padding in the program, but serious, earnest discussion of the assigned topics, and vigorous original thought given to the matters in hand. So that the results of these five years of severe and uninterrupted study are very substantial and satisfactory.

While the club has been entirely untrammelled in every respect, yet it has studiously avoided both religious and political contention. It is cosmopolitan in spirit, largely American at heart, courageous for the whole truth, and seeks nothing but truth. Therefore, long may it live and prosper.

#### The Wednesday Club

of Webster City was organized in January, 1889, with a membership of nine ladies. In 1893, with a membership of thirteen, it became one of the State Federation of Women's clubs. Its work has been the study of history, art, English and American literature. For the study of literature we have used Miss Maertz' New Method, and propose finishing it this year. As this is an age of specialties a number of extra meetings have been held, conducted by those members who have made a special study of certain subjects, making the meetings very attractive and giving the club an impetus to study in that direction, and a wider range for culture. Another interesting feature of the club work has been its parlor lectures. Prominent among these were the addresses: "Idyls of the King," by James K. Applebee, of Boston; "The Madonnas in Art," by Miss Leona Call, professor of Greek in State university; "William Tell," by Eugene Shafter, of Eagle Grove. The earnest effort each member has made in preparing the work assigned her in the calendar is evidence of increasing interest. The club expects to make a complete change in its course of study next year and that nothing may prevent active work at the beginning of the year a calendar will be prepared by a committee sometime during the summer. The



MRS. M'DONALD.



ELLA HAMILTON  
DURLEY.



present officers are: President, Mrs. J. M. Jones; vice president, Mrs. S. J. Root; secretary, Mrs. F. A. Kimball; treasurer, Mrs. A. N. Boeye.

#### The O. O. P. Club of Marion

was organized in the year 1869 and has for the last twenty-five years been conducted for the purpose of the mental improvement and social enjoyment of its members. The studies of the club have embraced history, art and literature in their various branches. The club is governed by a constitution and by-laws; the membership is limited to twenty active members but unlimited to inactive or honorary members; the active membership of the club is now fifteen; and the club meets in alphabetical order on every Tuesday evening, at the home of the members.

The order of procedure for the last year's work was roll call, answered by quotations from prominent writers; the reading of the minutes of the preceeding meeting; questions in English literature, according to Mertz's New method; study in Shattock's Woman's Manual of Parliamentary law; biographical sketches of the prominent women of the different countries of the world, or discussions and papers on abstract subjects of interest at the time.

Orthoepy and gleanings from the news of the week close the evenings work, and is followed by a social half hour during which refreshments are served.

The officers for the present year are: President, Mrs. Jay J. Smyth; vice-president, Mrs. J. S. Alexander; secretary, Mrs. William Smyth; treasurer, Mrs. Samuel Daniels; librarian, Mrs. George E. Lillie.

#### Cedar Falls' "Tuesday Club."

In the fall of 1892 several ladies met and organized for the purpose of studying "art," preparatory to attending the World's Fair. Invitations were extended to others to join, and when the number reached twenty-five it was deemed advisable to make that number the limit. We had no printed outlines, but a general course of study was adopted, beginning with "art history in the beginning of the United States." The first year's study proving both pleasant and profitable, it was the pleasure of the ladies to organize on a financial basis, adopt a constitution, join the state and national federations and choose a name. We are known as the "Tuesday Club." We began the second year's study the following fall, taking up the history of Egypt, and the next year Grecian history, which we are about finishing. We prepare our own outlines for the year's work, this task falling upon the board of directors, which consists of the officers of the club and five other members. The present officers are busily engaged upon the outlines for next year—Roman history. We send our president and one delegate to represent us in the coming convention to be held in your city in May. Others of our members hope to be present and reap the benefits of this momentous occasion. Our club is growing in interest and a real desire to gain knowledge in all that pertains to club life is manifested by the members. We can but mention the annual banquets, to which we invite our husbands and friends, this occasion being of course, the "event" of the year to these same husbands and friends, except, perhaps, a picnic in midsummer upon the banks of the Cedar. We deem it advisable to make amends in some such way to them, for the great loss (?) they sustain during the year by not being allowed equal privileges in historic research. Trusting that the "mantle of charity" may be thrown over our seeming vanity by so long an account of ourselves, we close with kindly greetings to all Federation clubs.

It is one of the unwritten laws of the club that neither politics nor theology shall be discussed at its meeting and it is believed that the harmony and good

will prevailing have been largely due to this law.

#### Marshalltown's Oldest Club.

It has been said that if Marshalltown has a distinctive fad, it is reading clubs. Among the many that flourish there, the Witenagemote claims the honor of seniority. In the summer of 1875 five ladies who were intimate friends agreed to meet on Thursday afternoons and read Jane Eyre, wishing to enjoy it together.

So well did they enjoy it other works were read and the club life that began that August day has lasted for nearly twenty years. At different times the limit of membership has been increased till it reached twelve.

It was held that a greater number would not be so conducive to good fellowship or free discussion. In these years seventy-five books of history, biography, travels, classics, and fiction have been read, besides short stories, plays, sermons, essays, etc.

#### Ladies' Literary Circle, Creston.

This club was organized and known as the Ladies' Literary circle, Feb. 20, 1891. Its object as defined in its constitution "shall be to obtain definite and desirable information on subjects selected by the circle, the object of each member thereof to obtain a higher and purer intellectual standard." Its membership is limited to twenty. Mrs. Geo. W. Colburn was elected its first president. During the years '91 and '92 the circle confined themselves to the study of North America; an historical and a biographical paper is read at each meeting held alternate Fridays at the different homes of the members. During 1893 the circle, with Mrs. J. B. Harsh as president, began the study of England and English literature continuing it through June, 1894, with British possessions added, and for general discussion have considered "The Clever Woman of our Day," American Journalists, Foreign Artists, etc. The outline of study for this year, with Mrs. A. M. Howe as president, has been France—general discussion, current events. The first meeting held Sept. 7 was entirely social, the "circle" entertaining the members of the two other literary clubs organized during the year. The annual business meeting for the election of officers, etc., for ensuing year was held the first Friday in April. The last meeting on the program will be June 7 when Mrs. B. F. Torrey will read "A Story of French Life" (original) and the members will discuss "Recent French Literature." The outline of study for next year will be a continuation of France and the French people.

#### Des Moines Conversational Club

was organized in November, 1891, and the first president was Mrs. Leon A. Harvey. According to the constitution the object of the club is improvement in the use of pure and fluent English through the study of standard literary works and the discussion of topics of interest; also drill in parliamentary forms and practices. The membership is limited to ten active members. The range of topics considered of interest with their method of treatment and work has been very wide. As the idea has been largely to stimulate spontaneous conversation no notes are ever allowed, and the subjects have been extremely varied. Careful preparation in the way of reading and thought has been constantly insisted upon. Original talks, stories and theories have been required and most delightful occasion have been enjoyed. Countries in their art, architecture, cities, educational systems have been studied, for instance France, Russia and Ireland. The coterie of ladies forming this club have become deeply attached to each other and full appreciate the lovely traits discovered in the members, which, in association with large clubs, are seldom found out. The

conversation is always interesting, sometimes brilliant.

A former resident of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Johnson Brigham, is one of our charming and valued members. The members all feel that the work done in this small club is more beneficial to each one personally than the work in very large clubs.

We are certain that it has been a wise measure to lay stress on original and spontaneous work, as that really is most in keeping with the spirit of our club work.

#### The Glenwood Woman's Club

was organized December 27, 1893, with thirteen charter members. It now numbers 39, having lost by withdrawal and death 6. Its object is the social and intellectual advancement of women. It also believes that to help others is to help one's self. Its officers consist of a president, vice president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer. These, with the chairmen of the different departments, constitute the board of directors, who have general control of the affairs of the club. It has four of these departments, organized for study under their different heads: History and literature, topic of the times, musical, house and home, the latter a recently added department, but one in which it is hoped great interest will be taken. During the past year the work was rather of a miscellaneous character but during the coming year more uniformity is expected. The club year begins the first Monday in September and ends the first Monday in June, meets twice a month on first and third Mondays. The club sends as delegates to the biennial session in your city Mrs. Alice M. Russell, president of the club, and Mrs. E. R. S. Woodrow, vice president, who positively declined to have their photographs in the paper. I would add that the members all take great interest in the club meetings and its membership is made up of the best of the city.

#### The Sorosis Club of Brooklyn.

In February of 1893, Mrs. C. D. Conaway invited the ladies of North Brooklyn to meet at her home for the purpose of organizing a reading club. On February 22 the club was formally organized with Mrs. Conaway, president; Mrs. McLaughlin, first vice-president; Mrs. McAnicle, second vice-president; Mrs. Carpenter, secretary. The club had seventeen charter members and before the year ended twelve more were added. Fifty meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of nineteen.

The history of Columbus and Columbia was read during the first hour throughout the year. The first month poetry from Will Carleton was read. The second month was devoted to the biography and poetry of W. C. Bryant; then two months to H. W. Longfellow, then some time was devoted to J. G. Whittier. After this, political economy was taken up for a while. The remainder of the year was devoted to the biographies and poetry of Emerson, Lowell and Phoebe and Alice Cary.

At the close of the first year's work the ladies invited their husbands to help them celebrate their first anniversary which they did with a fine literary program.

In the beginning of the second year we finished reading Columbus and Columbia, then took up the most important events in the nineteenth century until November when we began a series of papers on an imaginary trip around the world, these were continued until the close of the year.

The last hour of our meetings was devoted to poetry, Emerson and Lowell were again taken up and Holmes received some attention, also poems from number of other authors were read.

In July of last year the club gave an ice cream social for the purpose of purchasing a flag for the new water tower.

The flag was presented to the town council Oct. 2.

In November our application for membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs was accepted.

Forty-eight meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of twenty. This year was also closed with a fine literary program given to husbands and friends. At the beginning of the third year our prospects for a good year's work are very bright. The first hour is devoted to reading English history, the last hour to English authors and poetry. In March we were admitted in the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. We have ordered a dictionary to be used in the club.

#### The North Side Historical Circle

of Boone, Iowa, was organized January 16, 1894, with sixteen charter members. The work for the year consists of French history, beginning from the earliest civilization and coming down to the time of William the Conqueror and the close of the Reformation. With biographical work alternating each week with ancient and modern. In November of 1894 the name of this circle was changed to "The Hawthorne Club of Boone." The year 1895 commenced the work of English history, beginning with first invasions of Caesar B. C. 55, English queens by Agnes Strickland and English literature from Chaucer to the Shakesperian age which period we are now studying.

#### Maria Mitchell Club

of Mason City was started in 1879 and has at present seventeen members. It meets every Wednesday afternoon at the homes of the members, and each member entertains the club socially at least once each year. The club is divided into five committees for the classification of current news, all committees reporting at each meeting. The principal studies of the club this year have been Brice's American Commonwealth and Lord's "Beacon Lights of History." While the club is purely a literary organization, all its members are ardent woman suffragists and the study of the American Commonwealth has been pursued systematically as an aid to the intelligent exercise of the franchise should Iowa ever grant her daughters an equal voice in her affairs.

#### The T. V. Reading Circle.

of Des Moines, which is one of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, has no written history. It began in the summer of 1888, upon one of the most picturesque lawns of the finest avenue in the city. Its inception and inspiration was the gentle art of making a semi-invalid happy by reading aloud, and the desire to share the felicity of these hours speedily resulted in the organization of the Greenwood Reading Circle, which name has since been changed to the mystic letters T. V., which suggest the limit of membership.

The constitution and by-laws adopted were modeled after the tried and successful circle of Clinton, owing to the fact that one of Clinton's former estimable members was included in the Des Moines membership. Officers change every semester, giving ample division of parliamentary discipline to each member. The T. V.'s meet every Monday at 2:30 o'clock, for a month at a time, in the parlors of some member, and after preliminary opening and varied, responsive roll call, listen to the reading by a member previously appointed, who having had a week for preparation, cheerfully submits to the kindly criticism of attentive listeners, that with utility and economy intent, are employed with quiet handicraft of some sort.

The reading continues with an intermission of fifteen minute's rest for the reader, until 4:30 p. m., and is followed by a business session of a quarter of an hour. Diversity in opening exercises has given



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zest and interest that secures a regular and punctual attendance, and the books selected for reading covering travels, history, biography, political economy, science, miscellany and philosophy have been chosen by committees, generally evincing excellent judgment and embracing a character and scope conducive to accurate and sound scholarship. The stimulus to side research and the required reviews and studies of authors given with great clearness and marked discrimination have proven the readings to be equivalent in helpfulness to a post-graduate course. This feature of solid progress and individual improvement, with no aspirations to be anything but a simple Reading Circle has been the secret of the popularity of the T. V's. in that there has always been on the secretary's file names awaiting admission to be voted upon whenever a vacancy has occurred. The membership includes several belonging to the Women's and other Des Moines clubs. Delightful social features are introduced according to the taste of the hostess occupying a part of last afternoon of each month, which together with the annual Society Day just before adjournment for July and August affords ample opportunity for pleasurable association and interchange of thought and feeling, and cultivates abiding friendship, and sweetly profitable memories.

#### Winterset Current Topic Club.

Its object is to acquire a knowledge of current events by stimulating research along familiar lines. To inculcate a desire for such knowledge and to encourage the discussion of topics of general interest.

The meetings are held Tuesday afternoons of each week during the year. The members enjoy these afternoons devoted to current events and feel a sense of personal loss when detained from a session.

The membership is limited to ten persons, and each member admitted to the club is urged to be punctual for the executive committee feel that good work can only be accomplished and a general interest maintained by regular attendance.

The roll call is responded to by quotations from an author selected for the month.

Next follows a fifteen minutes' parliamentary drill from the "Woman's Manual" or "Reed's Parliamentary Rules."

Then the current events of the week are discussed under the following heads: American Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Sociological, Scientific, Religious, Educational, Art, Miscellaneous. The club takes for its aids "The Literary Digest," "Public Opinion" and "The Week's Current." It also makes use of the papers and magazines in the Winterset public library.

#### Kappa Delta Club, Shenandoah.

A number of the ladies of Shenandoah desiring to do something at the same time pleasing and profitable, met at the home of Mrs. Palmer and organized a woman's club, with literary culture as its object.

Mrs. Mattie M. Bailey was the club's first president and held the office for three months. At the second meeting a constitution and by-laws were adopted and it was determined to apply at once for admission to the State Federation of Women's clubs. It was also determined to limit the number of members to thirty-five. For the first three months, the club studied English literature up to Shakespeare's time. During the summer months the club decided to postpone regular work and read Marcella. The first of October, 1894, the club met for serious work again and decided to pursue the study of the nineteenth century authors as outlined by Louise Manning Hodgkins of Wellesley.

A committee was appointed to prepare a calendar for the year, and have the same printed. The calendar has been followed exactly and the meetings have proved pleasant and profitable. The Kappa Delta delegate is Mrs. Mattie M. Bailey, who is well known all over the state. The work for the future is promising and each member endeavors to live up to her motto.

#### They Like Cedar Rapids.

On everyhand were heard compliments for Cedar Rapids. They admired our clean streets, beautiful lawns, fine homes, stately churches, commodious schools, and could not express their pleasure resulting from the hearty hospitality of the local club women. The meeting of the club women here will be the best advertisement Cedar Rapids has ever had. The two hundred women from towns and cities will talk Cedar Rapids for years to come and their pleasure here will be the gauge by which all other visits must be measured. The local newspapers with their columns of reports will go to all parts of the state, while the great journals of Chicago, Minneapolis and the press of other cities have given columns of space to the event.

#### Al. and Pauline Swalm.

There is no man in Iowa prouder of his wife than Col. A. W. Swalm, and no man in Iowa has a nobler or more faithful one. She is his wife, a most lovable and devoted one; she is his business partner, a most industrious one; she is his literary co-laborer and a most able and accomplished one. The colonel is eccentric, but genial and a most loyal friend. He is known all over Iowa and never rides alone in a car for lack of acquaintances. He never loans his railway pass, unless he has a stand in with a conductor.

When Ret Clarkson was city editor of the Des Moines Register Al Swalm and Pauline Given were compositors at the case on that paper. When Ret became proprietor he made Swalm city editor and Miss Given became a contributor. They married and later became the proprietors of the Ft. Dodge Messenger, which they made one of the brightest and best papers in the state. In 1882 they purchased the Oskaloosa Herald and are still its editors and publishers.

Last evening was Mrs. Swalm's first public appearance in this city, and she made warm friends of all who heard her.

"After twenty-three years of labor," began a white-haired pioneer suffragist, Mrs. N. T. Bemis of Independence, this afternoon, "we were given a tantalizing taste of suffrage by the last Legislature. During these years we have worked, petitioned, and lobbied, only to be given the meager privilege of voting on the money question in the towns, notwithstanding we asked for full franchise. Recently suffrage has become popular with leading women over the State. In fact, a fair opponent is almost an unknown quantity. There are sixty full-fledged societies in the State. At every meeting of the Legislature these women besiege the lawmakers and pelt them with petitions and unanswerable arguments. Our scheme now is to get a monster petition in book form, signed by men and women in the four corners of the State, praying for equal suffrage. Committees are at work, and already thousands of names have been secured. It will be presented at the coming session of our Solons. The President of the State Suffrage Society is Mrs. Rowena Stevens of Boone, a college-bred, all-around club woman and a progressive thinker."

#### Good Women for Officers.

Particular interest attached itself to the election of officers, the chosen ones being among the brightest women in the State. Mrs. Anna B. Howe of Marshalltown, a good all-around club woman and progressive thinker, whose personal charms have been described, was named as President amid the most enthusiastic applause. Mrs. Howe is a young woman, a thorough believer in the work and worth of the modern women. Typical of all that is lovely in woman, she will grace this highest woman's position of the State. The new Vice-President, Mrs. Mary W. Cogwell of Cedar Rapids, also has been mentioned as a woman prominent in all affairs. The Recording Secretary is Mrs. W. H. Bailey of Des Moines, a graduate of the Wisconsin State University, the wife of a prominent lawyer; and she is of pleasing personality and a sincere woman, devoted to clubs and charities.

Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thair of Chariton, the Corresponding Secretary, is particularly devoted to village improvement associations, being President of the one in her own city. She is known as a brilliant young club woman, prominent in innumerable organizations. Rather stunning publicity, she finds her chiefest pleasure in quietly doing practical work. For one year she was National President of the P. E. O. sisterhood and was formerly State Chairman of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Miss Mabel V. Dixon of Ottumwa, the Treasurer, is distinctively a business-woman, who recently managed the woman's edition of the Courier so efficiently as to net hundreds of dollars. The Auditor is Mrs. Ada Langworthy Collier of Dubuque, a member of the family which first settled in Dubuque County. She is proud of the fact that she was born in the first frame house in Iowa. A woman of literary ability, she is a frequent contributor to magazines.

The moral power of the federation was evidenced in the subjoined resolution, introduced by Mrs. Ada Langworthy, as an earnest plea for purity of her own sex, and carried almost unanimously:

Whereas, We have observed the failure of our State Legislature to change the law that fixes the age of consent at the unseemly period of 13 years, thus holding an otherwise progressive State in an attitude of opposition to the improved moral standard. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we recommend for consideration the importance of presenting a great petition to the Legislature at its next session urging that body to raise the age of consent to 18 years, and in furtherance of this design that commissioners must be appointed to cause a petition to be circulated throughout the State soliciting signatures of men and women.

#### New Woman Has Her Say.

The afternoon session was devoted strictly to the new woman. Not a single man, or a married one, either, was present to hear the gentle but unmistakable thrusts given him by way of diversion. The modern feminine product was toasted and eulogized with all the commendable adjectives in the Century Dictionary. She was enthroned on high as the patron saint of the universe, and Iowa club women fell at her feet. Miss May Rogers, a litterateur of Dubuque, gave a clever encomium on the new woman, but ended by admitting that the new woman does not object to man as a lover. Mrs. Charlotte B. Tisdale of Ottumwa declared that the true woman does not want to infringe on manly attributes. To her mind woman has no greater privileges than wifehood and motherhood, no richer jewels than those of Cornelia, no nobler life

work than to direct youthful minds and morals, no greater crown of glory than to have her children rise up and call her blessed. At the same time the womanly progressive woman wins her admiration.

"Wanted—The Strong Woman," is the essentially modern theme presented by Mrs. L. F. Parker of Grinnell, who urged the mother to train her daughter in strength and purity. That most charming woman of Des Moines, Mrs. Harriet B. Windsor, gave one of the best papers of the biennial on "No Club Liveth to Itself." Under the caption, "Liberty and Limitation," Miss King of Cedar Rapids discussed the freedom enjoyed by the present woman. Mrs. Alma D. Whittaker of Marshalltown discussed "Simon Says," referring to the fads of the day. To the improper ones Simon said, "Thumbs down"; to the harmless ones, "Wiggle waggle"; to the most approved, "Thumbs up." Simon did not dare express himself on the new woman, however. A paper on "Village Improvement Clubs" was presented by Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer of Chariton, which organizations were recommended to the woman of the day.

The entire symposium was sparkling with repartee and all suggestive. The general opinion was that the coming man will be a woman.

#### Chicago Representatives Do Well.

Two favorite daughters of Chicago, Mrs. Charles Henrotin and Mrs. Lindon Bates, and a prominent woman of Iowa, Mrs. Pauline Swalm, entertained at the evening session an admiring audience that filled to overflowing the assembly hall. The Chicago representatives have made an exceedingly favorable impression and were uproariously received. As usual they covered themselves with new honors. Mrs. Henrotin cleverly handled the theme, "Social Aspects of Life," having particular reference to club life of women. In conclusion she said:

Women make social life, and the woman's club is a powerful factor in modern progress. About thirty years ago the woman's club movement was inaugurated in the United States. It had its rise in the sentiment favoring organized efforts, which at this time were taking possession of the civilized world. Clubs were rapidly organized all over the Union, most of them of a literary character. This tendency was a wise one, as it was easier to unite women of different denominations and various social sets on an intellectual basis than upon any other. Herein might be noted the fact that woman's idea of a club is entirely distinct from man's idea—the woman thinks of her club as of purely educational value, and not at all as a place of creature comforts, which is entirely in contradistinction to man's idea of a club. The woman's club is inspiration. The man's club is a place of repose.

Each day the feeling of responsibility toward the welfare of the community at large is developing in the woman's club. There is a tremendous power in the social aspect of club life, which, if not abused, will be a greater influence in uniting human interests than can be realized at the present day. The root of dissatisfaction in modern society is due to the inadequacy and narrowness of our social life. We incline too much toward the old order of life of which Plutarch tells, whereby it was customary for the oldest man in the company to say to each new comer: "Look ye, sir, not a word said in company must go out this door." Whereas, it should be the object of modern society to see that all worthy of discussion is circulated, otherwise social life will become stultified.

#### Mrs. Bates Talks of the Clubs.

Mrs. Lindon Bates followed with a charming presentation of "The Place of the Club

Movement in Economic Evolution." In the course of her address it was declared:

The criticism that fears the unsexing of woman by any modern change loses sight of the evolutionary basis of type. Under all civilizations her ethics and altruistic temperament have been acknowledged. Heretofore her efforts have been made, however, largely ineffectual by lack of educational opportunities. In most of man's relations today the basis of altruism has been established, but individualism is still the dominating force. The economic conflict of our times is the struggle to secure for it the highest basis. For safe guidance in the conflict we have but one adequate agent—public opinion. It is in shaping public opinion along the lines of woman's ethics and altruism that work of women's clubs must be done.

Mrs. Swalm spoke interestingly of "The Citizenship of Women," declaring that co-existent with the expansion of woman's office has been growing a more distinct idea of morality in government. In conclusion she said:

This is not a "new woman fad," nor are these new women as lightly and reproachfully characterized. Do you ask what it portends to a nation when one-half of it—and that half its motherhood—rises from apathy to interest, from inactivity to influence, from minor to factor in the affairs of state? Certainly not ill. It could be only ill in our failure to readjust this power to healthful relationship, to take it seriously and apply it usefully. Our quarrel must be with new conditions. The new woman is only new numerically, because today, not here and there one, but the whole plane of womanhood has been

## TALK IT ON THE SLY.

### IOWA WOMEN SQUEEZE IN A FEW SPIRITED WORDS FOR SUFFRAGE.

State Federation Doesn't Openly Espouse the Cause, but the Biennial Convention at Cedar Rapids Is Hearing Plenty of It Just the Same—A Word About the New Officers—New Woman Is Praised Without Stint—Chicago Exponents Cover Themselves With Glory.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., May 9.—[Special.]—The Iowa suffragist is no back number. To be sure, she is not blowing her bazoo at the biennial of the State Federation of Women's Clubs because the General Federation has not espoused suffrage openly. Simply irrepressible, she is doing some tall talking on the sly just the same. She tells an interesting suffrage story of the past, and is nothing if not hopeful for the future.



lifted up and in the destiny of the Nation a new factor has been projected, for good, not ill, for peace, not contest, for purity and order and comfort in that extended household of our common Nation.

Greetings were read from "Jenny June," President of the New York Federation, and the President of the Michigan Federation.

Thus ended the memorable event, the first biennial of the Iowa State Federation of Clubs. There is a peculiar attachment between club women and the good-byes were given reluctantly and with long-drawn-out hand-holdings. At last the final adieu was spoken and the new women, as good as graceful, as loving as learned, separated to different parts of the State.

## WOMEN DOING WELL.

### AMBER APPROVES THEIR WORK.

#### Proceed in Businesslike Style at the Cedar Rapids Convention—Beauties of the Iowa Town—Its Charming Ladies.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, May 9.—The beautiful little city of Cedar Rapids is full just at present of sunshine and women. Which carries the most cheer it is hard to tell, and yet beneath the sweet serenity of each lurks the dread cyclonic disturbance. Such golden weather foretells storms, and there is to be a special election of officers tomorrow among the women.

Yesterday's programme proved beyond doubt the ability of my beloved sex to manage a big convention according to parliamentary rules. There was no hitch in the exercises from early morning until such hour as the moon put out his light behind the hills. In fact, I dropped much of my heresy during the day and should not be surprised to find myself advocating woman as the superior sex, and relegating men to home-cleaning and cradle-rocking. The first thing on the programme for the opening day was the call to order. This was followed by an invocation, or, in old-fashioned parlance, a prayer, by Mrs. E. R. Burkhalter, of Cedar Rapids. In the course of the invocation the lady took occasion to thank God that Jesus was born of a woman and that he selected women "and one womanly man" as his closest friends.

An address of welcome was very gracefully tendered, which was responded to as gracefully by the president of the Iowa federation. The most condensed auditor's report on record was given by Mrs. Payne, who said in exactly eleven words what she had to say and sat down in everlasting refutation of certain slanders concerning the sex.

Mrs. Anna B. Howe delivered a very bright address under cover of its being a report of the corresponding secretary. The remainder of the programme consisted of reports, and as the church was consisted of reports, and as the church was hotter than a Turkish bath I chose to withdraw and seek an outing in the town. Within five minutes I had come to grief in a bargain store where I paid more for a soiled waist than I should have paid in Paris for an out of date work gown. So I took a car and sought the heights where the swell people live.

#### A Pleasant Town.

The town is a dream in green and gold. There never were such trees nor such shifting needles of sunshine in the branches reeling off aerial lace work. The residences are all of the good substantial sort that stand for comfort rather than show. It is universally conceded that there are more charming hostesses in Cedar Rapids than could be counted on a weaver's shuttle in sixty days. The home of Mrs. James C. Bever is one of the most delightful rallying places in town for artistic people—men and women who live for something outside the greed of gain and the behest of fashion. Situated far down the main street, the old homestead stands like a beacon light that has made a mistake in not locating itself upon a hill, but in a thousand ways seeks to make atonement. The grounds are full of trees that were nothing but saplings when Mrs. Bever came to her home many years ago, a girlish bride. Here she has lived and surrounded herself with the adornments that go far to make home something more than a roof and encircling walls.

The house simply overflows with books and pictures, and in the midst and at the head of all its gracious mistress reigns supreme. Mrs. Bever is a leader in every good work, and has been for years. The noblest monument she has reared, however, is her home and her family of children. The Clio Club of Cedar Rapids was founded by her, and she is identified with other clubs almost as actively. Mrs. Bever is a beautiful woman, with many friends, an aptitude for literary work and a special gift for photographing. Specimens of her work adorn every room in her house.

#### Gifted Mrs. Jones.

Mrs. N. E. Jones has no home of her own, but is one of the women of Cedar Rapids who has made a distinctive mark upon the town. She has a beautiful face, charming manner and a gift of storytelling which has materialized in two popular books. Her novel "Beatrice" is on the eve of publication, and is spoken of most highly by critics, an audience harder to suit than friends.

Mrs. Merchant, wife of the late editor of the Cedar Rapids Republican, is notable for many things, but for none more than for her sweet womanliness and beautiful personality. She is carrying on the business of publishing her husband's paper, and is meeting with great success. She is rich in resources and has many ways of proving woman's equality with the other sex. Looking into her beautiful eyes reminded me of the story of "Litbottom's Grandmothers" under the bewitched spectacle test. In those eyes the boy saw a lake calm and deep and still, but catching the reflection of heaven and the changeless stars within its depths.

Miss Mary Brady is a plucky little newspaper woman of Cedar Rapids, who has identified herself by lots of first-class work with the Evening Gazette. She is bright and breezy and businesslike, at the same time retaining the characteristic sweetness inseparable from roses and true woman.

Mrs. Lucia Gale Barber is another woman who entertains royally, and for whom Cedar Rapids has a special love. She is a teacher of Delsarte and an admirable exponent of her own teaching.

One of the most beautiful women in a town that seems singularly blessed with beautiful women, Mrs. Barber's name is among the foremost on the roll of Iowa's popular women.

Mrs. Maria Kilburn came here from Chicago, but has already taken deep root in the hearts of the people of Cedar Rapids, who appreciate a good thing when they get it whether it comes from heaven or Chicago.

Mrs. Dr. Skinner is the wife of a prominent physician who lives in a comfortable home remarkable chiefly for its beautiful grounds and fine old trees. Mrs. Skinner is a quiet woman of prepossessing address and delightful manner. She is president of the Ladies' Literary Club, one of the largest in the city, and is a woman whom all respect and love.

#### Well Known as a Journalist.

Miss Caroline Putnam, one of the most faithful attendants at the biennial, is already making her mark as a journalist. Although under 25, she is city editor of a weekly paper, one of the largest in the state, and her work commands wide attention both for its strength and its terseness. Miss Putnam is a very pretty girl, with a sweet face and feminine manners. Her ambition is already active to reach the top of her profession, and she will do it, too, inside of ten years.

Mrs. C. D. Van Vechten is president of the city federation of clubs. She is an affable woman, whose chief charm lies in her straightforwardness, genius and freedom from affectation.

Mrs. S. H. Belt is one of the women represented at the federation whose personality can be comprehended in the word Christian. She is an indefatigable church worker, and an active philanthropist. Afflictions of her own have sweetened a spirit by nature most delicate and womanly. A day might be spent in pencilling personal sketches of women it were hard to match the breadth and length of the land over for charm of manner and whole-souled hospitality, but it must suffice for the pencil to say that this glimpse of Iowa women has given me an added pride in my sex and a larger belief in the future. You cannot improve much upon a wild strawberry, and yet evolution has given us a berry incomparable for flavor and sweetness, and so with women. You cannot ask anything better than the simple old-fashioned type of Mayflower stock, perhaps, but when I looked around to-day and saw the broad-minded, deep-hearted women evolved by latter-day advantages, I could but thank God for their improvement brought about by judicious grafting on the

original stock.

This evening was devoted to a reception tendered the delegates by the Ladies' Literary Club of Cedar Rapids. The reception was given in the rooms of the Masonic Library, the finest building of the kind in the world, and was well attended. The costumes worn by the women matched the beauty of the wearers and no higher praise is possible. Notable among the lovely dresses was Mrs. Henrotin's costume of heliotrope satin, violet garniture and diamonds. Mrs. Linden Bates wore green silk

and lace; Mrs. Collier, lavender satin, and Mrs. Windsor was regal in Turkish brocade. After all, let woman struggle as she may for recognition in other spheres of action, she is at her best when, beautifully dressed and sparkling with her own beauty, far more than with any added jewels, she adorns some social gathering or "dazzle when the sun is down" in the undisputed kingdom which is hers alone.

To-day, the last day of the federation, was inaugurated with a lively election of officers and a programme of general business without a break in the perfect harmony of the occasion. A new president was elected by ballot to take the place of Mrs. Berryhill, whom all part from with sincere regret. The new president is Mrs. Anna B. Howe, one of the brightest and best equipped women in the state. The afternoon, although so warm that comfort was a thing unknown by men and angels, was devoted to ten-minute addresses by selected women. I wish that it were possible to print every word of these addresses. They were superior to anything of the kind I have listened to outside of the efforts of men and women who rank with the best speakers in the country.

Miss May Rogers, of Dubuque, one of the best known club women of Iowa, delivered the first address, choosing for her subject "The Old and the New." She was epigrammatic, a rare thing for a woman, and as keen and witty as Sheridan might have been materialized for this occasion in woman's form. I jotted down two or three sentences worth remembering in a discourse remarkable for strength and humor: "One of the sorrows of civilization is the person who thinks he is funny." And again, speaking of the folly of seeking to enlighten men as to a new and more becoming costume, she said: "How can we suggest better things for him, we who are ourselves imprisoned in wire and haircloth and walking softly in the shadow of our own sleeves?"

#### Favors the "Old" Woman.

Miss Rogers was followed by Mrs. Charlotte Tisdale, who spoke in a very womanly way upon the subject "Observations on the Case." Mrs. Tisdale looks with favor on the "old woman" opposed to the "new," as newspaper wits and alarmists paint her.

Mrs. L. F. Parker's paper on "Wanted, A Storywoman," was both forceful and modest. It was an array of brilliant thoughts strung upon a strand of homely truth. She took as her ideal woman the type presented by King Solomon 3,000 years ago, and made her a possible evolution for the nineteenth century to perfect and complete.

Mrs. Harriet B. Winsor, chairwoman and state correspondent of the G. S. W. C., read a very strong and suggestive paper on the subject: "No Club Liveth to Itself." This was one of the best papers of the session, and was listened to with the closest attention. Mrs. Winsor is a beautiful woman, and so essentially graceful and dainty, both in appearance and delivery, that it was a regret to all when the limit of ten minutes was reached. Miss Kingsl, a teacher in the Cedar Rapids College, spoke on "Liberty and Limitation." Her address abounded in rich and helpful suggestion. "Simon Says" was the theme of an essay by Mrs. Alma D. Whittaker, and proved full of brilliant thought, humor and pathos. "Village Improvement Clubs," treated most delightfully by Mrs. Jessie M. Thayer, closed the exercises of the afternoon. After adjournment the delegates were the guests of the Y. M. C. A., who tendered an invitation to inspect their new building. Warmer weather seldom visits this section, even in midsummer, than that which is central in Cedar Rapids. Yet in spite of it everyone is having a good time, and no cyclones of any kind are indicated by the most astute of philosophers or prophet.

One notable feature of the federation has been the employment of women exclusively as reporters at the table set apart for journalists. Miss Bertha D. Knobe, of the Chicago Tribune; Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley, of the Des Moines News; Mrs. M. C. Huffaker, of the Marshalltown Statesman; Miss May C. Bradley, of the Cedar Rapids Gazette,

and Miss Rogers, who is doing the federation for the Cedar Rapids Republican, have been present every day. These women are all efficient and valued workers on the papers they represent, and their reports of the federation have been excellent in every way.

Mrs. Durley is an editorial writer also on the Des Moines paper of which her husband is manager and proprietor. The federation closed with the following programme, which was fully appreciated by the largest house of the session:

"Lift Thine Eyes," "He Watcheth Over Israel," Mendelssohn, Mrs. T. A. Wilcox, Mrs. George Green, Miss Helen Hall, W. B. Ross, George Green; "The Citizenship of Woman," Mrs. Pauline G. Swalm; "The Place of the Club Movement in Economic Evolution," Mrs. Linden W. Bates; "Dreams," Anton Strelezki, Mrs. George Green; "Social Aspects of Life," Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin; last words of the retiring president and introduction of her successor.

The address of Mrs. Pauline G. Swalm was a logical and strong plea for woman as a citizen. Mrs. Swalm is a graduate from the Iowa University, and is associate editor with her husband of an Iowa paper. Mrs. Linden W. Bates, of Chicago, delivered a very excellent address, whose high sounding title did small justice to its good practical work. The evening was brought to its finish by the address of Mrs. Henrotin, which was an admirable lecture on the social aspect of life, and was listened to with close attention by her audience.

Thus ended the most successful convention ever held by the women of any state. To Iowa is due the honor of being the banner bearer so far in the federation of American clubs.

AMBER.



## ELOQUENT WOMEN.

A LARGE AUDIENCE CHARMINGLY ENTERTAINED LAST EVENING.

Mrs. Pauline Swalm, Mrs. Lindon Bates and Mrs. Henrotin Talk of Woman and Her Work--The New President, Mrs. Howe, Installed in Office.

The Congregational church last night was crowded with women and a few men to hear the eloquent representatives of the "New Woman," Mrs. Swalm of Oskaloosa, and Mrs. Bates and Mrs. Henrotin of Chicago, and every true loyal Iowan was pleased that the practical, sensible woman of our own state lost no laurels in comparison with the accomplished woman of the metropolises of the west. Mrs. Swalm was the first speaker and her subject was "The Citizenship of Woman." She said:

"The Chinese, who have said so many cynical things about woman, have a saying 'The tongue of women is their sword, and they take care not to let it rest.' But the sessions of this federation of women have witnessed that the once keen and shining blades, testing prowess in idle tournaments of social adventure, are now turned into ploughshares of useful suggestion, and enlisted in the betterment of society. For my own, converted rather into the pen than voice, if it turn out to be a weapon that modern military science long since relegated to the obscurity of antique collections—like the Japanese strikers'—I shall not complain, but take comfort in the sentiment of that cynic of our own race, old Dr. Johnson,—"A woman's preaching is like a dog's walking on his hind legs; it is not done well but you are surprised to find it done at all." So for a little while we shall together consider "The Citizenship of Woman,"—that duty of woman with respect to the state, which is but an expansion of her private and household offices, and into which she has been projected irresistibly by the advancing civilization of the age.

In the full sense that men are accounted citizens in our American Republic, no woman has been a citizen of any nation since the world began, and only a part of the men. Citizenship has never been primarily an investiture of sex, save in our own nation where the rights of men have had bloody definition into an universality elsewhere known only in the ideals of the political dreamer. In the ancient monarchies a few men wore the purple and the rest wore chains. The famed Republic of Greece told off its people into men and slaves. Early Rome had its passive burgesses,—*civitas sine suffragio*—and aliens, protected dependents in political subjection, but liable to the burdens of levy and taxation. Later, in the Augustan age, the proudest republic of earth sold its proletariats as slaves in the market place and fattened them like human cattle. The great Magna Charta of English liberty applied only to "free men," and not for generations had the internal forces of society wrought its extension to all men. Even our own constitution, unhand as was its ideal from every shackle of human oppression, limited its protection to citizens of a single color, until 300,000 of the bravest sons of the nation stretched their mute bodies on the field of Mars and in the halls of Odin won the victory of a common humanity.

Since the foundation of nations no badge has been so coveted by men as this title to citizenship, no conquest so alluring, no other supremacy so contested. Yet, as we recall the status of the world's citizenship, how spitefully meager the fruits and how pitilessly

vast the wreckage of this mortal struggle of the ages. In this view it is strange that citizenship should have been considered for woman at all than that she has not been accorded an equal share. And stranger still, that the mind of Plato, marvelous as was its grasp, seeing about him an army of human slaves among men, should have conceived 2,500 years ago an ideal republic in which women should be citizens because mothers, for the sake of strengthening humanity. Or that 3,000 years ago the greatest law giver of the same nation, Lycurgus, should have made the Spartan women a part of the State, that they might be worthy and homogeneous companions of men. "Female slaves are good enough," were his notable words, "to sit at home spinning and weaving, but who can expect the appropriate mission and duty of Spartan women toward their country from mothers brought up in such occupations." Similarly at the height of Roman greatness were the duties of women expanded into a recognized citizenship; and the patriotism of a Volturnia, projecting her son into duty, and the courage of a Hortensia, resisting, on the part of tax-paying women, the war tax of the triumvirs, are but types and outposts of a future general status rooted in the needs of mankind. So in the rallying cry of the French Revolution, "Citizen, citizeness!"—that knell to the brave spirited Rolands who uttered it, was inspiration and light irradiating the pathway of all women, illuminating life with a wider understanding of its meaning for all time.

It is natural that under the impulse of a democracy, which Mr. Bryce says "cannot stop at defining men as male human beings," this nation first among modern governments should have decreed that women are citizens and by this construction shaped its legislation through national and state tribunals to the ends of their freedom and justice.

"O, Women of America! Be glad of all the gifts that crowd your hand," you who in the power of an honorary citizenship stand in civil privilege without a peer among the daughters of men; in the competitions of honorable distinction who have nothing denied; all intellectual heights open; and exceeding all, in economic freedom and independence not an industrial bar blocking the way;—privileged beyond the majority of men and beyond your own sex everywhere.

Again, coexistent with this expansion of woman's office has been growing a distincter idea of morality in government. As the highest ideal of a barbaric nation was enthroned in the victories of arms so the loftiest ideal now is that the nation, as the home, may be a Place of Peace for its citizens from border to border, where strife and disorder find nowhere an abode, and where good will and helpful comradeship satisfy the truer aspirations of the human heart. Such ideal has awakened responsive interest in the nation's womanhood, and roused in its manhood that sense of community of

human feeling not bordered by sex or limited by previous condition. Today no one looks out upon the conditions of our civil life without some measure of apprehension and anxiety. Immorality and corruption, public and private debauchery, disloyalty to the means that have given us civil life and growth, un-Americanism—have been sown like seeds of nettles amid the bloom of the nation's garden. Citizenship now calls to patriotism in its broadest and all-embracing sense, to morality and self-preservation, and in such service woman is not excluded.

Now, as privilege involves duty and responsibility reveals unfitness, it is vital that our compatriots rise to their power as citizens, and not merely ex-

plot, as petty usurpers, a dignity of whose magnitude they have no conception and for whose needs they are without interest or capacity. Ruskin has said that within the human heart there is always set an instinct for all its real duties,—and it is hopeful to the race that when this enlarged duty has appealed to woman she has come forward to buckle the armor not over her own heart but over that of the man, in true knightly faith that only when she braces it loosely will the honor of manhood fail. Every right-minded, right-hearted woman is today an exponent of this faith and idea; every organization of such women its realization; every federation of such organizations a promise and prophecy. Nay, this is not a "new woman fad," nor these new women, as lightly and reproachfully characterized. Do you ask what it portends to a nation when one-half of it—and that half its motherhood—rises from apathy to interest, from inactivity to influence, from minor to factor in the affairs of state? Certainly not ill. It could be only ill in our failure to readjust this power to healthful relationship, to take it seriously and apply it usefully. Our quarrel must be with new conditions. The "New Woman" is only new numerically, because today, not here and there one, but the whole plane of womanhood has been lifted up, and in the destiny of the nation a new factor projected, for good not ill, for peace not contest, for purity and order and comfort in that extended household of our common nation.

The women who must toil and battle for bread finds herself forced beyond the precincts of home in gainful quest, with a new set of conditions to face. The woman who must pay taxes on savings and capital, and bear her pro rata burden of public improvement, finds herself projected against municipal interests, and on into those of the state. The woman who alone, or as wife-companion, finds her own or family prosperity dependent on national welfare irresistibly seeks knowledge of the issues involved in such welfare,—of tariff, finance, international relations,—she may even read "Coin up to Date" and "Coin's Financial Fool."

The closer personal interests will appeal to her—this priestess of the hearth—most vitally always, in the fidelity to nature that cannot be thwarted; for "though you expel nature with a club she will always return." But, if in her care-taking of her own sons and daughters, she is prompted to evolve improved ideas of sanitation, hygiene, education, will man or the nation be the loser? If in obedience to that law of higher impulse implanted equally in women and men, she seeks fitter companionship at her husband's side, and larger human comradeship that shall embrace calamity and suffering abroad, will man or nation suffer? Kant in his philosophy has said that men and women constitute the whole and entire being, one sex completing the other. So let us study the deeper resources of our own dual nature, and fear not if the stainless sceptre of womanhood be directed—not in plying at precedence in society while human hearts in the shadow outside are anguished and human minds warped,—like Nero fiddling while Rome burned,—but in the masterful cause of home and humanity, my private household and its interest, and yours, and the nation's, indissoluble in one common interest and life.

"Then comes the stately Eden back to men, Then reign the world's great brides chaste and calm, Then springs the crowning race of human-kind."

Mrs. Lindon W. Bates of Chicago, spoke on "The Place of the Club Movement in Economic Evolution."

That Mrs. Bates is a student in soci-

ology was in evidence in her paper, whose arguments were knit together with the logic of economics, and her thought was vibrant with the music of humanity. The following is an outline of the thoughts upon which Mrs. Bates enlarged:

"The concept of evolution has made an epoch in modern thought. The labors of such men as Darwin, Spencer, Fiske, Drummond and Kidd have shown us our relation to the prehistoric past, and the centuries of effort by which every smallest gain has been wrested. We know now that our speech and our characters have been an evolution, and that they embody the cumulative lives of all that have gone before. Those long prehistoric ages developed the germs of type in man and also in woman. The criticism that fears woman's unsexing by any modern changes loses sight of this evolutionary basis of type. Her conditions developed in woman preeminently the altruistic attributes. In the home, in society, and in the church, her work has been primarily for others. Under all civilization her ethics and altruistic temperament have been acknowledged, but heretofore her efforts have been largely ineffectual by her want of educational advantages. Our age which is the product of invention, is one of new forces and new goals. In most of man's relations the basis of altruism has been established, but industrially, individualism is still the dominant force. The economic conflict of our times is the struggle to secure for it also the higher basis. For safe guidance in the conflict we have but one adequate agent, public opinion. It is in shaping and directing public opinion to the lines of woman's ethics and altruism that the work of our clubs must be done. The large organizations of women have all been formed in the lines of these principles, the Temperance Unions, King's Daughter's, Christian Associations and others. The federation has added to this a powerful element in its alliance with literature and art. The things in all civilizations which have greatest vitality and endurance are those of literature and art, because these embody spiritual forces which alone have the possibility of survival. The mission of the federated

clubs is one of the highest and most abiding service."

Mrs. Bates is gifted with a voice of unusual richness which expresses the sincerity of her personality and gives a rare charm to her spoken word.

In conclusion Mrs. Bates said: "The things of sense and the things of matter mask as they will carry in their very nature the doom of the transitory. For granite as for flesh this law of the clay prevails; for spirit alone is their hereafter."

"Poetry and art are the golden links that span all times and spaces. In science, in religion, in philosophy we are Sundered hopelessly by the arc of 2,000 years but the poet and the sculptor survive the ruins of empires for their work is wrought of the imperishable, the spirit of beauty and of truth. Literature is the guardian of principles, those spiritual faces that inspire the race's progress, and in a people's ideals lie all its possibilities. Our age has grown to ideals such as humanity has never before cherished. To our age it has been given to ring the knell of class and in our 'We, the people,' to summon the highest reformer of time. To us first has been given the thought to accept that dream, the oneness of humanity, the brotherhood of mankind."

"From greatest to least, our ethics are linking men together, one in their common needs, one in their common rights, and one in their common duty. With the goal clearly discerned to which our kind is destined, with a com-



prehension of the forces which must direct man in his struggle to it we appreciate our place in the economic order and we realize the ministry of service to which our women's clubs are pledged."

Mrs. Henrotin spoke very philosophically on the Social Aspects of Life. Mrs. Henrotin has the charm of a personality which fascinates with its old world grace and inspires with its comprehensive thought.

The function of society is greatly underestimated. In truth to be a member of society is what men and women strive for, spend their money for, yet to be a member of society without sacrificing individuality through a vain striving to become a leader in a false social world, necessitates an intimacy with the meaning of social life which can only be attained through culture, and a refined appreciation of pleasure which is born of an unselfish desire to share in the common life. The philosophy of life is incomplete which excludes pleasure; that peculiar delight which is known in the soul when one realizes that there is within the great social and intellectual forces of the world a new life which it is possible to crystallize into an ideal. Therefore that side of education is essential which trains a man to rightfully use the social relationships in this modern civilization; for affrighted by the forces of nature that he himself has put in motion, such as steam, electricity, etc., and also at the rush of intellectual ideas, he flies from solitude into the company of his fellow men, feeling that by co-operation with them will he be able to use the great material and intellectual forces of the world. This feeling is the root of the dissatisfaction of the modern man and woman in country towns. In a small community, they are in a measure cut off from their fellows, not in the vanguard of thought, and therefore lose the great charm of existence, which is

after all, to be in sympathy with the life and thought of one's own times. A Frenchman has said, "The man whose sympathy goes highest and lowest, is the man whom kings fear," and the modern man is above all a strong, militant and eager soul, he emphatically needs the refinements, and also to have imposed upon him the restraints which society exerts over such individuals.

The young especially feel the need of companionship; and a solitary child develops idiosyncracies and eccentricities. The wisest educators are recognizing this need for the constant activity of social instincts, and the kindergarten with its plays is training children to exercise the social virtues. In large cities play grounds are being set aside for the children. Hull House in Chicago has recently received a gift of half a block of land which the members of Hull House take charge of, and which is the only breathing place for the little ones of that locality. Last May, Hull House gave a May party, and flowers and bright flags were sent from all the outlying country towns; and this little square in the poor part of the city, filled with the children excitedly playing May day, was not only a pathetic but a suggestive sight.

It is claimed that education aims to fit man for social life. This is only partly true. The Anglo-Saxon idea of education was rather to cultivate the intellect, and in many cases while it was not the intention, the result was to place a cultured, well educated man out of sympathy, rather than in sympathy with his kind. The higher education was regarded as a distinction which entitles him to special regard from his fellow men. There never was a greater mistake. Any education which is self-centered, and is not in form to be easily passed on to another, fails to fulfill the

highest ideal. The new order which is so rapidly being inaugurated, clearly demonstrates the fact that education in the past has greatly ignored the social instincts, for it has limited sympathy, and created a class feeling. When the English public school system was inaugurated, the old Duke of York was invited to present the first prizes, and in his presentation speech he made the discriminating remark: "With these prizes I confer the power which abolishes princes," meaning thereby that knowledge used for mankind and progress, was the most mighty power of the universe, and destined in the future to revolutionize all government and conquer society. To reflect on the education which a man received fifty years ago, it can truly be said that the only valuable thing about it was that it taught him to read, write and spell, and a very little Latin. Its aim appeared to be to turn the attention of man from the beauties of the world about him, and from the pleasures of an intellectual life and social relationship, to the most detailed and useless information. In no time have the classes been so socially out of touch, as they are in a country like this given over to industrial pursuits.

On our national holidays, when the people take possession of a city, fashionable people who more or less exist as a social factor, remain at home; and in many cities it is not considered "the thing" to even take a walk on Sunday and the absence of handsome private carriages in the park on popular days, such as Saturday and Sunday, is very marked.

On the Fourth of July, the city is deserted. The rich fly to their country homes or some remote village, and remain unseen for the day. The poorer people go to the outskirts of the city and hold picnics, and those who remain at home make the day hideous by noise.

Nothing is more dreary than our Fourth, when compared with the national holidays of the French, with its gaiety, its color, its artistic arrangement of light—that nation is the only one which is solving the problem of social life for the people, because they recognize the necessity of recreation to maintain a healthy balance with work. Absolutely nothing was undertaken for the recreation of the people in America until about ten years ago, when the large cities began to realize the necessity of parks, and bands of music play during the summer once or twice a week.

Fortunately art and literature are being brought within the reach of all, and the impression is gaining ground that a community which has no national holidays, no pleasures in common, no celebrations in common, has failed in developing one of the most powerful factors in education. Our national life should not be without its holidays. Every city should have its natal day which should be devoted to considering the history, and the welfare of that city; certainly the men who founded it have much in their lives that would be of interest to those who are destined to carry on their work. Almost every city has interesting events connected with it, which if celebrated would entertain the citizens, and give them a feeling of having a part in the common life.

Society is greatly misunderstood because people are laboring under an erroneous impression of its meaning. The "four hundred" about whom so much is said may be dismissed. They are a passing bauble on the waves of time. The prevailing ideas of social life, that of gaiety and pleasure seeking, the wearing of fine apparel, etc., is but a mere form, and no more a part of social life, than one's appearance is of his inner being. Little by little the personality of man and woman, which has

so often been a drawback to the advancement of both, is fading into a common unity of spirit in which both become the ideal. Society is really the companionship of intelligent men and women who enjoy literature, the arts, as conversation, dancing, music, the theatre, etc., and by their presence they encourage and elevate all assemblies, and thus fulfill one of the greatest functions of social life. Society has a great and ever increasing role to play in developing education. It should be able to point out the right use of art and luxury, and also the right enjoyment of the individual independence of either of these. It should introduce new phases of amusement, and above all give of its surplus pleasure for those who have not.

It should enforce the necessity of the differentiation of the friendly and social relationships, those relationships

which are above all our dearest possessions, our highest good as husband and wife, mother and father, brother and sister, and friend to friend.

When friendship becomes as sacred to the individual as a fine painting to the artist and any blemish upon it or injury done to it as much a thing to be dreaded as the defacement of a masterpiece which represents life work, then will friendship uplift all social life into the realm of art. Modern social life should formulate a progressive science of ethics and see to it that the morality of society conforms to its ethics. Society conducted along these lines will be capable of creating a new world. This industrial civilization works too hard, and it even takes its holidays sadly and separately, and this is a great element of weakness in a democratic country which must be one of joy as well as one in sorrow.

The deplorable neglect of the charm of personality is another weakness of democracy. It is true in a republic it is the average which rules, but why should not the average define a higher civilization, rather than that of poor quality with rough manners. Gradually with the reviving of physical beauty and perfection, has arisen an appreciation of good manners; a word kindly spoken, a pleasant smile go far toward propitiating the adverse forces of life, and in this age of machinery every effort should be made to keep men from becoming themselves machines; and here, I think comes in the gracious mission of women. The higher education is essential for her, but why ignore the cultivation of manners and sentiment.

Lately several books have been written which I might say are an index to the slight feeling of protest against any system of education which should make a woman sharp, arbitrary, unpleasant in manner or untidy in dress. Women make social life, and the woman's club is a powerful factor in modern progress. About thirty years ago the woman's club movement was inaugurated in the United States. It had its rise in the sentiment favoring organized effort which at this time was taking possession of the civilized world. Clubs were rapidly organized all over the union, and most of them of a literary character; and this tendency of the clubs was a wise one, as it was easier to unite women of different denominations and various social sets on an intellectual basis, than upon any other, and here might be noted the fact that, the woman's idea of a club is entirely different from a man's conception; the woman thinks of her club as of purely educational value, and not at all as a place in which centers any of the creature comforts, which is entirely in contradistinction to the man's idea of a club. The woman's club is an inspiration. The man's club a place of repose.

The aim of a woman's club is to create a solidarity of feeling among woman,

upon the basis of a common interest; to further literary culture, to encourage education, to cultivate art, to investigate science, to study social questions, and last but not least to prove that a "fine social life" is the end and result of the best civilization.

Each day the feeling of responsibility toward the welfare of the community at large is developing in the woman's club, and there is a tremendous power in the social aspect of club life, which if not abused will be a greater influence in uniting human interests, than can be realized at the present day. The root of dissatisfaction in modern society is due to the inadequacy and narrowness of our so called social life; we incline too much toward the old order of life that Plutarch tells about in which it was customary for the oldest man in the company to say to each as they came in: "Look ye, sir, not a word said in company must go out this door, and withal be pointed to it."

Whereas it should be the object of modern society to see that all that is worthy of discussion is immediately carried out and circulated, otherwise social life will become stultified. Many errors in our social life have arisen from a limited education, a lack of sympathy in the interests of others. It is a noticeable fact that artists, painters, sculptors, and musicians, seek society among themselves, ever renewing the truth of the old adage that "birds of a feather flock together," but how much greater enjoyment would they derive from a larger communion in which they might lend their arts and themselves to one another for mutual helpfulness.

Look upon the flowers of the field, they turn not from the sun and hide themselves from the great light that gives them life. The lily and the rose, the sunflower and the thistle, gratefully receive nature's punishment and in return lend their peculiar beauty to adorn her mantle. And are the flowers not an expression of the same life that we enjoy. And does not the human soul breathe out its spirit as the flower its perfume. Each has her place in which the perfume of her spirit will not be wasted, but lifted on the wings and mingled with that essence of divinity that comes not alone from the flowers but radiates from every human soul.

Mrs. Berryhill, who has been so graceful during the biennial, was never more so than in her kind words of leave-taking of the federation in her official capacity. Mrs. Howe, the new president, comes to her position by right of her service and of her high abilities. In her brief speech of acceptance she modestly said that she considered that her election was meant more as an honor to the Marshalltown club than to herself. She said that it was a great undertaking to follow in the footsteps of Mrs. Berryhill, and she hoped at the next biennial the banner of the federation would still be wreathed in progress and prosperity. Mrs. Whitaker, on behalf of the federation, offered resolutions of thanks to Mrs. Berryhill for her services and assured her that their affection followed her into private life.

The following musical numbers were received with enthusiasm by the audience: Trio and quartet, "Lift Thine Eyes," "He Watching Over Israel," Mendelssohn; Mrs. T. A. Wilcox, Mrs. George Greene, Miss Helen Hall, W. B. Ross, George Greene. "Dreams," Anton Strelezki, Mrs. George Greene, being exquisitely rendered and Cedar Rapids was warmly congratulated upon contributing so artistically to the biennial. After Master Claude Saner's singing, Mrs. Berryhill said: "The thanks of the Iowa Federation are extended to the little boy for his sweet singing."



## THIS AFTERNOON.

TEN MINUTE TALKS BY SEVERAL WOMEN.

Miss Mary Rogers, Mrs. L. F. Parker, Miss King, Mrs. Alma D. Whitaker, Mrs. Windsor and Mrs. Thayer Discuss Pertinent Topics—The Last Session.

The session this afternoon heard several excellent ten-minute addresses from members of the convention. Miss May Rogers, the talented writer and enthusiastic club woman from Dubuque, considered "The Old and the New." Miss Rogers speaks without manuscript and presents her views in a most convincing manner. As she expresses it, she "strikes out from the shoulder." She has had a varied experience in woman's club and literary work, and is one of the well-known and influential women of the convention.

Mrs. Charlotte B. Tisdale of Ottumwa, followed with "Observations on the Case." She spoke of the new woman and the work that is before her. The progressive woman is a fact and a factor in American society and now has privileges and opportunities unprecedented. In the development of the new woman there must be a standard of excellence; they must know how best to study and approximate that standard and then follow the well-known maxim: "We learn to do and know by doing." To the mind of the speaker, women have no greater privileges than wifehood and motherhood; no richer jewels than those of Cornelia; no nobler life work than to direct and curb youthful minds and morals, and no greater crown of glory than to have her children rise up and call her blessed.

Mrs. Prof. Parker of Grinnell, had for her subject, "Wanted, the Strong Woman." She referred to the cares of housekeeping, and the higher duties of home keeping provided for the aesthetic and ethical influences, the training of children, the entertaining of friends, the claims of benevolence and the many other similar duties that draw upon the time and strength of women. Her power lies in the ability to influence, and her truest, highest excellence is moral. She needs then most of all a perfect conviction that the moral law is the one standard of right and wrong for every human being. She referred to the responsibilities of mothers in training their daughters who are now the teachers of our schools, placed in the most sacred trust. Strength of character to establish our daughters in truth, in honor, and in loyal citizenship is needed on the part of those who train our children, and the responsibility rests upon the mother who trains the daughter.

Miss King of Occ College, had the theme "Liberty and Limitation," and was inclusive of the broad freedom enjoyed by women in the present day, and also of the hindrances amid which some of her work was done. In the course of history woman had been enslaved by the Asiatic, dishonored by the Greek, degraded by the Roman, respected by the Teuton, foolishly flattered by the knights of chivalry, idealized by the poet, criticized by the historian, abjectly obeyed by those who had called her sovereign, loved by those who had called her mother, enthroned, worshipped—idolized by those who had called her Queen of Heaven. Today when free to choose her own pathway, she hesitated on account of the labyrinth of paths opening before her. When limitations seemed the greatest there was ever the presence of an over-ruling liberty, that could not be subdued. Even our bodily senses were all capable of being lifted above their sordid uses into types of the noblest sentiments.

The principle of Liberty and limitation reaches its highest application in the realm of the spiritual, but it had been most beautifully exemplified in the organization of so many ladies' clubs. But there were higher aims in literary study than simply the gaining of knowledge. History should teach lessons of wisdom for individual guidance; scientific research should bring into closer and more reverent union with the great laws governing all life; studies in art should lead to love of all loveliness and hate of all vileness; literature was incomplete unless it led to thoughtful loyalty to our own pure English speech. Miss King closed with a plea for a perfect womanhood as the goal of all woman's efforts.

Mrs. Harriet B. Winsor of Des Moines read an able paper on "No club liveth to itself." She spoke of the united effort that should exist among the clubs and how best to attain it. Her address was thoughtful and she gave to club work a broad, comprehensive consideration.

Mrs. Alma D. Whitaker of Marshalltown gave a bright address on "Simon Says." She referred to the "fads" of the period and in describing each indicated what Simon should say. Those that were improper she would say "thumbs down;" those that were harmless, "wiggle waggle;" and those that are to be approved she would indicate with "thumbs up." There are fads in literature, fads in pictures, fads in philanthropic work and in fact fads in everything, and Mrs. Whitaker's gave nearly all of them a turn.

Mrs. Jessie M. Thayer of Chariton, spoke of the "Village Improvement Club." She found in the country village the place where this had the widest opportunity. There it was the step between the farming country and the city. Populations are small, but the opportunities for filth and disease are abundant. She thought it possible for the country villages to have as beautiful lawns, as fine flowers and as elegant shade trees as the city and advocated the improvement club as a means for obtaining them. Along these lines she found a wide field for woman's best efforts.

Miss May Rogers of Dubuque, is not only a prominent club woman of Iowa, but is known as a representative woman in many parts of the union. Miss Rogers served, to the entire satisfaction of the members, several terms as president of the Dubuque Ladies' Literary association, during which time her great executive ability was agreeably manifested. She was state chairman of correspondence of the General Federation and is a member of the advisory board. Through her influence many clubs entered the Federation and Miss Rogers is now much interested in the Iowa Federation. She has gained considerable reputation as an after-dinner speaker, and at all times is able to speak extemporaneously with ease and eloquence. Besides her gift of speech Miss Rogers has also a facile pen and has written much of value in the way of book reviews, reports of clubs, essays and parlor lectures. Her Waverly Dictionary is an evidence of immense patience and most thorough research.

Among the women reporting the biennial is Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley of Des Moines who represents the Evening News and who will contribute an article on the federated clubs to the next number of the Midland Monthly. Mrs. Durley is a sister of John J. Hamilton, editor of the Des Moines News, and her husband is its business manager. She is a writer of much ability and a woman of fine attainments. She is a graduate of the State University and was a classmate of Mrs. Berryhill. They are members of the same club and during and since their college days have been warm personal friends.

## WOMEN OF IOWA MEET.

DAINTY DELEGATES CONFER.

May 9 1895  
First Biennial Session of the Iowa Federation of Woman's Clubs Opens at Cedar Rapids Under Very Favorable Auspices.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, May 8.—On the principle that the amount of enthusiasm put into an undertaking determines its success the first biennial meeting of the Iowa Federation of Woman's Clubs, now being held at Cedar Rapids, is a splendid achievement. Certainly the women believe in themselves and are full of enthusiasm in their own rallying. The leaves are not out on the trees nor the dandelions in the meadows in greater numbers, and every woman you see is gracious and almost every woman is graceful. So you can imagine that Cedar Rapids is a mighty pleasant place just now to tarry in.

It was 9 o'clock in the morning of the most beautiful day that even May could unpack from her budget that I entered the gloom of a little church, embowered in foliage and haunted by birds. There was a chatter within doors that kept pace with the chatter without, for the women who were assembling for the first session of the federation were not yet called to order. I found a seat away off to one side, and began to draw a few pen pictures. But first I put to myself the question: "What is this all about and what is it all for?" Seeing that I could not answer my own query I put it in the shape of a conundrum to a very bright and sprightly woman who occupied an adjacent chair.

"I'll tell you," said she, "if you'll let me tell you in the form of a story. A man of this town put the same question to his wife the other day. 'What in the name of common sense,' said he, 'are you women going to meet for? Have you any idea?' His wife replied: 'For the same reason that you bank directors meet—to promote business and cultivate good fellowship. We shall get acquainted in this way and be able to advance the uplifting of the sex better by knowing and studying each other's personality.' I wanted to ask if the sex wasn't in some danger of being lifted away out of sight as the result of too much uplifting, but, fearing it might be flippant, abstained.

## Dubuque's Dashing Representative.

The first woman on whom I drew my snap-shot was Miss May Rogers, of Dubuque. She is unique in that she is a club woman and yet a bohemian. She can be parliamentary and jolly at the same time, and each side of her nature is clear cut as the edge of a prism that reflects many colors. Miss Rogers is of the brunette type, and has a catching little brogue that makes her listener wild with the endeavor to place her nationality. "I'll wager my hat she's Irish," you say one minute, and the next you'd part with your last dollar in the belief that she's French. She scintillates with wit and repartee and dresses like a lady of fashion. If there were more women like her in clubs I for one should not object so strongly to joining them. Miss Rogers handed me a little book, which proved to be the constitution and by-laws of the Des Moines Women's Club, which answered my question as to the meaning of the federation as follows: "The object shall be to bring into communication with one another the various women's clubs throughout the state, that they may compare methods of work and become mutually helpful with them." I was obliged to be content, although like the buzz of a goblin bee still sounded within my brain the query: "But why leave home and children to promote all this? Why not put in the time at uplifting one's own sons and daughters instead of traveling a hundred miles and more to do the same service for strangers?"

Mrs. Ferguson J. Berryhill, of Des Moines, president of the federation, next took position before my mental camera. She is a beautiful woman of charming presence and manners which are very pleasing, although ever so little tinged with the stiffness that is inseparable from the ex-scholam'am. Mrs. Berryhill is one of Iowa's favorite daughters, and is held in the highest estimation of all. She is a natural leader, and handles a club of this sort as deftly as the great Hercules handled his. She delivered a long address in the course of the morning, which gave evidence of more than average ability. She dresses with taste and is very fine in etiquette, two requisites to popu-

larity in the latter day club.

## Many Talented Women Present.

Mrs. Dr. Mary W. Cogswell, of Cedar Rapids, is another woman whom Iowa delights to honor. She is no longer young, but I venture to say there never was a girl of 16 who carried more sunshine in her heart. She is a graduate of the New York Woman's College, but does not practice medicine at present. Her parlor lectures throughout the state have gained her a pleasant notoriety. Another charming delegate is Mrs. Ada C. Collier, who represents the Dubuque Woman's Literary Association. Her father was one of the pioneers of Iowa. Mrs. Collier is a poet, being well known as the author of "Lilith" and also as contributor to many magazines and journals. Mrs. Pauline J. Swalm represents woman in journalism. She is the only regular staff editor on a daily paper in Iowa. As associate editor of the Des Moines Register she is a potent factor in the politics of the times. It is said that Mrs. Swalm can do anything and everything connected with newspaper work and set type.

Mrs. Linden W. Bates, of Chicago, is a special attraction to all who are on the lookout for representative women. Her charming personality shines like a rose in a garden and overflows the atmosphere with an influence like perfume. She is not only an accomplished classical scholar, but a gracious and lovely woman as well, and, although a native of Illinois, fled in all right with the brilliant women of Iowa, who are glad to give her welcome.

## Is a Charming Entertainer.

Mrs. Benton W. Harger is another Dubuque woman whom everybody knows and is glad to see. She has all the culture which clings to traveled people and can entertain a roomful without a stereopticon, talking of her journeys in Egypt, Norway and the orient. Mrs. Helen M. Hawley is a woman from Manchester, who has been for twenty years identified with the literature of the state. The C. L. S. C., to which she belongs, has come to be called the "banner class of the world." It has met regularly for the past sixteen years. Ninety members have finished the prescribed four-year course and many are pursuing more thorough work at present along special lines. Mrs. Hawley is a fine-looking woman of strong personality and earnest address. Mrs. A. B. Howe, of Marshalltown, is one of the brightest women in the delegation. To her belongs the distinction of being the originator of the idea of state federation. Although a native of Vermont, she is claimed by Iowa as one of the most brilliant daughters of a proud foster-mother. Mrs. May Newberry Adams, of Dubuque, is president of the Conversational Club of that city, and is peculiarly fitted for that office by reason of her broad culture and generous education. She is an elderly woman, with a face as serene and sweet as a wheat field in the shining of an autumn sun. It is impossible to draw any more pictures of these blessed women without taking up the entire issue of THE TIMES-HERALD in the operation. It is enough to say that there never was a finer gathering than these distinguished wives and daughters, who represent the first biennial of the Iowa Federation. They are mostly women who have passed their first youth, but they are no more losers by that than a bud is when it becomes a flower.

## Many Clubs in the State.

Of their programme I shall speak in detail to-morrow. I find that there are ninety-eight clubs in Iowa, with a membership of 2,638 women. Only five of these clubs are named for women. They are the Marie Mitchell, the Marietta Holly, the Carey and two Isabella clubs. The Holly Club claims to promote writing for the press. Only paid writers on journals of established reputation are accepted as members. The club's motto is "Step by step." Its emblem is a cluster of holly berries. The motto of one rather unpretentious club on the list strikes me as a good one for individual adoption. It is as follows: "Be a light in the window if you can't be a star in the sky." The oldest club in the federation is the Conversational Club, of Dubuque, established in 1868. The largest club is the Dubuque Ladies' Literary Association, with 264 members. The smallest club is the Awakrisian Society, of Sioux City, with six members. The richest club is the Des Moines Woman's Club, with \$4,000 in the treasury. Of the doings of the federation I shall write to-morrow. AMBER.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., May 8.—[Special.]—Hundreds of strictly up-to-date club women and a solitary, somber-faced man, who looked as though he devoutly wished he had been born a woman, constituted the interested assemblage at the opening session of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs.



Gayly colored badges fluttered from innumerable lapels—the new woman has them, you know—and the lapels themselves were attached to spic and span spring gowns. Naturally, the first thing in order was for every woman to enthusiastically inform her nearest neighbor how “perfectly lovely” she looked, and such pet phrases as “you dear sweet thing” were not considered incompatible with the intellectual dignity of the Iowa new woman.

This animated converse, likened into a magpie medley, ended only when the State President, Mrs. James Berryhill, sounded the gavel, when these learned club women reluctantly turned their thoughts to less frivolous themes. The great woman's club movement, as especially illustrated at this biennial convention, is nothing if not educational. Ambitious women from the reading and the study class in the out-of-the-way hamlets met today with the progressive women from the social and literary departmental club of the larger cities. The village club woman, usually a struggling farmer's wife, has saved the necessary dollars from her chicken money to come to this gathering in order to satiate the irrepressible longing for something better in life than routine labor. At the same time the city-bred woman forgets selfish ideals in the happy thought that she, with her greater opportunities, may be able to add to the life of her less fortunate sister.

The chief difference, after all, between these two classes of club women is the size of sleeves. The country club woman possesses the abbreviated sleeves of old-fashioned cut; the city club woman wears the extreme mode. One in purpose and power, they meet on common ground, each finding in the other much too admire, to emulate, to thoroughly respect.

This kaleidoscopic picture of the personnel of the Iowa Federation evidences its great scope and progressive spirit. From the woman's club point of view probably no State in the West equals it in enthusiasm and influence. As a federation it is chiefly literary, which sentiment finds practical application in the formation of public libraries. Indeed this may be designated as its particular hobby.

#### Clubs and Their Members.

An interesting résumé of the club life of Iowa was given in a paper by that charming woman from Marshalltown, Mrs. Anna B. Howe. The mother of clubs is the Conversation club of Dubuque, organized in 1868, for the purpose of information. It is further notable as one of the first women's clubs of the country to have regular departments. The present President, Mrs. Mary Berry Adams, who was connected with the World's Fair Congresses, represents it at the convention. When the infectious federation idea reached Iowa twenty-seven of the clubs organized at Marshalltown, April, 1893. At this, the first biennial birthday, it numbers ninety-eight clubs. The Iowa federation places no limitations to its membership. From the Anakrisian Society of Sioux City, composed of six women, to the Departmental Ladies' Literary Association of Dubuque, with a membership of 250, it has a constituency of 2,638 progressive women, representing fifty towns. Dubuque, with its nine clubs, is the banner city in point of numbers. The Woman's club of Des Moines has an exchequer filled with \$4,000 to be devoted to an art gallery. On the other hand the Marshalltown Woman's club has the distinction of being the only club to have a building fund in anticipation of a home of its own.



## PROMINENT WOMEN.

SOME OF THE LADIES WHO ARE CEDAR RAPIDS' GUESTS.

Miss Bertha Damarias Knoke Tells of Them in the Chicago Tribune---The President, Secretary and Other Prominent Women---Iowa's "New Woman."

Miss Bertha Damarias Knoke, managing editor of the Woman's department of the Chicago Tribune, who is reporting the biennial, sent the following interesting report last night:

The new woman is about to besiege the city. In the guise of the Cosmopolitan club woman she is arriving on every train from the four corners of the state to talk "shop" for two whole days in the most approved fin de siècle fashion. By the morrow she will number in the neighborhood of four hundred enthusiasts of woman's work and

worth. This incoming of progressive womanhood is in honor of the first biennial gathering of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, to be auspiciously inaugurated in the morning under the direction of the president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin of Chicago.

Identified with this popular movement are brilliant women whom the state is proud to call its own. One of the most interesting is Mrs. James Berryhill of Des Moines, president of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. Attractive in appearance, gracious in bearing, a progressive thinker, and of charming personality, Mrs. Berryhill graces equally the home and the club. Rather she is pre-

eminently a home body, interest in club's work being aroused because social and literary intercourse of women seemed so essential. Before marriage to a well-known lawyer who has served two terms in the legislature Mrs. Berryhill received a diploma from the State University of Iowa City, afterward teaching a young ladies seminary at Pittsburg. By way of diversion she resorts to the

pen, interesting articles appearing from time to time in journals of the day.

The vice president of the Iowa Federation, Mrs. Mary W. Cogswell of Cedar Rapids, is an equally attractive woman. As a full fledged M. D., a graduate of the New York Woman's Hospital and college, she prefers to merge her professional personality in that of her husband, who practices in this city. Among club women she is known as an exceedingly bright woman, who gives parlor lectures throughout the state on literary topics. Philanthropy claims much of her time. Mrs. Cogswell enjoys society and her home is a favorite rendezvous.

Something About the Other Officers.

Mrs. Margaret E. Grigg of Clarence, recording secretary of the federation, is a woman of pleasant personality, who is interested first in home affairs, then club life. The corresponding secretary, Mrs. Anna Belknap Howe of Marshalltown is a young woman of imposing appearance, who first conceived the idea of Iowa forming a state federation. Maine had federated, but the movement was so new that the plan had not yet reached this state. Iowa was not only the second state to federate, but claims the added distinction of the first state to join the general federation. Mrs. Howe was originally a "down-easter," being a student of a Vermont academy. In the city of her adoption she has been instrumental in forming a library association, now

in successful operation. Her city claims her as a devotee, and in her artistic home she presides gracefully over innumerable functions. An ardent enthusiast in the smaller clubs of the villages, often with an entire membership of farmers' wives, is Mrs. Maria Weed of West Union, treasurer of the state federation. "You would be amazed to know the number of talented eastern women living on out-of-the-way farms," she said yesterday, "who are so limited in educational and social privileges. My heart goes out to them when they come to club meetings on butter money in old fashioned gowns." As a former Chicagoan Mrs. Weed is a graduate of Dearborn Seminary. She is not only a leading club woman but a

contributor to journals. In a forthcoming book, soon to be issued by a Chicago publisher, Mrs. Weed incorporates in a romance her ideal of woman's work. She advocates the introduction of club methods into church work if it would be more effective.

Almost Quakerish in her simplicity is the auditor of the federation, Mrs. Adeline M. Payne, an all-round newspaper woman of Nevada. She is a frail little body past middle age, who enters library and club life with youthful enthusiasm.

These women, as representatives of the prominent women who will participate in the convention, go to make up a composite photograph of the new woman of Iowa.

Not an extremist, she is a progressive enthusiast and altogether to be admired. The policy of the Iowa federation is yet to be determined. Organized two years ago, it now numbers ninety-eight clubs, to be represented at the biennial with two delegates each. A feature of tomorrow's program will be two-minute addresses by the presidents of these clubs. The social event of the convention is a reception to be given tomorrow evening to visiting club women by the Ladies' Literary club of this city.

They Tell in Bright Crisp Talk of Club Work and Literary Efforts---Brilliant Reception Last Evening at the Masonic Library---The Officers are Elected.

The first afternoon of the convention was devoted to addresses from club presidents. As so many clubs were represented each speaker was limited to two minutes and at the expiration of the time a bell was rung. Mrs. Berryhill was in the chair, presiding with a charming ease and calling upon delegates with a distinctness of utterance delightful to hear. The speakers in turn told of their club work, methods and ideas, and while the representatives differed greatly in appearance, thought and manner

showed that the lines of thought and study are much the same in all clubs. A course of study will be taken up at various periods by the different clubs, and in time all go over the same ground. The best part of these two-minute speeches was the opportunity to see so many women and to hear remarks from them revealing individuality of thought and character. Many

a bright spark of wit flashed, many neat phrases were turned and the warning bell shut off the end of trains of thought that the speakers wished to express and the listeners wanted to hear. It was an absolute necessity, however, to time each address, for out of ninety-nine clubs belonging to the federation only fourteen had failed of representation. Dubuque claims the oldest club in the state, the Conversational club, founded by Mrs. Mary Newbury Adams, and the largest club, the Dubuque Ladies' Literary association.

The hour of adjournment arrived before all the speeches had been made and the remainder were postponed until the morning session. Mrs. Berryhill read an invitation to the Federation to visit Coe college at any convenient day or hour.

Last Evening's Reception.

At the Masonic library last evening the reception given by the Ladies' Literary club to the delegates and visiting members of the Federation amounted to a crush. The club room, reception and hall were packed early and the great library hall was crowded with a brilliant array of distinguished, beautiful, commanding women. Mrs. Skinner, president of the entertaining club, stood at the head of the line of ladies receiving and in succession were Mrs. Berryhill, president of the Iowa Federation; Mrs. Henrotin, president of the General Federation; Mrs. Cogswell, vice president for Iowa; Mrs. Howe, the corresponding secretary; Mrs. Weed, the treasurer; Mrs. Bates of the Chicago Women's club and Miss Rogers of the Dubuque Ladies' Literary association. The ladies of the receiving party were beautifully gowned, and the entire assemblage was noticeable for its handsome toilets. Many were attired in full evening dress, and the many other light and elegant costumes contributed to the attractiveness of the occasion. Jenkin's orchestra, stationed in the gallery and screened by palms, played at frequent intervals. A few men, husbands of members of the Ladies' Literary, strayed around and it is supposed they enjoyed themselves, but every woman present was anxious to meet as many other women as possible. Conversation never flagged and numberless new friendships were begun and old ones strengthened. Lemonade was served

Miss Bertha Damarias Knoke

Mrs. W. T. Johnson

Mrs. R. P. Dart

Mrs. E. J. Beckman

Mrs. Mary Wheeler

Mrs. Cora B. Busby

Mrs. Ella Smyth

Mrs. Mary S. Scott

Mrs. C. E. Risser

Mrs. P. J. Miles

Mrs. B. F. Clayton

Mrs. T. R. Alexander

Mrs. Arie Shannon

Miss May Rogers

Mrs. L. C. Rawson

Mrs. L. J. Beckman

Mrs. Mary Wheeler

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Mrs. P. J. Miles

Mrs. B. F. Clayton

Mrs. T. R. Alexander

Mrs. Arie Shannon

Miss May Rogers

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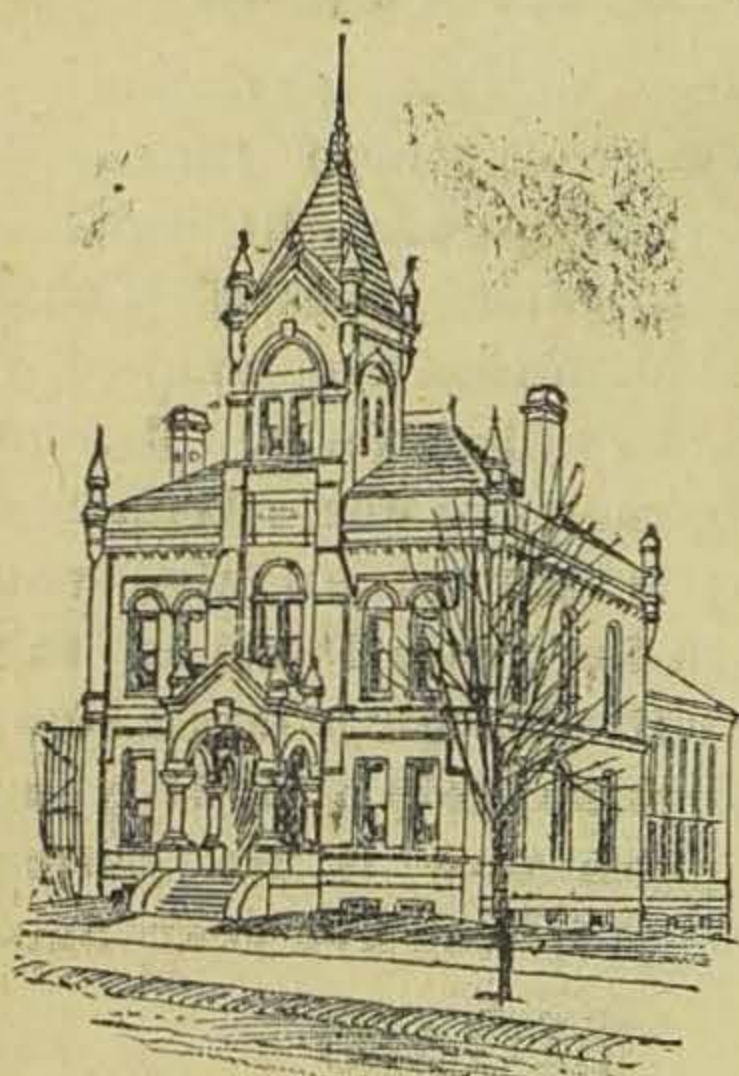
Mrs. P. J. Miles

Mrs. B. F. Clayton



throughout the evening in several places and guests were invited to the basement floor for refreshments. Here two rooms were furnished with rugs and chairs and decorated with ferns and flowers. Pink and white carnations were on the four corners of a table in the center of which stood a cut glass chandelabra with lighted candles.

The library was perhaps the most fitting place of any in which to receive so great a number of honored guests. Every nook and corner teems with interest and the hospitality of Grand Sec-



MASONIC LIBRARY BUILDING, CEDAR RAPIDS.

retary Parvin and his son is so cordial and has been so often extended to women's clubs and the library thrown open for their affairs that it seemed the natural place for the very enjoyable reception of last night.

#### A Tribute to Amber.

Amber, "the queen of Bohemia" as she is affectionately termed in Chicago, learned yesterday that she has many old friends and admirers in Cedar Rapids. At the reception last evening she was the greatest attraction, holding an unexpected court, and surrounded by women pressing toward her, all eager to pay tribute to the woman whose writings have endeared her to every reader.

Years ago the Chicago Evening Journal began to publish letters signed "Amber." Bright, breezy, and gay, they were a source of delight from week to week. The letter from Amber was anticipated, read as soon as it appeared, enjoyed and discussed. As time went on the letters became more than entertaining epistles. Those of her readers who were learning some of the hard lessons of life turned to Amber in hours of trial or discouragement and found comfort in her hopeful, cheery words. Every week she sent out a message that brightened gloom and increased faith, hope and charity. Whether consciously or not Amber had become one of the best of sermonizers, a regular weekly tonic, worth more than she can ever realize to her unknown friends who were struggling to be brave under crosses and losses. Men as often as women looked to Amber's wholesome paragraphs first to enjoy, then to appreciate, and finally for help and support. The letters were knit into their lives. The amusing, funny parts have been laughed over, the exquisite bits of word painting delighted in, tears shed in the pathetic places and all the kindly little "preachments" taken to heart and acted upon. About six years ago the readers of the Journal missed their usual supply of sunshine. Amber had disappeared from the columns she had so long adorned. A cry went up, where is she, that ray of light, our dear Amber?

She was not lost, but had taken up her pen to the Herald, and then her royal constituency followed her and today the sunshine which radiates from her golden heart and brilliant mind still sends its illuminating power to all who have for many days felt its magic influence.

Amber, who in private life is Mrs. Martha Everts Holden, began writing for the Chicago Evening Journal at the early age of eighteen. Two years later she was married, and after an interval resumed her pen. She continued to write her characteristic letters, usually original thoughts and musings, sometimes descriptions of travels for the Journal until she was transferred to the Herald six years ago. She is now on the staff of the Times-Herald and does editorial and reportorial work of a general nature, though she has not given up her "musings" which her friends care for most of all. For eleven years she has been the entire support of her family and the success which she has achieved is only the richly deserved merit of the noble woman who chose well in calling herself Amber.

#### Today's Session.

The executive session of the Federation was opened this morning at 10 o'clock. The lilies, lilacs, and palms embowering the rostrum were still attractively fresh in spite of the heat of yesterday. The officers, Mrs. Berryhill, Mrs. Cogswell, Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Weed and Mrs. Greig, took their places and the meeting was called to order by Mrs. Berryhill, who announced that a roll call would be first in order. Mrs. Greig called the names of the clubs in alphabetical order and delegates responded by stating the number of votes to which their clubs are entitled.

Mrs. Hutchinson was elected by acclamation as chairman of the nominating committee. Mrs. H. E. Jones of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Scott of Nevada, Mrs. Alice Fletcher of Marshalltown, Mrs. Carrie B. Hawley of Des Moines were made the other members of the committee.

While they retired to prepare tickets for the coming election of officers, the two-minute addresses postponed from yesterday were called for. Fourteen delegates reported and then a communication was read inviting the Federation to hold its next biennial in Dubuque and be the guest of the Dubuque Ladies' Literary association. The invitation was received and referred to the executive board. Mrs. Ada Langworthy Collier addressed the federation for a few moments, urging women to insist upon certain legislative measures. The nominating committee then reported that they would have been most happy to recognize the courtesy and fitness of their beloved president, Mrs. Berryhill, by nominating her for re-election, but in obedience to her express desire they refrained and therefore offered for candidates:

Mrs. Anna Belknap Howe of Marshalltown, president; Mrs. Mary Cogswell of Cedar Rapids, vice-president.

Mrs. W. H. Bailey of Des Moines, recording secretary.

Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer of Chariton, corresponding secretary.

Miss Mabel V. Dixon of Ottumwa, treasurer.

Mrs. Ada Langworthy Collier, auditor.

Mrs. Thayer declining office the committee was instructed to name another candidate. Mrs. Collier's resolution was then read, and discussed by Mrs. Mary Newbury Adams, Miss May Rogers of Dubuque and Mrs. Swisher of Iowa City. Committee then requested Mrs. Thayer to withdraw her declination, but with a few pleasant words she firmly declined again. Mrs. Thayer finally consented to serve, under extreme pressure.

The ballot was taken and the persons named on the ticket were elected.

A greeting full of fellowship from Jennie C. Croly, president of the New York Federation, was read by Mrs. Berryhill and received with applause.

The following resolutions, offered by Mrs. Thayer, were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this entire assembly be extended to the Ladies' Literary club of Cedar Rapids for their boundless hospitality and unceasing efforts to make the first biennial of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs a complete success.

Second, That we are especially indebted to Mrs. C. H. Cogswell, vice president of the I. F. W. C., and to Mrs. C. R. Skinner, president of the L. L. C. of Cedar Rapids, for their great efficiency in planning so successfully for the comfort, convenience and entertainment of their many guests.

Third, That to the chairmen of the various local committees, particularly to those in charge of the hospitality and credential committees, we are greatly indebted for their untiring labors in our behalf.

Fourth, That we are very grateful to the press of Cedar Rapids for the liberal manner in which they have reported the proceedings of the biennial, and to the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Herald, the Des Moines News, Marshalltown Statesman and other Iowa journals for the same courtesy.

## THE PARTING ECHOES

### STRAY SHOTS FROM THE ADJOURNED WOMEN'S MEETING.

Amber Writes of our Beautiful City and Its Accomplished Women---Mrs. Bemis Has a Word for Suffrage---The Women are Pleased With Cedar Rapids.

"Amber," who has so many friends in this city has over a column in this morning's Chicago Times-Herald about Cedar Rapids, its women and the biennial. Among other things she said:

"Cedar Rapids is a dream in green and gold. There never were such trees nor such shifting needles of sunshine in the branches reeling off aerial lace work. The residences are all of the good substantial sort that stand for comfort rather than show. It is universally conceded that there are more charming hostesses in Cedar Rapids than could be counted on a weaver's shuttle in sixty days. The home of Mrs. James C. Bever is one of the most delightful rallying places in town for artistic people---men and women who live for something outside the greed of gain and the behest of fashion. Situated far down the main street, the old homestead stands like a beacon light that has made a mistake in not locating itself upon a hill, but in a thousand ways seeks to make atonement. The grounds are full of trees that were nothing but saplings when Mrs. Bever came to her home many years ago, a girlish bride. Here she has lived and surrounded herself with the adornments that go so far to make home something more than a roof and encircling walls.

Mrs. H. E. Jones has no home of her own, but is one of the women of Cedar Rapids who has made a distinctive mark upon the town. She has a beautiful face, charming manner and a gift of story-telling which has materialized in two popular books. Her novel "Beatrice" is on the eve of publication, and is spoken of most highly by critics, an audience harder to suit than friends.

Mrs. Merchant, wife of the late editor of the Cedar Rapids Republican, is notable for many things, but for none more than for her sweet womanliness and beautiful personality. She is carrying on the business of publishing her husband's paper,

and is meeting with great success. She is rich in resources and has many ways of proving woman's equality with the other sex. Looking into her beautiful eyes reminded me of the story of "Litbotom's Grandmothers" under the bewitched spectacle test. In those eyes the boy saw a lake calm and deep and still, but catching the reflection of heaven and the changless stars within its depths.

Miss Mary Bradley is a plucky little newspaper woman of Cedar Rapids, who has identified herself by lots of first-class work with THE EVENING GAZETTE. She is bright and breezy and business-like, at the same time retaining the characteristic sweetness inseparable from roses and true woman.

Mrs. Lucia Gale Barber is another woman who entertains royally and for whom Cedar Rapids has a special love. She is a teacher of Delsarte and an admirable exponent of her own teaching.

Mrs. Maria Kilborne came here from Chicago, but has already taken deep root in the hearts of the people of Cedar Rapids, who appreciate a good thing when they get it whether it comes from heaven or Chicago.

Mrs. Dr. Skinner is the wife of a prominent physician who lives in a comfortable home remarkable chiefly for its beautiful grounds and fine old trees. Mrs. Skinner is a quiet woman of prepossessing address and delightful manner. She is president of the Ladies' Literary Club, one of the largest in the city, and is a woman whom all respect and love.

Miss Caroline Putnam, one of the most faithful attendants at the biennial, is already making her mark as a journalist. Although under 25, she is city editor of a weekly paper, one of the largest in the state, and her work commands wide attention both for its strength and its terseness. Miss Putnam is a very pretty girl, with a sweet face and feminine manners. Her ambition is already active to reach the top of her profession, and she will do it, too, inside of ten years.

Mrs. C. D. Van Vechten is president of the city federation of clubs. She is an affable woman, whose chief charm lies in her straightforwardness, genius and freedom from affection.

Mrs. S. H. Belt is one of the women represented at the federation whose personality can be comprehended in the word christian. She is an indefatigable church worker and an active philanthropist. Afflictions of her own have sweetened a spirit by nature most delicate and womanly.

A day might be spent in penciling personal sketches of women it were hard to match the breadth and length of the land over for charm of manner and whole-souled hospitality, but it must suffice for the pencil to say that this glimpse of Iowa women has given me an added pride in my sex and a larger belief in the future. You cannot improve much upon a wild strawberry, and yet evolution has given us a berry incomparable for flavor and sweetness, and so with women. You cannot ask anything better than the simple, old-fashioned type of Mayflower stock, perhaps, but when I looked around today and saw the broad-minded, deep-hearted women evolved by latter-day advantages, I could but thank God for their improvement brought about by judicious grafting on the original stock.

#### The Suffragists.

Miss Knobe says in the Tribune of the suffrage sentiment in Iowa:

The Iowa suffragist is no back number. To be sure, she is not blowing her bazoo at the biennial of the State Federation of Women's clubs because the General Federation has not espoused suffrage openly. Simply irrepressible, she is doing some tall taking on the sly just the same. She tells an interesting suffrage story of the past, and is nothing if not hopeful for the future.



# MANY COMPLIMENTS.

KIND WORDS BY A DES MOINES CLUB DELEGATE.

Mrs. Carter Tells Her Club Associates About Her Visit to Cedar Rapids---Hospitality of the Ladies Literary Club---Glances at the Convention.

Cedar Rapids has not had any gathering for many years that has advertised it so well and in such a pleasant, cordial and taking manner as the state federation of women's clubs. There was not such a large gathering as has often been here, but each woman carried her good will to her club and told all the other women what a beautiful city we have and in the hearts of thousands of women in Iowa there is the warmest feeling for Cedar Rapids. Among the reports made is the following from Mrs. Amanda Richmond Carter, which was read before the Des Moines Women's club, from which, however, is omitted, an able report of the routine of the convention. Mrs. Carter formerly lived in Cedar Rapids and naturally admires her old home.

## Kind Words Well Spoken.

There has been a time in the past when Cedar Rapids was wont to call herself the Chicago of Iowa. But since that phenomenally great and ambitious city extended her limits taking in a large section of the central west, she has been content to be known as a suburb. There is about Cedar Rapids an air, an indescribable something which is highly metropolitan. The little city is very beautiful, awfully hot, scrupulously clean and eminently aristocratic. Beautiful, yes! Broad avenues with wide parkings, handsome residences with well-conditioned lawns and abundant shade. "Amber," that queen of Bohemia, whom he have all learned to know and admire from her "musings," was with us, and her poetic soul found fitting expression, when in writing to her paper, she spoke of it as "A dream in green and gold." The thought being inspired by such foliage, such sunshine. Clean? The fuel of the poor is wood; and to eyes long accustomed to the grimy, gray linen of Des Moines, that of Cedar Rapids was positively dazzling in its whiteness. Hot! They don't like to admit it, but I think it's the hottest place outside the torrid zone.

Our hostess, the Ladies' Literary club, is a limited club of thirty-five members, with a long waiting list. The other six federated clubs of the city begged in vain to share the responsibility, labor and expense of the convention. Their proffers were not accepted, but they were generously allowed to help entertain the guests.

The task assumed by that noble body of thirty-five women was almost herculean. When they invited the federation, thirty-seven clubs belonged, when time came for entertaining, it numbered ninety-nine. As the number increased so rapidly the situation became quite appalling, but they resolved that they would be equal to the emergency, and the successful outcome proved that they had not over-estimated their ability—each committee, hospitality, credentials, transportation, printing and all others, performing its allotted work without apparent flaw or omission.

Forty-two towns sent delegates, and there were many visitors. Twenty-two members of this club attended, and we wished the other one hundred and sixty-one could have been there. All other interests seemed to yield to the convention, the papers called it "woman's week," and our reception was so warm and our welcome so cordial that all were made to feel that they deemed it not a duty or privilege alone, but a privilege to have us with them.

The sessions were held in the Congregational church, a cosy, artistic, stone chapel in a pretty and central location. Wednesday morning delegates presented their credentials to the proper committee in the church parlors, received the delegate's badge—it was blue satin, upon which was printed in silver the words:

"First biennial, Cedar Rapids 1895," and in a crescent were the initials: "I. F. W. C." Each, also, received a complete program of the biennial, and a pamphlet containing the name of every delegate, the town from which she came, the club she represented and the name and address of her hostess; also the names of the members of the club whose guests we were. Repairing to the audience room we found that a section of the auditorium had been designated for the delegates of every town represented—somewhat after the manner of political conventions—with the name of the town printed plainly upon the seats—making it very easy to find ourselves, our friends and even strangers. Des Moines was favored with one of the best locations.

The reception Wednesday evening was an elaborate affair. Handsomely lithographed invitations had been issued, limited to members of federated clubs. The evening was warm and there was something of a crush, but the L. L. C. had arranged well for the material comfort of its guests. The club has its

home in the beautiful Masonic library building, and it was fitting that the reception should be held among its treasures. Music and flowers added their pleasures. The president of the club, Mrs. Skinner; the officers of the state federation, Mesdames Henrotin and Windsor of the general federation; and charming Mrs. Bates, all handsomely gowned, made up the receiving party. The young ladies who attended in the supper room were, without exception, daughters of members of the club. Here we were given white satin badges with the club's monogram. The gentlemen present—there were a few—were all matrimonially connected with this club. One of the features of the reception was the presence of "Amber," who held an unexpected court, so anxious were all to meet and hear this genius whose writings they had enjoyed for years.

With the exception of the opening session, perhaps the next most enjoyable one was that of Thursday afternoon when seven ten-minute addresses were listened to. I wish I could have heard every word of them. One forgot all about the discomfort of the heat. Hear what "Amber" said of them: "They were superior to anything of the kind I have listened to outside of the efforts of men and women who rank with the best speakers of the country." Many Iowa women rank with the best and foremost.

Mrs. Berryhill, who had charmed all by her gracious and business-like manner, and who had managed and led the entire meeting with a master hand, was most graceful in taking leave of the federation in her official capacity, and introducing her successor. Mrs. Howe in her brief speech of acceptance modestly said that she considered her election was meant more as an honor to the Marshalltown club than to herself; she said that it was a great undertaking to follow in Mrs. Berryhill's footsteps, but hoped the next biennial would be wreathed in prosperity and success. Mrs. Whittaker, on behalf of the federation, offered resolutions of thanks to Mrs. Berryhill, and the first biennial had passed into history.

One of the most active members of the L. L. C., Mrs. W. W. Walker, has a daughter who is an honored member of this club—Mrs. Johnson Brigham. Des Moines came home with a good sized honor—the recording secretaryship. Private carriages were generously

the service of the guests. Many other women, representatives of the press, were in attendance, and one of the social features of Thursday, was a dinner to them, given by Mrs. James Bever, with "Amber" as the guest of honor.

Mrs. Cogswell, who had entertained the officers of the Federation all the week, extended an invitation to all the new officers to dine with them on Thursday evening. Another pleasant dinner party, on the same day, was given by Mrs. Dr. Smith, of A Avenue, her guests were all Des Moines ladies. Cedar Rapids, generally, seemed to feel that an honor had been bestowed in being privileged to entertain the biennial, but we did hear two little side growls. The hotel accommodations are good as far as they go, but limited, and the traveling men complained—not to us, of course—that Des Moines and Dubuque had crowded them out. The other came from the little elevator boy at the Grand, who said to one of our party near the end of the meeting, with the most appealing and pathetic expression, "When are you going home?"

I think I am loyal to Des Moines, I know I am to this club, but I don't believe we could have done it, so elaborately, so systematically, so perfectly, nor have scored the victory which they did.

I have failed to give you but the faintest conception of the pretty city, the untiring efforts of the Ladies' Literary club or the uplifting influence of that glorious meeting.



*Ladies Literary Club*

*At Home*

*Wednesday evening - May eighth,*

*Eighteen hundred and ninety five,*

*eight to ten,*

*Club Room - Masonic Library,*

*Cedar Rapids, Iowa.*





## OUR LADIES PRAISED.

Their Exhibit in the Woman's Building Creates a Sensation.

Aug. 1st 1893.  
IS REGARDED AS THE BEST.

Mrs. Bates Describes It in Jennie June's New Magazine.

"The Club Exhibit at Chicago" is the title of an article by Mrs. London W. Bates in the New Cycle, Jenny June's attractive magazine, which will be read by club women with a great deal of interest. It is of especial interest, however, to Des Moines readers, because the exhibit made by the Des Moines Women's club is the only one to which individual description is given. Mrs. Bates says:

From the wealth of material, one exhibit alone can be described in detail. This one is selected because it is the most complete, and therefore in its features inclusive of most others. It has besides a little history. The committee look upon the Des Moines Woman's club as its prodigal.

But, unlike its great archetype, our prodigal in seeking the dome brought along its own fatted calf. It occurred in this wise: When the clubs were invited to participate in the exposition, Des Moines declined. It did it gracefully, deferentially—the woman's club is a Chesterfield, but the vote was still a negative. There the club came up to federation day. It attended the congress, it went to the fair grounds, it visited the headquarters, it returned to Iowa. They heard nothing from it for over a month. There was a whisper abroad that the club was at work—that it was at work awfully. But we had no official report. One day two ladies came to the section. They presented their cards. We read on them the portentous Des Moines. Then they made announcement. They had come from the Woman's club; the Woman's club had reversed its vote; it would exhibit. Thereupon there was brought in a box; we opened it and oh, ye federated three hundred, how that club had come! We gave them an entire table—we would have given them the roof. Then we just stood off and exclaimed. We expended all the adjectives in our own language and added to them all the polyglot expletives we had picked up in the Plaisance, and still our opinion was, we felt, very inadequately expressed.

This exhibit had come to us, not in tissue paper, nor in pasteboard, nor yet in leather; it came in a massive case of special design, olive plush without, satin within. The case was partitioned into compartments, in each of which rested a ponderous volume, bound in kid. We lifted out the first. It was a book of printed matter, the addresses of members that had been delivered publicly or that had found expression through the press.

The second volume was in album form and held the memorabilia. Here was the club history; the photograph of each president with the corresponding year book set into the page opposite; the club stationery, and last, but not least, a certificate of club stock.

The third volume was of folio type and contained twenty-seven of the papers read before the society. Each had been prepared in permanent form, under the author's direction, and the artistic decorations carried out the theme and treatment with the rarest originality. These addresses ranged over a field of inquiry that swept from old pottery and violins to the silver question and schools of philosophy.

The fourth book had a sort of "be-your-leave-Boston" air about it; we took it up with respectful finger tips. It was the classic Sappho, embodied in Desmoines Hellenes, and it the Cothurnal ever pressed fairer feet than those which peep from under the pepla in these paragraphs—we will decapitate the photographer.

Lastly, largest in size, and to many first in interest, the volume of the Authors' Carnival. Every fictitious personage with whom one has even a bowing acquaintance seems out in his own proper person. Such a fascinating motley reunion! Between the covers here Bob Acres bob a nob with the vicar of Wake-

field. Sancho Panza sustains the somnolent form of Joe the fat boy, Sinbad smiles into the eyes of Minnehaha and Sam Weiler escaping the "widder;" Cleopatra pays her doubtful devours to Lydia Languish. It is a book that lives long in the memory, that is recalled with a smile of abiding pleasure.

Of a different quality in interest from all that has preceded are the tableaux of the Scandinavian classic. The impersonations of the Fridthjof Saga is quite beyond praise. The love of the peasant born hero for Ingeborg; her marriage to King Blot; the disguise and its betrayal; the inheritance; the final self conquest, every incident of the story lives in the dramatic portrayal, and one feels how eloquent silence can become. It is such splendid work as this entire exhibit of the Woman's club that challenges advance along all the lines of progress. The federation's warm hand of devotion to all Des Moines! Thou comest late but thou comest crowned.

### THE WOMEN'S CLUB EXHIBIT.

The Des Moines Women's club, whose membership embraces many of the most prominent women of the city, has prepared a splendid exhibit for the world's fair. To-day several members were busy getting it ready for shipment. The exhibit was brought to Abdill's store on Walnut street and there arranged by the enthusiastic ladies. It consists mainly of papers that have been read before the club, sketches, photographs, scrap book, addresses of officers, in all about forty distinct pieces and all are in the finest shape for showing at the great exhibition. Many of the papers are prepared most artistically, with the typewritten sheets encased in fancy heavy paper coverings or in leather, with a plentiful sprinkling of gold and colored letters, ribbons and cards. Among these are one by Mrs. F. A. Percival on Elizabeth Barrett Browning, one on "The Middle Kingdom" by Mrs. Stella B. Morse and decorated by Mrs. J. B. Weaver, Jr., Japanese bronzes by Mrs. Harry West and decorated by Will Chase, "Pottery and Porcelain" by Cora Bussey Hillis, also a study of Robert Browning; Mrs. Potter has a fine paper on Burano lace and old violins; Elizabeth K. Matthews one on "Modern Features of Education"; Mrs. Windsor, "Our Wonderland, a Summer Journey to Alaska"; Mrs. Bina M. Wyman has a paper on "Intellectual Development of America", and it has a leather cover. "Theosophy" is treated by Mrs. Stewart Goodrell; "French Paintings", by Mrs. C. E. Risser; "The Classic and Realistic Schools of Music", by Mrs. Lizzie A. Nourse; "Schools of Philosophy", by Mrs. Sabin; "Hawthorne", by Mrs. Stetson; "Iowa Writers", by Mrs. E. Hughes; "Pictured Windows", by Mrs. Bally; "The Revolutionary War", by Mrs. L. E. Andrews; "Judaism and Civilization", by Mrs. Frisbie; "Civil Science", by Mrs. D. H. Reichard. Then there are the inaugural addresses by Mrs. Ella H. Durley, Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, and others, dedicatory address in 1890 by Mrs. Winsor, also other addresses. Mrs. A. B. Billington's poems have a place and a fine scrap book of large proportion contains newspaper reports of meetings and events in the life of the club since its organization. Another book is the Memorabilia, roomy and heavily bound. It contains the archives of the club, from 1885 to 1893; also photos of its presidents, samples of club stationery, cards, ribbons, etc. A large book in morocco contains pictures of those who took part in entertainments, Sappho, the Authors' Carnival and others, elegant views and all pieces very interesting not only to the club but to every lady in Des Moines. The exhibits are in charge of Mrs. J. G. Day, the club librarian, Mrs. Durley, Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Windsor and Mrs. Morse. They have worked hard and secured a collection that for outward beauty and internal worth will eclipse everything of that kind at the world's fair. The exhibit will be placed in the organization room of the woman's building. All the articles will be put in large morocco cases for shipment and the whole packed in a drummer's box of black leather lined with purple plush. The Women's club exhibit will be sent this afternoon and every Des Moineer should see it when visiting the fair.

### SENT TO CHICAGO.

The Display of the Des Moines Woman's Club to Be Placed on Exhibition at the World's Fair.

The ladies of the Des Moines Woman's club were busy yesterday afternoon at the store of Mr. Abdill, getting their exhibit ready to send away last night to Chicago. A great many clubs throughout the country have exhibits at the fair, and the ladies of the Des Moines club thought they could not afford to be unrepresented. So some time since a committee consisting of Mrs. James Day, Mrs. P. B. Durley and Mrs. L. B. Abdill was appointed to take charge of the exhibit. It is through the untiring efforts of these ladies that the exhibit has been arranged in such a manner as to reflect the club great credit. We were informed by a person who has seen all the exhibits that the one which was sent by the ladies of Des Moines to Chicago last night is not excelled by the exhibit of any other club.

The display as seen yesterday consists of five large volumes, comprising a "Memorabilia," which contains a detailed history of the club, written by Mrs. Judge Day, and contains the programmes and records of each year since its organization, also a picture of each of the presidents; a volume containing an illustrated account of the carnival given in 1891 in the Exposition building; a volume, very much similar, containing an illustrated account of "Sappho," which the club presented at Foster's Opera House this spring; a folio of about thirty papers which have been read before the club by various members; a scrap book containing press notices of the club, which have been gleaned and arranged in very neat form. The exhibit is splendidly gotten up and is well worthy of praise. The papers are models and perhaps the most attractive feature.

The Des Moines Woman's Club was organized in this city in 1885 with about fifteen members. The club is now composed of about one hundred and twenty-five of Des Moines' most prominent women.

### THE WOMEN'S CLUB EXHIBIT.

The ladies of the Des Moines Woman's club have great cause for feeling proud of their exhibit at the World's Fair. As is evidenced by the letter printed below it is the finest of all the women's clubs exhibits and reflects great credit upon the ladies of the club in this city. The members of the committee who arranged the display should feel highly complimented at the following letter:

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS DEPARTMENT—Mrs. James G. Day—DEAR MADAME: Your very fine exhibit came safe and we are more than delighted to have such a fine exhibit from you. It is by far the finest here. You must feel very proud of it. I will take good care of it. Two of the ladies of your club were in the G. F. W. C. space when we unpacked it. I am now going to write a description of it to Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown. Yours truly, CHARLOTTE EMERSON.

Women's Building, World's Fair, Aug. 3, 1893.

## The Capital.

### THE WOMAN'S CLUB EXHIBIT

Display of the Work Done by Women in the Club During Its Eight Years' Existence.

The Various Papers, Portfolios, Etc., on Exhibition Today at the Abdill Art Store.

The exhibit of the Des Moines Woman's club which is to be sent to the world's fair tonight is one which can not fail to attract the attention of all who enter the organization room in the woman's building. Owing to the indomitable energy and perseverance of Mrs. James G. Day, a most splendid showing has been made. The exhibit consists of one bound volume and four portfolios, all of which present a most attractive appearance having been gotten up in the finest style. They are all of red morocco with gilt lettering. The first is the Memorabilia which is the special work of Mrs. James G. Day. This contains the history, calendars, tickets, badges and photographs of all of the presidents of the club. Among the portfolios may be mentioned the one containing about thirty of the various papers which have been read before the club during its eight years of existence. A number of these papers have been bound in the Japanese style with covers most beautifully and uniquely illuminated. Mrs. Potter's papers on "Burano Lace" and "Old Violins" are bound together and on the cover is painted a number of violins and a portion of one of the Burano designs. Another very unique one is the little booklet containing the poems, "Mosaics" and "Dante," by Mrs. Addie B. Billington, the cover of which is suggestively illustrated. Miss Elizabeth K. Matthews' paper on "Modern Features of Education" is presented in a very neat way and contains a picture of the author. Others which are illuminated are "Japanese Bronzes" by Mrs. Harry West, "Our Wonderland" and "A Summer Tour" by Mrs. James Windsor, "The Middle Kingdom" by Mrs. Stella B. Morse, "The Silver Question" by Miss Marion Watrous, "Elizabeth Barrett Browning," by Mrs. F. A. Percival, and "Pottery and Porcelain," by Mrs. Cora Bussey Hillis. The other portfolios are: The "Scrap Book," which contains all the newspaper notices; "The Authors' Carnival," illustrated by twenty-nine photographs, and "Sappho," which contains photographs of the different characters in the play of that name which was given recently by the members of the club. The object of the club in making this display of photographs is that it has seemed to the members to be a step in the direction of the end which they wish to attain and which is to start an art gallery in Des Moines.



The Federated Clubs in the Organization room are displaying with pride the exhibit sent by the Women's Club of Des Moines. So fine a display merits the attention which it receives. Miss Emerson, the niece of Mrs. Charlotte Emerson-Brown, the president of the federation, who is in charge of the federation exhibits, considers this the finest one in the room, and called attention to the different artistic details, and then carefully replaced the books and papers in their respective compartments. The committee from the club, which prepared this exhibit, surely merits the gratitude of the members, and we will hope that for once conscientious labor for others will receive the reward which it deserves.

whom she loved and admired. The reasons for his choice of a career, she gave in his own language—"Not wishing, as a physician, to live by the diseases of humanity," he wrote, "nor as a minister by its sins, nor as a lawyer by its quarrels, I do not see that there is anything left but to be an author." Mrs. Stetson was followed by Mrs. Hubbard with an account of the Hawthorne family, Miss Hughs on the Brook Farm episode, while Mrs. McCord and Mrs. Henry Wallace spoke on different points relating to the main topic.

The verdict at the close of the exercises was worthy of a woman's club, being strictly exclamatory—"What a beautiful day!"

*Oct. 29, 1892.*  
**THE WOMEN'S CLUB.**  
A combination of reasons and circumstances are tending to increase the interest in this enterprising association by those outside the club as well as among its members.

The knowledge that women are admitted to the semi-monthly meetings by the payment of a nominal entrance fee at the door is causing an influx of visitors, who listen appreciatively to the literary programme always provided.

Last Wednesday's meeting in the Central Christian church was no exception in points of interest. The current topics leading the programme, according to the usual order of business, was conducted by Mrs. R. R. Peters, who presented Mrs. Bina Wyman, Mrs. Hepburn-Thummel and Mrs. Ella Durley, able coadjutors in the work of instruction and entertainment.

Mrs. Wyman read a short paper, descriptive of the world's fair buildings, noting those built upon the models of ancient temples or other historic edifices. The arts and manufactures' building was dwelt upon with a view to impressing its gigantic size upon the mind; covering an area of forty acres, it was likened to a good-sized farm. Brief mention was also made of various interesting exhibits from the different states.

Mrs. Thummel talked upon the Gladstone cabinet and the issues which would come before it, with a thorough appreciation of the difficulties in its path.

Mrs. Durley gave a spirited recital of the efforts with the world's fair authorities, culminating with the Iowa commission and its success, to obtain grounds for a display, in growing plants, of the city of Des Moines. The ground about the Iowa building was given, and on this, under the efficient supervision of Mr. J. A. Jackson, will be a map of Des Moines, even to the streams and bridges, in plants and flowers. More than the allotted fifteen minutes was consumed in the animated presentation of the current topics, the club having courteously extended the time for discussion.

Mrs. Alice Baily, chairman of the literature committee, presented Mrs. H. L. Stetson, who read a fine paper upon Nathaniel Hawthorne. Mrs. Stetson announced her subject as of her own choosing, and treated it in a most delightful manner as the biography of an author



## WOMEN'S CLUB BEGINS WORK

First Meeting of the Season of the Des Moines Women's Club.

An Able Inaugural Address by the New President, Mrs. E. R. Clapp.

She Presents Some Ideas on the Advancement of Woman—A Very Large Attendance and Bright Prospects for the Year.

### WOMEN WHO THINK.

The Des Moines Women's Club held its first meeting yesterday in the parlors of the Christian church. The meeting was one of the largest ever held by the club, for over 100 of the 126 members were present. This was a most encouraging opening of the year's work and a fine compliment to the new president, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, for it was to hear her inaugural address that the ladies came, as well as on account of their new enthusiasm. There were, besides the regular members, about thirty visitors present.

The secretary, Mrs. E. H. Carter, made her report, which showed that during the year 1892-3 the club had gained thirty members and had now 126. It had twenty meetings last year, sixteen of which were literary, two social, one business and the annual meeting. The average attendance was 53, the best being 94, when Miss Watrous read her paper on the silver question. Mrs. Berryhill, the retiring president, opened the meeting and introduced Mrs. Clapp, the new president, in her own eloquent and charming manner.

### The President's Address.

Mrs. Clapp began her paper by referring to the Women's congress last May in Chicago. Every subject, from housekeeping to astronomy, everything that woman is interested in was treated of. She was attendant at the congress and spoke from personal knowledge. She paid a high tribute to Mrs. Henrotin and Mrs. Palmer. The work that Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Susan B. Anthony and others had done for woman during the last forty years made this congress possible. Twenty-six different nations were represented in this congress. Mrs. Miller, of England, had said in the congress, in comparing the condition of women in the United States and England, that there they were allowed in the medical profession only, but had more legal rights. She had expressed admiration for the progressive spirit of American women, and said this congress was an expression of it.

The condition of women in Bohemia was interesting. There women received the same pay for doing the same work as men, notably in telegraphing.

In journalism, the speaker said, women had come to stay. In Japan they had been excluded by law from journalism because they were getting in the way of men. One of the monthly periodicals in Switzerland has a supplement edited by women and devoted to their interests. Mrs. Clapp spoke of the number of

bright women who had taken part in the press congress at Chicago and the universally expressed opinion that their influence had been good, that they had enlarged the scope of the newspaper and made it purer.

In Scotland women had a hard struggle to get into the medical profession, but at last had been successful, and now the medical schools received them.

In Finland everything is open to women, and they engage in all kinds of business.

It was the speaker's opinion that if the men would talk business to their wives and let them become informed, there would be less financial trouble. Now the women do not understand their husbands' business. They were capable of understanding, and if they were only given a fair chance they would never be extravagant. Women are not so much inclined to extravagance as men if they know how much they have to go on.

In speaking of women as rulers, she referred to Victoria and Elizabeth, of England, and Katherine II, of Russia, comparing them to the present emperor of Germany, the four English Georges and the present Prince of Wales. The comparison was very much to the credit of the women.

Taking up the wages question, she spoke of a house in Chicago that proposed to reduce the wages of the unmarried persons of both sexes and increase the wages of the married men. But they discovered that the unmarried women had more dependant upon them than the married men, and the wages were not reduced. Women were not inclined to be idle, but it was a bad thing for so many women to be in business, keeping men idle. In Cincinnati there are 5,000 women supporting their husbands.

Coming to woman in the home she said that no one would question her place there. She urged women to keep young, to keep in touch with the young and thus hold their good influence. She objected to women doing useless fancy work that tried the eyes and nerves.

In the woman's building at the World's Fair she noted the absence of inventions, which she said was not fair, for women had been inventors. A woman in Queen Elizabeth's time invented starch; a Philadelphia woman was receiving many thousands of dollars royalty on a refrigerator.

In giving her views of the objects of the club she said it was to give the city an art collection. The club has now about \$3,300 on hand and it was time to begin to consider plans. The club ought to build a club house, and here the art collection should be exhibited. She was confident that there was enough talent and means in the club to build such a club house, and that it would be done.

Mrs. Clapp's paper, a few of the main points of which have been given, was a very strong one, occupying about thirty-five minutes in delivery and furnishing the members with much food for thought. Her strong faith in the advancement of woman and in her achievement of her rightful independence brought her the warmest approval of her audience and demonstrated that the club is to have a firm hand to guide it through the coming season's work, in

which there are such ample opportunities for the best efforts of all.

### Historian's Report.

Mrs. James G. Day, the historian gave a resume of the work of last year. She referred especially to the good work done by the social committee. She referred to the formation of the federation of clubs and gave a detailed description of the Des Moines women's exhibit in the Woman's building on the World's Fair grounds. She urged the establishment of a permanent home for the club.

### Future Meetings.

The Board of Directors of the club meets with the secretary, Mrs. E. H. Carter at 1431 Woodland avenue on next Wednesday at 3 p. m. Eight applications for membership will be acted upon.

The next regular meeting of the club will be on Oct. 11th, when the members of the art committee will each speak of some phase or department of art at the World's Fair. There will be no long paper, but it will be one of the most interesting meetings of the year.

## THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

Met at the Christian Church Yesterday Afternoon to Listen to Interesting Papers.

Miss Mary McClelland Sends a Fine Letter on "Student Life in Paris."

A very interesting meeting was that held by the Women's Club yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Scoville in charge of the current topics pleasantly introduced Mrs. Alice Ilgenfritz Jones, of Cedar Rapids. In response to a query from the ladies concerning the conception and completion of the book, "Unveiling the Parallel," of which Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Merchant are the authors, Mrs. Jones gave a very entertaining talk regarding the first thoughts which lead to the writing of the book. She also answered a number of the criticisms which have been made upon the book.

Miss Elizabeth Matthews in introducing the speakers of the afternoon, said: "I think it is Carlyle who said, 'Get work, get work, 'tis the best you work to get!' It must have been this motive which prompted Miss McClelland to desire to continue the study of the languages. In order to make herself more proficient, she went to Paris for the year, thinking, I'm sure, as Burke has so aptly put it, 'The method which approaches more nearly to the method of investigation is incomparably the best, since not content with reviving a few lifeless truths, it leads to the stalk on which they grew.'"

The paper prepared by Miss McMillan contains a few observations in regard to "Student Life in Paris." The paper was read by Dr. Ritchie. It treated mainly of the "Young American woman as a student abroad, her life, her work, pleasures, temptations, defeats and triumphs." She wrote extensively concerning the education of the native French girl, which, she says, "is very complicated." The constant watch and care over her is remarkable. Neuilly, a suburb of Paris, is celebrated for its private schools, one of which she described in her paper. "The place has two

mistresses—one French, the other English—and is beautifully situated near the Bois and not far from one of the Paris gates." These schools are

### Patronized by the Nobility.

The intensely interesting subject of the education of girls in convents she dwelt upon at length. Following are a few of the many interesting facts she gave concerning the life of the girls who attend the convents. "In the first place a girl loses some of her individuality when she dons the class garb of a convent, for it is customary in convents to dress in uniform, using the same material, and all dresses are made alike. In the Convent of Sainte Marie the material is black cashmere; very little trimming was permitted aside from the ribbon which indicated the class to which the young lady belonged. The hats were black felt with wide brim, and a large alsacian bow of black velvet. These hats were as much alike as peas from the same pod. Sixty of these were placed in a huge closet on shelves, each girl having a number; her number was pasted on the shelf, and her hat rested on this number." She described the shoes they wore on different occasions, and also led her hearers through the dormitories, into the school room, and the music rooms and told of the recreation hour. Then they are allowed to be quite natural, they play in the gardens, for the convent has two gardens separated by a large hall where the pupils dance and sometimes mount comedies and other plays quite acceptably. In choosing a school in Paris one must know precisely where to go. "American parents,

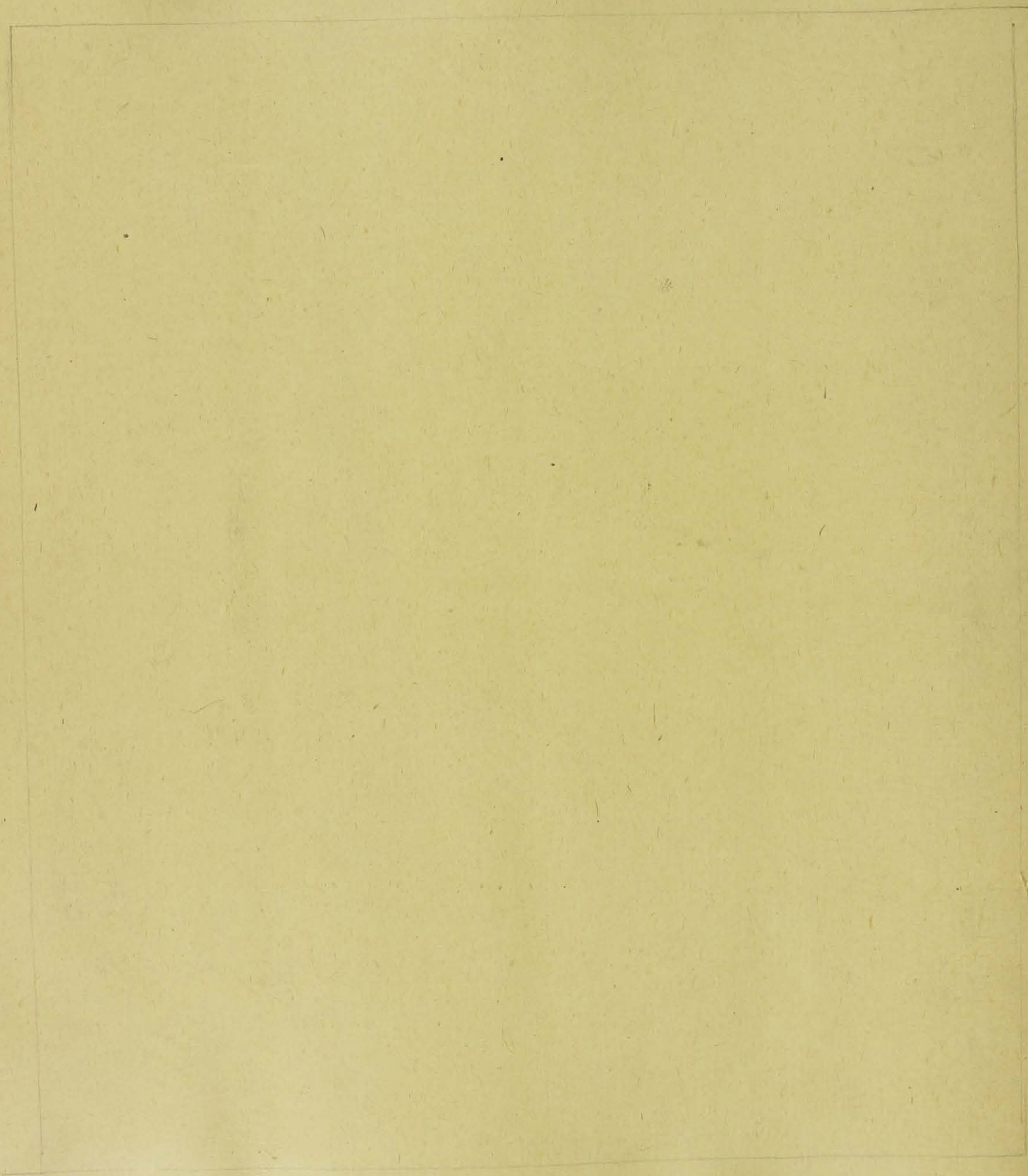
### Keep Your Daughters

with you unless you know exactly what you are sending them to in Paris."

The remainder of the paper was devoted to the study of art and the lives of the Paris art student; the art galleries; the club houses and the possibilities presented to the ambitious artist. She described minutely and very interestingly the American club house, which she says is very successful in Paris though not a year old yet. "I know there is not, cannot be a happier class of students in all Paris than the art students. Worshipers of nature, they see beauties that are hidden from our eyes. They live in a world that to us is scarcely tangible but to them very real; a world of outline and color, lights and shadows, harmonies and tints; a beautiful world and it is all their own to revel in and enjoy. To interpret all this, to grasp it, to transmit it to canvass is for them a supreme joy, and a lifetime seems all too short to accomplish what these enthusiasts would like to accomplish with palette and brush."

The committee presented other good papers. Mrs. Stetson discussed the question of co-education and Miss Elizabeth Matthews gave some splendid thoughts on the new science of "paidology," or science of the child.







## THE LADIES WROTE A STORY

Four Members of the Des Moines Women's Club Compose a Love Story.

It Was Read at the Meeting Yesterday and Pleased All Who Heard It.

Yesterday's Meeting of the Club Well Attended and Nine New Members Elected—Current Topics Discussed.

### A VENTURE IN FICTION.

A large attendance of the members of the Des Moines Women's club and thirty guests assembled in the parlors of the Christian church to hear the programme given yesterday afternoon.

The gavel fell at 3 o'clock, and it is worth noting that the list of late comers was noticeably decreased, there being but four to chronicle.

### Current Topics.

Current topics were in the hands of Mrs. Louis Ruttkay, and the first speaker was Mrs. Walker, who, following the precedent lately inaugurated, talked readily without notes.

Mrs. Walker spoke of the financial depression, of suitable literature for children, and a compilation of history, science art, and poetry in a form adapted to young and growing minds. Also of a book elucidating particularly the realistic and romantic schools of French art.

Mrs. W. A. Park followed with a clever paper on "The Short Story in Literature," citing the fact that it is the oldest form of composition. Interest centers in the fact that critics aver that material for "All's Well That Ends Well" was found in one of Boccaccio's stories in the "Decameron." Mrs. Park mentioned Irving as the inventor of the American short story, and named Poe, Hale, Kipling, James, Craddock, Cable and many others as among short story writers, and thought the world the better for their having lived.

Mrs. Howard Johnston, in writing of Kate Douglas Wiggin, alluded to periodicals for children and spoke of Mrs. Wiggin's first child's story, contributed to *St. Nicholas*, sent rather doubtfully, perhaps, yet bringing her the goodly sum of \$150 upon being accepted. Mrs. Johnston dwelt upon her work and the good she had accomplished for humanity in general and children in particular.

### A Composite Story.

Miss Louise Hughes, chairman of the literature committee, announced "A Composite Story," the joint production of four members of her committee. This story has been the subject of much curiosity, speculation and interest on the part of the club members, and it was read with such gratifying distinctness by Mrs. James G. Berryhill that not a word was lost. It proved to be a love story. Out of the struggle 'twixt ambition, selfishness and love there is evolved that important adjunct—a moral. Victory crowns love, ambition is led captive, and selfishness is slain. The heroine (an American girl who has gone abroad to study music) steps into the scene from a beautiful background, "amid a wealth of light and color," in the old world—

"Florence, fairest city in the world." Yet under the blue of the Italian sky, or in the shadow of the Plaza Vecchio and the Campanile, her heart yearns for a love that belongs, as she vainly tries to persuade herself, to the past. A secret unhappiness oppresses her which neither travel nor study can alleviate. She seeks consolation in the treasures of art in the Pitti palace and elsewhere in Florence; applies herself with renewed energy to that which is to become her life work—music—but fails to find happiness.

The second chapter introduces us to a pleasant family group in a western town of the new world, and its brightness contrasts favorably with the somewhat sombre beginning of the story. Uncle John, Edith, the grandmother and the irrepressible boy are familiar types. Their good-natured railery; sallies of wit; common sense on the woman question; with touches grave and gay, gave evidence, unmistakable evidence, as to the writer. Uncle John's bitterness but thinly veiled his real kindness, and we readily forgive him when we learn its true cause—that the girl he loves, on whom nature has bestowed her choicest gifts, has gone abroad, to pursue a career, instead of staying at home and devoting herself to him.

In chapter three Mr. Eugene White appears, meets the heroine, Miss Agnes Fitzhugh, and together they wander through dreamy, beautiful Florence. Musical like herself, their friendship becomes profitable as well as congenial, and on his part ripens into love. The question arises, can a wife be an ideal wife and go outside the home in her pursuits and avocations? He declares she can. Eugene proposes marriage and wishes her to accept a position in the company of musicians he has formed. She is elated and flattered, but thinks of John and hesitates—John, who in his deep and fervent yet withal selfish love for her opposed her public career. This was the rock that wrecked their happiness, for she was determined and he was proud and unyielding.

At this juncture John writes a letter asking forgiveness, and Agnes refuses Eugene.

In chapter four we find Agnes restless and discontented. John's manly letter has filled her with remorse. She decides that she has been in love with herself and finds that she must dethrone her idol. Her love for John is true, and the heart struggle she undergoes results in wisdom and light to her soul. She finds she can make the best of her gifts, ornament her home, and love John, too. They both find that the true idea of life is to make man's sphere and woman's sphere equal—that with "the manly man and womanly woman" love is intensified by trampling selfishness in the dust and merging their plans, hopes, tastes and ambitions in one grand endeavor.

The story ends saying that the papers which announced Agnes Fitzhugh's return gave a very broad hint of the wedding that was soon to take place.

The first chapter of this story is by Miss Louise Hughes, who wrote her chapter and passed it on to Mrs. James G. Day, who read the chapter already written, added her own, and passed both

to Mrs. Alice Baily, who after reading both chapters wrote the third one and sent all to Mrs. Secretary McFarland, who read the first three chapters and then wrote the concluding one.

The ladies in charge of the programme should feel honored by the close attention and interest given by all who were present. The afternoon was very successful and a pleasure to all.

Yesterday's programme was in charge of the literature committee, of which Miss Louise E. Hughes and Mrs. Addie B. Billington are the chairmen. The other members of the committee are Mesdames W. H. Baily, J. G. Berryhill, James G. Day, A. N. Denman, Frank W. Dodson, Howard A. Johnston, William Kennedy, W. M. McFarland, W. A. Park, Henry Sabin and J. L. Sooy.

It was moved and carried that resolutions of sympathy be sent to the women's club of Boston on the death of Lucy Stone, their beloved and honored member, by the Des Moines women's club.

### New Members.

The following named ladies were elected to membership in the club yesterday: Mrs. N. E. Coffin, Mrs. F. W. Benninger, Mrs. H. O. Breeden, Miss Olive McHenry, Mrs. Harry A. Elliott, Mrs. Robert Fullerton, Mrs. H. K. Love, Mrs. Ernest W. Brown and Mrs. N. B. Raymond.

### THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

It Discusses Women's Work at Some Length and From Various Standpoints.

"That queen of advertising agencies," the Woman's club, as one of its members called it yesterday, held a meeting yesterday afternoon at the Central Christian church and witnessed a very pleasing expose of the Swedish system of gymnastics by Mrs. Sherman. "While the system and its expounder are quite beyond criticism from an artistic standpoint, it is rather doubtful whether the interest of the club is sustained, not to say deepened by the frequent introduction of fads and their exponents, making it necessary at almost every meeting either to cut the original programme or extend the time," remarked the member.

The programme yesterday was in the hands of the committee on women's work and they patted each other on the back, metaphorically speaking, after the usual manner when that topic is to the fore. Seriously, there were several very interesting talks and papers given. Mrs. Edmundson paid a very high tribute to the Chicago Women's club, extolling the magnificent and stupendous work that club is doing in educational and philanthropic lines. Afterward Mrs. Edmundson read the paper of the day as per club calendar, "Women as Factory Inspectors," written by Mrs. Hunting who was unable to finish her paper or to present it herself.

Mrs. Bibbins paid a tribute to women's progress, as evinced by their display at the great Chicago fair.

Mrs. Hillis wrote of the practical: gardening, raising of fowls, etc., as a means of livelihood for women not equipped by education for the so-called higher walks. Mr. Van Slyke presented a very short paper—too short—the gem of the afternoon. She said: "The wo-

men's building at the fair was a mistake; a sentimental, not a practical idea." "Any one who visited the women's building could not fail to be impressed by the triviality of most of the work there displayed." "Individual man or woman is of small consequence except as an atom in a great piece of mechanism." "In this generation there is no room for the incapable woman." "Woman should stand side by side with man,

## DECEMBER 7, 1893

### THOUGHTS ON IMMIGRATION.

The committee on miscellaneous topics, of which Miss Marian Watrous and Mrs. Martha B. Johnston are chairmen, presented an excellent programme Wednesday afternoon before the Women's club and its friends. Previous to the introduction of the regular work of the afternoon, however, Mrs. E. E. Hubbard gave a highly interesting account of the Newberry library, as it is to be seen in its elegant new quarters in Chicago. The manner in which the large bequest was made years ago, the zeal with which the plans have been carried out, the many liberal donations in the form of rare and valuable books and manuscripts, all were dwelt upon at length and most entertainingly. Mrs. Frank T. Campbell read the more elaborate paper of the afternoon, her subject being "Our Ready-Made Citizens." These were, of course, those who came to this country from other lands. During the first hundred years of our nation's existence, she said, immigration was urgently invited, as the hope of development lay almost entirely in this direction. The naturalization laws of the country were most liberal, and originally none but the most desirable people came, for the most part, only those who were fleeing from some sort of persecution. The mingling of races, and their intermarriage brought only desirable results, developing a strong people. Of late years, a great change has taken place in the character of those immigrating, and it seems an absolute necessity to shut out the undeserving without injuring our institutions. Mrs. J. D. Whisenand followed with a very interesting discussion of the points presented. She showed that 54 per cent of the convicts of this country are of foreign birth; 55 per cent of those in jails; 60 per cent of the inmates of our almshouses and 66 per cent of those in reformatories, concluding that from a humanitarian point of view protection should be given to our own people, against the debased of other countries. Mrs. Whisenand advocated ballot restriction and the enforcement of such laws as are now on the books. Mrs. Frank W. Vorse spoke more especially of the Chinese and the Geary law. The first people from far away China who came to this country in 1849 were feasted, and for thirty years they were urged to come. Then came laws to restrict their coming, and finally in May, 1892, the Geary law, passed by a democratic congress, and signed by a republican president, so it could not be called a partisan measure. The Pacific states all favor this law and, when it is remembered that nine-tenths of the Chinese of the country are in those states, it would seem that they have the best right to speak. The lower class of Chinese are but little above the animal. They can and do live on almost nothing, and it is a question whether we want American laborers to compete with them. The social and economic side of the immigration question was spoken of by Mrs. A. E. Clarke. She maintained that despite the large influx of immigrants there was a higher standard of living to-day than ever before, reminding her hearers that some of the worst deeds ever perpetrated in this country were done by the "broadcloth mob," as when they sought to kill Wm. Lloyd Garrison because of his anti-slavery opinions. She thought we ought to hold aloof from the cry of America for Americans. Mrs. R. R. Peters was quite humorous in her remarks; what she said teeming, as usual, with good sense as well as humor.







Capital

## WOMAN'S CLUB MEETS

*Capital*  
The First Meeting of the Year  
Held Yesterday After-

Sept. 27, noon, 1893.

In the Parlors of Central Christian  
Church—President's Address  
and Historian's Report.

The Des Moines Woman's club met yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the parlors of the Central Christian church. It was the first meeting of the year 1893-94 and the attendance was good, there being 103 of the 126 members present. The principal events of the afternoon were the installation of the new president, the president's annual address and the historian's report. Mrs. James G. Berryhill, the retiring president, with a few well chosen remarks, introduced the incoming president, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, who was duly installed, after which she delivered her address which was listened to with most flattering attention. It was an able, comprehensive and thoroughly interesting review of the development and advancement of women which, she said, "has been wonderful and phenomenal, no one event in the nineteenth century tending so largely to this discovery and making us realize it with such force, as the Columbian exposition and the world's congresses." She treated more or less fully almost every subject in connection with women's work in the world. She spoke of the honor shown Susan B. Anthony, Julia Ward Howe, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others and at the congresses. She said one could not help noting what credit was given America in the women's congress, in speaking of the progressive movement for women. Mrs. Miller said that in England any ideas for the higher education of women, for their admission into the professions, improvement in dress, etc., were always called "Americanisms." American women were looked upon as leaders. She spoke of the condition of women in a business way in the different countries of Europe and also in Japan where they once engaged in journalism. They have, however, recently been excluded by law. In Finland, more perhaps than in any other country, the women enter into the business of life. In speaking of women as rulers she cited Queen Victoria, Catherine of Russia, Elizabeth of England and many others as examples. She said the great burden, which, in the beginning, had been placed upon women had not crushed out her desire for knowledge and what has been accomplished has not been without struggle and sacrifice. There is one place however where she reigns supreme. One place that all men are willing she should occupy and that place is home. "On this realm of woman's influence, eternity never marks any bound." She said there was one matter of paramount interest to the club and that is the establishing of an art collection and the building of a club home for which perhaps the time was not yet ripe, but which ought to be kept before the minds of the members. She closed by wishing the club a happy prosperous year.

The historian, Mrs. James G. Day read chapter iv, of the club's history. It was treated in a way which made it exceedingly interesting and amusing. She described the exhibit sent by the club to the world's fair very minutely. After Mrs. Day had finished, the article by Mrs. Bates in Jennie June's magazine was read. In it the only exhibit which was given individual description was the one by the Des Moines Woman's club. Following this the club adjourned.







## SHORT TALKS ON ART

*Capital*  
Interesting and Entertaining  
Discussions at the Women's Club Meeting.

Word Pictures on the Beauties of  
Art at the World's

*Oct. 11* Fair. 1893.

The DES MOINES Women's club met yesterday afternoon in the parlors of the Central Christian church. The program was in charge of the art committee, of which Mrs. L. Young is chairman, and the afternoon devoted to art at the world's fair. After the regular business of the club was disposed of current topics under the direction of Mrs. Rutkay were given by Mrs. John Wyman. She spoke of the payment of the debt of the exposition; of Iowa day at the fair; of the products of Iowa; of the gift of the queen of Siam to Mrs. Potter Palmer, (an album embroidered by the queen's own hands); of the recent calamities, forest fires, storms, etc.; of the congress of religions and the lessons to be learned from it, all of which were full of interest.

Mrs. Young being chairman of the committee on art, had the principal paper of the afternoon which, owing to her illness, was read by Mrs. Jaquith. The title of it was, "Impressions at the World's Fair." She said that the thought that this "City Beautiful" was wrought by Americans in America, should stir the hearts and call forth the patriotism of her people. She characterized it as a picture of the world with a beauty no artist can paint and no tongue adequately describe. She dwelt particularly on the architectural beauty of the buildings, saying that "inside the building one can learn of the products and industries of the world, but outside the charm is greater, the architectural and landscape effects impressing one most."

One of the strongest and most vivid of Mrs. Young's impressions and perhaps of all who visited the enchanting city, is of the fair at night. The grand basin, with the myriad of lights reflected from its waters, the gondolas, the gorgeous fountains, the beautiful white buildings, the court of honor, with its crowds of admiring people, while borne on the night wind come strains of almost heavenly music. Is it any wonder that such a scene is deeply impressed on all hearts and minds?

Mrs. Young spoke particularly of the Holland exhibit in the art hall, in which the homely subjects were to her peculiarly restful; of the work of Alexander Anglade, the pathetic story of whose sacrifice for his work's sake could not but fail to touch all hearts; of the art in the United States section and of her impressions of the Japanese art.

Of inspiration at the fair she said there was no lack, it was everywhere and none could visit it without returning home feeling both morally and spiritually better.

Mrs. Young closed with a fine tribute to Chicago, that splendid city of the west whose dauntless, energetic spirit made such a fair possible.

After Mrs. Young's paper, three-minute talks on art were given by a number of the ladies on the art committee and also by a few of the others. Mrs. Frisbie began by quoting from Longfellow, "Art is long and time is fleeting," and spoke of the progress of the arts from the crude savagery to the present state of development. Mrs. Gaylord gave an interesting account of the making of cut glass, following the process in the minutest details. Mrs. Patchin's talk was one of the most enjoyable of the afternoon. She had so thoroughly entered into the spirit of what she saw and described. She touched upon almost all of the different schools, the Dutch, the Spanish, the French, the English, and the lack of a particular character in the art of the United States, which she said partook of all. She spoke of the advance in decorative art since the centennial, as noticeable in the woman's building. Mrs. Holmes told of the Japanese art, particularly of the vases, and what the Japanese had learned from America. Mrs. West was particularly impressed with the beautiful bust of Diana seen in the manufactures building. Mrs. Durley spoke of the Russian art as represented at the fair and of the fine coloring in the pictures of the English, being especially impressed with the "Garden of the Hesperides."

Mrs. Gillette told of the deep impression made by the picture in the woman's building of "Enrydice Sinking Back to Hades."

Mrs. Jaquith closed the program with her impressions of the Dutch section, in which she said were the pictures she would like to have in her favorite room at home, so decidedly softening and ennobling were the homely but rugged scenes depicted.

It was the common opinion of all the members of the club that this was but a taste of art and all wished the discussion might be continued even though it necessitated an extra meeting, but no action was taken on the matter. Before adjourning the president, Mrs. Clapp, announced a meeting of the board of directors to be held next Wednesday at the home of Mrs. E. H. Carter.







## SPOKE ON LIVE TOPICS.

Regular Meeting of the Des Moines Woman's Club Yesterday.

The regular meeting of the Des Moines Woman's club was held yesterday in the parlors of the Central Church of Christ. In the absence of the president, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, who is at this time with a very sick relative in Rushville, Ind., the session was most gracefully presided over by the vice-president, Mrs. A. B. Cummins.

After the roll call a letter addressed to the chair and signed "many ladies" was read, asking that speakers addressing this body be urged to stand on the slightly elevated platform and to speak as distinctly as possible. The letter was received with enthusiasm by the club as a body, although to the ladies individually it seems to be difficult or disagreeable to speak from the platform.

The subject of the new magazine just starting in our city received a pleasant introduction by the president, the secretary following, setting forth most enthusiastically the opportunity granted to women's literary clubs in Iowa to secure a prize offered for the best paper sent in by any such club before June, 1894. The prize goes to the club furnishing such paper, and not to the writer, and will be published in the Midland Monthly as soon as possible after a board of competent judges shall have decided upon its merits. The history and description of the Newberry library of Chicago, as given by Mrs. E. E. Hubbard, proved an interesting and instructive current topic. Mrs. Hubbard spoke of the plan and architecture of the new building, the ambitions of its generous founder and the place in the world's great libraries that it is expected to fill.

The remainder of the programme was with the miscellaneous topics committee, one of the club's standing committees, having the world at large for its field. On yesterday afternoon this committee might have been accused of being on its neighbors' territory, were there any territory not covered by the word "miscellaneous." Be that as it may, the political economists cheerfully acquiesced in the situation.

Miss Marian Watrous, in a most happily worded speech, introduced Mrs. Frank T. Campbell, who gave the leading paper of the afternoon, "Our Ready-made Citizens."

"Ready-made citizens," as shown in Mrs. Campbell's and the following papers, are immigrants, and the work of the miscellaneous topics committee proved to be the study of the immigration question.

Mrs. Campbell showed that a great deal may be clearly said and much ground well covered in ten minutes. Her paper was an outline of the history of our policy of free immigration. In the beginning it was of the better class, even the best who come to us, seeking freedom from political or governmental tyranny in the old country, but notwithstanding all the benefit in all lines derived from such a policy it is clear that we have finally become a dumping ground for the refuse of the nations across the water, and for the protection of our civil and economic conditions restrictive legislation is needed.

Mrs. J. D. Whisenand's "Some Thoughts on the Immigration Question" came next. Mrs. Whisenand took her place on the platform and the club heartily applauded. In this paper it was recognized that the chief evil brought to us by so large an influx of immigrants is the evil of ignorance—that poverty and many other conditions are secondary. Let us help them by establishing among them schools or missions where their children may be taught what the full meaning of life here is—the rights and duties of good citizenship.

The public schools are not quite adequate for this task.

Mrs. Frank Vorse talked informally of the Chinese in America and the conditions which called for the Geary law. The Chinese stood alone as immigrants; wives and children do not come. In the city of Denver it is said there is but one Chinese wife. The Geary law was needed and was an ultimate benefit.

The first word for the immigrant came from Mrs. A. E. Clark, who said our critical attitude toward immigration comes from our ideals as Americans, which ideals we are unwilling to modify. The privilege of immigration is open to many abuses, the steamship lines contributing largely, in common with many other agencies interested, but prohibition means interference with a natural right of men.

We owe our material development to this very class. "America for Americans" is a narrow and bigoted policy. Mrs. Clark spoke incidentally of the idle and vicious rich; that we raise no objection to their immigration, and said in closing that there is room enough for all.

It was the duty of Mrs. R. R. Peters in a spirited talk of ten minutes to instruct congress as to what they should do about the whole matter. She said: "This committee is not egotistical, but we do recognize the value of women's intuition in weighty matters and are willing to help our national law makers all we can."

The consular certificate system is the best scheme yet advised to limit without cutting off immigration, and it is subject, like all the others, to abuse. Congress should adopt a definite policy and rigidly carry it out.

The club's world's fair exhibit having reached home, an opportunity was given the ladies to examine it. It is a beautiful one and will be placed in the Aldrich collection at the capitol tomorrow, where it will remain until the club has a home.







## MRS. WITMER'S PAPER

A Logical and Forceful Discussion of  
a Timely Topic.

## "A WOMAN'S IDEA OF TARIFF"

The Women's Club Listens to the Best Pa-  
per of the Year—How the Tariff  
Affects the World Where  
Woman Reigns.

The Des Moines Women's club has listened to many fine papers read by its members during the last year, but that given by Mrs. W. W. Witmer on Wednesday last was one of such exceptional merit as well as practical value that it is printed in full below.

The paper speaks for itself, and at this time of tariff agitation is particularly interesting. It may be something of a surprise to women to learn that the tariff does concern them, from the kitchen range to the bric a brac in the drawing room, although many of them are comfortably ignorant of the fact.

Mrs. Witmer was introduced by Mrs. Reichard, chairman of the political economy committee, and spoke as follows:

The average woman, who so manages the household economies that the sums spent for food, rent, clothing, charities, etc., are skillfully adjusted, has enough intelligence to understand what is called the tariff.

Good housekeeping for the nation is only an enlarged sphere of good management in the home. No member of this club should say that she has no interest in what so concerns our country. As this is only one woman's idea, I shall not weary you with statistics. The question is, not what to take, but what can I omit?

Unlike most papers on the subject, I do not go back to the first trade on record, when Abraham bought or traded for a grave for Sarah, his wife; neither do I think it dignified to refer to that little town on the Mediterranean coast of Spain, Tariffa, whence, centuries ago, came the Moorish pirates, who exacted tribute from passing vessels. As an American, I am satisfied to begin with colonial times.

Let us look for a moment at some of the first causes of dissatisfaction in the colonies, before there was any thought of cutting loose from England. We find bitter complaint of the laws preventing trade between the colonies. No articles made in England, of wood or iron, were allowed to be manufactured in the English colonies in America.

With a governor appointed by the crown there was no hope of bettering this condition. There seemed nothing left but resistance. It is interesting to note, after the close of the revolutionary war, the effort to build up what were, literally, "home industries." When the women of the family spun the wool and the cotton, and the loom by the fireside was seldom still, the man who came into the neighborhood and started the little cotton or woolen mill was the foreigner.

Not for years after this did "home industries" mean anything but what was made in the home.

It would be a waste of time to review all the tariff legislation of the past century. Looking back from this distance, it seems a kaleidoscope of shifting laws and temporary measures. A painstaking investigator has found that forty times have our tariff laws been changed since 1800. Towards 1840 the skies began to brighten, and from that time to 1890 we had very nearly free trade. The nearest we have ever had in this country. Then came the civil war, and all other thought was swept away but that of providing revenue for carrying on the war. All patriots were willing to wait for peaceful times to settle minor issues, could they but see our country's honor unharmed among nations.

Nearly thirty years have passed since peace was declared, and where do we find ourselves? Although we have a country unparalleled in its resources, its recuperative power beyond comparison with other nations, an

area so great that a scant harvest, in one section, can be easily provided for by another part, we are still living under the war tariff of 1865. But, you say, this does not concern us. Let the man settle these matters; we can trust our husbands, sons or fathers. Then suppose I stop writing, and take my sewing. That is a woman's occupation you will admit.

I sit down by the window and take my work basket; but I must think if my hands are busy—you will let me do that. As I pick up one article after another, what do I find under this war tariff of 1865? My needles are taxed 25 per cent (I confess to a weakness for English needles). My scissors are taxed 25 per cent. Buttons, such as most of use, from 25 per cent away up. Pins, 30 per cent. I am as patriotic as any woman in Des Moines, but I never use an American pin, without inwardly recoiling at the trying way this pin has of not keeping a stiff backbone; just when I most depend upon it. As for point, there is none, except as I use it to point a moral. I take up my thread—what per cent? Yet we live in the greatest cotton country on the globe.

I am afraid to take up a woolen article, lest I shall find a tax so high as to be nearly incredible. I look out of the window in despair, but that makes it no better, for the window glass of good quality is taxed 100 per cent. It is around me everywhere. Do you tell me these things do not concern women? We meet the tariff in the kitchen, at the dinner table, in every article we wear, and in almost everything we talk about.

The customs duties are either specific or ad valorem. The specific duties are charged upon the quantity of goods, as so much per yard, per gallon, per pound, etc., no mention being made of their value.

The ad valorem, as the name indicates, is put on goods according to their values as shown by bills or invoices. Thus, if the law says I must pay \$20 on each horse I import, I say a specific duty. If, the next year the law is changed, and I pay \$20 for each \$100 the horse is worth, I pay an ad valorem duty.

A tariff may be laid for revenue, or for protection. The duties laid for revenue only, are on these articles that cannot be produced in this country, as on tea and coffee. But on articles such as iron and wool, that are produced both at home and abroad, we can see the difference. When we buy the imported article the government gets the duty; but when we buy such goods made at home, we pay the same price, but the manufacturer gets the difference. Do not understand me as saying that in all cases this difference is clear profit to the home producer. There are lines of business, where, from a variety of causes, such as extra cost of production, etc., the profits are fair, but there are many, many more, where the extra price (which would be duty if the government got it) is much greater than the cost of production. Here comes in the injustice, and the extortion to the consumers. The uncertainty about this overcharge is one of its worst features. No two writers can be found who agree. Some claiming that an average of \$10 a year, per capita, for our 70,000,000 of people is not too high an estimate; while other writers range from this sum, down to one dollar per capita. No man would dare to carry on his business at this uncertain rate. He must know his items of cost and profit, and keep them separate to make progress. Why should our government be run in such a way that we cannot tell exactly when we are paying a fair price for what we buy?

In reading over our last tariff law I found one clause that was new to me; it may be new to some of you. Manufacturers using raw material on which they pay duty are entitled to a rebate of this duty on all finished products they sell to foreigners. To make it plainer, let us take a farmer living in the United States near the Canadian line, who buys a harvester for a fixed price from one of our implement makers. His neighbor, just across the line, buys a harvester from the same maker, at the same price, less the duty on raw materials, paid by the manufacturer. This is the orthodox high tariff plan for increasing foreign trade. Do you believe the farmer living on the United States side, if he knows the facts of these two prices, feels his heart throb with patriotism when he sees his neighbor harvesting? I believe he does a little mental example in subtraction. The trouble is to make people think out the tariff for themselves.

Is it not strange that we admit free of duty articles from countries that buy, comparatively, only a trifle from us in return. We turn the cold shoulder to France, Germany, England and those countries in Europe that buy the most from us. We actually seek for the custom of those countries which, if they wished to buy from us, would have no credit to pay for what they want.

Can you look back to any special time when you first took an interest in the tariff? The way it came to me was this: We were in Scotland in the fall of the year and fairly revelled in Scotch wools, under clothes, frocks, wraps, etc., so soft and fine as only Scotch mist on mountain pasture, and the meadows of Australia can produce. Yet, with five centuries of some of the most interesting history of Europe awaiting us at every turn, we so missed American apples. At length we found a little store, where we bought Rhode Island greenings for 8 cents per pound. Did it take long for an object lesson to suggest itself? Why could we not exchange our apples, so plentiful that fall in New York and Pennsylvania, for this splendid wool? Why cannot Scotchmen see what American apples really are, and why are foreign wools taxed 100 per cent? Trade is a highway between two countries. The less obstruction there is on this road, the better it is for both countries.

The Chinese, many centuries ago, built a wall across the north boundary of their empire, to keep out the Tartars. We, a civilized nation, erect a line of custom houses and man them with an army of officers, to keep out the products of peaceful nations, lest they should trade with us. Cannot we, a great, free, American people, afford to gain foreign commerce in a natural, honest way? There can be nothing alarming in a man standing on the wharf at New York and saying: "I will exchange American cotton for French silks; American coal oil for Italian olive oil." What makes it wrong for one thousand men to do the same?

I found a prominent writer on economic subjects using our old friend Robinson Crusoe in a way unknown to our childhood times. Imagine him, soon after his arrival on his island, with an ax as his only tool, cutting down a tree, and after ten day's work, shaping it into a board. Suppose just at the moment he first put the ax to the tree, he should have seen a plank cast up by the waves upon the shore; but he refuses to take it and kicks it back into the water, and goes on with his work. Then again after he has found his man Friday. They hunt all morning to find game, and work a few hours in the garden in the afternoon to raise vegetables. One day a canoe lands, and two men approach, with this offer: "Our island, near here, abounds with game, but our soil is such that we can not raise vegetables. We will exchange game, far more than you can find, for vegetables, that will cost you but little more labor." After consulting together, Robinson and Friday decide, that, as in every exchange there must be either a gainer or a loser, and, as they wish neither to cheat nor to be cheated, they must refuse the offer. The story says the men went away laughing. Absurd! you say, but that is what we, as a nation, are doing every day. The Creator has put in the earth under us, great stores of petroleum, coal, minerals, etc. He has given to other countries tropical sunshine, growing different products, but when exchange is mentioned (except in the case of a few South American countries) we say "Wait! you can not enter here except you pay tribute."

There have been several times in our history, in my own recollection, when the tariff laws were set aside for a short time, over one section of country. The first was after the Chicago fire of 1871. Congress passed a law declaring that lumber, hardware and all building material going into Chicago for a certain length of time should be free of duty. The same was done after the recent fire at Ridgedford, Me., so near to the great lumber camps of Canada. Every one recognized the justice of these two exceptions, but I would claim the same right for every poor man who loses a home. If a community is entitled to free building material in a time of hardship so is every widow who tries to make and keep a home for her children.

To me the whole idea of protection is something like this: You are familiar with the plans of our Commercial exchange in Des Moines, and how when a manufacturer wishes to locate here, the exchange promises him a bonus for the first year. Suppose he accepts, and the next year asks for the same sum. Our merchants would say: "No, you were an infant industry last year, but this year you must stand alone." We as a nation are each year paying a bonus over and over again to the same people, and some of us paying it willingly. I found it stated that the most ardent advocates of protection claim ten years as the limit of time during which certain lines of manufacturers should be protected. It is now 100 years since we began to pay this bonus. Many branches of infant industries are well on the way to second childhood.

Why do we not confine ourselves to American-made goods? Let me, in reply, ask a

question of the three women who were a committee from this club last October to buy a work of art in Chicago. How many of our 127 members asked you to pay special attention to select an American bronze or piece of marble by an American sculptor? Why did we not counsel them. Because we wanted to get the very best our money could buy. This is a privilege I ask for every one in the United States. We congratulated ourselves that a few years ago, after much agitation by patrons of art, the government passed a law admitting, free of duty, articles bought for public galleries or municipal art schools. By this law our precious beginning was entitled to come in duty free. The fact, that before this, we were not known to custom officials as entitled to the benefits of free importation of works of art, made the committee's work more arduous, and their success more praiseworthy.

Any article, no matter how unpretentious, that you or I buy to put in our homes, whether we select it because of its graceful outline, or its blending of color, should be as free of duty as the Joan of Arc, and the Diana bought for this club. And if I desire only the comforts of life, every article of dress I wear, or need for my family, should be the very best I can find to suit my price, the world over, be it made in America, or across the seas.

I hear it said so often: "Let us tax luxuries. People can afford to pay for luxuries." But no one can draw the dividing line, or enter into the many phases of our complex American life, and divide by law, our tastes and habits. Certainly not any body of men at Washington. You are happy in the possession of a bit of choice old lace. You see, in its curves and cobweb tracings, the patient following of a design that has a history in the art of lace making. I knew of an old German woman, living in one clean, neat room in the lower part of New York City. Through the help of a few good women, she was kept from actual want. A few days before Christmas, one of these women said, "I want to give you a little something extra for Christmas. What shall it be?" The old woman led her over to the bed, covered by a thin white spread, so darned and patched that it would hold together no longer, and said, "I know it is too much to ask for, but I have all my life been used to a white spread on my bed, and a new one would be the greatest gift you could give me." She had that luxury on Christmas morning. There can be no comparison of the estimation of value in these two cases. Let me take two others: My friend on one side owns a valuable painting and feels perfectly happy, as she never tires of its beauty, and thinking of the fame of the artist. Next door on the other side lives a family, where, as the birthday of each member of the household comes on, that child is allowed at the early meal, to drink from a little old-fashioned cup and saucer—an heirloom of the old grandmother's first housekeeping. Happy that mother who thus gives, so easily, to those children's minds ever after an air of luxury to those birthday breakfasts.

Just a few words as to other nations. Comparisons are so hard to make fairly, because, in a dense population the people must crowd each other, and we find extremes of wealth and poverty. I saw an estimate made that, if it were possible to spread out all the people in the United States over all its country, they would not be within hailing distance of each other—nearly a quarter of a mile apart. One of our brightest writers on the tariff, who died quite recently, gives such a good illustration of what we should expect from such a difference of population that I will give it, as condensed as I can. He called it "The Boys and the Blackberries." A young minister, beginning his pastoral work in a rural community, preaching one Sunday against superstition, happened to mention among others, the tradition that black-eyed boys could find the most blackberries. His people were willing to admit part of what he said, but indignantly refused to let go of this old neighborhood truth. In order to save his reputation, the minister, (as it happened to be blackberry time) set a day when a final test should be made. Lots were cast, and the black-eyed boys went west, the blue eyes in the opposite direction, to patches of equal size. All afternoon the minister and people waited. The wagons were to return at the same hour, and soon a shout of exultation announced the black eyes, with all their baskets filled. At the same time the blue eyes crept home, with the bottoms of their baskets hardly covered. The minister was in despair. Visions of resigning crowded his mind, but as it was yet early, he resolved to visit the patches, and see for himself, if there could not be some explanation. He went to the east patch first, and found 220 men, women and children picking berries. He hurried to the west patch (the black-eyes' field) and found eleven people, who could



easily gather five times what they wanted. That fateful afternoon, there were 225 in the one place snatching berries, sixteen in the other, leisurely picking what they wished. Do we need to say the east patch is Europe, with its 225 people to the square mile? The west patch America with sixteen to the square mile?

Dare we attribute the prosperity of this country to the tariff? It is not thirty-five years since some were sure that our prosperity was due to slavery.

The silk industry in England has declined steadily for some years past. England has for years enjoyed free trade. "The reason is plain," says certain writers: "of course free trade is responsible for the decline." But across the channel to France, the favorite home of the silk manufacture of all Europe, nine-tenths of the output is still made on home looms, so the conditions of manufacture are the same. Where a few years ago 1,000,000 persons were employed in this industry in France, scarcely more than half that number are now so engaged. Yet France is a highly protected country. What becomes of the argument used against England? Clearly it will not prove in this case. Our United States consul at Lyons tells the true reason. Each year women use less silk for general wear, and more of the favorite woolen suitings. Fashion has caused the change, and both free trade England and protected France bow to its mandates.

Free trade between the states of the United States is the greatest factor of our prosperity. Some say the tariff between Canada and the United States is a blessing to both countries. Then they should never unite, for that would disturb this blessing. The opposite then of a blessing awaits, according to these writers, whenever we annex new territory. The opposite of a blessing must be a curse.

Some of you have seen a steamer leave the dock at New York with hundreds of patriotic Americans on board. All the way over, and whenever in Europe our tourists meet, the word "America" is a sufficient introduction. Together they congratulate themselves as belonging to these glorious United States. But watch them as they return. All goes well until the last few days—then there is something missing in the lights and shadows dancing on and under the crests of the waves. The sunset the last night at sea seems a trifle overdrawn. The last day a nervous, preoccupied air is noticeable. What can be the matter? They cannot have heard bad news on an ocean steamer. It is not their country, but their country's tariff law that is worrying them now. Where is that patriot who, on the outward voyage, explained the benefits of protection to his fellow travelers? Down in his state room repacking his belongings. He has repacked regularly for the past few days. The tariff law is deciding what shall go next to the bottom of the steamer trunk, and he leaves out but one watch to tell him in how many hours he will reach Sandy Hook.

There is a hot August sun, perhaps, on deck; why do these women insist on wearing sealskin? They are more comfortable that way they say. No, the truth is something is coming home to them, in a way they never thought of before. Protection to home industries is a great and glorious doctrine for other people, but not for them. Do we need to emphasize the way made easy for deception? It must be acknowledged that many people who would not stoop to evade a reasonably low tariff, will struggle with their consciences, and finally succumb to the temptations of a high protective tariff.

After all we say of justice, there is still one greater reason for the principle of unrestricted commerce. The brotherhood of man—backneyed you say! Yet as fresh and true today as on that afternoon in Palestine, 1800 years ago, when was given to the world by the Great Teacher, that incomparable lesson, "Our Father which art in Heaven!" The first form of prayer we teach our children. Can we let them grow to manhood and womanhood with a dwarfed idea of the universal Fatherhood? What a mockery would we make of it, should we send out copies of our tariff laws with our missionaries!

The nations look toward our republic to prove that

"Man to man the world o'er  
Shall brothers be and a' that."

Is it true what was lately said of us: "Americans worship the spirit of liberty but not the substance"?

Slowly but surely was formed in our land the sentiment against African slavery. A woman's pen did much to hasten its final overthrow. In these last years, closer and closer have tightened around us the fetters of an industrial slavery, more dangerous than the former, because more insidious, and with a seeming pretense for our good.

The taxing of one man for another man's benefit is a doctrine so foreign to the spirit of liberty that well may the women of our land use voice and pen to help in its overthrow. We need not seek the public platform, nor put ourselves conspicuously forward. We can discuss it at our firesides, and insist on freedom in trade, as well as freedom of speech, of the press, and of our religious opinions.

Having done this we can wait patiently for,

"We only know that God is good

And every wrong shall die."

The paper was fully and ably discussed by Dr. Frances Carothers and



# MUSIC THEIR THEME

The Women's Club Discusses Schubert and His Work.

## MRS. GREFE WAS IN CHARGE

An Interesting Paper by Rachel Clarke the Basis of Discussion—Joseph Christy Injured by a Fall in the Y. M. C. A. Gymnasium.

The Des Moines Women's club enjoyed a very interesting Schubert programme yesterday in the auditorium of the Central Christian church. The audience was even larger than usual, many notable visitors being present.

After the meeting was opened by the secretary's review of the last meeting, Miss Matthews introduced Miss Amelia Hoffner of Chicago, who talked of kindergarten work. She first spoke of women's clubs and some people's novel ideas concerning their nature; then she proceeded to state that the clubs were for the mutual exchange of thoughts on all subjects and helps woman to find that her sphere is no longer a hemisphere.

Woman needs the lessons of that kindergarten which she can put into use in her home culture for culture sake should not be the object, but culture which can be applied.

After current topics were given the president, Mrs. Wyman, introduced Mrs. Grefe, who had charge of the meeting.

Mrs. Grefe stated that the afternoon would be devoted to Schubert, and spoke of the composer's refined tenderness.

Miss Hattie Hatton played a selection which was beautifully executed and warmly received.

Mrs. Grefe then introduced Rachel Clarke, who gave the paper of the afternoon on Franz Schubert.

She first spoke of the bearing of circumstances on the development of genius and character. Then a short account was given of Schubert's life, which stated that this great composer was born in 1797, and lived to be only 31 years old. His life was spent in poverty and often in hunger. When Schubert went to live in the noble Esterhazy family he associated with the servants but fell in love with the daughter, the Countess Caroline though he kept this love to himself but allowed her to serve as the inspiration of his music. Schubert was one of the few great men of this time who did not consider himself the only man in the world. And though he was considered next to Beethoven he was not jealous.

Schubert was the bridge between the early minnesingers and the modern composers and had he lived longer he might have brought to perfection the artistic melody of music.

"Schubert Serenade" was sung by Miss Clapp accompanied by Mrs. Ryan on the violin and Miss Hatton on the piano, which blended in a fine harmony and called forth a hearty encore.

Mrs. Marine spoke of Schubert's daily life and said that he was very popular and fond of boon companions but that he was not sensual or a drunkard.

Mrs. J. A. Jackson spoke interestingly of Schubert, and called him the father of romantic music, and said that he had wedded music to poetry and brought into use the idea that every part of poetical thought should have its musical expression.

Mrs. Godfrey then sang the "Earl King," accompanied by Mrs. Givens. Mrs. West read a paper on Schubert's contemporaries, speaking of Beethoven as the Shakespeare of music, and giving an entertaining talk, after which the meeting adjourned. The following visitors were present:

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| C. O. Perkins,         | Zoe Hammond,        |
| Alice Kauffman,        | Mrs. Johnston,      |
| Miss Grifen,           | Mrs. Stevenson,     |
| Mrs. Hepburn,          | Mrs. Cammon,        |
| Mrs. Jennie Wilson,    | Amelia Heffer,      |
| Mrs. Fred Heywood,     | Mabel Witmer,       |
| Edith King,            | Mrs. Garst,         |
| Mrs. Senator Boardman, | Mrs. C. Bonbright,  |
| Mrs. Martin Flynn,     | Mrs. Senator Lewis, |
| Mrs. Coffin,           | Mrs. Gov. Jackson,  |
| Miss Coffin,           | Mrs. Hutensins,     |
| Mrs. Dr. Menexesiar,   | Mrs. Atlin,         |
| Mrs. Weaver,           | Mrs. Ward,          |
| C. M. Miller,          | Mrs. E. N. Stearns, |
| Mrs. F. G. Clark,      | Mrs. Wellslager,    |
| Mrs. Pearsall,         | Mrs. Jackson,       |
| Mrs. Speaker Stone,    | Mrs. Shankland,     |
| Mrs. Yoder,            | Mrs. Sohn Garver,   |
| Mrs. Watts,            | Miss Fanny Bagly,   |
| Miss Alice Campbell,   | Miss Jennie Chase,  |
| Mrs. Helen Allabaugh,  | Mrs. Maud Witmer,   |
| Mrs. Beesie Bibbin,    | Mrs. Beesie Park,   |
| Mrs. Wellslager,       |                     |

## WOMEN'S CLUB.

The Meeting Wednesday Was Successful in Every Particular—Good Papers.

A delightful meeting of the Women's club occurred Wednesday afternoon in the parlors of the Christian church. After the usual opening exercises, Mrs. Percival, the chairman of the current topics committee, introduced Mrs. Conger, who gave a very pleasing and instructive extemporaneous talk on our "Weather Soryice." After her talk all present felt that they had a much clearer idea of the use and work of our National weather bureau. Mrs. Rawson was then introduced, who read a short paper on the Hawaiian question, telling us that the most reliable reports from Hawaii come through the work of a woman, Mary H. Kront, the reporter sent to Hawaii by the Inter Ocean.

The afternoon was then given into the hands of the literary committee. Mrs. A. B. Biljington in a graceful speech introduced Miss Stella B. Morse, who read a delightful paper on "Public Libraries." All good citizens are interested in our public schools. A good library is of more use in an education than a high school. The movement for free public libraries began in Massachusetts in 1890. The library commission in Massachusetts is composed of five members, three of whom are ladies. The state has eleven free public library buildings. There were gifts to free public libraries in the United States in 1891 of \$24,000,000. There was a model library in the United States government building at the world's fair; there was no display of the kind at the Centennial exposition. In referring to librarians she said that fitness for the work includes ability to care for the books and an enthusiastic interest in the readers and the books. The Boston library building is the most notable object of art in the United States. Sculpture and painting are joined as never before in modern times in the adornment of a building. She spoke of the fine library facilities in Chicago, San Francisco and other cities. Des Moines has a prosperous library visited by all classes, but greatly in need of more room. She gave a touching plea for more room to be given to young men and boys in which to read evenings. Her paper was very fine and listened to with great interest.

Mrs. Sabin gave a brief account of her experience in library work in the Clinton high school. Beginning in a highly humorous manner accounting for her use of notes, she gave many points that could be adopted with profit in all school libraries.

Miss Louise Hughes gave an account of the Fairfield library and the dedication of the library building given them by Andrew Carnegie.

Miss Ella McLoney, our city librarian, gave a five minute paper on our city library.

Mrs. Harry West plead for art in our midst.

"An Ideal" by Mrs. Maxwell pictured the time when Des Moines shall have a free public library building perfect in all its appointments. Colonel Gatch, being the guest of the club on account of his work on the board of management of our city library, was called upon and gave a short talk on the work of the board; the amount of taxation for the library and of the two bills pending before the legislature in regard to libraries. Miss May Rogers gave a charming talk on the library and women's club of Dubuque, her home city, where the public library and the club are housed in the fine new Odd Fellows' building. Thus ended one of the most interesting and delightful meetings of the women's club.

## FROM THE PEOPLE.

### The Women's Club.

Ed. Register: I had the good fortune to be an invited guest of this club at their last meeting at the Christian church November 22. The women's work committee had charge of this meeting and gave a practical programme of much interest to women of a practical nature. The time for current topics was given to Miss Sherman, who illustrated the Swedish gymnastics with much grace, after which Mrs. Henry Wallace, chairman of the day gave an ideal picture of woman's work as painted by Murills in the seven-teen century. The scene, a convent kitchen where doing the work are—not mortals in print dresses—but white robed angels whom the artist represents as so busy working and so refining their work as they do it, that we forget the drudgery, and learn the practical lesson of glorifying our work, whatever it may be. Mrs. Wallace then introduced Mrs. E. H. Conger who spoke in a most impressive manner on honesty of thought, purpose and action. Mrs. Bibbins told of the various industries of women, specially of those at the World's Fair. Mrs. Elbert spoke of women as designers, also giving other phases of women's work which are remunerative. Mrs. Hillis paper was on floriculture and poultry raising as practical employment for women; citing two instances of woman's success in these fields. Owing to Mrs. Hillis' absence Mrs. Wallace read her contribution. Mrs. Van Slyke spoke of woman's work in general. Mrs. Dr. Hunting's paper on "Women as Factory Inspectors" was read by Mrs. Edmundson, as Mrs. Hunting was obliged to go East with her husband on account of his failing health. All regretted her absence, and listened with interest to the many facts concerning factory inspectors. The marvelous work of the Chicago Woman's club was given by Mrs. Edmundson, especially what they are doing in educational and charitable lines.

Mrs. Macomber's very "spicy" remarks on cooking sent me home positively hungry. She spoke in her usual inspiring, enthusiastic manner, and talked of cooking as a fine art, speaking most especially of beef as a food, and thought at no distant day the whole beef, clear down to "horns and hoof," would be converted into "beef steak to be fried." Mrs. Macomber's most always has something bright to say, and has a faculty of saying it well, and that is much. Many ladies have bright ideas, but do not express them clear and distinct, so they have only "lost gems."

Mrs. Macomber was followed by Miss Cramer, teacher in the industrial department of the high school, who, by request, was a guest of the club, and gave a profitable talk on nutrition, with an illustration of how to prepare beef extract, as being the most nutritious nourishment for invalids. The lateness of the hour obliged many to leave, and the hope is expressed that Miss Cramer will on some latter afternoon give the ladies who are interested in laws of nutrition, and proper supply of food for the body, that which will give energy and ambition needful for good and thorough work. The committee demonstrated one most important fact, namely: "That women can be heard." The meeting was a great success, and I am looking forward with pleasure to when I may enjoy such a feast of bright ideas again.

CLARA LACEY GREENE.

## ELECTED OFFICERS.

Mrs. L. B. Abdill, as President, Heads the New Officers of the Women's Club.

The Des Moines Women's club held a meeting yesterday afternoon at Central Christian church for the election of officers. But little other business was transacted. The following officers were elected:

President—Mrs. L. B. Abdill.  
Vice-President—Mrs. A. B. Cummins.  
Recording Secretary—Mrs. A. B. Morse.  
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. D. G. Edmundson.  
Treasurer—Mrs. W. W. Witmer.  
Historian—Mrs. James G. Day.

The following constitute the board of directors, the first five names mentioned being those of members newly chosen yesterday:

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Mrs. A. Patchin, | S. A. Marine,       |
| A. B. Morse,     | D. H. Reichard,     |
| L. B. Abdill,    | W. H. Bailey,       |
| J. G. Berryhill, | James Callahan,     |
| Mrs. Dr. Carter, | Miss Rachel Clarke, |
| A. B. Cummins,   | J. C. Cummins,      |
| J. G. Day,       | Darley,             |
| Edmundson,       | Frisbie,            |
| Lowry Goode,     | Husey,              |
| Macomber,        | Windsor,            |
| W. W. Witmer,    | Harry West,         |
| Peters,          | F. M. Walker.       |

The club will hold a meeting next Wednesday at which Mrs. Alice Hgen-fritz Jones will speak. The meeting will be in charge of Mrs. J. C. Hume of the educational committee.



MAY 26, 1894.

THE DAILY NEWS.

As usual there was a large attendance of ladies at the Women's club Wednesday afternoon, a number of visitors being present in addition to the regular membership. Among the latter were Mrs. Judge Williams of Fayette county, Mrs. H. A. Baily, Mrs. Judge Bates, Miss Bertha Stetson and others. The session opened with a review of current events given by Mrs. Dr. Patchin in piquant and original style. The programme of the day was in the hands of the committee on Political Economy of which Mrs. Ballard served as chairman. She made a graceful little speech introducing the topics of the day which was "A Diagnosis of Socialism." A paper on this subject was read by Mrs. Ella H. Durley, who said, by way of opening, that the careful study of social science is the absorbing one of the hour. The relations of capital and labor, the causes leading to the great army of the unemployed now wending their march across the country, the misery of the complaining millions, the methods to be sought for this relief; all these are subjects which engage the attention not only of the statesman and philanthropist but of thoughtful men and women everywhere. The paper pointed out that the problem of the day is how to eliminate the extremes of poverty and wealth among a people susceptible of the same enjoyments, capable of the same suffering. It is this which leads to popular discontent and in times of great industrial depression to deeds of frenzied violence. The difference between socialism, communism and anarchism was pointed out. The radical socialist would wrest power from the individual and rest it in the state. All instruments of production, as ladd, mines, mills and machinery should be operated and controlled by the state. These theories are humane and beautiful but there is this danger, that, since the government is composed of individuals, we would not thereby rid ourselves of the dangerous and unscrupulous elements which work for the ruin of society as it is now organized. It is a mathematical axiom that the whole is equal to the sum of all its parts. Yet the state could do much more than it at present does by way of just legislation to protect labor. The value of labor as a factor in modern civilization has never been appreciated. The successful operation of those gigantic interests, the railroads and telegraph, by the government is an accomplished fact, not a mere matter of speculation, in many of the countries of the world, the United States being one of three countries only in which the railroads are controlled by private corporations. If they can be thus successfully managed in other countries, they could be here. The same is true of mines, if under the control of the government, they might be operated so as to bring about fewer hardships to the miners, encountering untold dangers. Should not the hard toll of the miner count for as much as the brainwork of the operator. Is one not as indispensable as the other? A well-directed co-operation of capital and labor would do much to solve the problem which confronts us. It is being tried successfully both in this country and the old world. Among the practical questions involved in this subject are the following: Should the state during times of great depression, be in duty bound to find work for the unemployed? This question is one of supreme importance and, the writer thought, would have to be answered affirmatively before our country can rest in peace. This view was strengthened by the opinion of that great statesman, Bismarck. To what extent should the burden of taxation be shifted from the poor to the rich? Should there be a limit to the private ownership of land? Should large fortunes be subject to inheritance or reverts to the state? These questions have come down through the ages with ever increasing force. They will continue to puzzle men until a greater measure of justice is secured. In conclusion the speaker said that it was fitting that Christianity and modern social science should work hand in hand for a better social environment for those who are to be saved. The bright side of this sad picture is that humanity is awakening along the whole line of human endeavor. There is an unprecedented activity in all kinds of charitable work. The world is growing better. Many and powerful are the forces working for its regeneration. Following the above a short paper read by Mrs. W. E. Odell reviewing Moore's Utopia, and Mrs. Burgin also furnished an interesting review of the work of the Salvation Army, after which there was a general discussion.

THE TRIP TO AMES.

Account of the Visit of the Woman's Club to the Agricultural College—An Enjoyable Event. 1894

A very enjoyable day was spent Tuesday by Mrs. Henry Wallace's committee on woman's work from the Woman's club. They took the early train to Ames and occupied the day in visiting the different departments of the college. The campus at this season is most beautiful, and the pleasure of the occasion was heightened by the glorious landscape that surrounds this institution of learning.

Those of the committee who joined the party were Mrs. Henry Wallace, Mrs. Dr. Patchin, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Mrs. Col. Gatch, Mrs. Ben Elbert, Mrs. Gowdy, Mrs. Hartenbower, Mrs. Conger, Mrs. Cramer and Mrs. Lowry Goode. There were a few invited guests also, among whom were Mrs. Barney Marsh, Miss Josephine Wallace and Mrs. Galbreath.

Dr. Stalker, that Chesterfield of manner and politeness, who occupies the chair of veterinary medicine at Ames, conducted the ladies through the different departments of science with that grace of which he alone is master. He was ably assisted by Miss Doolittle, Mrs. Professor Stanton, Mrs. Dr. Smith, Miss Welch and Miss Roberts, all of whom are connected either directly or by marriage with the college.

The party visited the agricultural building, Morrell hall and the museum, and at each place they were entertained and instructed. At the creamery they drank butter milk and had their appetites sharpened by the sweet aroma of the golden rolls. In the domestic economy kitchen they were more than pleased with the orderly arrangement of things and the facilities provided for the study of scientific cooking. It was the only place in which Dr. Stalker's knowledge of the subject under discussion seemed to fail him. In the chapel they rested for a time and the interval was made pleasant by music. Miss Westerman, who is the musical instructor at the college, presided at the piano and Miss Chambers and Miss Wallace rendered some beautiful vocal selections. The engineering department was not slighted by the ladies on their tour of investigation nor was the chemical laboratory. They went through both, and were much interested by the appliances and instruments and apparatus which the state furnishes in the prosecution of those branches of science. In fact nothing escaped them and when they were satisfied that there were no more fields to conquer in the way of material research, they retired to Professor Budd's where a most palatable luncheon was prepared for them by Miss Etta Budd and served by her on delicate china, hand painted by herself. This was by no means the least enjoyable feature of the occasion. On the whole, the day was most delightfully spent by the ladies and the pleasure was all the more gratifying by reason of the knowledge they acquired. They returned to the city on the evening train, tired but happy, and filled with many pleasant thoughts of the college. Their single regret was that they failed to see the president.

State Register.

WOMAN'S CLUB.

The Woman's Club.

Mrs. Cummins Presided.—Labor Troubles Discussed.

The Woman's Club in regular session yesterday was presided over by Mrs. A. B. Cummins. It seems there can be nothing unusual in the Woman's Club, for each programme seems to reach the ideal. So much enjoyed are they all that a programme can scarcely be mentioned as being unusually good. Yesterday afternoon Miss Margaret Cox, who has charge of the current topics for May, announced two weeks ago that at this meeting a general discussion would be had on the labor question. "Not particularly of world-wide labor troubles," she said in calling upon the speakers, "but what we can do for our neighbors who are of the laboring class, and for the women of our city who must toil unceasingly for their daily bread."

Mrs. Bailey who opened the discussion said that in her opinion labor was in no worse condition to-day than it was many years ago and that already too much had been said concerning the degradation and oppression of labor. The wives of working men should be taught to economize and to use the money earned by their husbands so as to make it sufficient to last the year round.

Mrs. Abdill added a few thoughts regarding the labor unions which she considered greatly at fault. If a competent man should earn \$120 a month he should not be made to divide with the lazy man who earns but \$12 a month. No man should be allowed to dictate what another man should receive aside from the employer. A woman who must support a husband and a family of ten she thought was good ground for divorce.

Mrs. Macomber, whose father was a contractor and who employed many men when a girl, knew the lives of most of these people and expressed the opinion that in times of prosperity the living was too extravagant, thus leaving nothing for hard times. The ethics of labor should be taught to men and women alike. They should be taught to live frugally as do the French.

Mrs. C. E. Risser thought that a great deal of good could be accomplished by beginning with the children, and that with good teaching of the children of the land in another generation or two all this prevailing labor trouble would be eliminated.

Following the "Current Topics" discussion the afternoon was taken in charge by Mrs. C. O. Nurse, chairman of the music committee. Mrs. Homer D. Cope was to have given the principal paper of the afternoon, but owing to the ill health of Mr. Cope she is out of the city. The afternoon was devoted to Shumann, and the programme throughout was a most excellent one. The papers were well prepared and the musical numbers were enchanting. The programme was as follows:

- Violin solo.....Traumeri
- Paper.....Mrs. Gerberich
- Paper....."Life of Schumann"
- Miss Hubbard.
- Vocal.....(a) "He the Best of all the Noblest." (b) "Thou'rt Like a Flower"
- Miss George Carson.
- "Chief Characteristics of Schumann"....Mrs. J. A. Jackson
- Piano solo.....(a) "Singing."
- (b) "Why." (c) "Troubled Dreams"
- Mrs. Bonbright.
- "Life of Clara Schumann".....Mrs. E. C. Spinney
- Vocal....."Devotion"
- Miss Mae Plumb.

A meeting of unusual interest to those of a practical nature was given by the woman's work committee of the Woman's Club, Wednesday afternoon. After a pleasing talk on and display of Swedish gymnastics by Miss Sherman, who occupied the time for current topics, Mrs. Henry Wallace, chairman of the committee, took charge, and gave an ideal picture of woman's work as shown by Murillo in his painting, "A Convent Kitchen," where, not common mortals in print dresses are doing the work, but white-robed angels, who so refine their labor, even in lifting a kettle of water, that we forget pots, and dish-washing, and think only of how delightful even kitchen work is as thus done, the practical lesson being that all work may be glorified if done in the right spirit. Other talks, on work, followed, by Mrs. E. H. Conger, in a beautifully impressive manner, on honesty of thought, purpose and action; by Mrs. Bibbins, about the various industries of women and of their handiwork at the Columbian exposition; by Mrs. Elbert, in a clear, forcible manner, about women as designers; by Mrs. Hillis, (by proxy, her paper, by request, being read by Mrs. Wallace) one full of information about the horticulture and shepherd gardens of California, and about poultry raising as helpful for women; by Mrs. Van Slyke, in a practical, earnest way, on woman's work in general; by Mrs. Dr. Hunting, whose paper on women as factory inspectors, full of interesting information, was read by Mrs. D. G. Edmundson; by Mrs. Edmundson, a delightful, enthusiastic talk on the work done by the Chicago Woman's Club in educational and other lines; by Mrs. Macomber, in her usual happy manner, on cooking as a fine art, and by Miss Cramer, teacher in the industrial department of the high school, a most interesting one on nutrition, with a practical illustration of how to prepare beef tea, or extract, for invalids. The lateness of the hour prevented as full a lesson from this last paper as the ladies desired, many being obliged to leave, yet none the less appreciating Miss Cramer's intelligent efforts on behalf of suffering humanity, who have not studied the laws of nutrition and proper supply of food for the body. The meeting, all in all, was a success, and proved that women are practical as workers.

THE WOMAN'S club accepts the invitation of the Commercial Exchange to join in the lunch to be given next Thursday evening. The club names the following ladies to take part in discussing the cemetery question: Mrs. Virginia Richard, Mrs. Martha B. Johnston, Mrs. Helen Baylies-Peters. The legal features of the case, such as whether the ownership of cemetery should be in the city or in private corporation, and whether the land should be acquired by purchase or by condemnation proceedings, will be considered by gentlemen, among whom will be voluntary speakers. The ladies are viewing the fifty-four square miles of the city and will recommend the most desirable location, and give a reason for their choices. It has not been clearly understood that these lunches are open to all good citizens and that such are invited to attend.



# A HOME BEAUTIFUL.

The Location, Construction and Adornment of the Modern House.

MRS. PETERS'S ABLE PAPER.

Practical Thoughts on the Attainment of Household Comfort.

There was a fairly good attendance at the Women's club Wednesday afternoon, notwithstanding the inclement weather. Those who did go felt that they would not like to have missed it, so many and inspiring were the thoughts brought out and so genial and kindly the atmosphere. In the absence of both president and vice-president, it was pleasant to see Mrs. James G. Berryhill again in the chair, she having just returned from a month's sojourn in the extreme south. The time allotted to current topics was occupied by Mrs. J. B. Hatton in telling of the homely industries of the Russian peasant women and the efforts of ladies of rank and position to encourage them in cultivating such arts as embroidery, lace making, weaving, etc.

"All the world loves a lover," said Mrs. W. L. Read in a brief talk on the poet Whittier in which the story of his love for Miss Evelyn Bray was told.

In her own inimitable way, Mrs. C. W. Johnston introduced Mrs. R. R. Peters, who, she said, would give some practical thoughts on "The House Beautiful," explaining that the reference was not to mansions in the skies nor, indeed, to anything spiritual, but to the average home of to-day. Mrs. Peters's thoughts were of the practical, thoroughly helpful kind, and were appreciated all the more because they came from one who knew well of what she spoke. She began by saying: The house with its location, construction and adornment is second only in the place it occupies in the heart of woman-kind to the sentiment of love. However much woman's sphere may broaden, the hearthstone where her husband and children gather daily will continue to be her choicest field for the bestowal of labor. Nothing falling within the boundary of judicious expenditure of time, effort and money is too good for an offering at her household shrine. Nothing that interferes with the ordering and embellishing of this home toward the point of wholesomeness and incentive to moral, spiritual, and intellectual growth can weigh against it in the mother's mind. Primarily, her family and then that hardest of discriminating unselfishness, whose product is her own development.

Even though the finest cottage is to be built for a home, an architect should be employed. It is in the details, however, that woman's experience and intuition tell against the theories of the architect,—he is the house designer, she, the home builder.

Unless the house is to stand within comparatively spacious grounds, it is to be hoped that no beguiling will cause consent to be given to a side entrance. Why should this symbol of hospitality to family and friends, the door which holds the modern latch-string, be placed in an inferior position? As well talk of placing the title page of a book after the word "finis," the hall is the key to the house, the suggestion of what is to come. First impressions last longest, then let the hall represent the outstretched hand of welcome, and be one of the most attractive divisions of the interior. Let it be steeped with the warmth of cheerfulness, and the soft glowing light of stained glass—let it be heated with an open fire, and not crowded with furniture.

Our ideal house will have polished floors and rugs in hall, parlor and dining room, and the polished floor without the rug in the kitchen.

In the family living room the carpet shall go to the very base boards, that there may be no bare floor under tender little feet.

Doors or no doors? If there could only be a happy medium! When single doors made way for double doors, there was a long step in the right direction, but when the latter yielded to nothing more substantial than curtains, the happy medium was passed. In the average house sounds are too readily disseminated through the hot air, hot water or steam pipes, and these doorless doorways are but an added aggravation. There should be sliding doors at least between the hall and adjacent rooms.

Windows? Windows are not simply apertures fitted with glass for admitting light. They are instruments of torture, they are fads, they are fancies, objects upon which to display the most cultivated sentiment or wreak the most atrocious ideas of the latest art instinct; they are an organized charity board instituted in favor of the owner of coal mines. But, withal, they are an undisguised blessing until they are overdone! We want light, but we do not want all light—we can go out of doors for a part of it. There seems but one way to provide against both the cold and the undesirable frost tracery—the use of double sashes. This may be deemed expensive but an estimate by some one shows a difference of nine degrees in temperature in favor of the house with as against the house without outer windows. Each window view may represent a picture painted by nature's own brush, limited only by the horizon. And when the builder placed an upper and a lower sash between us and that view, he practically limited us in our vision and the raising of the shade above the transverse dividing line throws the whole out of proportion.

The questions of wall decoration, furniture, the fitting up of all the living rooms, etc., were all treated with a view to attaining household beauty, showing that the woman who achieves the ideal here can never count upon a life of indolence. To such a woman are necessary, affection, industry, originality, perseverance, conscientiousness, aspiration, a belief that she is possessed of a God-given message to humanity, to be told to the world through the ordering of her household.

May the home, said Mrs. Peters in closing, be refined, cultured according to individual opportunity, and then, with the thought of the heavenly sunshine perpetually beaming through it, we will rename the House Beautiful, and like the Japanese will call it the house of the morning and inscribe on its threshold but one word—Peace.

For its work in the coming year, the club has been divided into the following committees:

## ART.

Chairmen—Mrs. J. A. Jackson, Mrs. H. C. Potter.

Mrs. L. B. Abdl, Mrs. J. K. Wilson,  
Mrs. Harry West, Mrs. Henry Plumb,  
Mrs. W. F. Thummel, Mrs. Wm. Jaquith,  
Mrs. Henry Wallace, Mrs. A. B. Blington,  
Mrs. John Wyman, Mrs. Homer Cope,  
Mrs. J. K. Macomber.

## LITERATURE.

Chairmen—Mrs. Henry Sabin, Mrs. H. L. Stetson.

Mrs. F. W. Vorse, Mrs. C. O. Nourse,  
Mrs. H. D. Reichard, Miss Rachael Clarke,  
Mrs. S. A. Marine, Dr. Jessie M. Ritchey,  
Mrs. R. A. Patchin, Mrs. A. R. Begun,  
Mrs. Tacitus Hussey, Mrs. W. E. Ballard,  
Mrs. F. O. Green, Mrs. C. H. Getchell.

## EDUCATION.

Chairmen—Miss Olive McHenry, Miss Carrie Hubbard.

Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, Mrs. F. A. Baylies,  
Mrs. E. H. Durley, Mrs. C. H. Gatch,  
Mrs. D. G. Edmundson, Mrs. R. P. Dart,  
Mrs. C. L. Watrous, Mrs. S. S. Hunting,  
Mrs. E. C. Spinney, Dr. Frances Carothers,  
Mrs. J. S. Carter.

## WOMAN'S WORK.

Chairmen—Mrs. B. F. Elbert, Mrs. M. W. Bibbins.

Mrs. Will H. McHenry, Mrs. Fannie Browne,  
Mrs. E. H. Conger, Mrs. I. L. Hillis,  
Mrs. J. C. Hume, Dr. Gould Fosnes,  
Mrs. C. E. Risser, Mrs. Rutkay,  
Mrs. J. H. McCord, Mrs. F. A. Percival,  
Mrs. J. L. Sooy, Mrs. A. N. Denman,  
Mrs. E. E. Hughes.

## MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

Chairmen—Mrs. C. B. Vanslyke, Miss E. K. Matthews.

Mrs. J. H. Windsor, Mrs. F. G. Stevens,  
Mrs. Martha Johnston, Miss Cox,  
Mrs. Gillette, Mrs. Greffe,  
Mrs. Witmer, Mrs. C. P. Holmes,  
Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. L. F. Andrews,  
Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Mrs. Clinton Douglas,  
Mrs. Robert Fullerton.

## POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Chairmen—Mrs. W. A. Park, Mrs. E. S. Burgin.

Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Young,  
Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, Mrs. Callanan,  
Mrs. Day, Miss McLoney,  
Mrs. Peters, Mrs. B. E. Israel,  
Miss Watrous, Mrs. Hartenbower,  
Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Gaylord,  
Mrs. Geo. Lendrum.

## MUSIC.

Chairmen—Mrs. D. F. Givens, Mrs. J. C. May.

Mrs. Walter McCain, Mrs. Ernest Brown,  
Mrs. H. K. Love, Mrs. Alverson,  
Miss Hatton, Mrs. N. E. Coffin,  
Miss Bailly, Mrs. F. M. Hubbell,  
Mrs. Parlin Porter, Mrs. F. T. Campbell,  
Mrs. Walter Reed, Mrs. T. N. Newell,  
Mrs. S. A. Robertson, Mrs. Wm. Kennedy.

## HISTORY.

Chairmen—Mrs. J. D. Whisenand, Mrs. F. W. Cherry.

Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. C. E. Rawson,  
Mrs. Bailly, Mrs. T. M. Walker,  
Miss Hughes, Mrs. A. D. James,  
Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Benninger,  
Mrs. A. E. Clark, Mrs. A. E. McMurray,  
Mrs. E. H. Carter, Mrs. Frank W. Dodson.

## SOCIAL.

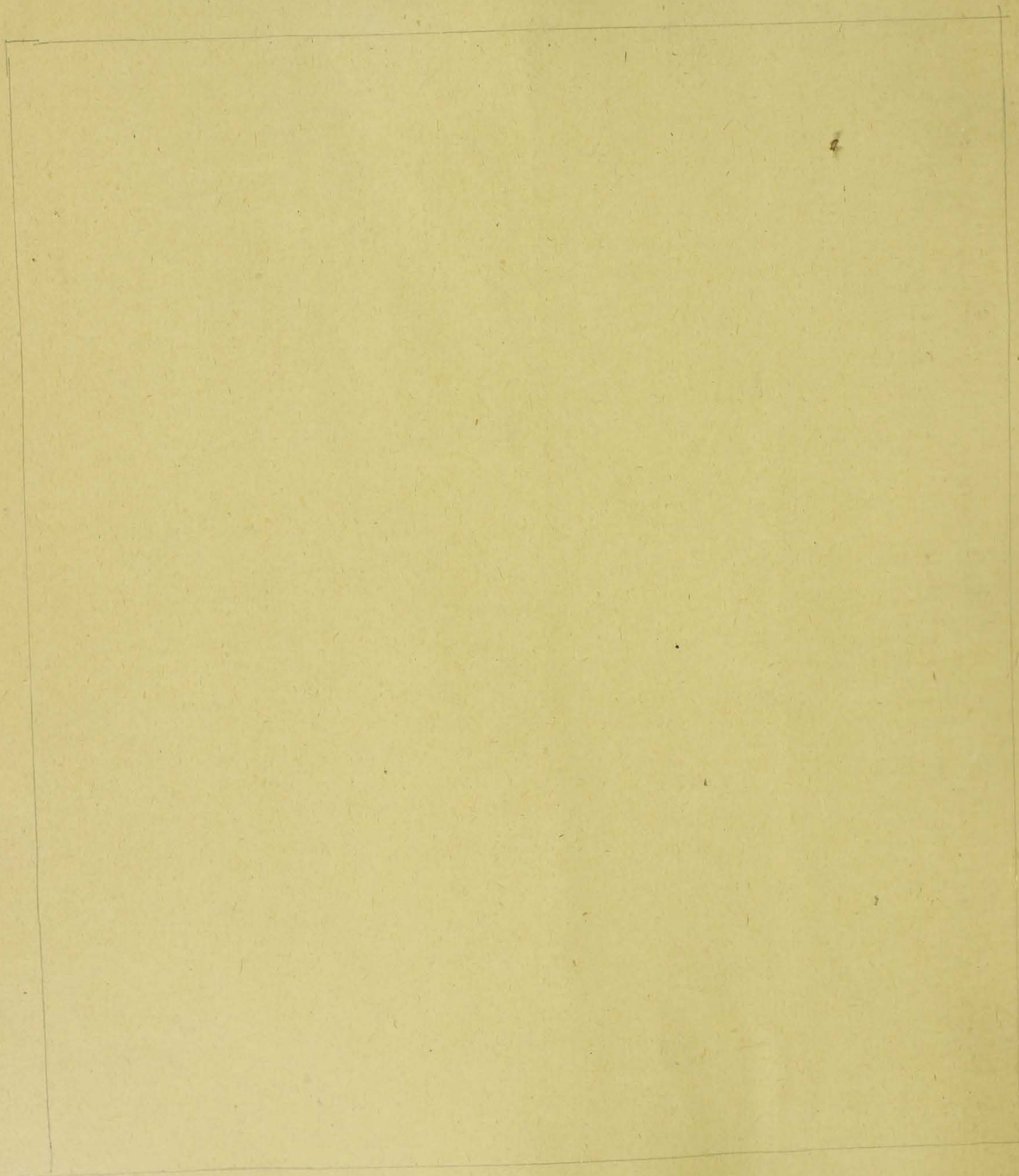
Chairmen—Mrs. P. J. Mills, Mrs. Carroll Wright, Mrs. W. L. Read, Mrs. W. E. Odell.

Miss Carolyn E. Byers, Mrs. J. B. Hatton,  
Mrs. J. C. Cummins, Mrs. McFarland,  
Mrs. Clapp, Mrs. Breeden,  
Mrs. Lehmann, Mrs. Warfield,  
Mrs. John Trepanier, Mrs. Seville,  
Mrs. Harry Elliot, Mrs. Harry West.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

Chairmen—Mrs. W. T. Clarke for October, Mrs. W. M. McFarland for November, Mrs. H. O. Breeden for December, Mrs. A. L. Frisbie for January, Mrs. W. R. Warfield for February, Mrs. J. B. Hatton for March, Mrs. S. A. Robertson for April, Mrs. A. E. Clark for May.







## HOW TO EDUCATE GIRLS

Subject of an Exhaustive Paper  
by Mrs. Van Slyke Before  
the Women's Club.

Mrs. B. F. Elbert Discoursed Also on  
the Subject of the "College Bred  
Woman," Yesterday.

It Was a Highly Interesting Meeting—  
Mrs. Dr. Spinney and Dr. Car-  
rothers Also Made  
Addresses.

### WOMAN'S DEVELOPMENT.

The regular meeting of the Women's Club, yesterday afternoon, was presided over by Mrs. E. B. Durley, in the absence of the president. Mrs. L. F. Andrews, chairman of the Current Topics committee for April, introduced Mrs. E. C. Spinney, who entertained the ladies for a few moments with a description of "Life Under the Water." She told of the first efforts made in the matters of diving, and under water explorations, gave a short history of scientific aids in that direction made during the last twenty years, describing minutely the diving bell and the modern India rubber suit. Dr. Frances S. Carrothers enlightened the ladies in the new discoveries in the medical field. Mrs. Conger, chairman of the Women's Work committee, then very eloquently introduced Mrs. Van Slyke who read a thirty minutes paper on "How Shall We Educate our girls."

"Although the subject be a much hackneyed one," said the speaker, "scarcely any other has occupied a larger place in the attention of the public for the last twenty-five years, and surely no other subject can be of more vital interest to mothers than this one, the best way to educate our girls. When Lucy Stone first began her search after knowledge, there was but one college open to her; now there are hundreds. We have co-education, the woman's college, and the university annex; each has its advantages. The question is no longer, Are girls worth educating? but What education is worth to most of them?" The speaker thought it mattered little in what sort of an institution the education be obtained, if only mothers and fathers will concede that education is a right of personality and not of sex. She reviewed woman's struggle for advancement, and the numberless and oft-repeated objections to it, touching upon the comparison in weight of the brain of man and that of woman. "What teaching shall we give to the girls who are to bring up the next generation of Americans?" was asked Mrs. Van Slyke. "It is a question of the highest moment. Upon the answer which this generation gives to it, depends the happiness and welfare of the generations to come."

Mrs. Van Slyke pictured the differences in the training of the boy and girl in the home, the training of the boy to independence, and the girl to dependence; the development of the faculty of a boy to be his stock in trade; of the vanity of the girl to her certain and everlasting destruction. "We must teach our girls," she

argued, "that the greatest happiness and good in this life is the result of usefulness, not adornment of person. I believe that it is best to teach our girls that every faculty must be developed to its highest activity, just as we do our boys." She insisted that a career of usefulness be urged upon the girl when she goes away to school. Her education should not be thrown away. "Let the girl grow naturally, as we do the boy, and give her the benefit of the broadening influence of public spirit and responsibility. Let her have a share in all these widening circles of duty in the home, and then we shall see her reaching the highest type of womanhood, competent to meet any demand that may be made upon her." She pointed out clearly the influence upon the citizenship of our country of the properly educated woman.

Mrs. B. F. Elbert discoursed at length upon "The College-bred Woman." "By comparing long periods of time we see on the whole that the race is advancing, that the world is growing steadily and surely better, that each generation enjoys more and suffers less than its predecessor," said the speaker. "In this grand process of growth, of evolution, woman has had her share until to-day, at the dawn of the twentieth century, she stands before the world a recognized factor in this evolution of mankind to higher conditions—self-poised, educated, with lofty aims, instinct with vital interests in all that concerns the human race, with larger opportunities awaiting her than have ever before dawned upon a woman's vision." She spoke of the influence through the ages of the college bred woman. The only limit to success at present is her own capacity. In the past she made her opportunities, to-day her opportunities await her, and she compels as never before a respect founded upon her attainments.

The paper was full of bright and original ideas and sayings concerning the college bred woman, and concluded with this thought: "The American woman of to-day has begun to create her own atmosphere. Woman's intellectual and artistic development instead of being crushed and stunted or chilled by marriage, on the contrary, nowadays in innumerable instances, proceeds almost without interruption, bringing with it as a natural consequence increase of power over immediate surroundings, which only intellectual development can bring. Daisy Miller, the leading lady in the comedy. And it has come to pass that America's educational methods are focused to meet the needs of the well rounded woman who can stand on her own feet and await her destiny. Let us hope that out of this the perfect wife and mother may be evolved, and society—the whole world gladly welcomes the advent of this full grown, finely developed, intelligent woman of to-day—of her who knows taste from fashion, wit from smartness, pride from vanity, social distinction from ball room popularity. The highest, noblest type of woman is she."

The club is very proud of the woman's work committee and of Mrs. Van Slyke and Mrs. Elbert, who presented such excellent papers.







DES MOINES LEADER

# THEIR LAST MEETING.

— Leader —  
Last Sitting of the Des Moines  
Women's Club for  
the Year.

## REPORT OF THE FEDERATION

Next Year's Work Outlined  
and the Yearly Announce-  
ment Issued.

June 6, 1894.

One of the most perfect of June days was that on which occurred the closing exercises of the year of the Des Moines Women's club. At 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon the beautiful lawn surrounding the home of Mrs. Walter McClain was filled with guests, there being a number of out-of-town people as well as numerous guests of the club. The chief feature of the day were the reports of the delegates to the general federation of clubs at Philadelphia given by Mrs. E. R. Clapp and Mrs. James H. Windsor. Both were full of interest and inspiration. Mrs. James G. Berghill, whose fine address before at Philadelphia has been spoken of so favorably, begged to be excused from repeating it, as it was hoped she would do, and it will soon appear in printed form.

Mrs. Lucia Gale Barber of Cedar Rapids, a charming elocutionist, was present and gave a reading, which was received with great enthusiasm.

The tenth annual announcement of the club is just out, the handsomest the club has ever issued. It is in an elegant cover of white with violet lettering and the club monogram in white and gold. The following is the year's work as outlined:

The opening session of the Women's club for the year 1894-5 will be Wednesday, September 26th, at which time Mrs. Lowry W. Goode will enter upon the presidency. The day is known as "officers' day."

October 10—Subject, Tendency of German Art, paper by Mrs. W. F. Thummel.

October 24—Humor in Literature, Mrs. F. W. Vorse; Newspaper Wit, Mrs. Frank Green; Caricature, Mrs. C. O. Nourse.

November 7—Discussion, Should Education Aim to Develop All the Faculties? Affirmative, Mrs. Roswell P. Dart, Mrs. Spinney; negative, Mrs. F. A. Baylies, Miss Carrie L. Hubbard.

November 21—Woman in The Professions, Mrs. Wm. McHenry; Our Grandmothers, Mrs. I. L. Hillis; Women as Builders, Mrs. J. L. Sooy; Woman in the Orient, Mrs. C. E. Risser.

December 5—The Glory of a Nation, Mrs. S. S. Gillette.

December 19—Yashti, Mrs. James Callanan.

January 2—The Influence of Sacred Music upon the Community, Mrs. Love; Cradle Songs, Mrs. Sue Ankeny Brown.

January 16—The Scandinavian Peninsula: The Eddas, Mrs. T. M. Walker; Olaf, Mrs. W. H. Bailly; Gustavus Adolphus, Mrs. A. E. Clark; The Political Outlook, Mrs. E. H. Carter.

January 30—Social committee.

February 13—Modern Painters and the Renaissance, Mrs. Harry West.

February 27—The Value of the Purpose Novel, Mrs. W. E. Ballard.

March 13—Annual business meeting.

March 27—Juvenile Literature, Miss Olive McHenry.

April 10—Woman's Limitations, Mrs. J. O. Hume.

April 24—Birthdays in April: Washington Irving, April 3, 1783, Mrs. L. F. Andrews; Ulysses S. Grant, April 27, 1822, Mrs. Stevens; Hans Christian Andersen, April 2, 1805, Mrs. Robert Fullerton; Alice Cary, April 26, 1820, Mrs. A. B. Cummins; Wm. Shakespeare, April 23, 1564, Mrs. J. H. Windsor. Our State, Iowa, Mrs. S. B. Maxwell; Friedrich Froebel, April 21, 1782, M. Magdalene Grefe.

May 3—Labor Discontent: Would Closer Relations Between Employers and Employed Afford a Remedy? Miss Ella M. McLouey.

May 22—Musical Conversations, By the committee.

June 5—Historical Monuments of France, Mrs. A. L. Frisbie, Miss Louise E. Hughes.

June 19—Social committee.







# MARSHALL TALBOT, THE ARTIST.

A paper from that brilliant writer, Mrs. Callista Halsey Patchin, is always welcomed by the members of the Des Moines Women's club, and that given by her Wednesday afternoon possessed the added interest of having a former Des Moines artist for its subject. To those who lived in this city back in the '70s the name of Marshall Talbot will recall the quaint and picturesque figure of a man, tall and slender, apparently bent with age, whose flowing hair of snowy white fell about his stooped shoulders; one who went his way in quiet, unobtrusive fashion, a representative, in this strictly commercial community, of the mental, artistic and spiritual element, hence standing comparatively alone. Yet there were homes where he was always a welcome visitor, for his presence brought plenty of good cheer, bright conversation, wit and anecdote, stories of travel in distant lands, clever sketches of home and foreign scenes. Mrs. Patchin thought that in the presence of those whose privilege it had been to know the man it might seem an impertinence for her to speak of him, since he had died the year before she came here, but he had always been a vivid figure in her imagination. Perspective is as valuable a quality in literature as in art and a strong personality gains by distance. She saw him as a unique person in the social geography of a community, which at that time certainly did not give great encouragement to the artist, in which, even now, all that an artist can hope to do is to get money enough to get away with. Those who knew Marshall Talbot best knew him to be a genius. Mrs. Patchin said that the rosemary which she had gathered had been leaf by leaf. He was born at Pompey, Hill, a little village in New York, in 1822, of an English and French ancestry. It does not appear that there was any inherited artistic talent, nor was there anything in Pompey Hill to stimulate him. His first teacher was a cousin of the late Maria Mitchell. He was in the habit of making pictures on his slate, and for that he was once rudely shoved off his seat, to which he afterwards humorously alluded as his first "encouragement" in art. In 1849, when the eyes of so many were turned toward the west, Marshall Talbot made his first trip to Europe, going to Rome, and thence to other art centers. He subsequently visited Europe three times, spending much time there. While his life in the old world was brilliant and full of interest, he was not one of those who voluntarily lived abroad.

He was for some time vice consul at Antwerp. Among the intimate friendships he formed while abroad was one with the German artist, Wittkamp, who sold some valuable pictures in this country. For one of these, a King Lear, owned in Philadelphia, Marshall Talbot sat as a model. A Des Moines friend of Mr. Talbot's is sure he sees a resemblance which to him is positive proof that Mr. Talbot posed as the model for Fortuny. In the November Century for '81 is an illustrated article on Fortuny and in a full page engraving of his picture of "The Beggar," this gentleman is sure that he detects Marshall Talbot. At the time this picture was under way, Mr. Talbot knew Fortuny and was in his studio.

Years later, a younger brother of Wittkamp's came with Mr. Talbot to Des Moines and remained with him for a time sketching and painting. He made a series of crayon sketches of the prairies which hung for a long time in a book store, but aroused no special interest, prairie scenes being plenty. The queen of Holland at that time had a great desire to see American prairie scenery and these Des Moines sketches were finally sent abroad and are now in the queen's collection at the Hague.

Personal friends of Marshall Talbot had told the writer that he had many medals and decorations which he sometimes, but not often, wore and in an old letter is found this allusion. He was in Brussels and calling on his majesty, and had been received, he said, with a frank, honest dignity that proclaimed him every inch a king. "After an hour's conversation," he added, "I returned to my hotel and left the city that night. Upon my return to Brussels I was surrounded by the landlord and servants of the hotel who all wanted to tell me that the king had sent repeated queries after me, and finally a package had come to be delivered upon my return. It contained a gold medal nearly as large as my hand, and a repetition of the invitation to visit the palace." He was a great friend of the American sculptor, Bartholomew, knew Rosa Bonheur, visited Patti at her home and knew T. Buchanan Read.

He seems to have been an all around artist of the old-fashioned sort, doing portraits, ideal figures and landscapes and equally at home in color in black and white, sketching in pencil or in water color. It was while at Antwerp that he wrote and illustrated an article on Holland which was published in Harper's monthly. This article had the literary instinct, as shown in the title. He might have called it "Holland and the People" or "The Dutch in Holland" or any other trite and commonplace name. What he did entitle it was "How the Dutch are Taking Holland" and the "go" of the title strikes the keynote of the article. The Dutch are taking Holland but by such slow and solemn degrees as the coral mite is building a mountain in the midst of the sea. The Dutch are taking Holland and no other people on earth are provided by nature with that sturdy continuity which enables them to gather solid or fruitful earth, inch by inch, from a roaring, thundering, stormy, encroaching sea. No other people but the Dutch are just fitted by nature to pump and rake and shovel a fine productive country out of a cold, sour, seedy marsh.

Mr. Talbot came to Iowa about 1863 and to a farm near Pella, which he meant to make a dairy farm after a Holland model, but it was a failure financially. He later on went to Polk City where he had bought a little place and on which he erected a tiny home, if a room eight by fourteen, which he used as a studio may be so called. His chief source of income while there was getting out railroad ties. While busy at this in Iowa, a Philadelphia paper printing a catalogue of a picture exhibition, says "A Head by Marshall Talbot—Where is he?" After a time he came to Des Moines. The lack of money he treated with that magnificent disregard of ways and means which seems to belong to the artistic temperament. Once his money gave out on his way over to Europe and he painted pictures on shipboard which sold because they were American.

A large number of paintings were on exhibition before the club, among the most beautiful being a marine with the bluest of skies above, a work which strongly resembles that of Thomas Moran. His coloring was of the strongest, his watchword being not to be afraid of color. One portrait of Scott Siddons used to adorn the old Moore opera house. It is now the property of Dr. Wiley. An honored guest of the club was Mrs. Adams, a niece of the artist, who lives on a farm near the city and who possesses many of his works.

FEBRUARY 16, 1894.

## ON THE IDEAL HOME,

An Afternoon's Study of Its Chief Character-

Nov. 8. istics. 1893.

MRS. LOWRY GOODE'S TALK.

The Education Committee Furnish an Interesting Programme.

A more thoroughly pleased audience than that which listened to Mrs. Lowry Goode at the Women's club Wednesday is not often found. Mrs. Goode was able to dispense with the usual manuscript and for a half hour she talked in a simple and unaffected but deeply effective way of the Ideal Home. She said that she felt grateful for the topic which had been given her, for it had been with her constantly for the past six months, and in turning it over and over, with the desire always to make her own home reach the ideal, many helpful thoughts had come to her. Most fervently, reverently, was the duty which parents owe to their children spoken of, and mothers were reminded of the importance of beginning early to mould the plastic clay entrusted to them. The first three years were probably the most important of all in the rearing of the child. The moment must be seized, for the years of childhood pass all too quickly. If the home influence is what it should be, there is little to fear from troubles at school. It is not difficult for the teacher to tell what children are from good homes, not by the dress only, but by the quiet, gentle demeanor. It is left for the ideal home alone to give that finish which we call culture.

Who can tell the influence of the little prayer at night, whispered into the infant ear at first, then lisped by baby lips. Truly one good mother is worth a hundred school masters. The ideal home must be one in which there is abiding love. The gentle voice of the mother must speak of love, her eyes beam with love. Not the love which waits on the child and does everything for him, but that which makes the boy's mother his dearest friend and adviser. A kiss thrown from the window often straightens a boy up for the whole trip. There should be more sentiment in the home. It helps make the children gentle, kind and true. The writer said these things she knew to be practically true in the case of four small boys.

A mother's love must be a thinking love and hence the necessity of a thorough education for the one who tries to fill the post of mother. The old idea that a mother's knowledge need not extend beyond the confines of the home was erroneous. Everybody likes to see well trained children and for such the responsibility rests upon the parent. No outside organization can take the place of the home.

All children possess the love of the beautiful and this should be broadly and carefully developed. Parents owe it to their children to bring out their best points, to employ physical culture, if necessary, to correct defects. One boy she knew looked positively ill when his hair was too long, so that he was liable to be doped for a disordered stomach. "Let us each paint our Angelus by creating an ideal home."

The treatment of this subject gave great pleasure and satisfaction, the more so since it was known that all that was portrayed and much more which language is inadequate to fittingly describe is embodied in the beautiful home over which the speaker herself presides.

Mrs. James Callahan followed, making the special point that in the ideal home, standing side by side with the mother, strong and true, a perfect equality between them, each working for the welfare of home and church and state, must be the good, faithful husband.

Music as an adjunct to the home, softening the heart, refining the manner, bringing all into closer and sweeter relationship, was the theme of Mrs. C. E. Rawson. She spoke of its value, too, in the Sunday school, a field of work in which she is particularly interested.

Mrs. J. C. Cummins spoke of the cultivation in children of a love of nature, and thought that the glory of a Des Moines sunset, the changeful beauty of the autumn landscape, the exquisite pictures which a drive through the woods reveals, might be pointed out in such a way as to

give lasting pleasure and benefit. There was no need to go miles to see a picture, which must fall far short of that painted by the master hand.

The same line of thought was pursued by Mrs. J. C. Hume. Many a lesson could be pointed in the simple and oft-recurring sounds of nature; the chirp of the cricket, the whistling of the November wind, the delicate ice-tracery upon the window; all these were to be called to the child's attention.

Miss Elizabeth Matthews, who had the afternoon in charge, was warmly congratulated for having prepared and directed so delightful a programme.







# THE MIDLAND MONTHLY

A MAGAZINE  
DEVOTED TO  
MIDLAND LIT-  
ERATURE & ART



JOHNSON BRIGHAM:  
PUBLISHER: 304-5  
MARQUARDT: BLOCK  
DES MOINES:  
IOWA:



CALISTA HALSEY PATCHIN,  
Des Moines, Iowa.



With permission of the Artist.

WAGES OF WAR.—EDWIN W. DEMING.

## A PIONEER ART LOAN EXHIBIT.

By CALISTA HALSEY PATCHIN.

THE Art Loan Exhibition held in Des Moines during the early part of this winter was interesting, not only as such, but as distinctly marking advance in art growth. The enthusiasm with which it was undertaken and the interest shown by the public in attendance give promise that a good loan exhibit may become with us an annual event. The exhibition was given the freedom of the press; to the daily papers it was largely due that people came again and again, thereby deriving the greatest possible benefit from this object lesson in art.

The Des Moines Woman's Club, which long since pledged itself to the establishment of an art gallery in this city, and is steadily working to that end, gave a cordial response to a proposition from the Iowa Society of Fine Arts, recently organized, to bring on a collection of pictures from New York, and to these two societies the exhibition is due. Great credit is also

due Mr. C. E. Baldwin, the well-known artist, whose studio is the center of art work in Des Moines.

Owing to the fact that a number of exhibitions were in progress in the East, some well-known artists were not represented, but the picture catalogue carried names that established the high character of the collection. Such names as Sartain, Du Mond, Twachtman, Walter L. Palmer, Alexander Harrison, Carleton Wiggins, Thomas Moran, the Sewells, Gilbert Gaul, Stephen Parrish, George Smillie, Edwin H. Blashfield, J. C. Nicoll, Eanger I. Couse, Gibson and Gay, are a guaranty of excellence. It was a well-balanced collection, stronger in landscape than in figure,—but is not American art as yet stronger in landscape than in figure painting?

The collection was not, as is often the case, sacrificed to one large picture, which is made the feature of the show; many of



the smaller pictures were among the most interesting. It was valuable in its contrasts. It is a far cry, in American art, from a landscape of Thomas Moran's, with its conservative methods of composition, and its well-balanced, carefully modulated masses of color, to the latest utterance of impressionism in Twachtman's "Autumn Shadows." And all the space between these two was filled with the rank and file of recognized artists; some of them those whose status is settled, some of them "coming" men—and women.

The four places of honor were given to William Sartain's "Chapter from the Koran," Du Mond's "Monastic Life," Thomas Moran's "Golden Gate to the Yellowstone Park,"—a large landscape showing the characteristics of this well-known artist,—and the "Advent Angel," by Ella Condie Lamb, a figure more satisfactory in color than in modeling, and which could be seen to full advantage only in the mural decoration for which it was designed.

To the older generation of the MIDLAND's readers, the name Sartain will re-



From Drawing by C. E. Baldwin.

FRANK VINCENT DU MOND.

call the magazine of that name, with its one rich, flawless frontispiece engraving, which was the forerunner of the illustrated



From Original Painting, by William Sartain, with the Artist's Permission.

NUBIAN SHEIK.



With permission of the Artist.

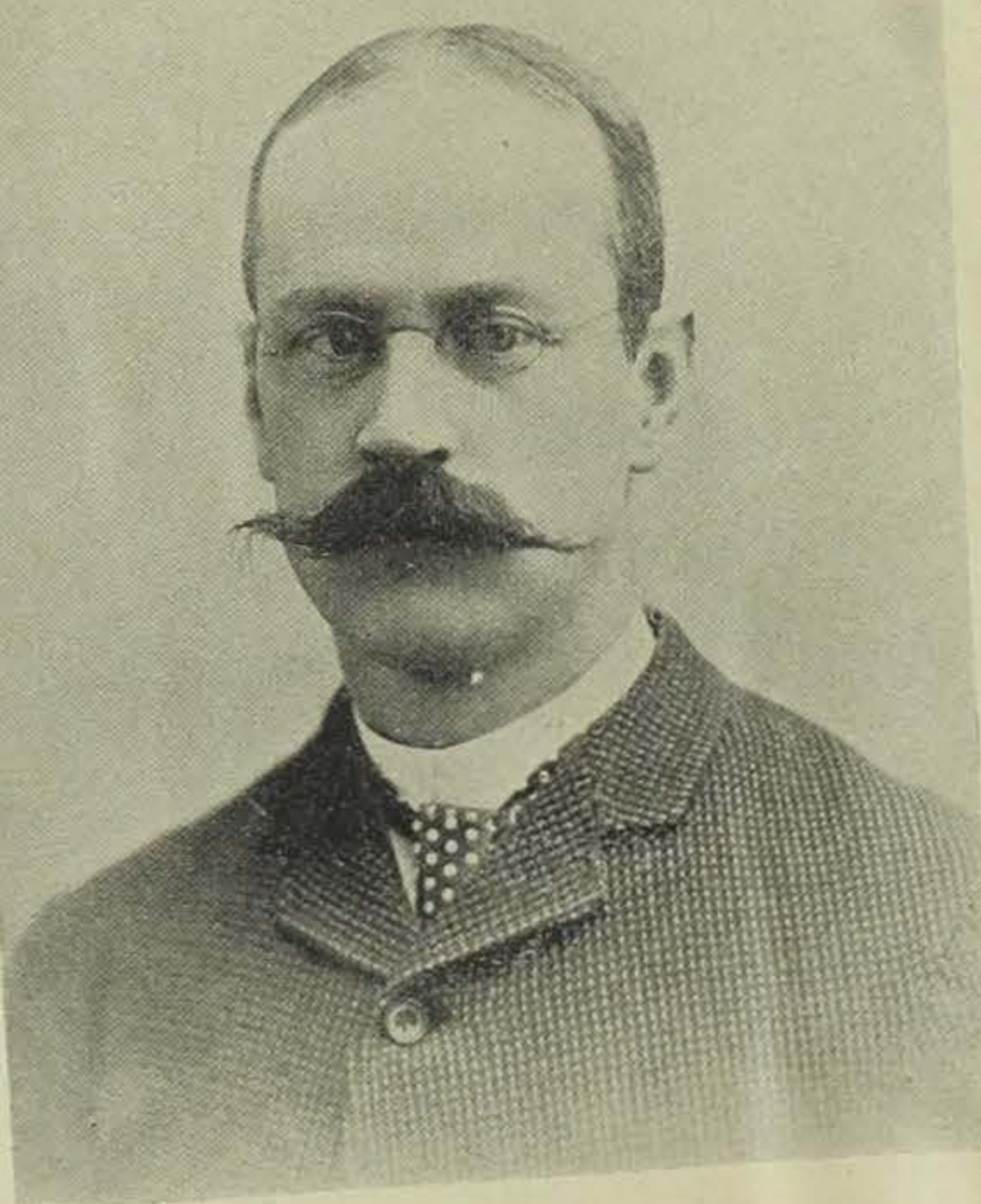
MONASTIC LIFE.—FRANK VINCENT DU MOND.

magazine of to-day. The name is historic in our art literature, and the collection was fortunate in having two of William Sartain's pictures, the "Chapter from the Koran," which is "one of his largest and most effective canvases, effective in its broad treatment and quiet, harmonious values," and a head of a "Nubian Sheik."

Mr. Sartain, like many of our older artists, drew and engraved before taking up color. The most valuable part of his art education was obtained in Paris, where he was a pupil of Bonnat. Since his return he has had a studio in New York; had at one time charge of all the life classes of the Art Students' League, and of the head classes at Cooper Union for several years. He was one of the original

founders of the Society of American Artists. Of late Mr. Sartain has devoted a part of his time to etching. To quote from a standard critic: "His work is quiet and sincere in treatment. The principal characteristics of his method of painting are directness of intention, warmth of color, a thorough knowledge of his subjects, and a firm and vigorous way of treating them." To this may be added that his pictures are full of poetic feeling. It is the very culture of art. It has been remarked that the delicacy and richness of his color scheme is particularly well shown in his heads, and the "Nubian Sheik" is one of his best.

"Monastic Life," by Frank Vincent Du Mond, was one of the notable pictures of the exhibit. It was a World's Fair



WALTER L. PALMER.

picture, as were some twenty others in this collection.

Mr. Du Mond belongs to the younger school of American artists, and the critics give him special praise because he has not given way to the occasional eccentricities and vagaries of that school. All his work shows the strong academic influence of Lefebvre, under whom he studied in Paris. He won recognition in the salon, and is recognized in this country as a strong artist. His "Baptism of Christ" was a great religious picture, at once realistic and reverent. Since it was destroyed by fire, "Monastic Life" is his most notable canvas.

Among the pictures that told a story was "Ma Première Née," by Eanger I. Couse, a



only so far as New York, is like draining the country of its gold reserve.

Mr. Walter L. Palmer's Venetian picture, "Early Morn Like Opals' Rays," will be vividly remembered by all who saw it. A portrait in architecture, and a poem in color,—it was like color set to music. Because its value lay so greatly in its color, however, the artist declined to have it reproduced in black and white, and sent instead the two accompanying illustrations, which are valuable as giving an idea of his versatility. A son of the sculptor, E. D. Palmer, he grew up in the atmosphere of art. In the atelier of Carolus Duran he obtained, he thinks, the most valuable part of his art training. He has spent much time in Venice, and his Venetian sketches are celebrated for their accuracy and beauty. He paints mostly these and winter scenes, though his medals and "honorable mentions" have also been earned by such pictures as "Waving Grain" and "The Oat Field."

Gilbert Gaul's two pictures, "Those Dreary Days," a group of soldiers around a camp-fire, and "In the Trenches,"—a

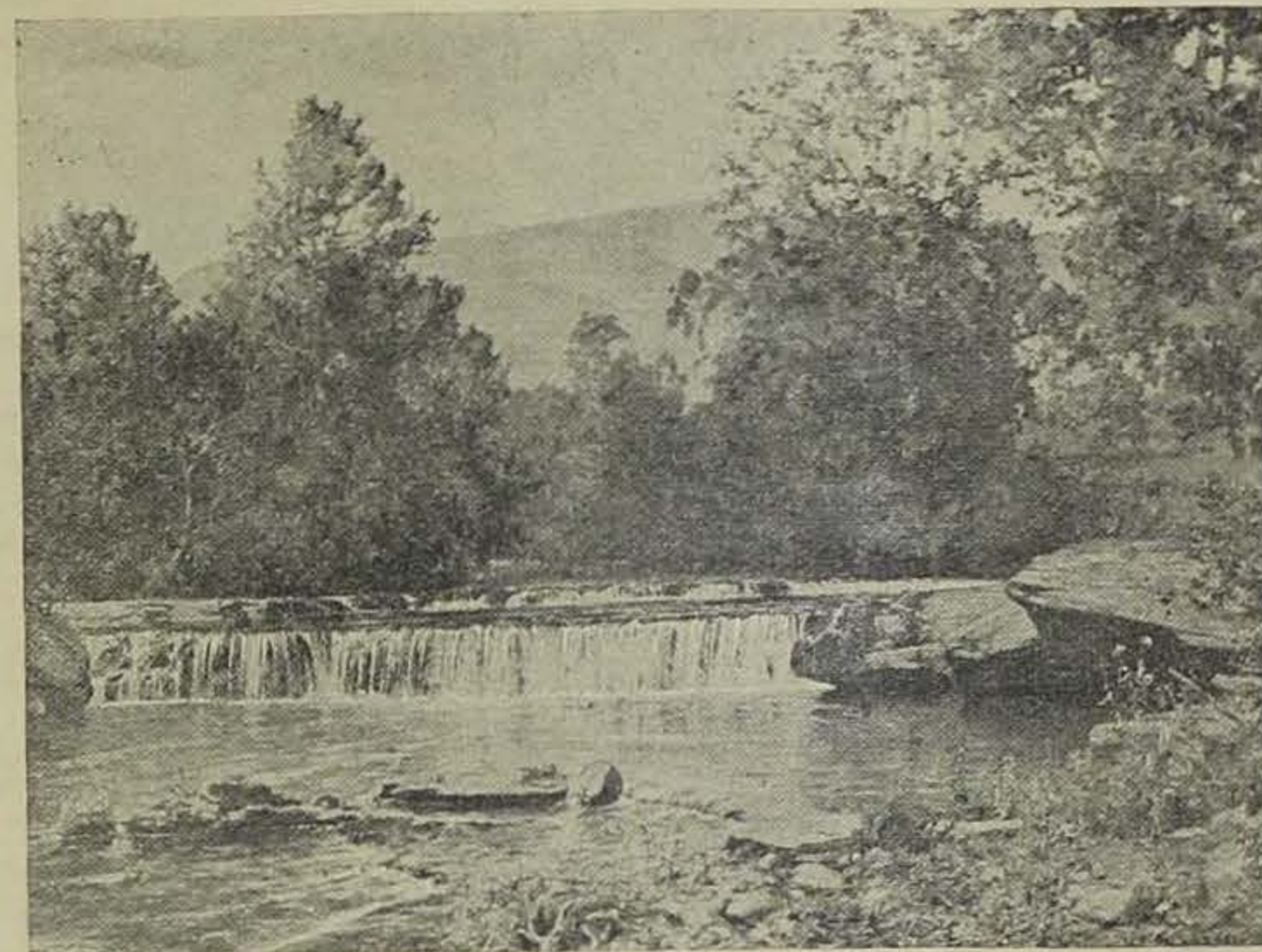
vivid glimpse of battle, full of color and action,—were among the notable pictures.

There was a superb "Sunset at Havre" by Leslie G. Cauldwell, a picture full of "sweetness and light." The same artist also sent pastels, one, "The Smoker," being one of the most realistic pictures in the room.

The Sewells, husband and wife, were represented by twelve canvases, the most notable being "Boys Bathing" and "Diana Hunting," and a number of the others reminiscent of the recent sojourn of these artists in Algiers.

Among the smaller pictures were some of the best in the collection,—notably, Carleton Wiggins' "Sheep," which reminded one of Mauve; "The Tramp," by Paul Mimmo Moran, a charming picture of a girl standing at the foot of a stairway, feeding a tramp cat; and "Midsummer," by M. H. Reid.

There was something pathetic in the one little monosyllable, "Rain," which stood against the name of Alfred Kappes, who died last year. He was one of the



With permission of the Artist.

ON THE PLATTERKILL.—WALTER L. PALMER.

erly that they looked as though they were pasted on, it certainly struck its highest imaginative note in the painted light and air of Twachtman. No representative collection of modern art would be complete without a touch of impressionism,

and such a picture as this is valuable in training the public to look for more color in landscape than they have been accustomed to see, and showing them also to what point the color sense may be developed in the artist.



With permission of the Artist.

HARVEST.—E. EVANS.

most original and serious of the younger group of artists. The picture itself was a monosyllable,—a tiny, haunting thing.

"The Mourning Brave," by E. W. Deming, was a picture tragic in its utter desolation. Here are none of the accessories with which, in sheltered houses, we try to cheat death of its terror; this is stiff, stark death, the one note of human life in a pitiless landscape. Mr. Deming has struck a strong vein in his delineation of Indian life, which was further represented in the exhibition by his "Wages of War" and "Apache Watching Pueblo Dance." He also is a Western artist. Born near Geneseo, Illinois, he studied first in the Art Students' League, and was afterward a pupil of Bougereau and Lefebvre at the Julien school. That he has not been brought more prominently before the public as an artist is due to the fact that much of his work has gone to the illustration of magazines.

Among the heads in the exhibition, Walter Blackman's ideal head was much admired; and a "Veiled Head," by Stanley Middleton, was charming.

Among the water colors were five pictures by W. Hamilton Gibson, possessing all the refinement and delicacy of that well-known artist's work; a picture of New England coast scenery by George H. Smillie, which was a fine example of the conservative method in water color; more good work by William Forsyth; and a Holland sketch by J. Wells Champney. It is impossible within the limits of an article not intended to be critical, but merely descriptive and reminiscent, to speak in detail of one hundred and seventy-five paintings.

There should be in every picture exhibition a ballot-box for the deposit of a popular vote. In this way it might be ascertained which picture is best liked. Undoubtedly the picture in this collection most talked about, and about which there was most difference of opinion, was the Twachtman, the "blue snow" Twachtman, the "Last Touch of Sun." If the exhibition sounded the lowest depth of realism in "A Bachelor's Drawer," on which Mr. John Haberle succeeded in painting dollar bills and posters so cleverly









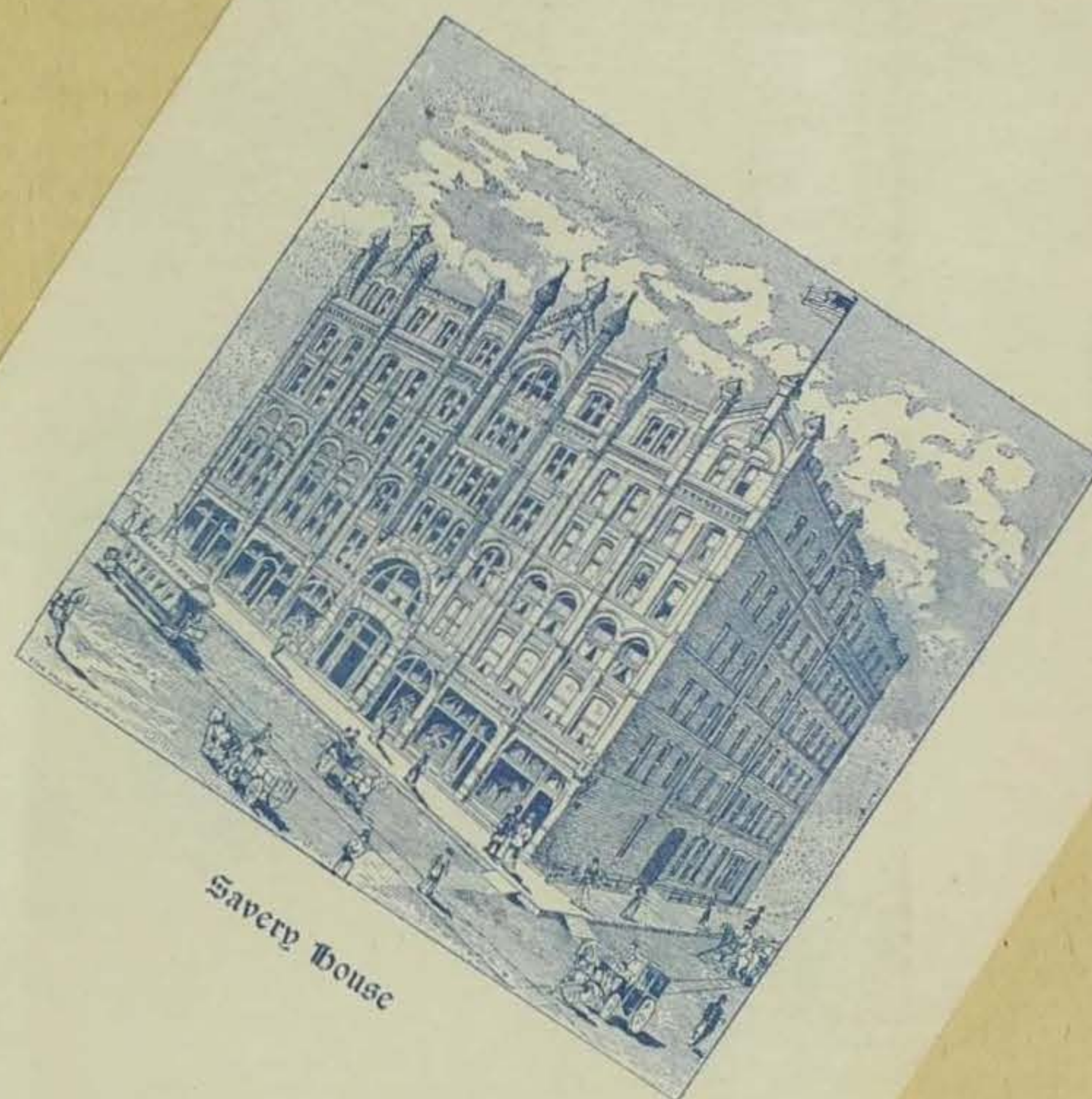
# Banquet of Federated Clubs

IN HONOR OF

.. Mrs. Charles Henrotin ..

Monday Evening, May 6, 1895.

Savory House  
Des Moines, Iowa.



INVOCATION, - - - - - Mrs. H. L. Stetson

## Toasts.

- 1 OUR GUESTS, - - - - - Mrs. W. H. Bailey
- 2 WOMAN AS A HUMORIST, - - - - - Mrs. Chas. Henrotin
- 3 THE ART OUT-LOOK, - - - - - Mrs. Lindon W. Bates
- 4 FEDERATION: IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH,  
- - - - - Mrs. A. L. Frisbie
- 5 THE NEW WOMAN—WHO AND WHAT IS SHE?  
- - - - - Mrs. Virginia Reichard
- 6 THE NEW MAN, - - - - - Miss Ella McLoney
- 7 OUR CHILDREN AND THE WORLD'S CHILDREN  
- - - - - Mrs. Henry Wallace
- 8 THE MEN WHO ARE LEFT OUT, - - - - - Mrs. Roswell P. Dart
- 9 OUR AIMS: WHAT WE WOULD BE, WHAT  
WE WOULD DO, - - - - - Mrs. Celeste Given

## Menu.

|               |                        |              |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
|               | BOUILLON EN TASSE      |              |
|               | BREADSTICKS            |              |
| OLIVES        | SALTED ALMONDS         | PICKLES      |
|               | BAKED PIKE             |              |
|               | POTATOES PARISIENNE    |              |
|               | SWEET BREADS IN CASES  |              |
| POTATO CHIPS  |                        | FRENCH PEAS  |
|               | ORANGE ICE WITH WAFERS |              |
|               | CHICKEN SALAD          |              |
| MACAROONS     |                        | KISSES       |
|               | JELLIES IN FORM        |              |
| ICE CREAM     |                        | STRAWBERRIES |
| ASSORTED CAKE |                        | COFFEE       |



Monday evening the corridors and parlors of the Savery House were thronged with the bright, literary and enthusiastic women who are members of the Federated Clubs. The assemblage was that of honor to Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, president of the National Federation of Clubs. This reception and banquet marked an epoch in the history of the seven clubs of our city and will ever be recalled as one of the most recherche affairs and a gathering that they can always refer to with the highest honor and pride. The corridors and parlors were handsomely adorned with palms and huge bouquets of snowballs and lilacs in elegant tall jardinières. The mantels were decorated with similar flowers. All evening Kromer's orchestra, stationed at one end of the corridor, furnished inspiring music, which added cheerfulness to the already pleasant gathering. The guests were met at the entrance by Mesdames W. A. Park, C. V. Keith, Harry Elliott and J. C. Macy, who took the tickets and kindly directed them to the dressing rooms. Mrs. Park was gowned in light silk and carried yellow roses. Mrs. Keith was attired in black satin with low bodice and carried American Beauty roses. Mrs. Elliott, light blue silk; diamonds; pink roses. Mrs. Macy, black silk crepon petticoat, sea foam bodice; diamonds; carried sweet peas. At 8 o'clock the guests began to arrive and in half an hour afterward the beautiful Savery was filled with joyous, light-hearted and intellectual women. Mrs. J. H. Windsor of the North Des Moines Conversational Club presented the guests to Mrs. Henrotin. Mrs. H. C. Potter of the Women's Club presented the guests to Mrs. Lindon Bates of Chicago. Mesdames Galusha Parsons, J. D. Whisenand, Lowry W. Goode, C. E. Rawson, A. B. Cummins and Hawley were also of the receiving party. Mrs. Henrotin was elegantly gowned in heliotrope satin, duchess lace overdress, low bodice, violets at her shoulder, diamond necklace, opal pendant. Mrs. Bates was most handsomely gowned in green corded silk with emerald velvet trimmings, rhinestone buckle at shoulder and waist. Mrs. H. C. Potter was becomingly gowned in white satin; point lace; diamonds. Mrs. J. H. Windsor was attired in a handsome gown of gold and blue heavy brocaded satin; real lace; diamonds. Mrs. Galusha Parsons, steel satin, black chiffon; Mrs. J. D. Whisenand, white silk; Mrs. C. E. Rawson, yellow silk, velvet trimmings. Mrs. A. B. Cummins, red satin, black chiffon. Mrs. L. W. Goode, gray silk. At 10 o'clock the banquet hall was opened. Mrs. E. R. Clapp and Mrs. W. T. Clark ushered the guests to the dining room. Mrs. C. O. Nourse and Mrs. Cherry showed the way to the tables, and Mesdames C. L. Watrous, Stewart Goodrell, W. Mitchell, Henry Plumb, E. H. Carter, L. F. Andrews, and Miss Jessie Ritchey seated the guests. The banquet hall presented a most beautiful sight. Drapings and ceiling hangings of the American flags, the brilliantly illuminated room, the women handsomely gowned in silks and satins of delicate and rich tints, laces and sparkling gems, bright and animated faces, the four long tables florally attractive with roses and carnations, were to a looker-on a most beautiful picture. Three hundred women were seated at this banquet. The divine blessing was invoked in an impressive manner by Mrs. H. L. Stetson. After a sumptuous banquet of many courses, Mrs. L. W. Goode, as president of the Women's Club, introduced Mrs. J. K. Macomber as toast mistress. Mrs. Macomber, who is recognized as one of our bright, representative women, was received with applause. In her introductory remarks she said a woman's banquet was no copy of a man's banquet. Around our festal board must be bright faces, flowers, nodding plumes and smiles. Who would be six feet tall, wear black clothes and smoke?" Mrs. Macomber introduced Mrs. W. H. Bailey, who responded to the toast, "Our Guests." Mrs. Bailey showed plainly that women have much to do with all the arts of civilized life. She paid a pleasing tribute to Mrs. Henrotin, speaking with equal compliment to Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, Mrs. Galusha Parsons and Mrs. Gov. Jackson. Mrs. Henrotin then responded to the toast, "Women as Humorists." In tell-

ing the story about how a lady could easily comprehend Daniels equanimity in the lion's den, because when the after-dinner speeches would begin he would not be in it, she glanced to the men in the caged balcony. Mrs. Bates, as a Chicago woman, was presented and spoke on the "Art Outlook." She referred in a delightful manner to the new vigor, new inspirations, new life, brought about by the fair in kindling an art interest, and in bringing women to directing and creating a true social life. Mrs. Bates possesses a deep, clear voice and charming delivery. Her remarks were well received. Mrs. A. L. Frisbie spoke on "Federation; In Union There is Strength." She first said, "Order is heaven's first law," and illustrated by the old story of the father, sons and the cluster of sticks. She advocated that women's clubs gave strength through union and they meet together and gain a glad recognition of what is true in womanhood. Mrs. Virginia Reichard told of "The New Woman, Who and What She Is." Every age, she thought, has had its new women. It was the new women that came over in the Mayflower. She cited many ways in which the new woman has and will figure. Miss Ella McLoney spoke of "The New Man." She advocated that the man who holds out the helping hand to woman has the warmest appreciation of all women and such a character is the new man in its best sense. In introducing Mrs. Henry Wallace, whose toast was "Our Children and the World's Children," Mrs. Macomber was very pathetic and most excellent was her portrayal of mother and child. Mrs. Wallace said, "If environment changes the color of blossoms and weeds become flowers, then our children, if taught the joy of sharing their pleasures and living for others, their lives will be fragrant with the flowers of beautiful deeds. We do not wish them to be of the day-before-yesterday type, but in accordance with our motto to advance." She spoke of the difference of the care for them as animals and angels; to clothe, feed and educate is one, but to add to this is the higher education. The goodly tree, the federation, scattering seeds of thought, may it not bear fruit of exclusiveness. The literary wave now breaking on the shores of this new era of womanhood is largely due to the cultured women of the French Salons of the seventeenth century, which mark a transition period in woman's history. It was from this the Madeleine de Scudery Club took its name. If women's clubs will live up to their high ideals and the cause of the mother's progress, there will be less reason for anxiety over the children of the world. Homes may be high or lowly, but are only truly happy when the father and mother element unite in a dual responsibility. Mrs. Roswell P. Dart spoke of "The Men Who are Left Out." She said that in the past our liege lords have been most happy among congenial spirits, while women have remained solitary at home. Now all is changed. Social conditions have been changed and artificial irregularities have been swept away. She pictured that women could still do many womanly things. Mrs. Celeste Givens made the closing response on "What We Would Be; What We Would Do." She said woman should be womanly, cultured in head, hand and heart. All our studies, all our club work should make better wives, mothers, sisters and daughters or else it is all lost. Mrs. W. L. Brown, in her thoughtful way, had prepared dainty souvenir place-cards for the guests of honor. They consisted of the menu cards with a beautiful hand-painted covering with the lettering in gold, "In honor of Mrs. Ellen Henrotin." Each card was decorated differently. Mrs. Henrotin's was done in violets, Mrs. Bates' was that of marguerites, Mrs. Blythe's that of daffodils, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, apple-blossoms and Mrs. Gov. Jackson, daffodils. This was quite a pleasant surprise to the ladies and certainly a delightful one. Many elegant gowns were worn by the ladies. Mrs. Lave Young was attired in an elegant light figured satin with emerald velvet trimmings, diamonds; Mrs. Reichard, in white brocaded satin with chiffon trimmings; Mrs. Bailey in black silk petticoat and pink chiffon bodice; Mrs. E. R. Clapp, two-toned brown velvet and heavy light salmon-

colored satin with rosebuds, duchess lace, diamonds; Mrs. Ernest Brown, cream mull, black velvet trimmings.

Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin of Chicago, president of the Grand Federation of Women's Clubs, and whose coming to our city has been looked forward to with anticipated pleasure by the women of Des Moines' clubdom, arrived in our city Saturday morning as the guest of Mrs. J. H. Windsor. Everything had been arranged for her pleasure and enjoyment during her sojourn in our city. Mrs. Henrotin together with the other guests of honor, Mrs. Lindon Bates of Chicago and Mrs. Weed of West Union were given a complimentary breakfast by Mrs. Lowry Goode Saturday morning. The breakfast, which was served at 11 o'clock, was very refreshing, as many of the spring delicacies were introduced. The dining-room looked very dainty and inviting by being decorated with fragrant crab-apple blossoms. The table was done in snowy linen with a center adornment of crab-apple blossoms, which brought the very odor of spring with them. The place-cards each bore a bunch of pink honeysuckles and on the reverse side a sentiment complimentary to the guest. The service was perfect and the breakfast delicious; it consisted of the following menu: Strawberries with their leaves and blossoms, fish, round potatoes, hot biscuit, porterhouse steak, mushrooms, coffee, chicken chowder patties, tomato salad, wafers, waffles and maple syrup. Covers were laid for fourteen. The guests of honor were Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Bates and Mrs. Weed. The other guests were Mesdames E. H. Carter, Jay K. Macomber, Jas. H. Windsor, H. C. Potter, F. W. Lehman, Jas. Callanan, E. J. Goode, Galusha Parson, Frank Vorse and A. B. Cummins. "Windsor" was the scene of a gathering of the bright, intellectual and progressive women of the several Federated clubs of the city, Saturday afternoon, who assembled at this beautiful home to meet Mrs. Henrotin and Mrs. Lindon Bates of Chicago. As the guests entered they were presented by Mrs. W. F. Mitchell to Mrs. J. H. Windsor, who received them in her felicitous manner and presented them to Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Berryhill, Mrs. Lindon Bates of Chicago, Mrs. Lowry Goode, Mrs. Weed of West Union, Mrs. A. B. Cummins and Mrs. Galusha Parsons, who were of the receiving party. Each gave to the guests a most cordial and hearty welcome. Mrs. Henrotin was attired in an elegant gown of white heavy corded bengaline, white chiffon bodice with black velvet and jet trimmings; Mrs. Bates wore a stylish gown of eminence and black mousseline with jet trimmings; Mrs. Weed was attired in a heavy black satin petticoat and yellow silk crepe bodice; Mrs. J. H. Windsor was gowned in a handsome brown and red silk; Mrs. Berryhill wore a gown of blue and black silk; Mrs. Lowry Goode was attired in a gray gown; Mrs. A. B. Cummins in a black satin petticoat and fancy bodice, and Mrs. Galusha Parsons in black silk with steel trimmings. "Windsor," with its magnificent furnishings, was made still more attractive by the introduction of choice flowers which added beauty and filled the air with their fragrant aroma. The grand stairway was entwined with garlands of smilax. In a nook off one of the landings was a huge bouquet of sweet-scented lilacs. In front of the long mirror in the hall were banked golden yellow nasturtiums. In the reception room the mantel was effectively beautified with a variety of lovely flowers, so arranged as to be seemingly nodding welcome to the guests. Mrs. W. H. Harwood of the North Des Moines Conversational Club, Mrs. Walter Irish of the Review Club, Mrs. Roswell P. Dart of the Frank Russell Chautauqua Club, Mrs. Baily of the Women's Club, Mrs. Thomas Tinsley of the Scudery Club, Mrs. Burgin of the Tourist Club and Mrs. Hunt each in their happy manner saw to the guests pleasure and invited them into the dining-room. This room was transformed into an ideal and perfectly exquisite rendezvous in which to partake of the dainty refreshments, for, while one was being served, the eye was given a most handsome flower picture to gaze upon. The sideboard was massed with potted plants from the rich velvety foliage to that of

the more delicate tinted. Blooming plants gave color enough to the whole. An elegant fuchsia with its innumerable bright red blossoms was placed in the center and completed this floral picture. The neatly appointed center table was florally attractive with a cut glass bowl filled with crab-apple blossoms. In the hallway leading from this flower-bedecked room to that of the music-room there was a recess completely filled with an exquisite variety of potted and blooming plants, rich in coloring, yet delicate in effect. In front of the long mirror in the music-room was a bank of roses from those of the deep red to the most delicate shades of pink or yellow. The chandeliers were all wreathed with smilax. During the afternoon Kromer's orchestra furnished inspiring and sweet music, which added cheerfulness to the already happy occasion. Each club present was represented by its club badge. This reception was both enjoyable and recherche. Despite the flurry of the thermometer, the cream of the literary women of the city were present. This afternoon's gathering was one of those affairs that will leave pleasant memories to the club women of our city and to the guests of honor for many a day. for Mrs. Windsor is a perfect hostess leaving nothing undone that would lend to the enjoyment of her guests. In the evening Mrs. Henrotin and the other distinguished visitors were royally entertained at 7 o'clock dinner by Mr. and Mrs. James G. Berryhill. The decorations for the dinner were quiet, yet in excellent taste. The courses were many and elaborate. The conversation around the festive board was an interchange of wisdom, wit, courtesy and merriment. The women, who were present, are all prominent in club and literary work and that spirit of congeniality predominated. Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill are exceptionally bright entertainers. The guests at this very delightful company were Mrs. Henrotin of Chicago, Mrs. J. H. Windsor, Mrs. Lindon W. Bates of Chicago, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. Ira W. Weed of West Union, Miss Rachel Clark and Mr. Henry A. Clapp of Boston.

## RANDOM PENCILINGS.

DES MOINES has had an experience this week entirely new and suggestive. For many years the women have been keeping the lights burning in the window on the occasion of banquets and have listened with acute ear for the slightest sound of the footsteps of their returning husbands in the early morning hours. The thing has been reversed here, for once, at least, and the husbands have had an opportunity to keep up the light and meditate. The experience is so unlike anything that has heretofore befallen them, and their curiosity is so great, that not one of them closed their eyes until their wives were safely at home again and had told the story of the first and only banquet of their lives, perhaps, without the embarrassing presence of the "horrid men." It is an improvement which has come along with the phonograph, telephone, electric cars and flying machines—yet in their infancy—and, it is hoped, will be permanent. The emancipation of women has come about very gradually. They have these rights because they have reached out and taken them, asking no questions, nor even stopping in every instance to bandy words with the lords of creation, who in their wisdom, marked out a circumscribed path and insisted that they should walk there, or withdraw from the track entirely. The most cynical will not deny that the women of Des Moines have



had a wonderful mental uplift in the last few years. This has been the result of study, in an organized way, mingling of thoughts and ideas, reaching upward and outward to those things which ennoble life and build character, rather than to fritter their hours and days away upon the light and trifling things of life, which perish with the using. There was a time years ago when the husband, by his greater opportunities, travel and mingling in society, left the wife tied hand and foot with rearing children and household cares, far behind in the mental race. It often happened, too, that this mental gulf widened, so that in middle age the husband became ashamed of her and sought more attractive society, while she became a silent household drudge, until death looked upon her with pitying eyes. A change has come to men and women of the closing century. Who will say it is not a grateful one? Instead of drifting apart, the husband and wife walk hand in hand in the fields of knowledge, she, by her quickness and intuition, guiding his clumsy feet in new and more elevating paths. The 260 club ladies and invited guests who graced the banquet tables last Monday night at the Savery, in honor of Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, are to be heartily congratulated on thus introducing to the capital city an innovation which is destined in the future to take its place in all cities where women's clubs are as numerous as in Des Moines.

At the meeting of the Federated Clubs at Cedar Rapids this week, Des Moines was quite prominently represented. Mrs. James G. Berryhill's address was considered exceptionally fine. Mrs. James H. Windsor's address was excellent in its composition and well delivered, being considered the ablest production given during Thursday. Mrs. W. H. Bailly was elected recording secretary.

The Women's Club met on Wednesday afternoon. In the absence of the president Mrs. R. R. Peters acted in that capacity. The program for the afternoon was in charge of the political economy committee. Mrs. Patchin had charge of the current topics and talked of women's clubs. Mrs. James G. Day read one of her humorous letters from "Melissa Old Foggy From Away Back." Miss Ella McLoney's paper on "Labor Discontent" was an exhaustive review of the duties of capital and labor and the benefits to come from co-operation. Her paper was full of valuable thoughts and suggestions. Mrs. Mary J. L. Gaylord gave a paper on labor organization, after which a general discussion followed led by Mrs. C. B. Atkins, Mrs. Patchin and Mrs. Walter Reed.

MAIL AND TIMES is in receipt of the handsome program of '93-4 of the Woman's Club. It is their ninth annual announcement and promises for the coming winter as interesting a series of afternoons as the club has enjoyed in the past. The program is preceded by the articles of incorporation, certificate of organization and by-laws. The club, while growing steadily in numbers, does not yet include anything like the number of representative women there are in Des Moines, and is not as cosmopolitan as such a club should be. Perhaps the roundabout method of admission has something to do with this. The candidate must send her application in writing, endorsed by two members, to the board of directors of twenty-five persons, and even then two black balls will prevent admission. Under the leadership of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, the club will continue in its career of ever increasing prosperity.

The papers sent to Chicago by the members of the Woman's Club were all in illustrated covers, the work being in most cases that of local artists. One of the most talented ladies in the club, Mrs. Henry Wallace, whose paper upon "The Provincial Literature of America" will be remembered with pleasure not only by members of the club but by all readers of the daily papers, did her own illustrating in about one hour. Mrs. Wallace is an artist as well as a forceful and brilliant writer. Her home contains many evidences of her rare gift of wielding brush and crayon, and the illustrations of her paper are those of which a professional might be proud.

Monday evening the contribution from the Woman's Club of our city was sent to Chicago, where it will be displayed in the woman's building. Mrs. L. B. Abdill, Mrs. James Day and Mrs. P. B. Durley were the committee in charge, and the ability of these ladies is a sufficient warrant that their work was admirably done. Five volumes were sent, which contained a detailed history of the club from the time of its organization in 1885 to the present time, written by Mrs. Day, the press notices the club have received, the pictures of those ladies who have been presidents, the papers presented before the club, and illustrations of their carnival in '91 and their Greek entertainment this spring. The club started with about fifteen members and now numbers about 125. The members comprise a majority of the most talented and best educated women of Des Moines, whose tireless efforts and wonderful enthusiasm have made their club one of the foremost organizations of our city.

The parlors of the Christian Church were well filled Wednesday afternoon by the members of the Des Moines Woman's Club, it being their first meeting for this year. Mrs. Ella Hamilton-Durley, the retiring president, in a few appropriate words introduced her successor, Mrs. James Berryhill. Mrs. Berryhill gave one of the most inspiring addresses ever made before the club. She advocated very strongly the higher education of woman and the broadening of her sphere. Her remarks were such as to arouse enthusiasm among her hearers and the annual address as made by her presented many valuable ideas in regard to the year's work. The new secretary, Mrs. Dr. Carter, was introduced by the retiring secretary, Mrs. C. E. Kisser. Mrs. Judge Day then gave the historian's report and it was such as to make you laugh and cry both in the same minute. Full of bright and sparkling wit and with many happy allusions to occurrences in the past, it was most thoroughly enjoyed by the members. At the close of the regular program the board of directors held a business meeting. Neat programs of the year's work were distributed

among the members. They are in the shape of booklets with the first pages devoted to the list of officers and committees, followed by the club calendar. The next meeting occurs October 12th, the program being in charge of the art committee, of which Mrs. Stewart Goodrell is chairman.

Despite the intense cold of Wednesday the Woman's Club, with few exceptions, attended the entertainment prepared for them by the social committee at the residence of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, the acting president of the club in Mrs. Berryhill's absence. This is the first time her beautiful new home has been thrown open since its completion, and her kindness in entertaining the club was very thoroughly appreciated by the members. Upon entering the house the guests were ushered to the dancel hall which had been arranged for the presentation of the Greek play "Sappho." The hall was darkened and in front of the stage were found the footlights. The stage settings were wonderfully pretty and effective, being appropriate in every particular. The back was draped in black, a Grecian border of gold finishing it. Upon the floor were soft rugs, while a couch covered with innumerable cushions, Grecian chairs, beautiful statuary and other furnishings, gave the stage a most oriental appearance. The play itself is an artistic little Grecian drama, and when so excellently interpreted as on Wednesday, deserves a much higher rank than a mere amateur performance. Sappho, living 600 years B. C., founded a school of poetry on the island of Lesbos. So great was her fame that disciples were attracted to her court from all over Greece. Among these were Erinna and Damophila, Erinna worshipping Sappho as a star of the brightest hue. Sappho, the cold and unapproachable poetess, falls in love with Phaon, who, however, does not return her love but bestows his upon Damophila. When Sappho discovers this, she throws herself from the far-famed "Lover's Leap," and perishes. Erinna, who worships her, dies of a broken heart over her fate. Damophila does not return Phaon's love, so she sends him to live with shepherds on the mountains and herd sheep for a time. While he is absent she discovers her love for him and longs for his return. When he does return, after simulated indecision she finally bestows her hand upon him. In the assigning of the characters to those best suited for the parts, Mrs. Harry West showed the tact and capability which has made her the efficient chairman of the committee. Mrs. Stewart Goodrell as Sappho, was an ideal character, being learned, dignified and having the great nobility of character so often associated with the brilliant poetess. Mrs. John Trepanier as Erinna, the adoring worshipper of Sappho, showed in her acting an artistic finish, not often seen in amateur performances. Especially touching is the scene in which the ghost of Sappho appears to the answer the longing of Erinna and telling her of the future life. On the ghost's departure Erinna dies and the beauty and pathos of the scene were most marked. The part of the proud, cold Damophila was admirably suited to Mrs. Homer Cope, who first replies to Phaon's love with scorn and later gives him her heart. When he returns from the mountains she has just confessed to herself her absorbing love for him but to him hesitates and desires a little more space in which to decide the question. Here is found one of the sweetest and prettiest bits of acting in the whole play. The transformation of the cold Damophila into the loving maid being a piece of clever acting by Mrs. Cope. The interpretation of the character of Phaon was finely done by Miss Parce, her make-up and acting being perfect. Mrs. A. B. Cummins and Miss Marion Watrous were the two graceful attendants of the play, while Miss Catherine Cope was the dear little page. The costumes were very pretty ones, the Grecian idea being thoroughly carried out. The audience were most thoroughly surprised and delighted with the performance, and the actresses were warmly congratulated upon their success. It is hoped that at some future date the play will be repeated and an opportunity given to witness its beauty and artistic production. The ladies of the social committee, in keeping with their entertainment, wore their hair in the Grecian style, it being in all cases most becoming. Shortly before the curtain rose, the chairman, Mrs. West, requested that the hats of the ladies

be removed. This was a woman's club and it was fitting that the innovation be here begun. After the applause had died away, the hats were removed. Dainty refreshments were served, consisting of ambrosia and nectar, the china and linen used being exquisite. For a most successful entertainment and an afternoon of rare enjoyment the social committee received the thanks of the many present, for each member was privileged to invite a guest for this occasion. The members of the committee were Mesdames Harry West, Stewart Goodrell, Martha C. Callanan, A. B. Cummins, J. J. Towne, S. A. Robertson, Walter McCain, E. R. Clapp, J. B. Hatton, C. H. Getchell, J. S. Carter, E. H. Carter, H. C. Potter, F. A. Percival, Fannie Browne, Homer Cope, John Trepanier and Miss Watrous.

The Women's Club was given an exceptionally fine treat in "Art" Wednesday afternoon by the art committee of which Mrs. H. C. Potter was chairman. Through the untiring efforts and artistic taste of Mrs. Potter and her committee, composed of Mesdames West, Byers, Plumb, Billington, Kauffman, Abdill, Wyman and Goodrell, the club was given an enjoyment that will linger in the minds of those present for many a day. Upon entering the lecture room, and as the eye fell upon the beautiful picture of art, which the committee had arranged, one felt assured, that indeed one would be given an ideal afternoon in art. The platform had been enlarged and transformed into a perfect paradise of an art room. The floor was covered with oriental rugs. Here and there were arranged, with delicate richness in effect, palms, statuettes, choice pieces of statuary in bronze, marble and alabaster, supported on tall marble pillars. Also the Spring Veiled head resting on the easel. Handsome easy chairs and divans, with pretty pillows, gave it a home-like appearance, and upon the walls were hung lovely marbles. Against this, as a center ornamentation, were massed the tall feathery palms, whose fronds stretched out to the marble figures on each side, the Greek Slave and Psyche and Cupid, both of which are the property of Mrs. Abdill. On a tall column, at the right of the speaker, was a beautiful ideal head from the World's Fair, the property of Mrs. H. C. Potter. The whole was enclosed with a railing of garlanded lycopodium. Mrs. Goode, president of the Club, introduced Mrs. H. C. Potter, chairman of the art committee, who in her pleasing manner, gave a few beautiful thoughts relative to art. She then introduced Mrs. A. B. Billington, who gave one of her gems, an original poem, "The Dawn of Art." It was a gem both in sentiment and choicest diction. Then came Hellas herself, mother of art. It was Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, who certainly was a picture of art, gowned in her soft clinging robe of white and gold, as she beautifully rendered her art greeting. Mrs. Harry West then gave the paper of the afternoon, "Modern Painters and the Renaissance," which was an exceptionally fine paper and was well received. Prof. Baldwin, attired in a sculptor's garb, demonstrated to the ladies the art of modeling in clay. Mrs. S. H. M. Byers in her charming way took great pleasure in describing the numerous and exceedingly rare curious, antique for the most part, which filled one table, the property of the Byers collection. The members of the club were very profuse in their compliments to the art committee for the very entertaining and delightful afternoon given them. The club will have a called meeting Friday afternoon, Feb. 22, when the club home will be discussed.







The long-considered project of the Women's club of this city to establish an art gallery will receive decided encouragement in the fact that that organization is to be presented with an elegant painting, a contribution to the gallery of the future, at its approaching session. The picture is a fine copy of one of Corot's superb landscapes, an Italian village, and the generous donor is Mrs. Frederick Field, who has recently returned from a trip through Europe and to Egypt and Palestine. While in Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Field purchased some fine paintings for their own home, including an excellent copy of Murillo's "Immaculate Conception." It then occurred to them that they would like to do something for their home city that would help to develop an appreciation for art here. After a good deal of thought on the subject and a consultation with Miss Mary McClelland, who has quite an acquaintance in Parisian art circles, they decided on a copy of this magnificent work of Corot's. The copyist was an artist of ability and name, Mmille Hoppe, an American by birth, though of French parentage. Her life has been spent in Paris, in the assiduous pursuit of her art, and her work has found a ready acceptance among those capable of judging of merit. Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Edmundson of Pleasant street are the fortunate possessors of one or two of her copies of famous paintings. The picture which Mrs. Field purposes giving to the club is an ideally beautiful Italian landscape some 36 by 27 inches in size, elegantly and appropriately framed. To the right in the landscape is a noble tree, full-leaved, and with that appearance of palpitating life, which Corot could so well attain. Beneath the tree, resting in its shade, is an Italian shepherd boy, a sheep or two near by. A sheet of gleaming water, a distant mountain and an old castle make up an exceedingly charming effect. The picture cannot fail to delight those who see it and Mrs. Field will certainly call forth the sincerest thanks of the club. The bust of Diana, one of the club's world's fair purchases, has but recently arrived also, so that together with the bronze Jean d'Arc, it may be said that the art collection is already begun. Now for a place to put these pieces!







help them to think more seriously. Women have not long shown their power in organization, but whenever they have associated themselves in any great movement they have been successful, as in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and now in the preparation for the women's department of the World's Fair. They have shown their ability and accomplished their purposes. The value of the personal association and intercourse of ideas cannot be overestimated.

"The objection is made that this will be destructive of the influence of the home, but I do not think this can stop it. There is a great work set for women to do; a work for righteousness, to accomplish certain purposes, and until this is done, until woman has attained a greater sphere of usefulness, it cannot stop. Some sacrifices must be made, and we must count carefully to see that the cost is not too much. But it is all coming out grandly and for the greatest good in the end. The women of Des Moines want you all to enjoy this meeting and this visit to the greatest possible extent, and make it of the greatest usefulness to yourselves and those you represent."

#### The Reception.

The members of the Des Moines Woman's Club tendered a reception last night to the visitors at Terrace Hill, the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hubbell. Each member of the Woman's Club was privileged to invite one guest, so the party numbered over 200, and, of course, it was handsomely taken care of.

The reception committee was: Mrs. Harry West, chairman; Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, Mrs. Fannie Browne, Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Mrs. J. S. Carter, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, Mrs. J. H. Windsor, Mrs. W. F. Thummell, Mrs. W. M. McCain, Mrs. E. H. Carter, Mrs. C. H. Getchell, Mrs. Wm. Jaquith, Mrs. Chas. Watrous, Mrs. H. C. Potter, Mrs. Jas. Callanan, Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, Mrs. F. A. Percival, Mrs. S. A. Robertson, Mrs. J. J. Towne, Mrs. J. B. Hatton, Miss May McClelland.

The ladies appeared in full dress, and altogether the event was one of the most dazzling brilliance from a social standpoint.

The beautiful home was richly decorated with flowers, there was music, and with the cordial spirit of the ladies of Des Moines it was made a very delightful and memorable occasion for the visitors. The following programme was carried out:

Address of welcome.....Mrs. Macomber  
Jewel song, Faust.....Mrs. Belknap  
Chariot race, Ben Hur.....Miss Bertha Parce  
Violin solo.....Prof. Schmidt

Mrs. Macomber's address was one of the neatest imaginable and made everyone feel at home. Dainty refreshments were served.

#### THE "SAPPHO" PERFORMANCE. *April 10, 1893.*

One of the finest audiences of the season was that brought together at Foster's opera house last evening by the presentation by the social committee of the Women's club of the Greek play "Sappho". It has long been understood that when the members of this club essay to give an entertainment of whatever character, there is hardly a possibility of its being anything but a success. The authors' carnival, brought out by the club something over a year ago, is still spoken of as one of the most delightful home entertainments ever given in Des Moines, and a like appreciation has been accorded other efforts of the club whenever made. The opera house presented a beautiful not to say brilliant appearance last evening. The ladies present were very generally out in fresh and handsome spring gowns and stylish new bonnets. Many had removed their bonnets, thus producing a particularly homelike effect. To the right the spacious proscenium box was occupied by the president of the club, Mrs. James G. Berryhill and the ladies of the social committee, the latter being Mesdames Harry West, Stewart Goodrell, Martha Callanan, A. B. Cummins, J. J. Towne, S. A. Robertson, Walter McCain, E. R. Clapp, J. B. Hatton, C. H. Getchell, J. S. Carter, H. C. Potter, F. A. Percival, Fannie Browne and E. H. Carter. The faithful work of those in charge was revealed in part at least when the curtain rose and displayed a wealth of stage decorations rarely seen. It was very evident that some of the tasteful homes of the city had been robbed of their choice treasures to add to the general interest and beauty. A quaint Grecian temple, of grey stone made an effective background, an elegant full length Venus de Milo in front of it. There were other works of art, as busts in marble of the same statue, also of Artemis, Ajax, etc. A great many elegant rugs, hangings and cushions were used also, while flowering plants filled every available space.

The part of "Sappho", the queenly Grecian widow, was charmingly taken by Mrs. Stewart Goodrell; that of "Damo-phyla", by Mrs. Homer D. Cope in a natural and truly artistic manner. Miss Mary Newman in the role of "Erinna" was graceful and rose to excellent work at times. It is worthy of note that Miss Newman took the part only four days ago, and did all the work of preparation in that short time.

Miss Bertha Parce made a creditable Phoen, her voice and the delivery of her lines being good, though it was not till the comedietta which followed that she appeared at her very best. The play as a whole was beautiful and the audience seemed thoroughly pleased. In the farce, "A Happy Pair," which followed, Mr. M. B. Compton took the part of Mr. Honeyton very satisfactorily, and with Miss Parce as Mrs. Honeyton, fully equalled the work of the average professional. A handsome sum was netted.



The Women's Club varied its meeting last Wednesday by coming together as a social organization, at the home of Mrs. S. A. Robertson, who, as a member of the social committee, extended the hospitalities of the day to the club. Mrs. Robertson was assisted in the reception to the ladies by her daughter, Mrs. Campbell, by Mrs. Talbott, and by Mesdames Town, Getchell, Windsor, West and Brown, of the club. The event of the afternoon, which caused so unprecedented an irruption of the members was the presence of Miss Alice French (Octave Thanet of current literature), Mrs. Shaeffer of Iowa City and Mrs. Duncombe of Ft. Dodge, who were present in the interest of the Red Cross Auxillary for the benefit of the starving Russians. The special order of the day was inaugurated with the reading of a letter, by Mrs. Judge Day, from Aunt Old Foggy from way back, an aunt of the club, who contributes many sensible ideas upon the subject under discussion, clothed in a humorous dress. The versatile Mrs. Macomber responded to the toast, "The Clubs Over the Way." She told how much the women's clubs of Des Moines had tended to the higher development of their members; that while acting as a nerve tonic and a mental stimulant, they were making their followers more attractive in their own homes. She gave greeting, also, to the better class of clubs among the men, and, in doing so, sharply scored two clubs among the women where the members played for stakes, consisting of spoons, while at least four of the men's clubs allowed nothing in the way of gambling. On the plea that men always did their best literary work where women were excluded, she advocated the forming of the masculine club. Miss French was then introduced to the club by the president, Mrs. Durley. Miss French is of a pleasing personality, with much magnetism. Under the pseudonym of "Octave Thanet" she has been a regular contributor to the different periodicals, beginning with Lippincott's and running the gamut of the principal magazines. She proved that a prophet sometimes is honored in his own country, for during the afternoon there were expressions only of pleasure and sympathy—pleasure at meeting Octave Thanet—sympathy with Alice French in her efforts for the suffering. A strong and forcible talker, she carried conviction with her. Evidently as well informed as one can be so far away from the seat of famine, she has thrown her whole soul into plans for relief. Miss French labored with much earnestness on plastic material, for the hearts of her hearers were already with her, and when the heart is right the head is easily persuaded to indorse and the hands to execute. The Red Cross Auxillary pledge was circulated and readily signed, and committees and sub-committees were appointed by President Durley. Mrs. Martha Callanan was appointed county chairman, and, in connection with Mrs. Tyler Scoville, was authorized to call a mass meeting of women at the Y. M. C. A. auditorium, to devise ways and means for Russian relief. Mrs. Mennig was appointed township chairman, Mrs. E. D. Conger chairman of the house-to-house canvassing committee, and Mrs. R. R. Peters chairman of the west suburban district. Mrs. E. R. Clapp and Mrs. A. B. Cummins were appointed to organize a charity ball, and Mrs. McCord, whose capacity for good work is well understood, was given a position in which her ability might be utilized. The

president announced that other names might be added to these committees. It was felt by all present that a beginning had been made, and that there was now a foundation to stand upon, in the shape of organization, in working toward the honor which has been looming up with a persistence that "would not down." After brief discussion following the talk by Miss French delicate refreshments were served, and the ladies who had been seated during the afternoon broke up into knots and groups dear to the feminine soul, and, as the shadows lengthened, regretfully turned homeward.



*"He is dead, the sweet musician;  
He has moved a little nearer  
To the master of all music."*

—LONGFELLOW.

*"He touched his harp—and all nations heard, entranced,  
As some vast river of unfailing source,  
Rapid, exhaustless, deep, his numbers flowed,  
And opened new fountains in the human heart."*

—POLLOCK.

Born 1829.

Died 1894.



## Recital

### Rubinstein Memorial.



UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
Des Moines Women's Club.

### Anton Rubinstein.

PIANO—"Ballet Music." Nos. 2 and 3. Four hands. . . . .  
From the Opera, "Feramors."

MRS. I. REIGELMAN AND MISS HATTON.

STRING QUARTETTE—"Lento" . . . . . "Music of the Spheres"

MESSRS. RIEDELSBERGER, GRAHAM, STEELE AND HEIGHTON.

SONGS— { *a*: "Die Lerche,"  
          { *b*: "Du bist wie eine Blume,

MRS. BELKNAP.

PIANO— { *a*: Romance, Op. 44. No. 1,  
          { *b*: Kamennoi—Ostrow, Op. 10. No. 22,

MRS. MAUDE ORR NELSON.

DUET—"The Angel,"

MRS. BELKNAP AND MR. METCALFE.

PIANO— { *a*: Impromptu, Op. 16. No. 1,  
          { *b*: Le Bal, Op. 14. No. 16,

MRS. MAUDE ORR NELSON.

STRING QUARTETTE—"Adagio,"

MESSRS. RIEDELSBERGER, GRAHAM, STEELE AND HEIGHTON.

CELESTE B. GIVENS, Chairman.

PIANO KINDLY FURNISHED BY ESTEY & CAMP.





## THE WOMEN'S CLUB MET

A Rubinstein Memorial Programme  
Rendered by the City's Best Talent  
—Every Number a Gem.

Mrs. Carter Described the Recent Federation Convention at Cedar Rapids  
—Mrs. Given Also Spoke Briefly.

The programme for the regular meeting of the Women's Club yesterday afternoon was in the hands of the music committee, with Mrs. Celeste B. Given as chairman, and the announcement that it was to be a Rubinstein recital drew many ladies without the club membership to the church to enjoy it with them. Very simple but effective decorations were used about the rostrum. Directly in front, sprays of wild honeysuckles clustered about a tall vase of snow balls, on either side flanked with baskets of pink and white wild blossoms. A bowl of yellow wild roses and a jardiniere of lovely ferns graced the tall pedestals, the organ rail supported three rose bowls filled with pink and white blossoms, and on the Laudemer Decker baby grand had been placed bunches of sweet alyssum and yellow roses.

After the reading of the minutes a vote of thanks was given Mr. and Mrs. Brown for their kindness relative to the banquet. Mrs. E. H. Carter, delegate of the club to the convention at Cedar Rapids, was called on for her report.

### Mrs. Carter's Report.

After speaking of the city of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Carter spoke of the club that entertained the visiting members of the Federation:

Our hostess, the Ladies' Literary Club, is limited to thirty-five members, with a long waiting list. The other six federated clubs of the city begged in vain to share the responsibility, labor and expense of the convention, and were generously allowed to help entertain the guests. The task assumed by those thirty-five women was almost herculean. When they invited the federation, thirty-seven clubs belonged; when time came for entertaining, it numbered ninety-nine. There were forty-two transient delegates, and many visitors. Twenty-two members of this club attended, and we wished the other 161 could have been there. Sessions were held in the Congregational church, centrally located. Wednesday morning delegates presented their credentials, receiving a blue and silver badge and a complete programme and pamphlet containing the name of every delegate, her home, club, name and address of her hostess. In the audience room a section had been reserved for every town represented, with the name of the town printed on the seat. After the call to order, invocation, and address of welcome by the president, Mrs. Berryhill delivered her address, her clear, strong, well modulated voice being distinctly audible in all parts of the house. Then followed reports of officers, that of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Howe, being very full and satisfactory, showing ninety-nine clubs belonging to the federation representing over 2,000 women; 86 had delegates present. The Des Moines Women's Club with its \$400 is the richest club in the Federation. The treasurer, Mrs. Weed, reported \$153 in the treasury. Mrs. Henrotin then addressed the convention on matters pertaining to club life in several states. Wednesday afternoon was occupied with two-minute speeches by club presidents, one of the most taking being given by Mrs. Daisy Ankeny-Green, of the Reading Circle, Des Moines. The reception Wednesday evening was an elaborate affair. The evening was warm and there was something of a crush, but the Ladies' Literary Club had arranged well for the comfort of its guests. The officers of the State Federation, Madames Henrotin and Windsor, of the General Federation, and Mrs. Bates, all handsomely gowned, made up the receiving party. The young ladies who attended in the supper room were daughters of members of the club, and all the gentlemen present were matrimonially connected with this club. The executive

session of federations was held at 10 o'clock Thursday morning. The nominating committee was named from the floor, Mrs. Hutchinson, of Ottumwa, chairman; Mrs. Scott, of Nevada; Mrs. Hawley, of Des Moines; Mrs. Fletcher, of Marshalltown; Mrs. Jones, of Cedar Rapids. The federation was invited to hold its next biennial at Dubuque. New officers chosen were: President, Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown; vice president, Mrs. Cogswell, of Cedar Rapids; recording secretary, Mrs. Daily, of Des Moines; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Thayer, of Chariton; treasurers, Miss Dixon, of Ottumwa, and Mrs. Colver, of Dubuque. One of the social features of Tuesday was a dinner to the bright women who represented the press, given by Mrs. Jas. Bever, Mrs. Cogswell, who had entertained the federation all week, asked the new officers to dine with them Thursday evening. Following Mrs. Carter's address, Mrs. Celeste Given made a few apt remarks concerning the afternoon of musical conversation to follow. Conversation, she said, is an art. To be able to express the thoughts of others is higher art. To express those thoughts in other language the highest art of all. She gave a short sketch of the life of Anton Rubinstein, calling him the greatest composer of living pianists, and the greatest pianist of living composers. By nature cold, reserved, pessimistic, but generous and kind to a fault, his work is done and we would lay a small wreath on his tomb this afternoon.

The programme as rendered was as follows:

Piano—"Ballet Music." Nos. 2 and 3.  
Four hands. From the Opera "Femors."  
String Quartette—"Lento".....  
....."Music of the Spheres"  
Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.  
Duet....."The Angel"  
Mrs. Belknap and Mr. Metcalfe.  
Piano—{ a Romance, Op. 44. No. 1.  
          b Kamennio-Ostrow, Op. 10, No. 23  
String Quartette....."Adagio"  
Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.  
Songs—{ a "Die Lerche."  
          b "Du bist wie eine Blume."  
          Encore.  
          Mrs. Belknap.  
Piano—{ a Impromptu, Op. 16. No. 1.  
          b Le Bal, Op. 14. No. 16.  
          Mrs. Maude Orr Nelson.  
CELESTE B. GIVEN, Chairman.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

An Afternoon With Rubinstein Yesterday  
—Reports From the Cedar Rapids Convention.

The Des Moines Women's club met in the auditorium of the Christian church yesterday. Mrs. Lowry Goode presided. A profusion of wild roses, honeysuckles and syringa blossoms made the air fragrant. Forty-four guests were present and the club members were out in large numbers. Programmes were furnished the audience indicating that a Rubinstein memorial recital would be given by some of the best professional and amateur musicians of the city.

Before beginning the musical programme business was transacted and reports read.

A report on the banquet of the Federated clubs was given by Mrs. Wilson, and the total expense was \$52.50. The portion to be paid by the Woman's club was \$28.

The report of Mrs. E. H. Carter, delegate to the convention at Cedar Rapids, was read and approved. She spoke of the hospitality of the Ladies' Literary club; of Amber, the Chicago newspaper woman, whose poetic soul saw the town as "a dream in green and gold," and so wrote of it. She mentioned the two-minute speech of Mrs. Daisy Ankeny Green, of Des Moines, as being much appreciated; she spoke of Mrs. Windsor's beautiful address, and of Mrs. Berryhill in glowing words.

Alluding to the generous hospitality with which Cedar Rapids entertained its guests, and of the success of the whole, Mr. Carter said: "I am loyal to this club, but I don't believe we could have done it so well, so elaborately, so sys-

tematically, so thoroughly."

Mrs. Celeste B. Given, in a few well chosen words, gave her idea of "Musical Conversations." She said music was the language of the soul and those who had studied this language would be able to interpret for themselves the ideas of the musician, the composer and pianist—Rubinstein. She gave a short sketch of his life, saying that his was a strange nature, proud, reserved and silent; pessimistic as to the musical outlook of the world; dissatisfied with himself. As a pianist he was greatest, and as one who had heard and admired his wonderful gifts, she paid a tribute to his genius, and, as she herself expressed it, "laid a wreath upon his tomb."

In point of merit the programme was the finest ever presented before the Women's club. Mrs. Riegelman and Miss Hatton opened the recital brilliantly with a piano duet, "Ballet Music." "Music of the Spheres" was exquisitely given by the string quartette—Messrs. Graham, Steele, Heighton, with Professor Riedelsberger leading.



## SHE SPOKE FAIRLY OF BOTH

Miss Ella McLoney, City Librarian, Reads a Paper to the Women's Club.

She Considered the Relation of Employer and Employee and Pointed Out Remedies.

Capital and Labor Should be Brought Into Closer Sympathy and Mutual Interest—Profit Sharing a Means to the End.

May 8, 1895.

### A PRESENT PROBLEM.

At the meeting of the Women's Club yesterday afternoon the political economy committee had charge of the programme and Miss Ella McLoney, city librarian, read the paper. Her subject was: "Labor Discontent; Would Closer Relations Between Employers and Employed Afford a Remedy?" In substance Miss McLoney said:

#### Labor Discontent.

Life would be much less the complex thing that it is if it were possible to draw a dividing line through the problems which enter into daily living, and know that everything on one side is absolutely and always right, and all on the other side certainly and forever wrong. One need be in no doubt as to a course of action where a distinct moral wrong is concerned. Theft, falsehood and murder are as much crying sins to-day as they were when the commandments forbidding their performance were pronounced amid the thunders of Sinai; but it is the questions which arise from certain relations among human beings, which are modified by circumstances, and resolve themselves largely into matters of expediency, in which the line between absolute right and wrong seems indistinct, that vex the soul of the conscientious man in his struggles after light upon the questions of daily living.

The consideration of social problems is the great interest of the hour. The political and economic conditions existing in the country at large have pressed them upon public notice, and no one who lives in the world and takes a human interest in its affairs can avoid giving these questions at least a surface consideration. In attempting to consider the relation between labor and capital from the simple standpoint of right dealing, man with man, one is immediately confronted by practical difficulties. The current saying that religion and business have no affinity is founded upon a false estimate of the purposes of both the religion and the business yet upon the surface it seems to contain a grain of truth. Business is transacted, whether by individuals or corporation, with the primary purpose of making money. Business is not charity, and the most enthusiastic philanthropist cannot fail to give due respect to the thorough-going, cool-headed business man who has his eye from the beginning upon the goal of success, and bends all his energies toward reaching this desired point. The question to be considered is whether the attainment of success, even from a worldly point of view, is inconsistent with personal unselfishness and unwavering consideration of the rights of others.

The immigration problem aids greatly in complicating industrial conditions in our own country, and renders the task of their improvement vastly more difficult than it otherwise would be. The matter of the evils of excessive immigration, from which we unquestionably are suffering, is, as Kipling would say, "another story," and will not be considered here. It is mentioned simply as a factor in the perplexing situation.

There is a prevailing impression that a natural antagonism exists between labor and capital—that the interests of the one are inevitably hostile to the interests of the other. From this starting point of false doctrine much of the prevailing trouble between the classes arises. The use of capital is essential to the carrying on of enterprises which supply the world with the

comforts of civilized life. \* \* \* It is only giving utterance to a truism to say that without capital the progress of the world would come to a standstill. The true yoke fellow and faithful helper of capital is labor. Conceding the fact that these two interests, instead of being hostile are co-ordinate, it seems essential that harmony of feeling and action be secured. Viewing the subject from their opposite standpoints, capital sees that labor often is careless and inefficient, with little apparent desire to improve the service which it gives. It sees also that labor seeks to reduce the quantity of the service rendered, without making better the character; that it feels no interest in the interests of employers, regarding them simply as task-masters, from whom the largest possible amount of compensation is to be secured in return for the least possible degree of service given. Labor sees that capital seeks to extract from it the extreme limit of service, without giving fitting compensation in return; that the laborers are regarded simply as so many machines, which are to be utilized until worn out, then thrown aside and replaced by new ones; that capital accumulates wealth by virtue of the efforts of labor, in which labor itself has no share. With such estimates, each of the other, it is not strange that one hears of irreconcilable conflicts between these two interests and sees a wide gulf dividing the one from the other. It may justly be said that in many cases capital fails in duty toward those who are employed to carry out its behests. It occupies too often the attitude against which labor instinctively protests, that of considering the worker as a mere machine, which shall do its bidding without objection to conditions. \* \* \* Capital should cease to ignore the human tie, for which there is no substitute. It should not consider mere the amount of additional wealth which may accrue to it through its business enterprises; it should consider, also its duty toward the laborer as a human being. \* \* \* The duties of labor are also plainly marked out. The employer who deals justly with his workmen has a right to ask that he shall receive the same consideration from those whom he employs which he extends to them; that they shall make his interests their own, and look upon him as a brother man, and not as a legitimate subject for criticism and fault finding, and possible plunder and maltreatment.

The plan of co-operation, which is known as profit-sharing between employer and employee, is one form of creating a bond of interest between these two classes which is growing in favor and meeting the approval of an increasingly large number of men who control important business interests. It cannot be claimed that the securing of closer and more friendly relations between the representatives of capital and those of labor will remedy all the existing ills of the working world; but the establishment of a true and helpful community of interest will do much to clear the troubled waters of our present industrial condition.

The paper brought out a lively discussion, in which Mrs. Judge Day, Mrs. H. A. Foster, Mrs. Gaylord, Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Patchin and Mrs. Reed took part. The discussion dealt with the questions of strikes, profit-sharing, personal responsibility toward workers employed, rate of wages and other topics suggested by the subject. The afternoon was a very interesting one, and the chairman, Mrs. Park, was congratulated upon having secured a topic which brought out that which the ladies are especially desirous of cultivating—free discussion.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB MET

A Rubinstein Memorial Programme Rendered by the City's Best Talent—Every Number a Gem.

May 22nd, 1895.  
Mrs. Carter Described the Recent Federation Convention at Cedar Rapids—Mrs. Given Also Spoke Briefly.

The programme for the regular meeting of the Women's Club yesterday afternoon was in the hands of the music committee,

with Mrs. Celeste B. Given as chairman, and the announcement that it was to be a Rubinstein recital drew many ladies without the club membership to the church to enjoy it with them. Very simple but effective decorations were used about the rostrum. Directly in front, sprays of wild honeysuckles clustered about a tall vase of snow balls, on either side flanked with baskets of pink and white wild blossoms. A bowl of yellow wild roses and a jardiniere of lovely ferns graced the tall pedestals, the organ rail supported three rose bowls filled with pink and white blossoms, and on the Laudemer Decker baby grand had been placed bunches of sweet alyssum and yellow roses.

After the reading of the minutes a vote of thanks was given Mr. and Mrs. Brown for their kindness relative to the banquet. Mrs. E. H. Carter, delegate of the club to the convention at Cedar Rapids, was called on for her report.

#### Mrs. Carter's Report.

After speaking of the city of Cedar Rapids, Mrs. Carter spoke of the club that entertained the visiting members of the Federation:

Our hostess, the Ladies' Literary Club, is limited to thirty-five members, with a long waiting list. The other six federated clubs of the city begged in vain to share the responsibility, labor and expense of the convention, and were generously allowed to help entertain the guests. The task assumed by those thirty-five women was almost herculean. When they invited the federation, thirty-seven clubs belonged; when time came for entertaining, it numbered ninety-nine. There were forty-two transient delegates, and many visitors. Twenty-two members of this club attended, and we wished the other 101 could have been there. Sessions were held in the Congregational church, centrally located. Wednesday morning delegates presented their credentials, receiving a blue and silver badge and a complete programme and pamphlet containing the name of every delegate, her home, club, name and address of her hostess. In the audience room a section had been reserved for every town represented, with the name of the town printed on the seat. After the call to order, invocation, and address of welcome by the president, Mrs. Berryhill delivered her address, her clear, strong, well modulated voice being distinctly audible in all parts of the house. Then followed reports of officers, that of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Howe, being very full and satisfactory, showing ninety-nine clubs belonging to the federation representing over 2,600 women; 86 had delegates present. The Des Moines Women's Club with its \$400 is the richest club in the Federation. The treasurer, Mrs. Weed, reported \$163 in the treasury. Mrs. Henrotin then addressed the convention on matters pertaining to club life in several states. Wednesday afternoon was occupied with two-minute speeches by club presidents, one of the most taking being given by Mrs. Daisy Ankeny-Green, of the Reading Circle, Des Moines. The reception Wednesday evening was an elaborate affair. The evening was warm and there was something of a crush, but the Ladies' Literary Club had arranged well for the comfort of its guests. The officers of the State Federation, Madames Henrotin and Windsor, of the General Federation, and Mrs. Bates, all handsomely gowned, made up the receiving party. The young ladies who attended in the supper room were daughters of members of the club, and all the gentlemen present were matrimonially connected with this club. The executive session of federations was held at 10 o'clock Thursday morning. The nominating committee was named from the floor, Mrs. Hutchinson, of Ottumwa, chairman; Mrs. Scott, of Nevada; Mrs. Hawley, of Des Moines; Mrs. Fletcher, of Marshalltown; Mrs. Jones, of Cedar Rapids. The federation was invited to hold its next biennial at Dubuque. New officers chosen were: President, Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown; vice president, Mrs. Cogswell, of Cedar Rapids; recording secretary, Mrs. Daily, of Des Moines; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Thayer, of Chariton; treasurers, Miss Dixon, of Ottumwa, and Mrs. Colver, of Dubuque. One of the social features of Tuesday was a dinner to the bright women who represented the press, given by Mrs. Jas. Bever, Mrs. Cogswell, who had entertained the federation all week, asked the new officers to dine with them Thursday evening. Following Mrs. Carter's address, Mrs. Celeste Given

made a few apt remarks concerning the afternoon of musical conversation to follow. Conversation, she said, is an art. To be able to express the thoughts of others is higher art. To express those thoughts in other language the highest art of all. She gave a short sketch of the life of Anton Rubinstein, calling him the greatest composer of living pianists, and the greatest pianist of living composers. By nature cold, reserved, pessimistic, but generous and kind to a fault, his work is done and we would lay a small wreath on his tomb this afternoon.

The programme as rendered was as follows:

Piano—"Ballet Music," Nos. 2 and 3.  
Four hands, From the Opera "Feramors."  
String Quartette—"Lento"  
"Music of the Spheres"  
Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.  
Duet—"The Angel"  
Mrs. Belknap and Mr. Metcalfe.  
Piano—{ a Romance, Op. 44. No. 1.  
b Kamennio-Ostrow, Op. 10. No. 23  
String Quartette—"Adagio"  
Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.  
Songs—{ a "Die Lerche."  
b "Du bist wie eine Blume."  
Eucore.  
Mrs. Belknap.  
Piano—{ a Impromptu, Op. 16. No. 1.  
b Le Bal, Op. 14. No. 16.  
Mrs. Maude Orr Nelson.  
CELESTE B. GIVEN, Chairman.

## THE WOMAN'S CLUB, 1895

The historical committee of the Woman's Club had charge of the programme yesterday, and altogether it was one of the most instructive as well as interesting of the afternoon. The auditorium of the Christian church was used, and sweet flowers were pleasingly arranged about the platform, a lovely centerpiece of lilies and ferns adorning the table. Mrs. F. W. Cherry, chairman for the day, announced the subject, "Historical Movements of France," and in a very eloquent little speech outlined the subject. Mrs. A. L. Frisbie was next called upon, and her remarks can be given but the merest outline, as all who have heard Mrs. Frisbie can understand. She uses no verbs whatever, and her thoughts are expressed in a clear, true way that conveys a thorough understanding of her subject. Briefly, Mrs. Frisbie described vividly and entertainingly the historical period of which each is a remnant, the amphitheatre at Arles, a relic of Roman occupation; the citadel at Carcassonne, the foundation of which was laid by the Romans, and which is also associated with the history of the Saracens; the tower of Charlemagne at Tours, and the castle of Blois.

Miss Louise Hughes followed with a very interesting paper on the palace of Versailles, ably presented, and Mrs. C. E. Rawson delightfully sketched Fontainebleau and its mighty forests. About forty photographs, illustrative of the subjects and places mentioned were hung up, and inspected by the ladies after the programme for the day was ended. At the business meeting which followed Mrs. Stella Morse resigned the secretaryship, owing to the probability of removal to Sioux City, and Mrs. Van Slyke was elected to the position. The social committee extended an invitation to the club members and their friends to come and bring their children to Crocker Park next Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. A musical programme by the children will be given. Mrs. Chas. Mills, Mrs. Carroll Wright, Mrs. W. L. Read and Mrs. Odell are the members of the social committee, and a pleasant afternoon is anticipated at this, the final meeting until September.



JUNE 13, 1895.

## CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT.

*June 12, 1895.*  
The Children's Day entertainment given by the social committee of the Woman's Club yesterday afternoon began auspiciously, with a goodly attendance of the club members, their friends and the children. The children's dainty summer gowns brightening the auditorium in Crocker Woods, from the stage of which the programme was given, produced a pretty effect. Before the close of the fourth number black, threatening clouds, the swash of the river along the banks, and the roar of high winds, came near breaking up the assemblage. The opening number was a chorus of eighteen girls and boys from the eighth grade of the public schools, in two parts—(a) "Wake, Wake!" (b) "Beautiful River;" a trio, two violins and piano, by three little children, Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel, came next, followed by a dance, "The Three Graces," by Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones, in girlish blue and white dresses. The lily drill, by ten girls, from Irving school, gowned in white and waving stalks of Easter lilies, was lost on most of the audience in the fright occasioned by the storm, but the programme was continued without interruption, a gavotte on violin by Blanche Thiel, with piano accompaniment, and two songs, (a) "Pull Away," and (b) waltz song, by a double quartette of boys from Irving school, closing the first part. Part second was hurried through without waits. After a mazurka, violin and piano by Reuben Thiel, Little Margaret Mills, in a pale yellow dress, went through a graceful butterfly dance, some of her efforts being quite difficult and very pretty. Miss Vera Nelson sang "Little Alabama Coon;" Misses Olive and Blanche Thiel gave a pleasing duet, and the last number was a neat ribbon drill by girls from Cooper school.

Throughout, the young persons taking part did so to their credit, and it was regretted that the rain, which was of brief duration, drove so many homeward before the close of the entertainment.

## DERELICTION OF DUTY.

Or Perhaps it Was an Oversight of the Many Club Women of Des Moines.

*Sept. 16, 1894.*  
A Noted Woman Comes Among Them Doing a Noble Work for Her Race, but is not Encouraged by the Club Women.

### A Criticism of Club Women.

DES MOINES, Sept. 15.—Editor Register: It has been frequently said of Des Moines that it could boast of a larger proportion of "club women" than any other city in America, and that a much smaller proportion of the Des Moines mothers are either purely society women or entirely occupied with the housekeeping (not home-keeping) and the family sewing. Certainly I know of no place where a woman may be so surely valued for what she is in herself as here, and what she may accomplish will have a value of its own aside from any accidental attributes of wealth or beauty or education. The absence of the petty jealousies and envy that mar the membership of many club centers is remark-

able, and I believe not appreciated by our Des Moines ladies. The number and variety of these clubs has perhaps much to do with this, the smaller and local organizations holding their own and doing an equally thorough and broadening work. Of all places in this country it would seem as though the cordial, appreciative, womanly atmosphere into which a woman would be welcomed who had a cause to plead, and the heart and the head to do it bravely and sincerely and ably—is to be found in Des Moines. I suppose the "Des Moines Women's

Club" most perfectly represents this "atmosphere"—although I believe most of its success is due to the training of its members in the various clubs and societies for special study and discussion—and that there are many women who have not time or strength for the special functions of this large club, who have as truly the spirit which the organized effort of our day has brought to all classes of women. But for the object for which I write, the "Women's club" stands as a representative organization. Into this city, with its thousands of women who have received this larger life, there came this last week a woman entitled to recognition from every club woman in the city. A woman with a history so thrilling, so heroic that it outrivals any romance of recent years, and apart from its personal interest, is connected with the emancipation of a race—the struggle of whose birth into freedom has affected almost every fireside in our Nation. This woman is an educated woman, and a woman of fine literary attainments. No finer use of the English language is common to any woman that I have ever met. By this I mean choice English, and that discrimination in the use of words which marks the truly and finely educated man or woman. She had been for many years a public school teacher and for several years the editor of a paper, the *Free Speech*, and the eminently successful business manager of the same also. Her lecture, for the plain simplicity in telling her story, was most perfect art. She is moreover a lady. No woman except with refinement and purity and modesty could tell the plain truths of the life of the colored women of the South, as she told it. She came not unheralded. No man has been more written about during the past two months. All the leading newspapers in this country have commented upon her work and told the story of her life. The English papers have been most generous in giving space and interest to so brave a woman and so just a cause. She has had social success in all the measure she could ask in line with the work she was accomplishing. The best of social life in England and Scotland was charmed with her—not only because of the humanity of the wrongs she seeks to right, but because she is a woman—a woman with a mission, and with the talent and the devotion to follow it to success, and also because she is as truly called to this work by experience, education and gift for public speaking, as was Mrs. Stowe called to fulfill her mission in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and Julia Ward Howe in her "Battle Hymn."

I rode home from this woman's lecture last Tuesday evening near two college presidents. I overheard one of them say: "I don't know of more than four women I have heard on the platform who could have given that lecture as she did;" and the other gentleman said, "Nor I, and I have heard about every woman speaker in the past fifty years." She did not lack either a notoriety of a different sort, which attracts the attention of the public. Democratic clubs, not only in the South, but in New York City, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and other cities, had met to adopt strong resolutions against her work and declaring her a person

merely seeking sensational notoriety. And yet there was absolutely no political allusions in her lecture.

Can one imagine a woman who would seem more surely to appeal to the ready sympathy and appreciation of the Des Moines Club woman, and to her eager responsiveness and enthusiastic help for a woman with a cause most just and most pathetic for a great class of people; and which cause has become a National issue?

Not more than four members of the Des Moines Women's Club were present to welcome to our city and to encourage in her work Miss Ida B. Wells.

There are a dozen other organizations who should of course been largely represented. There are church societies who have workers in the South; there is the Woman's Suffrage Association—"Equal Suffrage" they call it—which association is supposed to cultivate the love of justice in its extreme form; there are the wives and daughters of the men who laid down their lives that the race for whom she pleads might be free, and she came to tell them of the bondage which the war had not removed—but the Relief Corps was not interested in Miss Wells! But I care less for all others than that our club women should have allowed this woman of literary talent, of National reputation and wonderful fitness for presenting a great National and moral evil, to come and go from our city unrecognized.

I have not stated the fact that she is a colored woman. I believe that the "Women's Club" is above any such reproach. It was not because of any particular interest in the Southern problem, or that it is a subject congenial to any woman's heart or mind, it was because she is a woman, doing a brave and righteous thing for a woman to do, that I would have had her encouraged and comforted by the presence of the women who are truer and broader and more just because of our "organized center of thought and action." The Des Moines Women's Club has a committee on woman's work, to which at one year or another every member of the club belongs. It discusses "Women in Professions," "Woman in Philanthropy," "Woman in Education," "Woman in Literature," "Woman in History." Here was a living example! A CLUB MEMBER.



MAY 10, 1895.

## IOWA'S FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS.

The convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, at Cedar Rapids this week, is possibly the most notable assembly of Iowa women that has ever convened for the laudable purpose of taking counsel for the improvement of their own conditions and usefulness. It is not a convention of "new" women, but of the speedily coming greater women, and the deliberations and speeches of the convention indicate that great progress has already been made. THE REGISTER believes in the advancement of women and it knows that they have made greater progress than men during recent years. They have more time for reading, investigation and study than men, and they are giving evidence that they utilize their opportunities for advancement. More girls than boys graduate from our high schools, and the women are crowding all the avenues of intellectual development and advancement, mainly because they have more time for personal improvement and less allurements to frivolity and vice. Are the bread-makers of the past becoming the bread-earners of the future? They are to a considerable extent, and will undoubtedly excel as time ages unless the men make equal or greater efforts for advancement on all the lines of improvement.

A number of the speeches at the Cedar Rapids convention give evidence of the increasing mentality of the greater women. Yesterday's REGISTER contained the address of Mrs. Virginia J. Berryhill, of this city, which was mainly devoted to a history of the growth of women's clubs, women's intellectual development, and their noble work of reformation wherever the voice or hand of womanhood can be helpful to aid those who need counsel, inspiration and assistance on the journey of life. It was a clear setting forth of the objects and progress of the women's clubs by one who has steadily devoted her life to the improvement of all who have come within the reach of her good influence.

To-day's REGISTER contains the address of Mrs. Pauline Given Swalm, of Oskaloosa, on "The Citizenship of Woman," which was delivered at last night's session. It is an analytical word picture of the conditions of women at important stages since civilization began. Mrs. Swalm has been a life student of governmental affairs and of all other important matters of life. She writes ably upon all subjects and is one of Iowa's most versatile writers. A deep thinker, from motives of the highest development and greatest usefulness, she has steadily grown in strength until all she writes attracts attention by its clearly expressed language and logical argument. She has kept her light hidden to too great an extent, but when its rays are unobscured they shine all the brighter and more powerful in coming from one who is not a seeker after vainglory, but is conscientiously and thoroughly in earnest in everything she undertakes.

The recent banquet in this city, and the convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs at Cedar Rapids this week, give ample proof that the mothers, wives and daughters of Iowa are in the

front ranks of those who are earnestly laboring for the greatest possible development, usefulness and happiness of all mankind; and that they are accomplishing a noble and useful purpose in aiding in lifting up the womanhood of the state, Nation and world to the level of the greater woman, who is rapidly becoming the superior of man in intellectual development and knowledge through the utilization of all the opportunities placed within her reach. But greater mothers will produce greater men as the millennium approaches. In that prospect is the bud of the hope of the coming of an era when all the men will be saints and holiness universal.

## NEWSPAPERS AND "THANKS."

With much pain we have noted the comments of the Des Moines press on the treatment of newspaper reporters during the recent female festivities in this city. We say pain, for we are sorry that newspapers should expect either invitations on golden platters or resolutions of thanks after the invitations. THE REGISTER devoted a great deal of space to the transactions of the women, and did it wholly as a newspaper. The meetings were matters of public interest, and that fact alone determined its treatment of them. The women were under no obligations to pass resolutions of thanks, which nine cases out of ten are abominations.

It has often occurred to us that newspaper workers are too exacting of attentions. A newspaper man or woman as such is no more entitled to recognition than the grocer or the butcher as such. To help record each day's history of the world and to act as journalistic counselor to the public is to us one of the highest callings to which a man or a woman can aspire. But it is merely a profession or a trade. It does not determine one's standing in the community, and much less one's standing in the social world. These are matters that are determined independently. A writer as such is not entitled to any social recognition, and certainly to no special deference. A man may go into a home as a doctor does or as a butcher, and not be entitled to enter it socially. No newspaper worker should ever accept attentions or invitations that come to him as a newspaperman or woman, except professionally. There are hundreds of people who are always willing to invite and treat and flatter a newspaper man, but it is only so much patronage. He who is a man as well as a newspaper man is always careful to distinguish between the attentions which are paid to him professionally and personally. He has the proper regard for both in their right season, and contempt for both when offered out of season.







## WOMEN'S CLUB SEASON OPENS

The First Meeting of the Year Held Yesterday Afternoon.

A Brief History of the Club, and Some of Its Objects Stated.

Sept. 26, 1894.  
Addresses by the Retiring President, Mrs. Clapp, and the New One, Mrs. Lowry Goode.

### LITERARY WOMEN.

The Des Moines Women's Club held its first meeting of this season yesterday afternoon at 2:30, at the parlors of the Central Christian church. Neat calendars in pamphlet form have been prepared by the club, with the motto: "Was man nicht bespricht bedenkt man nichtrecht." This is the tenth annual announcement of the Des Moines Women's Club. A highly creditable programme is announced for the years of 1894-5, and bids high to mark an era in this club's history. The Des Moines Women's Club was organized in 1885 with twenty-two charter members, its object and purpose being for mutual improvement and benevolent purposes and to create an organized center of thought and action among women, and elected for its first president Dr. Margaret A. Cleaves, of New York city. For nine years this club has been laying stone after stone to its solid foundation until to-day it occupies a place of such prominence as to make it second to none in the state, or we might say in the Federation of Clubs. The Women's Club to-day has a membership of 157 of the most gifted, cultured and intellectual women of Des Moines. It is the ambition of the Des Moines Women's Club to have a home, a permanent house and rooms adapted to display its works of art. Most particularly does it wish to establish an art hall. For art is the dearest, fostered object in the heart of every member. Last year with the aid of Mr. Lorado Taft, a talented artist of Chicago, a committee composed of Mrs. Harry West, Mrs. Windsor and Mrs. E. R. Clapp visited that city and purchased the first art nucleus, the bronze statue Joan De Arc, a souvenir of the World's Fair and which is now on exhibition at the public library and valued at \$350. The second work of the art nucleus is a marble bust of Diana, executed at Rome, and valued at \$300, also at the city library. The third and last piece is a picture, a copy of one of Corot's Italian landscapes, presented to the club by Mrs. Fred Field, purchased in Paris. This high and elevating project begun auspiciously by the Women's Club will find an echo in the heart of every true resident of the city, for the uplifting and advancement of Des Moines and the state.

Last year Des Moines was highly complimented in the fact that Mrs. J. G. Berryhill was chosen as a delegate from the state to the federation of clubs at Philadelphia. Mrs. Clapp and Mrs. Windsor went as delegates from the Des Moines club.

The officers for '94-'95 are:  
Mrs. Lowry W. Goode, president.  
Mrs. A. B. Cummins, vice president.

Mrs. R. R. Peters, second vice president.  
Mrs. A. B. Morse, secretary.  
Mrs. O. G. Edmundson, corresponding secretary.  
Mrs. W. W. Witmer, treasurer.  
Mrs. J. G. Day, historian.

Yesterday was officers' day, and the parlors of the church presented a pretty scene with platform decorated with the stately palms, and the various potted plants, and jars of roses. Tea and wafers were served from small tables loaded with dainty china and silver. After an hour of social converse the programme began with the usual order of the club. Mrs. Clapp, the retiring president, gave in a most impressive manner the following farewell address:

*Ladies of the Club and Friends:* Another year, the ninth in the calendar of the Des Moines Women's Club has passed quietly into history, leaving its record of earnest effort and honest purpose to speak as best it may, of its growth and success, while the dawn of the year brings bright promise of still greater possibilities to be realized and still larger hopes to be fulfilled. We meet to-day under the most favorable circumstances to resume the work which we relinquished for needed rest during the heat of summer. Doubtless we are all refreshed and invigorated and ready to enter upon the duties of the new year with augmented zeal. I think we may fairly and without boasting congratulate ourselves upon the character of our work during the past year. We did good, earnest, thoughtful work, and a great deal of it, many times crowding too much into one afternoon and I would like to suggest that we try to make our papers shorter, and not quite so numerous. While we were all favorable to free and informal discussion of the papers, and all realized the good that ought to have been derived by an honest, free interchange of thoughts and opinions, still our time was too limited to allow it, and I feel that we have lost in this respect and hope we may find some remedy, some way to bring about what most of the club desire. Another thing I believe would be a benefit to our club—that is, listening to the bright women from other clubs and other cities. It would put us in touch with the outside world; it would broaden us and make us more tolerant of the opinions of others. The past year has not been quite what we had hoped for in a financial way. We made no money, but we spent a little judiciously and can at last say the long talked of art collection has been started, and can point with pride to our Joan of Arc, our beautiful Diana, and the lovely picture we have before us, the gift of dear friends who felt our need and responded so generously. A small beginning, but with large expectations and hearts brimful of hope we still believe the Des Moines Women's Club will accomplish what it so earnestly desires in the way of an art gallery for our city. We have met in the past year women from all parts of the country who have built club homes and done much philanthropic work and they were no brighter, no better business women than we have right here in our own club. Let us not be discouraged. Mrs. Mary E. Mumford, our general federation vice president, says "there are indications that the day of purely literary work in our clubs is passing by. Women are no longer content with the simple informing of their minds in literature, in science and history. They are going to talk up. They are now investigating governmental order and social questions, and after awhile they are coming into kingdom, the kingdom of moral force and this force they are going to exercise first in the little circles of their own towns; second, in the affairs of the commonwealths; third, in the questions which agitate the country at large. We are already a club with a high purpose outside of our literary ambitions, and are willing, I think, to eschew municipal and state affairs, until that is not accomplished, perhaps, but well under way. In the meantime let us cultivate the "democracy of intellect" that Kate Upson Clarke told us about at the general Federation, and we will be ready for whatever comes. I feel that my thanks are due to the club and to the efficient corps of officers who have so ably supported and aided me during my

administration, to the chairmen of committees who have performed the labor imposed upon them so cheerfully, and to whose united efforts so much of the success of last year was due and to you all for your loving sympathy and the courteous, kindly manner with

which you have uniformly treated me as your presiding officer, I shall always think of the past year as one dear to my heart and in presenting our new president. I can only ask for her the same generous sympathy and kindly forbearance you have always shown me. May this be the most successful year the Des Moines Women's Club has ever known. Allow me to present our president, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode.

Mrs. Goode, the new president, said in part.

Nothing will hold such a large, influential body as this together, to act as one mind, if we have not within us a high degree of Christian charity. Men acquire it in their everyday business relations, but we women rarely get it even by travel, or by years of miscellaneous reading. An uncharitable one will stand aloof from this "new movement of women," fortify herself within her sphere of four walls, with her cares and burdens, and conscientiously feel she is in her sphere doing her duty. Could she not with profit enter this school of ideas, open her heart to its influences, and receive higher, broader thoughts, giving an impulse and glow of color to her quiet domestic work for home and children? A stronger mind filled with happier thoughts, making duty a pleasure, and her home and children a paradise.

Women are bound to move on. The four angular walls of home can never make a perfectly rounded sphere, no more than four angles make a circle. Just how far this new movement is going to extend and modify her character, her emotions and her peculiar sex refinement and delicacy is a question that is puzzling to all who have given it thought.

We Americans are apt to consider it largely a local result due to agitation or American chivalry. But it is so vast and widespread, and yet so far apart in the world, as to indicate one of those great waves which mark the formative efforts of nature, whether in the change of man, of animals or in a continent.

But does any one believe we will be anything but women after all this great wave of progression has passed over our heads? Sweeping some of us away out at sea of our womanly spheres. If some do lose their sex refinement and are disagreeably transformed in character, may they not be the white caps that mount to the top of every great wave, only to fall back in foam and be taken by the undertow back to equilibrium? In all great changes the tendency is to swing away beyond like a pendulum, then fall back to a point always higher than the start. Let us hope to retain our womanly nature freed from all that is weak and trifling because we are women. To maintain high social qualities and grow strong as men in character and purpose, and in qualities of mind and heart. To be earnest, helpful and sympathetic, equals of brothers or husbands. Fitted by education and training to take up a life work that shall have the fullness of a sphere wherever and whatever it may be. The fullness of life for man or woman is in filling out life's angles by touching up and adding luster to every dormant faculty. Then will the sphere be encircled by the curved line of beauty.

Mrs. J. G. Day, the historian, then read a bright and witty paper, giving a brief sketch of various members of the club; spoke of the late president, Mrs. Clapp, and her successful administration; of the various renowned personages who have visited the city as guests of the Women's Club, and of the bereavement of two of these honored members, Mrs. Huntington and Mrs. Billington, in the death of their husbands. In speaking of the club, Mrs. Day said that it was a club of individuals, and therefore would display their individuality.

Mrs. Dr. Carter, for two years the beloved secretary, retiring, introduced her successor, Mrs. Morse. Mrs. C. O. Nourse sweetly sang "Embarrassment." With decision, fluency and ability Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley gave a short talk on art. She spoke of the gratification which is felt by travelers abroad in being able to see and visit the great art palaces and halls abroad, and how keenly they feel the deficiency on reaching home, and of the kindness and thought-

fulness which prompted Mrs. Field to bestow upon the Des Moines club such a gem of art. A vote of thanks was then offered Mrs. Field for the beautiful painting before them.

A discussion for new quarters, for a new club house was agitated by Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Berryhill and Mrs. Callanan.

A strong idea of Mrs. A. B. Morse is the project of uniting the city library with the Des Moines Art Hall. That is, in connection with it, and according to the plans of the Minneapolis library and art building, as literature and art being near related, both for the uplifting and culture of the people. The discussion, however, was held over for future meetings.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1894.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Has an Instructive and Pleasurable Afternoon Studying Art and Artists.

Oct. 10, 1894.  
A Choice Collection of Pictures, Bronzes, Etc., is Exhibited—Several of the Members Speak of What They Have Seen.

Yesterday afternoon was a special day for the Des Moines Women's Club and the commodious parlors of the Central Christian Church were scarcely adequate for the large number of ladies who assembled there to listen to the fine programme on art.

Much interest is being manifested by the Des Moines Women's Club for its zealous undertaking of an art hall and in encouraging and promoting the love for art. The city has long needed such a club with just such women to maintain it, and when the representative women of Des Moines, through the Women's Club, announced their intention of firmly establishing art in the city they were heartily endorsed.

A delightful surprise met the eyes of the guests yesterday as they entered the parlors of the church. It took but a few moments to realize that they were in the midst of a beautiful art loan exhibition. There were pictures, bronzes, tapestries and bric-a-brac of renown; copies of Millet, Corot and various old masters, loaned from private collections of Messrs. Byers, Abdill, Mason, O. H. Perkins and all the city's art connoisseurs. The tact, the grace and the artistic effect reflected great credit upon Mrs. J. A. Jackson, chairman of the committee.

Mrs. Lafe Young read an exceedingly interesting paper on "Current Topics." She depicted in a very able manner the Chinese war, describing some of the late contests. "This war," she said, "demonstrates that, as in everything else, intelligence rules." Mrs. Young spoke of the late engineering, the great water fall, which will furnish not only power for Albany, but for other cities; of the bullet-proof cloth, the invention of a tailor; the Colorado ballot, the first time that women have ever been admitted to the polls in that state; the heroism of Conductor Ruth during the forest fires; the fashion; woman suffrage, and closed with a very graphic description of the Chicago Art Institute. Such a paper as



the one read yesterday by Mrs. Young, at the future meetings, will be an assurance that the ladies will all keep abreast of the times.

Mrs. J. A. Jackson, chairman of the art committee, said the proper association for the art student is with the masters, and for that reason they had set up an art studio.

Mrs. Hal Howell read a letter which was full of interest and news from Miss Mary McClelland, now abroad, to the Women's Club, on "The Paris Salon, 1894," in which she described the various pictures, artists and artists' criticisms.

Mrs. Edith Hepburn Trummel, recently returned from abroad, highly entertained the audience for an all too brief time with an interesting and instructive account of her visit to the Munich gallery. In her remarks she spoke of the German artists of repute, and gave vivid and realistic descriptions of the most impressive pictures. Mrs. Thummel said that one thing which interested her greatly was the many religious subjects, so grandly executed, so full of life, of action.

Mrs. Jay K. Macomber then made some brilliant remarks upon the subject of art which were much appreciated and highly commended.

A letter from Mrs. Henry Wallace was read, and the club adjourned to view and enjoy the pictures and collections of the exhibition. It was one of the most profitable, prosperous and interesting days in the history of the club, one long to be remembered and enjoyed.

Mrs. S. H. M. Byers invited the ladies of the Des Moines Women's Club, with the permission to bring a friend, to her home on Grand avenue October 22, from 10 to 12 A. M., 2 to 6 P. M. and evening.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Literature, Especially Humor, Was Discussed at Yesterday's Meeting.

Oct. 24. 1894.  
The Women Argue That They May Be and Often Are Just as Witty and Humorous as Men.

Literature, which is one of the most interesting and entertaining departments listed on the Women's Club calendar, was discussed yesterday at the meeting of the club at the parlors of the Central Christian Church. A large number of guests were present. Ladies find it very pleasant to spend an afternoon so delightfully and profitably as is assured them by the Des Moines Women's Club. On the rostrum was an easel with a picture, a beautiful engraving of the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, over which was suspended a graceful cluster of white chrysanthemums.

Mrs. Calista Halsey Patchin spoke on current topics. She gave a short synopsis of the *Cosmopolitan's* review of the Chinese-Japanese war, showing that the Chinese are not a military people, for scholarship is their highest attainment; that the Chinese war was the most important war that ever came upon any people.

Among the papers read was one on "Humor in Literature" presented by Mrs. Agnes Newton Vorse. Mrs. Vorse recited the humor of our American au-

thors, quoting from Lowell, Artemus Ward and others. She said that the mission of humor was of the greatest importance to the American people for we are naturally a too busy people and need more of the humor in their lives to appreciate and enjoy life as we should. Mrs. Vorse dwelt at much length on the writings, character and style of that popular humorist, Artemus Ward. "Americans are fond of the grotesque, of caricature and of newspaper wit; this country affords good opportunity for such, as there are so many foreigners and such a variety of characters. Humor is not only for amusement and relaxation, but has another mission, that of the moral and religious power. Humor is largely employed by noted divines, and Spurgeon owed much of his success to wit, closely allied to humor. America has produced many humorous writers, and humor is the salt and pepper of our food." The speaker closed with a tribute to Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The paper was discussed at length.

The Germans, Mrs. Virginia H. Reichard said, were very clumsy as regarded humor, and of the five nations none have contributed so little to humorous literature as Germany.

Miss Rachel Clarke thought that women have no humor, that they have no sense of the humorous; but women have wit.

Mrs. Patchin said that Sarah Orne Jewett was alive to all that was humorous in the New England life, and she said that she was very glad that America had no professional women writers who could be compared to Mark Twain in "Huckleberry Finn." And yet she thought that Miss Hawley, of "Samantha Allen" fame, might be compared with Artemus Ward.

A discussion was brought up as to whether women were not as humorous as men.

Mrs. Macomber said that she was sick and tired of hearing that men only were humorous. It is equally divided; it has not yet become the fashion for women to write of the humorous, and also that women do not see fit to indulge in the humor which is so gratifying to the tastes of the men. But that when it does become the women to be humorous they will use a style far superior to that of the other sex.

Mrs. James G. Berryhill paid a fitting tribute to Mrs. Lucy B. Collins, in speaking of how much she had enjoyed the brilliant wit of that lady who is held in memoriam by the club.

Mrs. Peters answered the question of how to cultivate wit. In a few pointed remarks she said one way of cultivating wit was to see all that is amusing in an unpleasant condition; to be observing of details, for there is always a humorous side to everything.

Mrs. McHenry thought that men had more to talk about than women and that if women had a more fruitful source they too, would be humorous.

Mrs. John Trepanier gave a selection from one of Hunting's humorous writings, which was much appreciated.

"Newspaper Wit," by Mrs. Daisy A. Green, was a bright and witty paper, somewhat satirical, but withal decidedly amusing. Many ludicrous incidents were narrated.

Mrs. Lizzie Christ Nourse gave an interesting talk on "Caricature." She spoke of caricature in art in the American and English schools; of its progress and of the event of such in journalism; of the earlier caricaturists; of the modern artists and of the illustrations in *Puck*, *Life*, *Judge* and other similar humorous journals and of the caricatures which portrayed so much to the people during the war.

This very highly complimented paper closed the programme of the afternoon.

At the meeting of the executive committee of state board of federation of clubs, in the city next week, Mrs. Coxwell, of Cedar Rapids, will lecture on "James Russell Lowell," Friday next, at the home of Mrs. James G. Berryhill. A small admittance fee will charged all members and their friends.

## EDUCATION.

Question of Technical and Liberal Education Was Discussed at the Women's Club.

Nov. 7. 1894.  
Mrs. Henry Wallace Described the Royal Art Gallery and the Home of Leighton, the Artist.

The regular meeting of the Des Moines Women's Club was held yesterday afternoon at the parlors of the Central Christian Church. There was an unusually large attendance. Mrs. J. B. Hatton, chairman of the current topics committee, introduced Mrs. Henry Wallace, who read to the audience a clever paper on Sir Frederick Leighton, artist. She described her visits to the art galleries of Europe, and especially admired the pictures of Leighton in the Royal Art Gallery. She gave descriptions of some of them: His war and biblical studies and his portrayal of the old classics and his "Madonna," now in the Buckingham gallery. The two which were most admired by Mrs. Wallace were "The Spirit of the Summit" and "Summer Slumber." Mrs. Wallace wrote to Sir Frederick to ask which he considered the best. She received an invitation to visit his home and see his paintings. Mrs. Wallace gave a description of his beautiful home yesterday. It contains many rare treasures and his studio many gems of art, while on the walls are hung the masterpieces of the world's most renowned artists. Mrs. Wallace received as a gift from him his photograph, which she has had painted and which she yesterday presented to the club, a nucleus for the club's collection.

It being the day for "Education," Miss Olive McHenry, chairman of that committee, presented the subject for discussion: "Should Education Aim to Develop Symmetrically all the Faculties?" She introduced Mrs. Evans, who read a paper prepared by Mrs. Josephine C. Spinney for the affirmative. Mrs. Spinney advocates a liberal education. Mrs. Spinney discriminated between liberal and technical education, however, the first of which she describes as broad, embracing many attributes, and the latter, narrow. She pleaded for the liberal education as embracing philosophy, science and art. Woman especially, needs a liberal education to better fill a home, educate her children

and broaden her life and those about her.

Miss Carrie L. Hubbard argued for the technical education. As children grow up their different capabilities are manifested and should be educated as specialties. Since we cannot find minds always to suit systems, we must adopt an educational system to suit the mind. The individuality should not be lost or submerged in education.

Mrs. Jennie B. Baylies was arrayed on the negative side of the discussion also. She is glad the individuality of the child is being studied and that its individuality is being cultivated.

Mrs. Mary Potter Dart closed the discussion for the affirmative. She believes the child to be the central figure, for the good of which the discussion is indulged. In educating the child he must be taught two things: To reverence old age and to be virtuous. His books must be three: The book of nature, the book of man and the book of God. They embrace all the problems of human nature and the education they give is essentially general.

Mrs. J. A. Jackson believed in a liberal education as a foundation for the display of powers in a specialty later.

Mrs. W. F. Thummel believes in both general and specific cultivation of the mind. Many a genius is wasted on a multitude of efforts.

Mrs. Berryhill also held that a mean between the two extremes of special and liberal education is the correct thing.

Miss Olive McHenry closed the discussion of the topic, considering it with reference to the present system of education.

## TALKED OF CURRENT TOPICS

The Women's Club Has One of its Most Interesting Meetings.

Women Spend Some Time Discussing Every Day Topics in a Way to Interest All.

Nov. 21. 1894.  
Reform in Court Room Obscenity Promised When Women Sit on the Bench—Mrs. Clifford, Mrs. Hills, Mrs. Risser, Mrs. McHenry and Mrs. Sooy Speak.

## WOMEN EXPRESS OPINIONS.

About 100 ladies answered to roll call when the Women's Club convened at the usual place yesterday at 3 o'clock. After the reading of the secretary's report, the president, Mrs. Goode, introduced Mrs. J. B. Hatton, chairman of the current topics committee for November, who presented Mrs. Clifford, who read a most excellent paper upon current events.

Among other things, were noticed: The strike commission and the inference drawn from its recently published report that if commissions and congress have any power, much of the suffering caused by strikes will henceforth be prevented. She spoke of the labor congress which met in Chicago November 13. Lyman J. Gage, chairman, said the keynote of the convention is this: "In the business world of to-day questions involving thousands, nay millions of dollars, are quietly and peacefully set-



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tioned by the voluntary submission of such differences to the arbitration of impartial friends. Can not methods so benign in their character, so helpful in their influence, find a place in industrial relationship?"

"The French institution known as 'Council of Experts' is peerless in settling disputes as to payment of wages, defective workmanship, lost time, etc., and to this council is due the undisturbed industrial tranquility in France for so many years past."

"The white elephant, at Manchester, England, seems to be their recently completed ship canal, built at a cost of \$75,000,000, for the purpose of carrying goods to and from Manchester more cheaply than the railroads would do. It has been rendered useless by reason of the railroads cutting rates to a figure impossible for the waterway to emulate, and the people gain in cheap transportation what the stockholders have sunk in the waters of an unused canal."

"The building and launching of the St. Louis, third largest ship afloat, is distinctly an 'American' event—American plans, American material, American workmen, christened by the first lady of America with a libation of American wine."

"The war in the east—Perhaps America may act as mediator between China and Japan in the present unpleasantness. Japan's policy: China for the Chinese, Korea for the Koreans, and Japan the ruling power in eastern Asia."

"If Henry Clay were still living he would be tempted to say, 'I would rather be Dr. Parkhurst than be president.' To him more than to any other one man is due the downfall of Tammany and the unprecedented revolution in the political sentiments of New York city."

"Perhaps some Des Moines people will think as did a Kansas editor who remarked, 'We are heartily tired of hearing of Dr. Parkhurst,' but to them may be said, as did a Chicago editor in reply; 'So is Tammany—what have you done?'"

Following Mrs. Clifford came Mrs. Risser, who spoke interestingly of the Field Museum, which she had recently visited. She found the rooms devoted to the papers pertaining to Columbus and relics of the early discoveries most interesting, and spoke of many of these papers as being a present from the pope, having been kept at the Vatican all these years.

After the current topics Mrs. Bibbins, chairman of the women's work committee, introduced Mrs. Will McHenry, who read an able paper upon the subject "Women in the Professions." Mrs. McHenry spent no time in discussing whether or not women are fitted for the three professions to which she confined herself—medicine, the ministry and law—but assumed that they were, and proceeded to show the good which will accrue to the women themselves and to the world at large, when they shall have come to adopt those professions as a matter of course as boys do. She made some witty and well-timed remarks about the possibility of elevating court room scenes even here in Des Moines, and said that with a woman upon the bench criminal trials might be expected to be treated as "necessary surgical operations, not as obscene shows."

Mrs. Sooy spoke of "Women as Builders"—not as those who hew the shaft or

shape the archwave but as character builders—and claimed much for the women of all times upon that ground. Her paper was beautiful, and beautifully read and thoroughly enjoyed.

Mrs. Isaac Hillis closed the programme by a tribute to our grandmothers. "The Grandmother," she says, "is soon to become an extinct species. Elderly ladies we shall continue to have but the day of the grandmother is no more." Mrs. Hillis spoke without notes and with an ease and freedom which might well cause our orators to say as did one of our eloquent statesmen in conversation afterward, "I admire the woman of to-day. She is an improvement upon the old fashioned woman, but I should like to see her keep within bounds and—not make it uncomfortable for the men." After all that was claimed for the intellectuality of women at this meeting, and it was much, the prevailing cry seemed to be:

"Be good, my child, and let all who will be clever."

## FORTY FRENCH IMMORTALS

Women's Club Discussed the French Academy and Other Organizations Yesterday.

Dec. 5, 1894.

Miscellaneous Topics Were Introduced at the Meeting and Interesting Papers were Read.

Mrs. Van Slyke, Elizabeth Matthews, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Mrs. J. C. Cummins, Mrs. Lehman, Mrs. Goodrell, Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. A. B. Cummins, and Mrs. Windsor Read Papers.

### ENTERTAINING MEETING.

The Women's Club met in the auditorium of the Central Church of Christ yesterday as the chapel was occupied by the bazar. The programme was in the hands of the miscellaneous topics committee. Mrs. Van Slyke and Miss Elizabeth Matthews, chairmen. The club calendar showed the paper of the day to be by Mrs. Gillette on "Glory of the Nation," but owing to illness Mrs. Gillette was obliged to abandon the work, and the chairmen substituted for it short papers on the "French Institute."

Mrs. Breeden is responsible for the current topics this month, and had work culled by Mrs. Lehman, Mrs. J. C. Cummins and Mrs. Goodrell, to offer. Many subjects were spoken of among them. "The Bond Issue and the President's Message," "Death of Rubenstein" and "Opening of Congress," by Mrs. Lehman; "The Opening of a Free Port at Copenhagen," "Death of Princess Bismarck" and other items, by Mrs. Cummins, and "Foot Ball" and a mention of Governor Jackson's proclamation of last summer in regard to taking precautionary measures against fire, by Mrs. Goodrell, which precaution the paper declared had been heeded notwithstanding the jokes of the provincial press at the time. After the current topics the time was occupied by the miscellaneous topics committee with papers on "The French Institute," by Mrs. Maxwell; "Academie des Beaux Arts," by Mrs. L. F. Andrews; "The Academy Francaise," by Mrs. A. B. Cummins; "The Academy of Science," by

Mrs. Windsor, and "The Royal Academy of England," prepared by Mrs. Stephens and read in her absence by Mrs. Van Slyke. Some quotations from the papers are given. Mrs. Maxwell said of the French Institute:

The Institute is composed of five sections—French Academy, Academy of Inscriptions and Belle Letters, Academy of Fine Arts, Academy of Science and of Moral and Political Science. The real spirit of the Institute took its rise in 1629 in a humble room with only a few straw bottomed chairs for furniture, where seven or eight men formed themselves into a club to discuss literary subjects. In 1635 letters patent were granted by Louis XIII to the Academy Francaise. One statement of the code provided for the equality of all the members and ever since the humblest peasant who has risen to a place in the academy stands the equal of his brother members though they may be dukes. Vacancies only occur by the death of some member and whosoever would succeed him must apply in person to each of the members and ask his support. After election a year must elapse before the candidate is taken into the academy, and during that time he must have read all the works of the member he succeeds and have a thesis on his life and works as an initiatory offering.

Mrs. Andrew's paper was on the "Academie des Beaux Arts," which grew out of the old society of St. Luke, in which "painters, sculptors and various kinds of artisans were associated together for the purpose of exhibitions, and of comparing their work. This was the result of the 'Spirit of the Renaissance' which existed in 1330 in Paris. Though the approval of the Academy des Beaux Arts is not of this moment it once was, when we recall the wonderful power it has exercised for centuries in stimulating the efforts to attain the best in art, its influence in creating a demand in other countries for like institutions, strong adverse criticism appears unjust."

A paper on "The French Academy" was read by Mrs. Cummins. She said:

The chief object of the academy was the cultivation and purification of the French language. In a letter to Richelieu the members said: "We propose to cleanse the language from the impurities it has contracted in the mouths of the common people; from the jargon of the lawyers and the abuses of the pulpit." The great labor of the academy was the beginning of a French dictionary. The forty members were not all men of letters, as might be supposed. The social element was the most prominent. Voltaire said: "The academy is a body composed of titled people, doctors and even men of letters." Prior said: "They are forty, and they have no more wit than four." Boissier wrote to Balzac: "These six years past they toil at letter F. And I'd be much obliged if Destiny would whisper to me, 'Thou shalt live to G.'" After working thirty years on their dictionary, they found the French in the first part so antiquated that they toiled twenty years more to bring it to date. It was published in 1694 and from the first became the standard of the French language. The forty members known as the forty immortals hold a public function yearly, and it is said that people scheme for months ahead to get tickets of invitation.

Miss Matthews followed in a talk as to the utility of the academy and supported by Matthew Arnold showed that while the fixed standard set by the academy, in literature, had had a tendency to produce polish at the expense of originality, yet the growth of literature in France has been steadily upward, while English literature having more freedom, has fluctuated and varied greatly. The century following the Elizabethan era was of a low standard. Mrs. Windsor said in her paper on the Academy of Science:

Science is the magic key which unlocks the marvels of the infinite, the Aladdin's lamp that being rubbed by the hands of the initiate, has spread forth radiance over all

the world, while from its rays have crept forth geni that with magic touch of fingers, have swept away the pestilence and famine of former times. Gliding noiselessly by hospital beds, they have guided the scalpel and the knife that the blind might see and the halt might walk. These geni have laid highways o'er the trackless waste of waters—they have read the hieroglyphics of stones until the centuries that knew not man are as an open book. From ironed of fern to perfume of rose, all is revealed, no bird or beast or living thing but has been subjected to their analysis. The first European academy of science was founded in the early years of 1600. Its members denominated themselves the Lyxus, in reference to their desire of piercing with acute discernment into the depths of truth. Next the French academy was founded. Prominent among its members were Descartes and Pascal, and Colbert conceived the idea of making of this body a nucleus about which he might form a National vantage ground for the advancement of science. The first regularly organized meeting was held Dec. 22, 1666. The king assigned a room in the royal library for a permanent meeting place. The first members were all mathematicians, but they soon took in other branches, and two meetings were held each week, one day for the mathematicians, the other the naturalists and physiologists. Prizes were given for regular attendance—at present an annuity of \$300.

In 1893 the academy was suppressed by order of the convention. The records were hidden by the secretary and in that way preserved. Two years after the Institute was recreated and the Academy of Science reconstructed as a branch of the Institute. The present Academy of Science is composed of two perpetual secretaries and sixty-six members. There are eleven sections—geometry, mechanics, astronomy, geography, navigation, general physics, chemistry, botany, mineralogy, rural economy, anatomy and zoology, medicine and surgery—each having six members. There are also eight foreign associates, ten unattached academicians and 100 corresponding members. While the approval of the academy still carries great weight, yet its decision is not of the value that it once was. The scientific press has in a measure pre-empted its prerogative of setting the final verdict of approval. If it has now outlived its usefulness, it is but following in the footsteps of men and of nations. And as we see it in these last days of the nineteenth century—its building strong and deep the tomb in which its worn-out bones will be laid to rest—we will bring our sprig of laurel and breathe forth a prayer of thankfulness for the good it has accomplished in days gone by.

Some queer things are to be found in the early numbers of the journal published by the Royal Society of London. For instance, "On the approach of winter the swallows do sink in lakes no otherwise than frogs;" and another naturalist assures his readers that "Birds in winter do flock to an hitherto undiscovered satellite not far off, where they find a more congenial clime." Nor did these early scientists confine themselves to material things, for another paper shows that "Ghosts are formed by the exhalations from the bodies of the dead, which assume the forms of the bodies they proceed from." "But," comments the paper, "have two centuries thrown much light on this subject? Can we plume ourselves on a superior knowledge of ghosts?"

Many things of solid import were touched upon in this most interesting paper. The opening sentence sums up the writer's conclusions. If one should ask, "What progress has science made during the last 250 years?" there could be no better answer than "read the records of the Royal Society of Great Britain."

## THE EXAMPLE OF VASHTI

Mrs. Callanan Tells the Women's Club How Much Is Due to

Vashti.

Dec. 19, 1894.  
Some Strong Opinions on Woman Suffrage—The Coming Art Loan Exhibition and Study of American Artists.

The Women's Club met at the usual place yesterday afternoon and as usual enjoyed a thought inspiring time. A

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part of the time of the current topics committee was given to listening to a report from the joint committee from the Women's Club and Art Society upon the subject in which both organizations are equally interested, the Art Loan Exhibit, which will be held in the Masonic building every day, beginning December 22. The joint finance committee through Mrs. Peters reported that there will be 175 pictures by leading American artists to be seen, and that the rates of admission will be 50c for single tickets, or a transferable season ticket good for ten admissions for \$3.00. The exhibit will be open to the public from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. daily.

Following this report a paper on "American Artists" was read by Mrs. N. E. Coffin, and was very helpful, coming just as it did at the beginning of the loan exhibit.

This consumed the time of the current topics, and the political economy committee were given the floor. Mrs. Burgin, chairman, introduced Mrs. Callanan, who read the paper of the day, having chosen for her subject, "Vashti." Mrs. Callanan proceeded to show how much the women of this present time are indebted to Vashti for the example she set to her sex. "The decree issued against Vashti," she said "(born as it was of drunkenness and counseled by drunkards), has passed into the laws of all nations and is contained in the spirit of subjection which the young woman has been taught to take on with her marriage vows. But that it is a rule of action transferred and descended from the barbarian code of the Medes and Persians has been no part of her maiden education. If the authority of the husband over the wife is to be absolute, it places him in a position to compel her to disregard, and even disobey every one of God's commandments. The civil code of every Christian people should be so framed as to in no way conflict with the provisions of the higher law."

The speaker said that "men have become better than their laws" and called upon them to reform their code. One reform to be—"Let no evil be licensed by the state, thus preventing our public coffers being replenished at the expense of good order and the moral life blood of its citizens"

The other reform is on suffrage. "Without the feminine element in the state the best conditions for its prosperity and the protection of its homes can not be reached."

Of the argument that the polls are too vile for women to frequent, she said: "Our husbands, fathers and brothers go to them, therefore, if they are not wholesome, it would be well to have them purified for their sakes. Let every Mordica with honor in his soul refuse to bow down to the power of the liquor traffic, and every woman profit by the sacrifice of the pure, the noble, the virtuous, the womanly Vashti, and rouse herself from her lethargy and indifference. Let her do her utmost to save herself, her home, her family, friends, and country, and her power, united to that of our Christian men and statesmen, shall banish the Hamen of the still from our borders; and change the current of public opinion to a higher level and so help to build anew both state and country upon

the firmer foundation of a new and true manhood and womanhood."

Mrs. Callanan was followed by Mrs. Atkins, who spoke of the absolute equality of the men and women of New Zealand, and drew a sharp contrast between that land and our own.

Mrs. Goodrell followed with some remarks on the return of the saloon to Iowa.

Mrs. Young gave a resume of the life and work of Vashti, both witty and wise, and a short study of the history of political economy as a science.

Mrs. Harvey gave a paper on city sanitation, and thought that the women's club could not do better than bring its influence to bear in the interest of better sanitary conditions. She said our city of 80,000 inhabitants has such rules in regard to health officers and their powers, as might be expected in a town of 700 people.

The club adjourned to meet January 2, when the music committee will have charge of the programme.

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### A DAY IN MUSIC.

The Women's Club Studies Music and Musicians With Profit.

Jan. 2nd. 1895.  
Mrs. H. K. Love Speaks of Sacred Music and Mrs. Sue Ankeny Brown of Cradle Songs.

"Why can we not have more music days?" This question occurred to many minds yesterday when a day which might easily have been commonplace was made a delight to all who were so fortunate as to have attended the Women's Club.

The music committee in charge of Mrs. J. C. Macy presented the programme. In a witty and appropriate little rhyme Mrs. Macy introduced Mrs. Love who read a paper on "The Influence of Sacred Music." She said: Since the morning stars sung together, and the sons of God shouted for joy, music has held a supreme place in the world. In proof that the earliest music was sacred music, she mentioned the beautiful "songs" of the old bible, and said that in all ages, and in all countries it has been one of the chief expressions of reverence and religion. "No race is so ignorant, no race so savage, and no race so cultivated as not to have, in some form, invoked the power of tone and rhythm in their supplications to a mysterious and invisible power." As civilization advanced, more and more beautiful grew the music of worship, until it has attained the perfection of our orators. Of the "Te Deum" which she called the greatest song of praise, Mrs. Love told the legend of its first singing—by the Emperor Augustine and St. Ambros. Augustine's mother hearing it sung for the first time, said to her son: "O my son, I would rather know thee Augustine, the Christian than Augustine, the emperor." Coming down to our own modern sacred music, Mrs. Love spoke of Plato's

saying, "Poetry comes nearer vital truth than history," and of how the hymns of childhood remain always in our memory, the more readily because of the rhyme, and of George Herbert's words, "A verse will reach him whom a sermon will not touch." Mrs. Love spoke of a number of our most beautiful hymns—"Rock of Ages," "Guard Me, Oh, Thou Great Jehovah," "Lead, Kindly Light," "Nearer, My God, to Thee," and others—pausing at intervals while Mrs. Meta Hills-McCrae sang verses from them, one being especially beautiful, "Abide With Me, Oh, Thou Who Changeest Not." She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Fuatz. When Mrs. Love had closed her paper with a plea to all to cultivate a love for sacred music, which she said would do more than any other thing to elevate the lowly, Mrs. McCrae delighted and touched every heart in the audience by singing with great power and feeling "The Ninety and Nine."

The time had now arrived for the second part of the programme which was to be "Cradle Songs" and was opened by Mrs. Walter McCain, who sang in the sweetest way that charming lullaby, "Sleep Little Baby of Mine."

Mrs. Ernest Brown followed with a paper on "Cradle Songs," which was a prose poem in its construction, and music in its rendition. Mrs. Dempster sat at the piano and played softly and with exquisite touch Mendelssohn's "Lullaby Songs," while Mrs. Brown read, beginning with Longfellow:

"Between the dark and the daylight  
When the night is beginning to lower,  
Comes a pause in the day's occupations  
Which is known as the children's hour."

Mrs. Brown quoted "Let us write the songs of a people and I care not who makes the laws," and said the author surely did not overestimate the influence of the voice of melody upon the souls of men. She spoke of the change which had taken place in the songs for children since even those still not old could remember, the "scary" stories and "bug-a-boo" songs having no longer a place in the nursery, where education really begins. Following Mrs. Brown, Miss Marie Chambers sang an exquisite "Lullaby Song," and responded to an encore with "Merry Goes the Time When the Heart is Young," giving great pleasure to her hearers and closing a programme which will long be remembered as a feast of beautiful thoughts and melodies. A part of the time allotted to current topics was taken up by a report from Mrs. Berryhill, of the recent meeting of delegates from the Federated Clubs, which occurred in St. Louis, in which she spoke warmly of the charming hospitality of the ladies of St. Louis, and gave a brief outline of what is to be done at the National Federation meeting to be held at Atlanta next November. Mrs. Durley told in brief the story of the Armenian outrages, and the causes leading to them, and to the attempt to keep the truth from becoming known to the world which is being made by the Turkish government.

The next meeting of the club will be January 16, when the history committee will present a programme on Scandinavia.

## THEY DISCUSS SCANDINAVIA

Members of the Women's Club Hear Papers and Personal Experiences.

The History of the Northern Peninsula Briefly Presented and Gustaf Adolph Eulogized.

Jan. 16. 1895.  
Something About the Swedish Royal Family—King Oscar said to be Easier of Access than Grover I., of the United States.

### STUDY OF HISTORY.

Two Swedish flags draped above the chairman's desk at the meeting of the Women's Club Tuesday eloquently announced the subject of the day. The history committee, Mrs. Whisenand chairman, had chosen to present the Scandinavian peninsula, its past, its present and its probable future, for the consideration of the club, and a very acceptable choice it proved.

Mrs. Whisenand, in introducing her first speaker, spoke of the fact of our historical study and our everyday reading having so much more to do with the other countries of the world than with the Northern peninsula of Scandinavia; and, in a measure to restore the balance of knowledge, her committee offered the club a day with the Norsemen. She then presented Mrs. T. M. Walker, who read a short paper on the Eddas, which was thoughtful and beautiful indeed. Mrs. Walker said, in part: "The Edda is a book written by Snorri Sturleson, containing the old mythological lore of Scandinavia, and the old artificial rules for verse making, and a collection of the ancient Icelandic poems. This is the younger Edda, so called to distinguish it from a collection of similar poems collected about the middle of the thirteenth century. The word Edda means 'great-grandmother,' and refers to the fact that the stories were recited by the native Skalds who had received them by word of mouth from their ancestors. The tales recounted in the Eddas describe the exploits of the gods in their warfare against the frost giants." Some extracts, notably that giving the history of Baldar, the beautiful—Baldar, who represented the light and warmth of summer—were given.

In a five-minute talk about the hero, King Olaf, Mrs. W. H. Bailey demonstrated how much may be said in a very limited time by one who has her subject well in hand, and who has perfect self-possession. In finishing her talk, Mrs. Bailey said: "There can be but one reason why the memory of Olaf lives while that of many other kings as brave and beautiful as he, has perished in oblivion—Olaf worked toward the betterment of the world. He realized that under the prevailing religion no growth toward religion was possible, and it was his life work to introduce and promote Christianity in his native land."

Following Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. A. E. Clark gave a sketch of that hero of the thirty years' war, the daring champion of Protestantism in that bloody struggle, the victorious general, the humane



man whose army was a marvel in that age; no useless bloodshed, no pillage was allowed where it marched—this was Gustaf Adolf, the "Snow King," as Wallenstein named him in derision, expecting his army to melt before his forces as snow before the sun of spring. Continuing, Mrs. Clark said: "In 1893 the industrial world paid homage to the name of Columbus, but in 1894 the Protestant Christian world paid their tribute of respect to him who died fighting for its faith and its church—Gustaf Adolf. His is the greater glory and much to be preferred. It was to be expected that his countrymen, the world around, would commemorate his birthday, and respond to the proclamation of their good king, Oscar, but when the Protestant churches of Germany, England and America joined in a grand celebration of the day it was evident that his fame is greater than any country can found and that his name belongs to the Protestant church universal."

After Mrs. Clark's paper Mrs. E. H. Carter read a resume of Scandinavian politics since the elevation to the Swedish throne of Bernadotte, marshal of France, one of Napoleon's generals. Bernadotte was married to the daughter of a French wine merchant, who had been Napoleon's first love, and for whom he never lost his admiration. So it will be seen that to the French middle classes the present reigning house of Sweden and Norway must trace its origin. Oscar I, the present king, is grandson of Bernadotte and fourth sovereign of this house, said Mrs. Carter. Oscar I is one of the most gifted monarchs of our time. He is a statesman, a scientist, an historian, a poet and a printer. He is not alone a reader but a writer of books. He is considered the greatest orator of the land and few occasions of national or public interest have passed wherein his voice has not been heard. Oscar is the most approachable of all the European monarchs, and it is said to be far more easy to obtain an audience with the king of Sweden and Norway than with president of the United States. The two kingdoms are distinct in every particular except that they have a king—war and peace in common. Each has its own assembly, cabinet, monetary and cabinet systems, etc. An attack upon one country is resented by both. The Norwegian war marine is at the disposal of the common service. Much jealousy is evinced in each country. In Sweden, lest its power be not respected, and in Norway lest Sweden trespass too far. In Sweden, one must speak of Sweden and Norway. In Norway, of Norway and Sweden. Just now and for some time past, Norway is urging her right to foreign representation—a consular body and ambassadors, which Sweden is disposed not to grant.

After Mrs. Carter's paper, Mrs. J. W. Vail gave a half hour's talk about her last summer's visit to the "land of the midnight sun." In glowing words Mrs. Vail painted the grandeur of the scenery to this Northern land and described the rich purples, crimsons and golden hues

of the land and water under the magic touch of the sun, so seemingly just at hand. She spoke of her visit to North Cape—to a summer camp of Laplanders, who had brought their herds of reindeer to graze upon the vegetation of a land, a little more prolific than their own; of a whale fishing experience and told how when on the voyage to the North Cape when the steamer crossed the Arctic circle cannons were fired, and the young people jumped over a rope stretched across the deck, and how when the confusion was over and the noise of the cannon had died away an old lady was heard to say, "I knew something would be broken when we crossed that line." Mrs. Vail spoke of the benign influences of the gulf stream upon the climate of Norway and how the fishermen along the coast keep themselves warm by burning mahogany and other Southern woods borne to their doors by the current of that stream. A vote of thanks was given Mrs. Vail for her kindness in relating her experiences, and the club adjourned. The work for the day was perfectly planned and as perfectly executed. Though so many took part not one overstepped the limit of the time assigned her, and the club adjourned exactly on time, which, while it seems a small matter, has much to do with the enjoyment of any occasion of the sort. Brevity and conciseness were perfectly exemplified.

The next meeting of the club will be for the social day at the home of Mrs. E. R. Clapp at 2 o'clock, on Wednesday, January 30. Progressive conversation is the programme.

## Iowa State Register.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1895.

### THE LADIES CONVERSE.

Jan. 30. — 1895.

The Women's Club Has an Afternoon of Progressive Conversation.

So Arranged That the Conversation and Conversationalists are Frequently Changed—Art at the Next Meeting.

Yesterday afternoon the Women's Club assembled in full force at the home of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, for the first social day of the club year. The ladies of the social committee, who arranged for the entertainment, had resolved themselves into a reception committee, and, arrayed in the club colors—green and white—assisted Mrs. Clapp in receiving the guests. Much speculation had been indulged in as to what progressive conversation would prove to be, since progressive conversation was announced to be the programme two weeks ago. The event proved that tables had been provided as for cards, and at each table six ladies were seated, having drawn partners as in six-hand euchre. Upon each table was a slip of paper having a question or subject of discussion for that table. At the end of five minutes a bell was rung, and one lady from each set of partners drew a number from a bag provided for the purpose, and the one who drew the highest number progressed, with her partner, to the next table, and

so on, constantly changing the groups and making it possible to converse with several groups during the afternoon and breaking up the tendency to drift into little cliques of well known friends and leave the comparative stranger to "chew the cud of sweet and bitter fancy," as is sometimes the case at social gatherings. The result was a delightful social afternoon. Dainty refreshments were elegantly served, and the conversation prolonged over the coffee. Many bright and original things were said upon the following subjects:

"What Have Been the Effects of the Teachings of Henry Ward Beecher, Lyman Abbott and Robert Ingersoll?"  
"Who Is the Best American Novelist Now Writing? How Do You Account for the Present Decline in American Fiction and Poetry?"

"Do Men Prefer Beauty or Brains in Women?"

"Do You Believe in Dress Reform?"

"A Club House for Our Club."

"Club Pin."

"Your Favorite Picture in the Recent Loan Exhibit."

"Is Philanthropy a Science or a Fad?"

"Are College-bred Women Disinclined to Marry? Why?"

"Concerning the Nagging Woman; is the Iron Mask too Severe a Penalty?"

"Tell Your Best Joke."

"What Was the Best Novel of Last Year?"

"Describe the Ideal Woman."

"Would Women Vote if They Could?"

"What Should be the Attitude of This Club Toward Municipal and School Government?"

Mrs. Berryhill was called upon for a talk on the subject of conversation at the table at which she happened to be seated, and gave Lucy Stone's experience of dress reform, in a way calculated to discourage its advocates.

Miss Ida C. Hultin talked for a moment on the desirability of women serving upon school boards, and advocated their getting themselves elected for such duties.

Mrs. Macomber explained that women in Iowa were not eligible for that office under our constitution, and talked of a new club home, rather favoring having a floor or two in some of the new buildings constantly going up in Des Moines, finished with special reference to the club's needs, and leasing them for a long term. This is a subject on which the ladies were very enthusiastic.

With a vote of thanks to Mrs. Clapp for so hospitably placing her beautiful home at the disposal of the club on this occasion, which had proved so pleasant, the ladies reluctantly turned their backs upon the light and warmth and good cheer. The out-of-town visitors were Miss Ida Hultin and Mrs. Galusha Parsons.

The next meeting of the club will be February 13, at the Christian church parlors, and will be a day devoted to art. There is a feeling that something out of the ordinary is to be given the club on that occasion, as the members of the art committee are very secretive as to their plans.

## ART AND THE WOMEN'S CLUB

One of the Most Delightful Meetings in the Club's

History. Feb. 13. — 1895.

Mrs. West Gives a Paper on Painting, Mrs. Goodrell Figures as the Voice from Greece.

Mr. Baldwin Models a Figure in Clay Before the Ladies—Mrs. Billington Contributes a Poem—The Art Committee, Mrs. Potter, Chairman, in Charge.

### PAINTING AND SCULPTURE.

The regular meeting of the Women's Club occurred yesterday at the Central Christian church. The art committee, with Mrs. Potter as chairman, had the day in charge, and had spared no pains to make the programme an interesting one, introducing as much beauty as was possible, as seemed appropriate, considering the subject in hand. The stage, greatly enlarged for the occasion, was fitted up to represent the interior of a sculptor's studio—the studio of a very opulent and successful sculptor indeed—and was a delight to the eye, with its Oriental rugs, its rich hangings, and, above all, its profusion of elegant marble and bronze and terra cotta pieces collected from the beauty loving homes of the city. Major Byers' entire collection of antiques being exhibited, and all rendered most effective in the beautiful setting of palms and tropical plants, which lent an added charm to the luxurious scene. Mrs. Goode, the president, introduced Mrs. Potter, who in a few well chosen words, spoke of the subject of the day, and introduced Mrs. Abbie Billington, who read the following verses relative to art, bringing up in her listeners' thoughts the saying of the old Grecian, that art and poetry are twin sisters and go always hand in hand:

#### The Dawn of Art.

O, Art! divinely fair, blest boon to man!  
When Light and Life sprang into being, thou  
Didst close attend. Then graceful tree and  
bough,  
Were mirrored where the pleasant waters ran;  
And bush and break, and Nature's finer plan,  
Of flower and fern, and airy, fairy vine;  
Here, too, reflect, the human face divine,  
Attendant spirits might unmoved scan.  
Then Iris, child of sun and dew  
Bent low to kiss her image on the stream,  
And whispered secrets, rare as angel's dream  
Of magic treasure waiting to be wrought  
By skillful hand, and swift impelling thought  
Earth's fairest scenes to paint in colors true.  
O, Art! Twin born thou seem'st!  
Where winter's blast  
Had locked the waters in a dreamless sleep  
And plied the brown leaves in a tangled heap  
And over earth a somber mantle cast;  
From fleecy clouds like white doves flying past  
A countless host of snow flakes earthward  
borne,  
Were wafted 'bout a tree of fruitage shorn  
And dimly outlined, e'en as shrouded mast,  
Upright it rose a forest king snow draped,  
And still the flakes came down and weighted  
now  
The rounded tree top—type of manly brow;  
Then gathering fullness from caprice of storm  
Out-reaching branch and massive trunk took  
form  
And thus Apollo's statue first was shaped.

Following Mrs. Billington, Mrs. Potter presented Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, who, impersonating Hellas, in costume, brought a greeting from the old Hellenic art to the art of to-day. The greeting was an original metrical composition of no small merit, and proved a most interesting feature of the afternoon, and all were charmed with Mrs. Goodrell's fine delivery and graceful gestures. As she stood there, surrounded by examples of art, old and new, for a background, she seemed the living embodiment of living, breathing art herself.

The greeting began:

To you who in the name of Art are here assembled

I bring a greeting from the ancient Greek,  
I, Hellas, mother of the art ye love!

After contrast of the old art with the new, she said, apostrophising Art:

Go on and fill the earth with works of beauty,  
For every beauty which the eye perceives  
Breeds in the mind a thought to match its  
worth



And 'tis thy highest purpose to uplift  
The minds of men.

Following the Hellenic greeting Mrs. Harry West gave a paper on "Modern Painters and the Renaissance," which had for its central thoughts the ideas that the art of any time but reflects the moral and mental status of that time, and the constant evolution of art, giving expression always to the thought of its age. From the sublime idea which inspired the earliest art through idealism, materialism, realism, to the present groping for the idea, represented by impressionism, she traced the progress of art, predicting for the future a return to the *grande ideas*, which shall have its birth in the new truths opening constantly to the minds of men. Mrs. West said in art:

The art coming to maturity in the fifteenth century was generated in the early medieval revival. The seeds coming from antiquity, new art germs developed with new surroundings, and painting was born of a new civilization. Modern painting is the child of this evolution, expressing the thought of its age. If that thought be revolutionary and material, art's expression can but be a reflection of that thought. The "isms" of the time have been felt in painting as well as in literature. We hear on every side the cry of realism, materialism, impressionism, and art in decadence, until we are almost persuaded that the age of good painting is past. Artists of to-day can no more clothe in form the religious beliefs of those old times than they can paint "Holy Families" or see "Visions of St. Francis," because faith is wanting. To produce an era in painting like that of the past the world must again be plunged into the depths of the dark ages.

After an extended a critique of the art of the past 300 years as the time permitted, Mrs. West closed her admirable paper as follows:

What the future in painting may be is a difficult conjecture. With the passing away of the superstition of belief and the coming of emancipated thought, the character of art has been changing, keeping pace with the thought of the age, and this evolution will continue until its errors are uncovered and destroyed. The desire for truth of the present time has resulted in realism in art, and has accomplished its mission. Since every true painting of the past is impregnated with impressionism, it is well to consider its service. We find that the realist reproduces evident truths—those clearly seen without sentiment, while the impressionist sacrifices the evident to reveal the obscure. He lends the public his artistic sense, and calls its attention to the unnoticed beauties of nature. This proves that we are again returning in the process of evolution to the plane of the old masters, whose painting was an expression of great ideas, carrying new truths. The painter of to-day is studying effects, and when these shall have been attained through an understanding of cause, the painter's imagination will again be freed. The impressionism of Monet effected a revolution in painting, and another revolution will bring a return to the idea, and as new truths unfold themselves to men's minds, the artist will catch the thought of the age and give it marvelous expression.

The next and last, though by no means least in interest, was the modeling of a figure from clay, by Mr. Clarence Baldwin, who explained the work as he went on, very lucidly. This part of the programme had the charm of absolute novelty to most of the ladies present, and was followed with great interest while Mr. Baldwin demonstrated the telling effect to be produced often by a single stroke. Every member of the club feels that she would like to thank Mr. Baldwin in person.

The section of the art committee which had the day in charge consists of the following ladies, with Mrs. Dr. Potter as chairman: Mrs. Plumb, Mrs. West, Mrs. Billington, Mrs. Kauffman, Mrs. Abdill and Mrs. Goodrell. These ladies,

under the leadership of Mrs. Potter, deserve great credit for the admirable manner in which they carried out a programme planned in the simplicity of perfect artistic taste.

The current topic time was occupied by Mrs. Macomber, who presented a plea for practical work on the part of the club, though not advocating an entire departure from a literary basis.

Mrs. Goode announced a called meeting of the club—not a board meeting—on Friday, Feb. 22, when the building question is to be discussed.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Baldwin was taken at the close of the session, and the club adjourned to meet Feb. 27 under the auspices of the literature committee.

## REVIEWED "THE MANXMAN"

The Women's Club Held an Interesting and Important Meeting Yesterday.

Dr. Carothers, Mrs. Hal Howell, Mrs. Stetson, Mrs. Ballard, Were on the Programme of the Meeting.

Value of the "Purpose Novel" Was Under Discussion and Miss Keating, Mrs. Hawley, and Mrs. Reickard Spoke.

### CURRENT TOPICS.

The Woman's Club met at the Central Christian Church parlors yesterday afternoon, and after the reading of the minutes by Mrs. E. H. Carter, acting for the absent secretary, Mrs. Morse, the current topic committee occupied the first half hour in a review of Hall Caine's novel, "The Manxman."

Dr. Carothers presented this review in a clear and justly critical manner. No doubt many who had read the book saw sidelights which had escaped them in reading, and those who had not read it certainly could not fail to feel an awakened interest in the story so full of every-day struggle and failure, and so grandly triumphant in the heroic righting of wrong and its finale.

Mrs. Hal Howell followed with a brief mention of events in the political world, and the time allotted current topics being exhausted the president announced that the time belonged to the literature committee, with Mrs. Stetson as chairman. Mrs. Stetson introduced Mrs. Ballard, who read the paper of the day, on the subject "Value of the Purpose Novel." The writer is an enthusiastic advocate of the novel as a means of education and reform and growth, and cited testimony indisputable to sustain her theory. She said:

The novel has traveled far from its original source; has emerged from forests where Robin Hood and Friar Tuck plied their trades; straying far from Arcadia's shores where prince and princess sang their lives away in idle contentment. It has dispelled the scented moonlight in which Edwin and Angelina declared their eternal constancy, and to-day it stands forth in the clear, strong sunshine of life. No longer simply a source of amusement, but grown a power. Of all the novel children the most precocious and least bidable is the youngest, the novel with a purpose.

Beginning with Miss Maria Edgeworth, who was cited as the author of "the first novel written with a direct

purpose," and paying a tribute to the effect wrought by her work which must last through time, although already her stories are little read, the paper noted the names and accomplished works of the great novelists who have served their race by teaching truth and exposing crime and injustice, down to our present day. Of that great hearted man, perfect philanthropist, perfect novelist, Charles Dickens, whose magnetic pen through the medium of the purpose novel, has wrought so many reforms, so much educational progress, and engendered much widespread interest in the poor and unfortunate, she said:

His is a pen that at every stroke could call forth a smile or a tear. Every shadow that swept the brows of his train of children brought, through sympathy, inspired floods of sunlight into many a real darkened home."

Charles Read and Disraeli were spoken of, and of French novels Mrs. Ballard said:

Perhaps no country could, with more profit, apply the winnowing process to its fiction than France; its chaff thrown away, its wheat preserved. For it has wheat, and that of best quality. But we will only pause to note the great masterpiece of the great master, Victor Hugo, "Les Misérables," the greatest of all purpose novels. So broad a survey of life does it take that, like love, in taking up the harp of life, it smote on all the chords at once.

Our own Harriet Beecher Stowe's great achievement was mentioned; Thackeray, George Eliot, Bellamy and others given due praise. Of the late novels which have for their purpose the task of purifying social life, she said:

There are many social questions of which the general world should not remain in ignorance. None but the children of Paradise enjoy the privilege of the stars, to dwell apart. The children of earth, no matter how tenderly guarded, must pass the dangerous shoals and rocks amid life's storms. The cup of temptation, which precedes that of sorrow, must sooner or later be offered to all, and for the love of God and the care of his creatures, no stone of truth or enlightenment in life or letters should be left untarnished.

Following Mrs. Ballard, Miss Keating of Des Moines College gave a very beautiful reading of two scenes from "Ingomar," taking both the characters, Ingomar and Parthenia, excellently and delighting her audience with her charming work. Returning to the subject of novels, Mrs. Hawley gave a five minute talk. She spoke tellingly against the "purpose novel" as represented by "Heavenly Twins," "The Woman Who Did," and others of that ilk, thinking that the good they do is more than balanced by the harm. To her mind, too much familiarity with evil as pictured in these books as existing broadcast in our best society, may be expected to make those who read the books feel that they must be pretty bad indeed to be worse than everybody about them. And as we are not apt to be better than the company we keep, she thinks that the young readers may argue that what is good enough for society in general is good enough for them. Mrs. Hawley was followed and supported in her opinion by Miss Clarke. Mrs. Reickard then read a very excellent paper on the "Symbolist School in Literature." That school which has as its fittest exponent Maurice Maeterlinck, "The Belgian Shakespeare." Mrs. Reickard's paper enlightened many inquiring minds upon this term "symbolist school," and all regretted that no time remained for discussion.

On March 13 the club will hold its annual business meeting and the talk of a club home will be again resumed.

At a recent called meeting the committee which represented the interests of the Women's club in the management of the loan exhibit reported. A vote of thanks was given the business men who helped to make the exhibit a success.

## Iowa State Register.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1895.

Mar. 13. THE WOMEN'S CLUB. 1895.  
Holds a Business Meeting, Elects Directors and Delegates to the State Federation.

The Des Moines Women's Club held its annual business meeting at the Central Christian Church yesterday afternoon. The first business considered was the subject of a club home, but no definite conclusion was reached, and the present committee having the matter in charge was continued with instructions to continue their efforts. Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Goodrell, and Mrs. Warfield constitute the committee.

The club elected as delegate to the first bi-ennial convention of the State Federation of Clubs, which meets at Cedar Rapids, May 8 and 9, Mrs. E. H. Carter, and as alternate Mrs. J. C. Cummins. The president, Mrs. Goode, is a delegate by reason of her office, and Mrs. W. H. Bailey was elected her alternate.

Mrs. Berryhill, state president of the federation, gave a short talk explaining the character of the coming meeting, and invited all members of federated clubs to be president if possible. Mrs. Chas. Henrotin, of Chicago, president of the general federation, is to be there and give an address. A committee consisting of Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Whisenand was appointed to act with the other clubs of the city in providing entertainment for Mrs. Henrotin during her visit in Des Moines.

A motion was carried denoting a desire on the part of the club members to choose the committee upon which they are to serve the next year. Each member is expected to make known her preference, in order that in making up the committees the chairman may be guided thereby in so far as is practicable.

A motion to raise the club dues and the initiation fee was lost.

The board of directors for the coming year was announced and consists of the following named ladies:

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs. L. B. Abdill,    | Mrs. W. H. Bailey,       |
| Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, | Mrs. Jas. Callanan,      |
| Mrs. E. H. Carter,    | Mrs. E. R. Clapp,        |
| Miss Rachel Clarke,   | Mrs. A. B. Cummins,      |
| Mrs. J. C. Cummins,   | Mrs. J. G. Day,          |
| Mrs. P. H. Durley,    | Mrs. D. G. Edmundson,    |
| Mrs. B. F. Elbert,    | Mrs. A. L. Frisbie,      |
| Mrs. L. W. Goode,     | Mrs. J. A. Jackson,      |
| Mrs. J. H. Macomber,  | Miss Elizabeth Matthews, |
| Mrs. A. B. Morse,     |                          |
| Mrs. R. A. Patchin,   | Mrs. R. R. Peters,       |
| Mrs. H. C. Potter,    | Mrs. D. H. Reichard,     |
| Mrs. T. M. Walker,    | Mrs. J. H. Windsor,      |

This board is the same with the exception of four members—Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Matthews—which has served the club well and faithfully for a number of years, and the ladies of the club feel that they have tried workers guiding their club through what promises to be the dark



period of home building.

At the next meeting of the club, March 27, the education committee will have charge and the club is requested to take notice that the current topic time will be devoted to general discussion of any subject which may be introduced.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1895.

## BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN

The Women's Club Discusses Juvenile Literature, Led by Miss Olive McHenry.

Business Matters Disposed of by the Club—Mrs. Hillis Talks on Current Topics.

Mar. 27, 1895.  
The Iowa Society of Fine Arts Begins Its First Exhibition of Work by Members Only, Continuing This Week.

### WOMEN AND ART.

No business of importance was transacted in the Women's Club at the regular fortnightly meeting yesterday. The informal vote of two weeks ago electing delegates to the Cedar Rapids convention of federated clubs, May 8 and 9, was confirmed, and Mrs. Carter will represent this club as delegate, with Mrs. J. C. Cummins as alternate, and Mrs. Bailey as alternate for the president. Mrs. Goode. The new printing committee was announced and consists of Mrs. Peters, chairman, Mrs. Durley and Miss Matthews.

Miss Rachel Clarke moved that the club matronize the presentation of a play written by Sig. Ventura, which he offers to put on the stage with a cast of society young people. The motion was lost—not but that the play is well vouched for and its success almost certain if undertaken—but because everybody is tired after a long winter of hard work and study and do not feel that it is possible to undertake another item of more or less money or work. Mrs. Carter, who has been serving as secretary *pro tem* during Mrs. Morse's absence from the city, asked to be relieved of the work, and Mrs. Ernest Brown was appointed to serve until Mrs. Morse's return.

The current topic time was occupied by Mrs. Hillis, who made known the desire of the managers of the Associated Charities to have any kind of goods, old or new, donated. This will enable them to continue the sewing class of women who are being taught to sew and utilize old clothes and such other material as is furnished them, at the same time enabling them to earn 50 cents per day, which they are paid in clothing or provisions. Mrs. Hillis further spoke about the cheap novel nuisance and its harmful influence among children.

Members of the club are requested to indicate in writing to the secretary the committee on which they wish to serve next year. Attend to this before next Wednesday, April 2, as at the business meeting of that date the committees are to be formed.

A vote of sympathy was extended by the club to Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Lefe Young and Mrs. Walter Reed in their bereavement.

### Juvenile Literature.

Mrs. Hubbard, chairman of the education committee, introduced Miss McHenry, who read a very fine paper on "Juvenile Literature." Miss McHenry has had much experience in training young minds and is qualified to speak as to their needs, which she did in a way at once wise and sympathetic. The following extracts are quoted from her paper:

To select from the literature of the past and present that material best suited to the needs of children should be the aim of those who have charge of the education of the young. That literature excels all other influences in its power to move the heart and will is already granted. It follows, then, that children must be provided with reading that will make them better as well as wiser. To Wordsworth may be ascribed the discovery of childhood, since to him is due its introduction into literature. Before Wordsworth, children had been recognized as existing, only, however, as pigmy men.

Is it not really a strange thing, considering how long children have been in the world, and that every one has once been a child, that so many people fail to understand them?

Wordsworth discovered the solitary element in childhood, and as no one had done before invested it with a fine spiritual and ethical quality.

Boys, of course, are fond of intense energy and action, and this fondness is appealed to in the books written for them. This is all right under certain limitations. Travels and adventures properly told ought to interest all healthy minds. But in many of the books written for boys the general spirit is of a boy who runs away from home, has many adventures, becomes wealthy, returns, marries the prettiest girl of the town, and all live happy ever after. The more impossible the situations into which his daring leads him, the more impossible the manner in which he gets out of them, the more thumb-marks the book has on the margins.

Girls' books, many of them, run to a sentimentality that is exceedingly morbid—especially the kind we call goody-goody. Here we see a girl, forsaking dolls and healthy games, filled with a desire to have a "mission"—and she begins by trying to reform her parents—and dies when she has just about accomplished her work. It is no wonder children begin to think their parents a detriment to their proper development. A teacher of history was conducting a lesson in which the lives of John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson were contrasted. At the close of the exercise, she asked if there were any circumstances in Jackson's life which gave him an advantage over Adams, and was almost stunned by the reply that there was; that Jackson's father died before Jackson was born, and his mother while he was yet a little boy!

It is of importance to develop a love of history, as no one can be well read without a knowledge of the past. Some of the best thoughts of a writer, depending as they do upon historic events or persons, are entirely lost to the reader not familiar with history.

It is so, too, with Bible reference, with which all literature is enriched. In the common schools the only children who know anything of the Bible are the children of Jewish parentage.

Miss McHenry spoke for the literature, especially for little children, which involves the imagination, and made a plea for the historical novel, which she thinks is often quite as true as history for the older people. Scott's novels were recommended especially, and mention was made of Hawthorne having one winter read all of Scott's novels aloud to his children. She recommended that parents read to and with their children, largely because children are always interested in doing what grown people do at the same time and to strengthen ties of sympathy between parents and children.

The paper was much more than a mere treatise on juvenile literature, it was a profound analysis of the relation of each class of literature to the others, and of the relation of literature to life.

In the discussion after the paper many excellent thoughts were brought out—among others that of the greater truth of idealism than of the so-called realism in fiction, the realistic dealing only with the surface of things—trivial events of every day occurrence which do not have a ripple upon the smooth surface of that inner life which every mortal lives. Idealism deals with deeper things, and is more truly real than the so-called realism.

The next meeting of the club will be April 28, when Mrs. Hume will read a paper upon "Women's Literature."

## Iowa State Register.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1895.

### WOMEN'S CLUB. 1895.

The meeting of the Women's Club at the parlors of the Central Presbyterian church, yesterday, was largely attended and one of the most enjoyable and profitable in the recent history of the organization. The club has almost arrived at a definite conclusion that it would be better to have fewer papers presented and more discussion at its meetings, and yesterday's session was conducted on the new plan. It was very satisfactory.

The meeting was in charge of Mrs. Ellbert. The paper of the day was presented by Mrs. J. O. Hume. It was one of the best ever read before the club. The subject treated was "Woman's Limitations," and the utter lack of partiality and calm fearlessness with which the subject was handled subjected the paper to several criticisms based on a claim that Mrs. Hume was unfair to woman. The paper was a carefully prepared, logical, clear cut and scientific analysis of what woman has done, to which was added the more important, because the less discussed, phase of the matter, viz., what woman has not done. The statement of the subject was such as a fair minded man or woman would make.

The paper was discussed at some length by Mrs. W. H. Bailly, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Miss Ritchie and Miss Corrothers, among others. The meeting was exceptionally well attended. The new plan adopted of permitting time for wider discussion of subjects treated bids fair to be very satisfactory.

A Dubuque paper has the following gossip concerning the next meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, in which Des Moines ladies will be much interested. As to the authenticity and accuracy of the information there is an open question. The paper says:

The coming meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, which occurs at Cedar Rapids, May 8 and 9, promises to present quite a lively contest for the presidency of the association. This will be the second meeting, as the state organization was instituted two years ago by the Marshalltown Women's Club when the Des Moines Women's Club took it up and invited the meeting to that city.

It was the intention of the managers that Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown, should be president, but Mrs. James Berryhill, of Des Moines, who was then president of the Woman's Club, captured the ladies by her charming manner of presiding, and she was elected president. She had protested that she would not take the office, and the nomination committee, of which Mrs. Edith Hepburn Thammell, daughter of Congressman Hepburn, was chairman, had nominated Mrs. Howe.

Mrs. Berryhill accepted the office, which was offered to her in a burst of sentiment, and has devoted herself earnestly to the work.

She has attended the National meetings and otherwise done her duty. Her friends want her to be re-elected very much, that her former election may be ratified, as it were. But a faction of the Des Moines Women's Club is opposed to her, and so are some of those who wanted Mrs. Howe for president at the meeting two years ago. There will, therefore, be just enough of a contest in the convention to make it interesting.

## Iowa State Register.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1895.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS. 1895.

Washington Irving, Gen. Grant, Alice Carey, Shakespeare and Froebel—The Women's Club's Varied Programme.

Under the taking title of "April Birthdays" the miscellaneous topics committee presented one of the best programmes of the year at the Women's Club yesterday afternoon. The programme had been prepared by Miss Elizabeth Matthews, but owing to her absence in New Orleans on a business trip, Mrs. Van Slyke, the alternating chairman, took charge. The platform was draped with flags, against which hung a portrait of General Grant, the coat of arms of Iowa, an engraving of the "Froebel-Thurn," and the home and "Child-Garden" of Froebel, whose portrait, draped in the German colors, stood on an easel. A portrait of Washington Irving was shown, and also the well-known group picture of "American Artists," in which Irving is so prominent.

The club welcomed back Mrs. Morse, who after an absence from the city, resumed her duties as secretary, and expressed its appreciation of the services, in the interval, of Mrs. Ernest Brown.

The first paper, on Washington Irving was read by Mrs. L. F. Andrews, who gave all that could be given in a brief paper of the literary life and character of America's classic author, closing with the wish that our modern literature might be fed from the same pure sources.

Mrs. Stevens read an admirable biographical sketch of Gen. Grant, giving the personal and military characteristics of the great commander. A feature of the paper which gave it local interest was the speech which General Grant delivered in Des Moines at the reunion of the Army of the Tennessee, which Mrs. Stevens read in full.

Mrs. A. B. Cummins' tribute to Alice Carey, which was given entirely without notes, was a vivid and sympathetic sketch, charming in spirit and manner. Mrs. Cummins gave glimpses of Alice Carey's social and literary life, the famous "Sunday Evenings" in New York, and defined clearly her literary limitations.

A paper prepared by Mrs. S. B. Maxwell on "Iowa," going back to its territorial beginnings, was read by Mrs. George Carter. Mrs. Windsor's paper on "Shakespeare," which closed the literary programme, was something more than a mere biographical sketch of the poet. It was rather a study of the Shakespeare problem, and was rich in thought and suggestion. A short paper on "Froebel," prepared by Miss Matthews, was crowded out for lack of time.



A pleasant surprise of the afternoon was the appearance of the Glee Club, of the West Des Moines High School, organized by Mrs. Reynolds. Their costume of cap and gown is captivating, and their songs gave an added charm to the afternoon.

A communication was received from Mr. Browne, of the Commercial Exchange, asking that a committee be appointed from the Women's Club to co-operate with the exchange and the Ministerial Association in securing for Des Moines next year the National conference of charities, which meets this year in New Haven. Dr. Wines, who is now in this city, is desirous that the next meeting should be held here. On motion, a committee consisting of Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Hillis and Mrs. Clapp was appointed.

## Iowa State Register.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1895.

### MRS. HENROTIN ENTERTAINED

Central Christian Church Was Packed Yesterday Afternoon to Hear Her Address.

The Federated Clubs Gave a Sumptuous Banquet in Her Honor at the Savery in the Evening.

The Menu, the Toasts, Some of the Ladies There and Some of Their Gowns—A Brilliant Society Event.

May 6, 1895.

**A WOMAN'S DAY.**  
The Central Christian Church was yesterday the center of attraction for the ladies of Des Moines, and its large seating capacity was taxed to accommodate the many who were present to greet Mrs. Henrotin, president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs. It was a fashionable assemblage, and an intelligent one, also, representative of the city's best people. The rostrum presented a very pleasing appearance, the fountain, with its refreshing spray, surrounded by palms and ferns, the organ rail partially concealed beneath branches of snowballs, vases of Easter lilies, bowls of lilacs (and a profusion of wild flowers adding to the effect. The ushers on the main floor were Mesdames Chet Cole, A. P. Fleming, W. C. Israel, Minassian, Cherry, McFarland and Parsons, while Misses Pierce and Lillian Searles officiated in the balcony. Shortly after 3 o'clock Mrs. Henrotin and Mrs. J. H. Windsor appeared on the platform and the programme was opened with an organ solo by Mrs. Frank Davis, of the Review Club. A violin quartette by young ladies, Misses Olive Kincaid, Rose Reichard, Katherine Smith and Ethel Johnson followed, with an andante by Kohler; in their second number, the first movement of Viotti's concertos, they were assisted by Mr. Charles Frink, of St. Cloud, Minn. Prof. Reidsberger accompanying them on the piano. After a vocal solo by Mrs. Cordy Keeler, of the Review Club, Mrs. Windsor, in presenting the honored speaker, prefaced her introduction with

some very pretty remarks concerning woman's work and the workers. When Mrs. Henrotin, beautifully gowned in white silk, flowered with violet, trimmed with violet ribbons, the bodice of violet chiffon with trimmings of ribbon and white lace, a wreath of violets crowning her pretty hair, took her place for her address with the sweet smile that seemed to personally include each one of the audience before her, each felt a respective sympathy. Throughout she held the closest attention of her audience, winning often applause as she traced the outline of women's work and women's clubs from the beginning in all nations. Her description of the work of the New Century Club of Philadelphia, the Hot House Club and Chicago Woman's Club, were especially interesting. A beautiful organ solo, by Mrs. Celeste Givens, of the Tourist Club, marked the close of an entertaining afternoon.

#### Reception and Banquet.

The reception and banquet at the Savery last night was ideal in every way. There were flowers everywhere, great masses of white snow balls in the halls and corridors, mantels banked with palms, jars of fragrant lilacs on tables and mantels on the parlors. Kromer's orchestra of nine pieces, stationed at the entrance to the banquet hall, rendered a delightful programme. The large number of dressy gowns added much to the beauty of the scene. Of the receiving party, Mrs. W. F. Mitchell, who presented the guests, wore black satin, lilies of the valley; Mrs. Henrotin, a magnificent costume of heliotrope satin, almost entirely draped with point lace, with violets in her shoulder, and a beautiful diamond necklace with opal pendant; Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, pale green satin, with trimmings of white lace, emerald velvet bows, diamond buckles on shoulder and at waist; Mrs. Windsor, an exquisite gown of green silk brocade, and trimmed with velvet and thread lace, pink roses and diamonds; Mrs. Potter, white brocaded satin and chiffon, white flowers in her hair; Mrs. Galusha Parsons, black and heliotrope silk.

Other lovely gowns noted were, Mrs. J. C. Cummings, black satin with deep white lace and pink silk, pink flowers in her hair; Mrs. E. J. Goode, garnet velvet, jeweled passementerie; Mrs. C. C. Prouty, white brocaded satin and lace, velvet bows; Mrs. E. L. Bowen, black moire with waist of pink silk, pale green velvet and jet; Mrs. A. B. Cummins, black and red satin; Mrs. Pleas Mills, lemon figured silk, chiffon and cerise velvet; Mrs. Eva Jaquith, silk and velvet, white lace; Mrs. Plumb, black lace over orange,

combined with black satin; Mrs. Belknap, black silk, pale blue chiffon; Mrs. Reichard, white brocade and striped tulle; Mrs. Frank Jackson, lavender silk and white lace; Mrs. Edith Sayre, heliotrope silk and lace; Mrs. W. H. Bailey, black silk, bodice of pink chiffon. It was 9:30 when the dining-room was thrown open. The stars and stripes made effective decorations, draped over doors, windows and wall spaces, and festooned from chandelier to chandelier. Four long rows of tables crossed the hall, small potted palms, and vases of exquisite roses and carnations alternating with viands. A thoughtful courtesy on the part of Mrs. Brown was decorating souvenir covers in water colors for the menu cards of the guests of honor. After invocation by Mrs. Stetson the following tempting menu was enjoyed:

Bouillon en Tasse.  
Breadsticks.  
Olives      Salted Almonds      Pickles

Baked Pike  
Potatoes Parisienne  
Sweet Breads in Cases  
Potato Chips      French Peas  
Orange Ice with Wafers  
Chicken Salad

Macaroons      Kisses  
Jellies in Form      Strawberries  
Ice Cream      Coffee  
Assorted Cake

Mrs. Lowry Goode introduced the toast-mistress, Mrs. Macomber, whose witty speeches in introducing each speaker caused much merriment. "Who would be six feet tall and wear black clothes and smoke?" she asked.

Mrs. W. H. Bailey was the first speaker, responding to "Our Guests." Mrs. Bailey was very happy in her expressions. They complimented Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Galusha Parsons and Mrs. Governor Jackson, and did it with a beautiful delicacy of touch. She said that until recently the air was supposed to be constituted of two elements, but recently a man has discovered a third, namely "argon." Argon had always existed but only it had to be discovered. She likened woman to argon.

Mrs. Henrotin said she had three stories to tell. The first was of one who when asked for an after-dinner speech, said: "It's a dog's life to have to get up and speak for your dinner." The second was of a woman who was coaxing a pet dog to bark for a lump of sugar, and his mistress said: "His name is Chauncey Depew, and he hasn't had his dinner; he won't bark." The last was a lady who quite understood the equanimity of Daniel in the lion's den; when the speaking began, he wouldn't be "in it."

The beauty of Mrs. Bates' speech was lost on those farthest away, who could not catch it connectedly.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie—Her subject was: "In Union There is Strength." "That is a truth that is universally recognized and for that reason we associate ourselves in churches, societies and clubs," she said. She enlarged upon this theme to some extent and stated that it was from mutual co-operation that strength was obtained in all enterprises. Each club, she said, had a proper conception of its own work and from association learned appreciation of other clubs. She said that they needed to guard against sectional prejudice. "Riches and poverty will not be considered in club work, but intellectual and spiritual equipment."

"The New Woman—What, and Where is She?" was the toast by Mrs. Virginia Reichard, of the Unity Club. "Every age has had a new woman. The women of the revolution, those that braved the perils of frontier life, the women of the civil war, were new women. They faced new conditions. Nothing is absolutely new; not even the plaint of the modern man over the new woman, nor the hymn of laudation to the old."

"The New Man" was taken by Mrs. Ella McLoney. "The new man is he who is willing to aid the new woman, not averse to her sharing their professions; an outcome of the new conditions for women."

"Our children and the World's Children" was the toast responded to by Miss Henry Wallace. She spoke against considerable disturbance caused by persons getting up and leaving on account of the threatening storm outside. Mrs. Wallace laid stress upon the children, that no club movement can be allowed to interfere with the rearing of children. The new woman must not forget these duties.

"The Men Who Are Left Out," Mrs. Roswell P. Dart. "The men were once alone socially, but now the women no longer stay at home alone as to-night demonstrates. Women have been accused of having less density of gray matter than men. Women are ever the moulders of public opinion. In the relationship of double blessedness, which most of us enjoy and the rest aspire

to, may there be a blending of selves without a destruction of individuality."

"Our Aims: What We Would Be, What We Would Do," Mrs. Celeste Givens. "First, we would be womanly and womanly cultured in head, heart and hand; second, we would do three things, more to make the world enlightened—love knowledge, more for philanthropy, be better daughters, wives and mothers."

#### Notes of the Banquet.

The banquet was womanly, not womanish.

The men didn't think the women could do it, but they did.

The Savery House dining room never held a brighter audience.

Mrs. Bates spoke slowly, but she meant everything she said.

Mrs. Bates' forthcoming volume received some good advertising free.

Cedar Rapids will have to stir herself to do better than Des Moines has done.

The women were just like the men in one respect—they didn't go home till morning.

The gowns were strictly in it until the speaking began, then they were forgotten.

The clapping of hands was the weakest thing about the banquet. The gloves interfered.

Mrs. Macomber once or twice referred to the "fair exterior" of the next speaker. That is a thing men would never do.

The 290 women took up just exactly as much room as the 350 men who attended the Grant Club banquet. The sleeves did it.

The verdict of one woman last night was: "Mrs. Henrotin is just as sweet as she can be." The men might be persuaded to agree with this.

Mrs. Berryhill, the president of the Iowa Federation, was missed. She went to Cedar Rapids to make preparations for the state convention.

The men, the few who overheard the speeches, wondered how such good speeches could be made without champagne; without even a punch bowl in a side room.

Mrs. Henrotin reminded one of Chauncey Depew. Her touch as an after-dinner speaker is light and true, and she knew what so few women are supposed to know—how to make a good ending.

Mrs. Henrotin not only argued that women have a sense of humor, but she proved it as to herself. Her speech was not only a discourse on humor, but an excellent exemplification of humor in woman.

Mrs. Windsor has afforded many Des Moines people great pleasure by inviting and entertaining Mrs. Henrotin. It has been the event of the social as well as club season. When society and intellect go together they are irresistible.

The husbands couldn't stay at home, it seems. Toward midnight the lobby of the Savery was filled with disconsolate ones, waiting for their wives to go home with them. It must be confessed the average husband looked rather bored waiting.

Mrs. Macomber made a splendid toast-mistress. She seemed to the manner born, with a gavel in her hands instead of the slanderous poker which has so long been cruelly associated with woman.

The management of the Des Moines Women's club announced yesterday that newspaper reporters would be admitted to the regular meeting upon the payment of the same admission as other people. Probably no reporter begrudged the ladies the 25 cents he paid for the privilege of reporting Major Byer's lecture and it is equally probable that the management of the club when some notice is desired printed in the newspapers, will never think to tender the rate per line paid by other advertisers.



# BRAINS AND BEAUTY

Women of Intellect Gather at the Banquet Board.

## HONORS TO MRS. HENROTTIN

Splendid Banquet at the Savory Last Evening—300 Women Sit at the Feast—  
The Toasts and Responses—  
An Elegant Affair.

Woman reigned last night at the most exclusively woman's event the city of Des Moines has ever known—the banquet given by the Federated clubs of the city in honor of Mrs. Helen M. Henrotin of Chicago, president of the National Federation of Clubs.

The visit of Mrs. Henrotin to Des Moines has been an event of far more than ordinary interest in the women's circles of the city. Indeed, it has in many ways marked an epoch in the club movement among the women of Des Moines. It has been marked by a series of brilliant social events, of which the crowning one was the reception and banquet of last night. It was a women's occasion; none other were present at the reception, and at the banquet which followed, 300 women, the leaders of the literary and social life of the city, sat down to the tables, without a single representative of the other sex to mar the occasion. It was a dress affair, and the gathering was in appearance as well as in other regards a brilliant one.

The reception was held from 8 to 9 in the hotel parlors. The reception committee consisted of Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Linden W. Bates, Mrs. Potter of the Women's club; Mrs. Windsor of the North Des Moines Conversational club, Mrs. Celeste Givens of the Tourists club, Mrs. Harvey of the Unity club, Mrs. Burgin of the Review club, Mrs. Roswell P. Dart of the Frank Russell circle, Mrs. Lowry Goode of the Women's club. Besides the other guests of honor, were Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. Frank D. Jackson and Mrs. J. A. T. Hull. Mrs. W. H. Mitchell introduced the guests.

Mrs. Henrotin was dressed in lavender satin with real lace over dress. Mrs. Bates wore a light green beaded silk, trimmed with darker green velvet. The other ladies of the receiving party wore handsome costumes, all appearing in full evening dress.

The parlors and corridors were trimmed with snowballs and bridal wreath. Kromer's orchestra furnished the music.

At 9 o'clock the dining room doors were thrown open, revealing four long tables beautifully spread. Cut flowers in profusion adorned the tables. Covers were laid for 300 guests. Flags decorated the ceilings and festooned the chandeliers. At the west table were seated the guests of honor and the speakers of the evening.

### THOSE WHO ATTENDED.

Ladies who Sat Down to the Banquet Board.

The list of those who attended the banquet, as indicated by the register of ticket holders, was as follows:

Mesdames—Lena M. Abdell, Sophia M. Andrews, Julia Morris Aiken, Mary S. Atkins, Alice A. C. Bailey, Jennie B. Baylies, Marie Beninger, Minerva S. Bibbins, Ellen C.

Bowen, Sue Ankeney Brown, Mary E. Bergin, Louisa Bailey, Eva H. Begun, Virginia J. Berryhill, Addie B. Billington, Florence M. Breeden, Fannie Brown, Martha C. Callanan, Minerva Campbell, Amanda R. Carter, Sarah R. Clapp, Kate Fiske Clarke, Winnie Ewing Coffin, Clara Dewey Cook, Cora M. Cummins, Minerva M. Day, Ella Hamilton Durley, Helen V. Elbert, Minnie Mills Elliott, Ida V. Fleming, Francis S. Carothers, Mary E. Carter, Sarah P. Clarke, Elizabeth B. Clifford, Sarah J. Conger, Ida L. Cummins, Mary Potter Dart, Hetta F. Douglass, Elizabeth M. Edmundson, Susie Hamilton Fairburn, Martha C. Frisbie, Mary C. Gatch, Mary J. L. Gaylord, Ida C. Cherry, Celeste B. Givens, Hattie Newton Goode, Laura M. Goodrell, M. Magdalene Grete, Daisy A. Greene, Clara Lacey Greene, Cynthia J. Hartenbower, Lulu C. Harvey, Jennie M. Harwood, Anna Matthews Hutton, Harriet Hutton, Cora Bussey Hillis, Alice O. Holmes, Elizabeth B. Howell, Louise E. Hughes, Mary M. Hughes, Angie H. Hume, Julia M. Hunting, Jennie C. Hussey, Luette B. James, Mary W. Jaquith, Alice M. Kennedy, Laura C. Lendrum, A. E. McMurray, Isabelle Macey, May Easton Mills, Laura J. Newell, Maria E. Odell, Callista Halsey Patchin, Bird Ankeny Israel, E. S. Jackson, Martha B. Johnson, Nora S. Lehmann, Luella A. McHenry, Mattie L. Macomber, Louise M. Marine, Stella B. Morse, Lizzie Christ Nourse, S. G. Park, Marietta Perdival, Helen Baylies Peters, H. F. Harlin Porter, Mary R. Pratt, Mary M. Raymond, Hattie B. Reed, Kate Risser, Della E. Rutkay, Ida C. Smith, Josephine C. Spinney, Martha Stevens, Edith Hepburn Thummell, Minnie H. Plumb, Elizabeth J. Potter, L. O. Rawson, Juliet B. Reed, Virginia H. Reichart, Margaret Robertson, Esther F. Sabin, Marie E. Fielder Sooy, Mary C. Stetson, Jeanette Stephenson, Hattie Conrad Trepanier, Eva Paul VanSlyke, Agnes Newton Vorse, Harriet E. Walker, Nannie G. Wallace, Ella L. Warfield, Sophia Glover Watrous, Mary Chase West, Emma W. Whisenand, Mary Mildred Wilson, Harriet B. Windsor, Mary S. Witmer, Nellie Elliot Wright, Bina M. Wyman, Josephine B. Young, Salla Russell Cole, Carrie M. Hawley, Anna Kauffman, Fannie Lewes Keith, Lavina Marshall, Alice S. Longley, Edith Payne Parsons, Laura Dye Sampson, Annie Wright, F. A. V. Ingersoll, Bertha Fredrick Barnes, Antoinette Akers Graber, M. Carrie Bacon Belknap, Cecelia Hutchins. Misses—Caroline Byers Lyons, Dr. Frances S. Carothers, Rachael C. Clarke, Margaret Cox, Dr. Gould Fones, Louise E. Hughes, Olive McHenry, Ella M. McLoney, M. D. Nash, Dr. Jessie M. Ritchey, Cordelia Kyle, Susie Estella Duke, Nellie Young, and banquet.

### THE BANQUET AND TOASTS.

Addresses of Those Who Responded to the Sentiments of the Evening.

The banquet opened with prayer by Mrs. H. L. Stetson. The guests were then seated and served the following menu:

Bouillon en Tasse.  
Breadsticks.  
Olives. Salted Almonds. Pickles.  
Baked Pike.  
Potatoes Parisienne.  
Sweet Bread in Cases.  
Potato Chips. French Peas.  
Orange Ice with Wafers.  
Chicken Salad. Macaroons. Kisses.  
Jellies in Form.  
Ice Cream. Strawberries.  
Assorted Cake. Coffee.

### The Feast of Reason.

Mrs. Lowry Goode introduced Mrs. J. K. Macomber, the toastmistress of the evening. Mrs. Macomber is one of the most fluent speakers in the city and her remarks were witty, brilliant and full of dash and sparkle. She said this was a women's banquet; that women would not be men if they could.

Around this festal board will be found daintiness, wit, beauty, fair faces, rustling silks and nodding plumes. Who would be six foot tall, huge, and wear black clothes?

Mrs. Macomber then introduced Mrs. H. W. Bailey, who responded to the first toast.

"Our Guests," by Mrs. W. H. Bailly.

Mrs. Bailly of the Conversational club, responded to "Our Guests." In brief she said:

How delightful, in the stress of municipal reform, in the most of the struggle through the hazy, mazy atmosphere of sociological discussion—right in the heart of the season redolent of spring poetry, and spring house cleaning—now charming and restful it is to settle down to a season of pure enjoyment; to taste the delights of hospitality; to greet and hear those whom we know, for a brief moment to let the "wide world wag as it will," and lead an hour to sociability, and good cheer—to let radiant pleasure fill an evening. And so to you, our guests, honored leaders among club women, thinking women, true women of this age and nation, I bring warmest greetings from the hearts of Des Moines women.

While trying to fulfill the demands upon us in church and philanthropic work; in efforts along educational lines at the same time ever keeping the home life first in our thoughts, we love to look out; to draw in the bracing, stimulating atmosphere breathed by our more conspicuous sisters, to catch the gleam of their eyes, to hear their voices, to gather some of their enthusiasm and to renew our force through contact with the electric currents of their lives.

Wherefore we are met.

It is not so much a worker in natural things as a leader and moulder of thoughts, that woman is a force in society today. Such a woman is she whom we hold in warmest regard and highest appreciation, who stands as the composite image, so to speak, of all the women's clubs of the age—Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin. This name stands for culture, deep pondering on the great problems of our time, acquaintance with the shining personalities among women of all nations, the wisest association among women of high purpose—a daughter of the American revolution—in short, a typical woman of the noblest sort yet evolved. Beside her is another typical woman—Mrs. Linden W. Bates—whom we regard as a representative western woman; thoughtful, brave, a gifted writer and novelist, a graduate of the Chicago university, later a resident of the Pacific coast, one of the editors of the Cycle, whom we are highly honored to have with us. Another of our guests of honor is Mrs. Galusha Parsons of Tacoma, a former president of the Woman's club, and now president of a similar society in Tacoma, whom Des Moines grieves to lose but whom we are delighted to have with us to add luster to this occasion.

Also our beloved first lady of Iowa—Mrs. Governor Jackson, model daughter, wife and mother—and what higher praise than this can be bestowed? These are the guests who favor us with their presence tonight, whom we are met to honor and be thus honored.

Ladies of the federated clubs of Des Moines, well may we congratulate ourselves upon this happy occasion, and may we, like the prophet of old, go many days in the strength gained at this feast, where reason, love and good cheer are the sustaining elements.

Mrs. Henrotin's Toast—"Woman as a Humorist."

Following Mrs. Bailly's address, Mrs. Macomber introduced Mrs. Henrotin. She was greeted with a buzz of applause as she rose to speak. Mrs. Henrotin's toast was a splendid illustration of her theme, for it was bright and sparkling, bristling with points, notwithstanding that she excused herself by saying that a woman was at a great disadvantage in attempting to respond to a toast, for the reason that she was not allowed to tell a drinking story or use a swear word; and so far as she knew, the points to most of the stories that men told on such occasions depended on one or the other of these. Mrs. Henrotin, however, proved that neither was necessary to a toast.

She began with some stories of after dinner speaking. One was told by Alice Blackwell, who said that when called on at a banquet for a toast, that it was but a dog's life, at best, this having to speak for one's dinner. Another lady who was called on later, at the same banquet, said that she could at last understand the equanimity of Daniel when he was in the lion's den; he knew that when the after dinner speaking begun he would not be in it.

It was once thought, she said, that women were not witty; yet all literature is full of their wit, repartee and wisdom. Shakespeare's women

were pointed out as illustrations. The first modern woman humorist was Marie Edgeworth, and from her time down to the present a long galaxy of brilliant women of wisdom, humor and wit, was pointed to in refutation of the statement that women have no humor.

Mrs. Henrotin told a series of stories to illustrate the points of her toast—and it consisted chiefly of points—which kept her hearers in a constant state of laughter and applause. When she was done there was a long applause before the audience was done with its demonstration.

Mrs. Linden W. Bates on "The Art Outlook."

Mrs. Linden W. Bates was next introduced to speak on "The Art Outlook." Mrs. Bates, as a Chicago woman, said that in home city they are having an art outlook, a sort of renaissance. The world's exposition, to which she apologetically ventured to refer, was a material exhibit, the material execution of an architectural dream. The details, in many of the important departments, were the work of women.

The Chicago congress brought together all classes of women, from the artist to the artisan. As a result Chicago today has a great body of advanced women, in closest touch with progressive thought and ideas. Social lines have never become social barriers. Chicago's society is American and western. People cannot be lifted out of environment without idealism, beauty and art.

But this effort of advanced woman is not simply an effort for the creation of books and paintings and the material things that mark advancement. It is rather a strife to get into line, and to become a part of it. It is for this that woman is today struggling everywhere.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie—"Federation: in Union There is Strength."

Mrs. Frisbie responded to "Federation: in Union There is Strength."

I suppose we must accept as true the doctrine "Order is heaven's first law." But if order is heaven's first law I claim that the sentiment to which I am to respond stands second upon the law book of the universe. And so, as strength is necessary for effectiveness in every department of effort, we, as individuals, associate ourselves in churches for the promotion of religious life, in societies for philanthropic and reformatory ends, in municipal governments for the protection of rights, and in these latter days in women's clubs of various kinds for the development of that which is best and noblest in womanhood. But each church associates itself in a union more or less close with other churches. Each benevolent society is a part of the great, helpful effort of the state, the nation and the world.

Each municipal government is responsible to state control and each state is banded with other states to form the nation. Do not our women's clubs need for their highest efficiency in the work which they undertake to do for woman, and through her for humanity, the same principle of cooperation?

What are some of the elements of strength that will come to our club life through federation?

I will briefly mention two:

First—A mutual sympathy and appreciation that can come only from fellowship. It is as true of the club as of the individual that "pride goeth before a fall." Any association that in a spirit of self-sufficiency says: "We are the people; wisdom shall die with us," has sounded the death knell of its own vital power. We need to guard ourselves against sectional pride. It is not the location of a club that indicates its power, but the spirit of the women that compose it, and true, broad, enlightened womanhood is not the monopoly of any city or any country. As representatives of different clubs come together in friendly union, for comparison of aims and methods, the light of womanly grace and beauty, of tact and wisdom, will shine from unexpected sources. The east and the west will no longer look askance at each other, the north and the



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south will bury strife, the city and the country will forget all jealousies, and there will remain only a loving, thankful pride in our common womanhood, and a united purpose to do well and faithfully the work that has been entrusted to us.

The whole is greater than a part. Our club, by the circumstances and aims that called it into being and by the environment in which it has been developed, has been led to place special emphasis upon one department of work or study, or upon one method of growth. Other clubs stand for other aims and methods.

Truth is many sided. The temple of truth is built of many polished stones. Each stone may be perfect in itself, but it is truly effective only when with others it is fitly framed together, each giving and receiving strength and beauty from every other, as each fills its appointed place.

#### Mrs. Virginia Reichard On "The New Woman."

Mrs. Virginia Reichard spoke on "The New Woman." She thought that there was nothing new under the sun, not even the new woman, but rather that every age had had its new woman—Sappho, Joan of Arc, Charlotte Corday, Madame de Staël or Elizabeth—each furnished the new woman type for her own age. Even the plaint of the new man against the new woman was not marked by originality—was not new. That the words against the strident antagonist of man, which said she had added the incident of learning to accident of brains, were not new to woman.

Mrs. Reichard thought that the statement that the women who loved the commonplace, the fireside, husband and children, with no wild, vaulting ambition for something beyond, was man's first and best love, was being outgrown. She spoke of the new woman of the revolutionary, civil war and pioneer epochs of history, new woman in that they faced bravely the conditions imposed for the first time on woman. The speaker dwelt on "the new woman's" progress. Thought that she was there at the banquet in her ideal type—the representative of advanced club life, but in all this she could see no reason for excluding from the benefits and privileges of club life the mother, the home maker and the husband's helpmeet and confidant.

#### "The New Man," by Miss McLoney.

Miss Ella McLoney, of the Review club, responded to "The New Man," in substance as follows:

The new man of whom I would speak is not the individual who is now sharing with the advanced woman the attentions of the newspaper humorist. Fortunately for men and women this claimant of recognition as an outgrowth of the evolution which is going on so rapidly in this century is but a mythical character. He is as harmless as he is helpless, and we may wish peace to his shadow and not mind whether or not it ever grows less. There is, however, a new man who is a real entity, whose unquestionable existence is the outcome of new conditions.

When Harriet Martineau visited this country in 1836 to study its new institutions, she found that the women of the young republic had then entered only five paying occupations. They were allowed to teach, to sew, to be milliners, household servants and factory operations. Hon. Carroll Wright, chief of the national bureau of labor, in his report for 1891, announced the number of remunerative professions and occupations in which women were working as 842. So great a change did not come about within the space of little more than half a century without working changes in the character of the general life and thought of the people, amounting almost to a revolution. Men had been accustomed to think of women as adapted to home life alone. The feminine round of activities began and ended within the home circle, except for the outside occupations specified. Now women are to be found holding high places in all the learned professions. There are skillful workers in all departments of business and commerce. The question is now, how would it be possible to carry on the business life of the world with-

out the aid of this new element. Of these changed conditions no conception had been formed. The outcome of this revolution and the attitude of men toward this changed order is something to be noted with interest. Of the fractional number among the sex who felt that society would suffer disruption if women should continue to "insist upon doing men's work" nothing need be said.

It is to the man who has held out to the woman entering the field of active business or professional life the hand of cordial welcome, that the heart of every woman goes out in sympathy. It is to these men we owe in part this new era.

To the new man, then, the women of our time hold out hands of cordial greeting. They believe in him, they honor him, they do him reverence.

#### Mrs. Henry Wallace on "Our Children and the World's Children."

Our Children and the Children of the World" was the theme assigned to Mrs. Wallace. She said:

I gladly greet you, mothers, and grandmothers of the future rulers of the world, our children and the children of the world. Their first cry was the declaration of American independence. Their future dependence or independence will largely depend on their early training in the home, and will also decide whether they are our children or the world's. If environment changes the color of blossoms, and the weed in the field becomes the flower in the garden, then our children, if taught the joy of sharing their pleasures, and living for others, their lives will be fragrant with the flowers of beautiful deeds. We do not wish them to be of the day-before-yesterday type, but in accordance with our motto to advance. It is ours to care for them as animals and angels; to clothe, feed and educate them is one thing, it is another to add to this the higher education. The literary wave that is now breaking upon the shores of this new era of womanhood is partly due to the cultured women of the French salons, who mark a transition period in the history of women in the seventeenth century. A nation's true greatness can well be gauged by the homes of its people. If no higher ideals prevail there than in the world, if its maxims are not higher than the maxims of the world, if the child does not go out from the home with a sense of responsibility, to something higher than public sentiment, or even law, then it is not such an one as we should proudly call ours, but is a child of the world.

Older countries have a beautiful home life, from the fact that their homes have been the dwelling place of the family for hundreds of years. Around them cluster family traditions; the spirit of the family dwells there, and is communicated by a magic spell to coming generations of children, who are taught to maintain the family reputation. Women and men whose influence has elevated mankind live for a nobler purpose than life in this world. Washington, Lincoln and Gladstone were inspired by loyalty to right, patriotism and love of humanity, the loftiest aims of the human soul. The recent memorial services of Sorosis on Easter Monday were tenderly pathetic, reminding us of women's power in the past, and admonishing us in silent eloquence to work on for our children and the world's. Two great influences mould and shape the child's life, one heredity or the fashioning of character in the family likeness, the other character formed through the daily influence of the home. The prophet of old probably referred to this, when he quoted the proverb, "The fathers have beaten a sour grape and the children's teeth are set on edge." The taints of blood and the inheritance of evil from which none of us are entirely free, can be greatly remedied by an improvement in the home life, which often brings out the angel side of our nature. If women's clubs will live up to their high ideals and the cause of the mother's progress, there will be less and less reason for anxiety over the children of the world. A place in which we merely we eat and sleep is in no sense a home. Homes may be high or lowly, but are only truly happy where the father and mother element unite in a dual responsibility.

Woman's sphere in this world covers all space below,

Since she cares for the children wherever they go;

In the realms of the blest they will greet her I know,

As the angel who saved them from sin and from woe.

#### Mrs. Roswell P. Dart on "The Men Who Are Left Out."

Mrs. Roswell P. Dart, of the Frank

Russell Chautauqua club, spoke on "The Men Who Are Left Out." Her toast was brief, in substance as follows:

In the wide spread reconstruction through which society is passing, men have lost their exclusive rights to certain privileges. In the past our liege lords have been most happy among congenial spirits, while women have remained solitary at home. Now all is changed. Social conditions have been changed, and artificial irregularities have been swept away. On the advancing wave of progress we have launched our bark, the General Federation of Women's clubs bearing the motto "Unity in Diversity."

Grave charges have been made against us. Some one accuses us of having less density of gray matter than man, and with refined cruelty says we are too cowardly to endure solitude. To this we plead guilty. Instead of employing our time in the manufacture of lace tidies and crazy quilts, we have become comrades, worthy, sincere and loyal. On this high ground we ask that our brother men may meet us and open their hearts in sympathy toward our ambitions.

#### Mrs. Givens—"What We Would Be, What We Would Do."

Mrs. Celeste Givens responded to "What We Would Be, What We Would Do." In brief she said:

First, I would make a point of womanliness. Woman has a special field of development in being womanly. This wrangling about the superiority of the sexes is all nonsense. Each sex had its strong points and its weak ones.

Woman should be womanly cultured in head, hand and heart. We should be cultured in head, because without brain power the character cannot be rounded. That includes all of the best that the schools can give. Woman should take a specialty and go as far as she can in that. The hand culture will include sculpture, music, painting and the industrial arts. In the cultivation of the heart a woman cannot be too highly educated. She cannot be too noble or loving. She should have all the characteristics that go with a cultured heart—amiability, cheerfulness, truthfulness and gentleness. This is an age of utilitarianism. Everything that one possesses she should be able to give to others. We should do all we can in our professions whatever they may be. Do all we do in a superior way in our professional life, not accepting favor on account of our sex, but because of the excellency of our work. We should do all we can in helping the various charities of the world.

All our studies, all our club work should make better wives, mothers, sisters and daughters, or else it is all lost.

#### ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN.

Mrs. Henrotin's Address Delivered Before 1,500 Women at the Central Church of Christ.

Mrs. Henrotin addressed an audience of 1,500 women yesterday afternoon at the Central Church of Christ. It was really the important event of her stay in the city. The floral decorations were very elaborate, the platform was a veritable bower of snow balls, palms, apple blossoms and lilacs. The fountain was in full play. From 2:30 till 3:15 nothing could be heard but the murmur of waters, the flutter of fans, and the ushers passing to and fro, seating the auditors. After a violin selection by Professor Reidesberger's quartette of young ladies and a solo by Mrs. Kaeler, Mrs. J. H. Windsor stepped to the front of the platform and introduced Mrs. Henrotin to the audience. Dressed in a rich costume of cream and heliotrope silk, with bodice and sleeves of heliotrope chiffon, Mrs. Henrotin's appearance was more suggestive of the reception hall than of the lecture platform. She carried a handsome long-nette, and during her talk often caressed a bunch of gladiolas in front of her. She made no attempts at oratory, but talked in the ordinary tone of the society woman, wearing all the while a winsome smile.

In introducing the speaker, Mrs. Windsor said that selfishness is the keynote of all great character. She referred to Mrs. Henrotin as having devoted the best years of her life in working for a cause. Such women live as

monuments in the hearts of the women of today. Mrs. Henrotin's good judgment and well balanced work is proof that her love of humanity is greater than her love for self.

Mrs. Henrotin's theme was "The Organization of Women." In substance she said:

"I am going to speak to you of the three great principles which underlie civilization. First, the birth of nationality; second, individualism; third, organization."

The birth of modern civilization began with the birth of Christ. At that time nationality died out. After Christ's time came the birth of nations. Then by degrees came the strong national feeling that pervaded Europe. With it the rights of the individual. Individuality had its birth in heresy, and was fostered by the martyrs. From that time individualism has been increased until it threatened to over run Europe. Then came in organization for moral, educational and civic purposes. Organization is the modern way of conducting crusade. Infancy needs help, people at once form an organization and appoint committees for work. Men and women, in society, in economics, everywhere recognize that in unity there is strength.

Up to 1820 woman had always been a silent partner. Then came machinery and the capitalization of industry. Then many of our trades and professions were taken out of our hands. Shirt making, dress making, weaving, spinning, cooking, which used to be the work of women.

Women gradually commenced to gather themselves into little societies, to put themselves into training for a larger life. The first great church that formed women into associations was the Roman Catholic church. The sisters were raised to great power. There were the missionary societies who made garments for the heathen. This gave them an interest outside their lives and taught them to work and think for others.

In England women have combined along social and economic lines. They began very gently at first. They did their work so well that women are now on every governing board in England and have every franchise except parliamentary. In France after the Prussian war, the union of the women of France was formed, whose object was to revive the love of country. In Germany the women went more slowly. The work done there has been due to the Princess Royal of England, the Princess Alice of Hess and the dowager empress. The dowager empress failed to get the love of her countrywomen because of her peculiarities in dress. The coming women's nation is Russia. The Russians do not discuss the woman question, but the men and women naturally stand upon a foundation of equality. Russia will produce a great race of women. Even the Orient women are calling out faintly for a larger life. We have two clubs in India already. The Indian women have great dramatic ability and the men do not oppose organization.

The sanitary commissions, the W. C. T. U. took women outside the home and taught them to work in international causes. There are the great religious associations, the Epworth league, the King's Daughters, the Salvation Army tolling in the slums of the great cities.

In this country Mrs. Potter Palmer not only secured for our women governmental recognition, but in every country in Europe. Every government appointed a committee of women to represent them at the Columbian Exposition. They had women judges. They gave special place to working people.

She spoke of the work done by the New Century club of Philadelphia, and said that its purpose was civic, sanitary, literary and reformative. It was formed to rid woman of exclusiveness and caste pride. She paid a high tribute to Jane Addams of Chicago, who has done so much to elevate the slum people by the establishment of college settlements. She said that club life embraced art, literature, philanthropy, science and economics. She talked on the duties of state federated clubs, and held that the aim of club work was to bring an educated opinion to bear upon public affairs.

In closing she said that women must be good citizens of the state and nation, as well as mothers. Women has come to bring peace not war. In every woman's eyes is seen the promise of a better day.

LEADER:



## AROUND THE HOTELS.

Nearly fifty more or less impatient husbands sat from one to three hours in the Savery rotunda, or paced the tiled floors Monday night. While their wives were enjoying themselves with the flower of feminine eloquence and wit in the banquet hall, the forlorn husbands waited and waited and waited.

It was a scene full of amusement. Judges upon the district bench sat about in uncomfortable attitudes and talked with prominent attorneys, now and then pulling out a watch to scowl at its face. Every time there would be an outburst of dainty applause in the banquet hall these gentlemen would smile, some of them with pleasure, and some with just a touch of impatience. Misery loves company, and those who arrived early quietly put in the time mildly "guying those who came later. Before 10 o'clock the streets—Locust and Fourth—were filled with cabs and carriages, and the impression appeared to be among the husbands who sent the conveyance for their better halves, that the banquet would end early. But it didn't, and it was 1 o'clock before the last speech was delivered, and the ladies started for home. By 10:30 a dozen husbands had put in appearance in the Savery lobby. Each one, upon arriving, would start up stairs, in a matter of fact way, to call for his wife, but would be called back by victims ahead of him with the statement that the festivities had only begun, and that he could not get into the banquet hall with half the police force behind him. Then he would join the crowd in the lobby, and wait for the next victim. When a new man would appear he would have to go through the mill while previous victims laughed in glee. It was the first complete exemplification of what the new woman can do. She was simply making husbands swallow some of their own medicine. The statement may not be provable, but it would be strange if some of the ladies did not take a fiendish delight in making their Hege lords wait as they have waited many times. One East Side man, who stood about the lobby with a shawl on his arm and talked politics while he watched the banquet hall door, said that he told his wife that she could get her own carriage and come home alone. The only difference between them was, he said, that he had to be helped into his carriage after a banquet and she did not. But he was on hand just the same and saw that she got home safely.

And the women who formed the federation did another thing that showed that they were learning from the mistakes of others, though I hardly think there was one among them who would have wished to do otherwise. I mean that they dressed well—they didn't make guys of themselves in any way. They were neatly, modestly, tastefully and many of the brightest of them were richly dressed. Let us be thankful that it is no longer necessary for a woman of brains to look like a fright and that the frivolous women who think of little else do not now have a monopoly on pretty gowns! The fact is, I think, that the women have come to the wise conclusion that it doesn't pay to offend the person you are trying to convince. There is no use of any woman trying to win the approval of men if she is slouchily dressed. It does not matter how bright she is, carelessness in her dress will spoil it all. Men have set the standard high for women and they mercilessly require them to come up to it. The young woman who fancies she can retain a man's love by leaving off her pretty costumes and all the dainty little things that go to make up a clean, tidy, wholesome woman, is preparing to experience a bitter grief. A man likes to see a woman smartly dressed and in the style, that's all there is about it, and the exceptions to this rule are not worth a good woman's looking at.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB. 1895.

May 8.  
Political-Economical Questions Discussed at the Meeting Yesterday Afternoon.

The regular meeting of the Women's club, held at the Christian church yesterday afternoon, brought out a very small attendance, a number of the members having gone to the convention at Cedar Rapids. In the absence of Mrs. Lowrey Goode, Helen Baylies Peters acted as chairman. The programme for the afternoon was in charge of the political economy committee, and the four papers which were read all bore upon some phase of the capital and labor problems. Many remedies for existing wrongs were given; among them education, religion, legislation and co-operation.

Mrs. Carlita Patchin had charge of the current topics, and talked of women's clubs. She said clubs owed much to the press and its representatives, and urged that the work of the coming year be so arranged as to give more time to discussions.

Mrs. James G. Day read one of her humorous letters from "Melissa, Old Fogey, From Away Back." Among some of her sayings were:

If more justice was practiced less charity would be needed.

The equal distribution of wealth might be suggested if frugality, industry and talents were equal.

Business is one thing and friendship another, but the one neither excludes nor includes the other.

Miss Ella McLoney's paper on "Labor Discontent," was an exhaustive review of the duties of capital and labor and the benefits to come from co-operation. She said in part:

The consideration of social problems is the great interest of the hour. In studying this question we are led to ask are there not already too many people in the world? In considering the relation of capital, and labor the point of view generally depends on whether one is a laborer or an employer of labor. The law of supply and demand does not hold the secret of political economy.

In defining the duties of capital and labor she said:

Without capital the progress of the world would come to a standstill. In its legitimate field capital is the handmaid of all progress. Capital should look upon a laborer as a human being. The duties of labor are as plain as those of capital. Laborers should look upon employers as a man, not an object of criticism. They should not try to get something for nothing. No man has a right by intimidation to keep another from work.

Her remedy was co-operation, and she pointed to the work done by the Fairbanks company and the Cheney Brothers of Connecticut, as illustrations of what that system can do. Strikes are never known in these establishments, because employers regard their workers as human beings like themselves.

Mrs. H. A. Foster read a strong paper on co-operation, outlining its merits and taking occasion to score the demagogue and cheap economist.

Mrs. Mary J. L. Gaylord talked on labor organizations, after which a general discussion followed, led by Mrs. C. B. Atkins, Mrs. Walter G. Reed and Mrs. Carlita Patchin.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB. 1895.

May 22.  
An Afternoon With Rubinstein Yesterday—Reports From the Cedar Rapids Convention.

The Des Moines Women's club met in the auditorium of the Christian church yesterday. Mrs. Lowry Goode presided. A profusion of wild roses, honeysuckles and syringa blossoms made the air fragrant. Forty-four guests were present and the club members were out in large numbers. Programmes were furnished the audience indicating that

a Rubinstein memorial recital would be given by some of the best professional and amateur musicians of the city.

Before beginning the musical programme business was transacted and reports read.

A report on the banquet of the Federated clubs was given by Mrs. Wilson, and the total expense was \$52.50. The portion to be paid by the Woman's club was \$28.

The report of Mrs. E. H. Carter, delegate to the convention at Cedar Rapids, was read and approved. She spoke of the hospitality of the Ladies' Literary club; of Amber, the Chicago newspaper woman, whose poetic soul saw the town as "a dream in green and gold," and so wrote of it. She mentioned the two-minute speech of Mrs. Daisy Ankeny Green, of Des Moines, as being much appreciated; she spoke of Mrs. Windsor's beautiful address, and of Mrs. Barryhill in glowing words.

Alluding to the generous hospitality with which Cedar Rapids entertained its guests, and of the success of the whole, Mr. Carter said: "I am loyal to this club, but I don't believe we could have done it so well, so elaborately, so systematically, so thoroughly."

Mrs. Celeste B. Given, in a few well chosen words, gave her idea of "Musical Conversations." She said music was the language of the soul and those who had studied this language would be able to interpret for themselves the ideas of the musician, the composer and pianist—Rubinstein. She gave a short sketch of his life, saying that his was a strange nature, proud, reserved and silent; pessimistic as to the musical outlook of the world; dissatisfied with himself. As a pianist he was greatest, and as one who had heard and admired his wonderful gifts, she paid a tribute to his genius, and, as she herself expressed it, "laid a wreath upon his tomb."

In point of merit the programme was the finest ever presented before the Women's club. Mrs. Riegelman and Miss Hutton opened the recital brilliantly with a piano duet, "Ballet Music." "Music of the Spheres" was exquisitely given by the string quartette—Messrs. Graham, Steele, Heigh-ton, with Professor Riedelsberger leading.

Last Meeting For the Year Held at Crocker June 12. Woods. 1895.

The last meeting of the Woman's club was held yesterday afternoon in the pavillion at Crocker Woods. It was a children's day entertainment, and the programme consisted wholly of exercises by the children. The entertainment was in charge of the social committee of the Woman's club, the chairmen being: Mesdames Pleas Mills, W. E. Odell, W. L. Read, Carroll Wright.

These ladies were assisted by Professor Thayer, Professor Riedelsberger, Mrs. H. R. Reynolds and Miss Amelia Morton. The programme, which was as follows, reflected great credit upon those having it in charge:

Chorus, { a. "Awake, Awake,"  
b. "Beautiful River."  
Trio—Two violins and a piano..... Played Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel.  
Dance—"The Three Graces"..... Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones.  
Lily Drill—Pupils from Irving school.  
Gavotte—Violin and piano..... Bache Miss Blanche Thiel.  
Boy's Double Quartette { a. "Pull Away,"  
Irving School. { b. "Waltz Song."  
Part second:  
Mazurka—Violin and piano..... Demuth Reuben Thiel.  
Recitation..... Mary Taylor  
"Butterfly Dance"..... Margaret Mills  
Song—"Little Alabama Coon"..... Miss Vera Nelson.  
Duett.... Misses Olive and Blanche Thiel  
Ribbon Drill..... Girls from Cooper School

## ART LOAN EXHIBIT

Des Moines will have only three days more to witness the Art Loan Exhibit, which has proved such a drawing card the past three days. Yesterday showed the best attendance yet, both afternoon and evening. It is really amusing to listen to the different comments concerning the pictures. One lady yesterday was heard to say that her time was limited and she would look at only the best. Her friend asked her, "which is the best?" and when she said she had no idea, but would not dare say so to be heard by everyone, her remarks showed how little most of us really know of art. Many who have been regular visitors at the exhibit can talk of the pictures and artists in the most knowing way, which is a proof of the great interest which has been aroused in art in this city. 'Tis true that many of the pictures are beyond the comprehension of most of the visitors who have no knowledge of the finer arts, and know not how to appreciate them from an artistic standpoint. This would be true in any city, for Des Moines has her liberal share of artists and art connoisseurs. Take for instance some of the finer and more delicate tints, unless one has been almost brought up in a studio or been fortunate enough to have seen such atmospheric tints, those pictures can scarcely be appreciated. Then there are pictures which are admired beyond measure which to a true artist is full of flaws.

But take it all in all it has been an elevating educator to the people of the city and the finest art display ever held in the state.

At the Women's club last week the programme was as usual too full to admit of any discussion, although some most interesting subjects were introduced by those reading the papers which celebrated "April birthdays." A fine picture stood on an easel, being offered for sale. There was no time to discuss or consider its merits, or the advisability of adding it to the art collection of the club—simply to put the question to buy or not to buy, and the "nays" had it. Perhaps it is as well—since how properly to house and care for the works of art already purchased is a question of moment with this club and one that seems no nearer being solved as the days go by.

Efforts are making in France to substitute the birthday of Joan of Arc as the national fête day in place of the 14th day of July, the anniversary of the taking of the Bastille. The Bastille episode anniversary no longer excites the same enthusiasm as it did at the beginning of the present regime. And then it is being pointed out that the honor of having demolished the Bastille belongs to Germans and not Frenchmen. History is quoted to the effect that the siege and capture of the famous prison "was more especially the work of foreigners, of whom the majority were Germans," and thus France has been annually celebrating the shedding of French blood by Germans.

The directory board of the Des Moines Woman's club held a meeting to-day and decided to purchase two of Professor Baldwin's pictures. They are the life-size portrait of Miss Hunt and "Ready for Shopping." Three landscapes by Harry Williams will also be purchased, two copies and one original.

The art loan exhibition under the direction of the Iowa Society of Fine Arts and the Des Moines Woman's club, opens December 22 at 708 and 710 Walnut street. This is the finest and best exhibit ever brought to the city. It is brought from New York at an expense of \$1,200, and represents the real American artists.



Mar. 15. 1893.

#### EDUCATION OF OUR DAUGHTERS.

Mar. 15. 1893.

An unusually large number attended the meeting of the Women's club Wednesday afternoon. There were several visitors representing different Iowa towns, as well as numerous Des Moines ladies who are not members of the club. The time devoted to current events was occupied by Mrs. M. Helen Peters, who spoke entertainingly of the Hawaiian treaty, and also of the battle raging at present in Chicago over "fads" in the public schools. Mrs. Peters, in reference to the latter subject, gave the actual status of affairs, but it was evident that her sympathies were with the anti-faddists for the reason that in some portions of Chicago children cannot go to school because of an actual lack of seating capacity in the buildings. It was argued that as long as such is the case, money in such large sums should not be spent in teaching the children of the wealthier classes German, physical culture, etc.

Mrs. S. A. Marine, chairman of the committee on "Education," was introduced by Mrs. Berryhill and given charge of the exercises. In a very neat and graceful little speech, Mrs. Marine presented Mrs. T. M. Walker as the writer of the day, her subject being "Our Daughters: How Shall we Educate Them?" It was a study, in the main, of how young girls may take a course in the public schools, and come out strong and well-developed physically, morally and intellectually. Great stress was laid on the duty of health preservation so that women may look forward to something besides suffering. Among the grievous faults pointed out by Mrs. Walker was that of insufficient recreation for the children, since in many schools no recess is given, and in the course of the hours the school-room is occupied the air becomes thoroughly vitiated and unfit for use. Far better would be a lively romp in the schoolyard with windows wide open for a change of air. It would well repay the trouble of putting on and removing wraps, as much more could be accomplished after such exercises. Parents were urged to visit schools and not only show their interest in what is being done but also be able to speak from actual knowledge of what should be done.

Mrs. Walker does not believe in doing as much written work as is often required of pupils. Such work, she thinks, is too great a strain on the eye and entire nervous system. She spoke with enthusiasm of the work that is done by some Des Moines teachers, who show that they appreciate to the full the importance of the work in which they are engaged.

It was a suggestive paper, evidently inspired by a keen appreciation of the sacredness of the teachers' calling and the responsibility of motherhood. Those who listened to it could not but be encouraged to renew their efforts to meet such responsibility wisely.

Mrs. A. B. Billington led in the discussion, dwelling upon the fact that too much is expected of the young girls of the day. Even such writers as George Eliot and Scott make their young heroines talk like women of thirty. She thought that under the severe pressure of the schools, girls could not be cultured in the duties of the home as they should be.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie bravely defended the public schools and the public school teachers, saying that such evils as might be pointed out were due to the system, and where fifty pupils are assigned to one teacher, there must be a system. The work of the teacher must be supplemented by that of the mother, and she had always found that teachers were willing to grant reasonable requests and make reasonable concessions. Mrs. Frisbie said that according to her observation, girls were fully able to stand along with boys in school work. She believed that they are equally fitted to take the higher education. Further remarks were made by Miss McClelland, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Dingley, Mrs. Wyman, Mrs. Hume and others, and the hour for closing arrived while yet the interest was at its height.

#### "SOME MODERN USES OF ART."

Mar. 15. 1893.  
Mrs. Stewart Goodrell Reads a Paper Before the Women's Club.

The Women's Club held its regular session in the parlors of the Central Church of Christ yesterday afternoon. There was a good attendance of prominent ladies. The paper was by Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, upon "Some Modern Uses of Art," and was particularly interesting. The ladies did not confine themselves to general topics, but took up the Hawaiian annexation problem, upon which Mrs. Begun read a paper. Then Mrs. L. Young spoke about Iowa's art exhibit at the World's Fair. After a discussion upon this latter subject, particularly upon the art of dress, a letter was read from the confederated clubs of Iowa. It asked the club to join in making an exhibit of the clubs' work, including the line of papers and extracts, club calendars showing proposed work, and last, but by no means least, pictures of club officers and leading club women. The request was voted upon by the club with the result that the admiring public, and especially the anxious and interested foreign visitor will look in vain for portraits of Des Moines' intellectual beauties. "The ladies of the club," said one of the members, "were actuated by no motives of bashfulness in this matter, but by a feeling of compassion towards those loyal Iowans who might feel it incumbent upon them to go carefully through this collection, as, of course, every Iowan will inspect severally each manuscript presented in the school exhibit of this state."

The following is the substance of Mrs. Goodrell's paper:

One of the most important modern uses of art is, it seems to me, to furnish a subject for club papers. Any one who has been engaged in club work for ever so short a time, will, I think, see the point I make. Art, art, art! The first committee on every club calendar is the art committee, and the subject has been treated under every conceivable form, until now we must put our minds to the torture to invent new names for the same old subjects.

Clubs may live without poetry, music or books;

They may live without once taking thought of fine cooks;

They may live without aims, without object or heart—

But where is the club that can live without art?

They may live without books, and who is there to question?

They may live without cooks, and have less indigestion.

With philanthropy, advance and reforms they may part.

But they're dead and past hope, without papers on art!

This being the case, what a godsend to us who must write have the ancient Egyptians proved! Hallowed be their memory, and blessed be the sleep of those of them who, overcoming the natural horror of the hideous, evolved for the undoing of future peoples, those nightmare producing phantasies known as Egyptian art!

After speaking of the modern use of art made by the critic, decorative art was touched upon, and in this connection this reminds me to say that I learned a decorative process once myself—in my salad days. It cost me \$10 besides the materials, and was a gift at the price, the artist said. It consisted in having the outline of a spray of flowers stamped on white doeskin (which the artist had for sale—he also carried the stamping apparatus). This doeskin has some peculiar property which renders it invaluable as a foundation for this particular process, though it bears a most remarkable resemblance to cotton velvet. But to return to the process. After the outline is stamped simply put on plenty of green paint where the leaves are indicated, and of red where the roses are, and of blue where that bunch of forget-me-not droops so gracefully—blue unless your taste runs to purple or yellow—always follow your taste in these matters—that is one of the beauties of the process; it allows so much scope for the exercise of taste—and after the necessary paint has been distributed—go carefully over the leaves and flowers with

a select pen—(here is a valuable secret of the craft given away)—and draw deep lines just like the veins would be in the natural flower—the artist said—and lo, a finished piece of Kensington decorative painting.

For a nice, easy way of getting a great deal of effect in a short time, I should like to recommend the Kensington method. To be sure there seems to be a diversity of opinion as to the decorative quality it possesses, and it is open to the objection that it cannot be used upon wooden shoes and wooden spoons and ladles and the like—but then they are pretty enough, anyway, simply gilded and hung by pink and blue ribbons and you save your paint, but for banners—no home should be without one—and "throws" and "tidies" and the like there is no substitute for the Kensington method; and while comparatively inexpensive it goes far toward satisfying that love for the beautiful, which seems born in most of us—that one effort satisfied mine entirely—and I have a very large love for the beautiful, indeed.

Next the benefit modern art had been to "countless hordes of otherwise unprovided for physicians and nurses" was mentioned, and the manner in which it has conferred that benefit was summed up in the sentence: "I make no hesitation in saying that the disease known as nervous prostration was occasioned and nourished in our grandmothers, and developed in our time, by the wall paper and the carpets of the past two generations." After speaking of the new art of photography and the strides it has made toward perfect representation of the beauties of nature and giving much interesting data concerning its use in portraiture, in producing composites in magazine illustration and other uses to which it is, or is likely to be put, and of newspaper art, and the fad just now among book and art lovers—private treating books—the paper closed as follows: I should like to speak of art in dress, but have not the heart to do it, since ladies lately arrived from the east assure me that the hoopskirt is upon us. Shades of our Grecian foremothers, has it come to this again? And do we still prate of a more cultivated taste existing among us, than existed when our grandmothers did this thing!

Once more to the breach, Jeness—once more! or cease to lecture here on dress reform. In safety nothing so becomes a woman as Delsartian languid (save close clinging gowns). But when the hoopskirt menaces our land stiffen the backbone, summon up the courage of your convictions and go forth and cry: This freak shall not prevail!

#### THE WOMEN'S CLUB, 1893

An interesting meeting of the Women's Club for the year, occurred yesterday in the Christian Church parlors, and afforded unqualified enjoyment to a large number of members and visitors. One of the latter, a man brave with that courage which "passeth understanding," and alike the frowns and smiles of the assembled women and drank in wisdom thirstily.

The time usually occupied by the current topics committee was given the ladies who had been so fortunate as to attend the late "Women's Congress," in Chicago, in which to report, and Miss Lizzie Mathews and Mrs. Berryhill talked well and entertainingly of what they had there seen and heard.

The chief paper of the day was given by Mrs. Bina M. Wyman, and had for its subject, "The Intellectual Development of America."

MRS. WYMAN'S PAPER.

"Concerning this portentous subject I would fain have waited for further intellectual development on my own part," said Mrs. Wyman, "but circumstances forbid. Sometimes I have felt that papers already read this year have exhausted the subject assigned me. Papers on early education in America; papers on the American revolution; on American art, on provincial literature, etc., have covered ground that I, too, must tread. I have not touched upon politics or religion, and I shall not unearth the mound builders, and hold up every copper bead and piece of pottery or

tinsel to your weary eyes, nor shall I dig up the cave dwellers from their depths nor bring down the cliff dwellers from their rocky heights and expose their musty, dusty skeletons to your eyes or noses; neither shall I tell you of the Norsemen, the Welshmen, the Spanish or the Italians, not even of Columbus, lest you shall say: 'Too much of anything is quite enough.' \* \* \*

"How shall I cover the period of our four great wars without becoming involved in politics? Especially the revolutionary war which brought our political independence? How can I leave Washington with brief mention? That grand, dignified, silent, almost sad man who carried the nation on his shoulders and in his heart through all those eight years of struggle, when each year seemed to sound a knell to our failure. Truly, as a French writer said of him, Washington passed and left a republic in his place. The triumphant closing of this war and the war of 1812 convinced England that we were a nation, and for sixty years we had peace and plenty. Then the hydra-headed serpent of negro slavery brought trouble, which finally died at the close of the great rebellion.

"As the evolution of the first school of American art may be dated from the Centennial Exposition, we may confidently look for its further development in this grand Columbian Exposition now at hand.

"We are beginning to learn that our Pilgrim fathers, many of them Dutch Hollanders, as well as English, are entitled to more credit than is usually given them. It is only lately that we have learned that the Pilgrims did not prosecute. They left England on account of religious prosecution and fled to Holland, where they remained twelve years before they sailed for America in 1620. They were a thrifty, industrious, skillful, intelligent people, who really laid the foundations for our independence. The Puritans sailed twelve years later directly to America. They were a wealthy class and came of their free will, not on account of religious persecution. That they were arbitrary and narrow in their belief we have ample proof, but they had a sincere desire for education, and eventually founded our literature. The spirit of independence was manifest when the Pilgrims rebelled against tyranny, set sail in their desperation, to get away from it. That spirit has descended to us. They showed their energy and aggressiveness in everything they undertook—in religion, in education, and in battle. Before the Revolutionary war they had colleges and schools. Harvard was among them, where high scholarship in the classics was attained. Even an Indian became so learned there that he wrote verses in Latin! Such was the zeal for learning that the New England mother would say to her son: 'First of all I want you to be a good Christian, then a good scholar.' \* \* \* We feel like saying with Hawthorne: 'Let us thank God for giving us such ancestors, and let each generation thank him not less fervently for being one step further from them in the march of ages.' \* \* \* Sidney Smith once said: 'Who reads an American book?' Since Bryant wrote Thanotopris, the world has read American books. 'The next Augustan Age will dawn on the other side of the Atlantic,' wrote Horace Walpole in 1791—so you can see we began early, with our intellectual development.

"Mind has been incited to a rapidity of thought and spontaneity of action, wholly impossible in other times. The facilities for printing and our public schools have brought this about. \* \* \*

"It is time that American intellect and American taste were crystallized as solidly at the points of artistic and critical individuality as it long has been in matters of general worldly wisdom and worldly cleverness. No doubt we lack some of the elements that make



## WOMAN'S CLUB WORK.

Initial Meeting of the Year Held Yesterday—Valuable Addresses by Mrs. Sept. 26, Day and Others. 1894.

Yesterday afternoon was the initial day for this year of the Des Moines Woman's club and the parlors of the Christian church were crowded for the first meeting of the tenth year. The first part of the afternoon was enjoyed around cosy little luncheon tables from which were served wafers and delicious tea from the daintiest of china cups. This was enjoyed immensely, for over the tempting tea the merriest conversation was enjoyed until the call to order by the club's president, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, who, as the retiring president, officiated yesterday for the last time. Roll call was responded to in a very generous manner, after which the minutes of the last meeting in June when the social committee was in charge at Mrs. Walter McCain's, were read and approved.

Mrs. James G. Day, the club historian, was in her very happiest mood yesterday afternoon as she must have been in similar happy ones when she wrote the club history for the past year. She called it "the era of grandmothers" and it was the fifth chapter in the history. Mrs. Day is nothing if not decidedly unique and spicy in her addresses and writings, and her historical review was quite the wittiest and cleverest thing the club has listened to in some time. There are 38 grandmothers in the membership of 157. Mrs. Day's paper received heartiest applause from her admiring listeners.

Mrs. Clapp, the retiring president, made a short but beautiful address. She has filled the honorary position most acceptably, and has been a decided favorite in all the club work, always ready to respond to the duties of the club. She introduced the new president, Mrs. Lowry Goode, who responded with a most beautiful tribute to the "ideal woman," and surely if all of Mrs. Goode's actions as president for the year are as beautiful as her opening remarks she will be referred to in future years as an "ideal president."

Mrs. E. H. Carter, the retiring secretary, retired from office with a few pointed and clever remarks as to the responsibilities of the duties of the secretary. Mrs. A. B. Morse, the new secretary, read a letter from Mrs. Frederick Field giving to the club as a much prized gift a beautiful Italian landscape, a copy from the original one by Coras, the noted painter. The picture, which occupied a prominent position on the rostrum, was accepted in a most beautiful and brilliant short talk by Mrs. Preston Durley, after which a vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Field, as well as the courtesies of the club. The members are exceedingly proud of this valuable gift, the first painting towards their much desired art collection.

Mrs. A. B. Cummins, the new first vice-president, gave an interesting little talk as to the selection and possible location of new and permanent club rooms, and the difficulties and disappointments with which she and Mrs. Goode met during an investigation tour of the various halls and rooms, and closed by proposing a toast to their old club rooms, the fifth floor of the Y. M. C. A. building.

Mrs. Nourse favored the ladies with a very enjoyable and nicely rendered solo. The business of the afternoon closed with a discussion of a possible permanent home for the club, and with congratulations for the new officers, who are: Mrs. Lowry Goode, president; Mrs. A. B. Cummins, first vice-president; Mrs. R. R. Peters, second vice-president; Mrs. A. B. Morse, secretary; Mrs.

D. G. Edmundson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. W. W. Witmer, treasurer, and Mrs. J. G. Day, historian.

**Oct. 10. TALKED OF ART. 1894**  
Excellent Addresses Made by Several Ladies Before the Women's Club.

A most interesting programme held the attention of the Women's club yesterday afternoon at the Central Church of Christ. The art committee had charge of the programme and the attendance was large.

The first paper, written by Miss Mary McClelland and ably read by Mrs. Howell, was the principal feature of the afternoon. It was well put together, placing before the listeners a most vivid picture of art and art life in the salons of Paris, where Miss McClelland is now studying. The Luxembourg and art centers of that pleasure loving city proved of great interest, and her phrasing and detail views were most enjoyable. As Paris is the magnet of art connoisseurs, so is it the Mecca of students. Their restless, uncertain, and at times most wretched life was accurately portrayed by Miss McClelland, and altogether her letter will prove a valuable acquisition to the literary and art collection of the club.

Mrs. W. E. Thummell addressed the ladies present with a well composed ten minute speech on "The Tendency of German Art." This was well received and showed careful and thoughtful study on the part of the speaker. She spoke of the classes of German art; of their peculiar tendencies and immense generalities; of their national differences from that of French, Spanish, Russian and English art, and of their immense wealth in old works.

Mr. Thummell was followed with a witty and unique ten minute address by Mrs. J. K. Macomber, "One Who is Not an Artist and Knows Nothing About It." Nevertheless she did show considerable knowledge and her remarks were crisp with ingenious wit.

The club adjourned to examine and discuss various beautiful works of art which had been brought in by the members to lend interest to the programme. Among those who contributed masterpieces were Mesdames Lowry Goode, Byers, Macy, Field, Hillis and Brigham. Mrs. Field had on exhibition several wonderful and exquisitely beautiful hangings of Egyptian tapestry which she had secured during her late tour of the Holy Land. Beautiful and costly paintings, etchings, sketches, bric-a-brac and wood carvings were plentiful, and amid such a scene of culture and high art the women of our city stood dazed and enchanted.

The next meeting will be in the hands of the literary committee, and this means a highly interesting programme.

## LITERATURE DAY.

Women's Club Listens to an Excellent Paper by Mrs. Agnes Newton-Vorse Upon "Humor in Literature."

**Oct. 24. 1894.**  
Yesterday was literature day for the Women's club, and a most profitable and enjoyable afternoon it was. Quite recently one of Iowa's most talented gentlemen writers remarked that he "would rather be backed in any undertaking by the Des Moines Women's club than any organization he knew in this city." And certainly anyone who enjoys a few of their afternoons cannot but echo this gentleman's sentiments. For a more energetic studious body of women would be hard to find in any city. After the usual preliminary business of the club, Mrs. Goode, the president, introduced Mrs. Agnes Newton-Vorse who had the principal

paper of the day, "Humor in Literature." It was decidedly interesting from beginning to end, and showed the most careful study of modern literature, and an unusual knowledge of magazine work. Mrs. Vorse's paper was followed by a short discussion as to humor in literature concerning women. Some of the members stoutly assert that women have no humor in their writings, but when one of the most talented club members cited Marietta Holley's exceedingly original works, all conceded, that women have humor, and humor of the happiest order. The discussion was most interesting and brought forth many clever ideas from the ladies.

Mrs. John Trepanier, one of this city's cleverest impersonators and reciters, gave one of the Spopendyke stories, winning for herself new laurels as an impersonator.

Mrs. Daisy A. Green had a short paper on "Newspaper Wit," which was made up mostly of quotations from the leading spicy writers of the modern day. Mrs. Green said that so much of the sad and horrible is mixed in our daily newspapers that we lay them aside with a feeling of gloom, our only salvation from it being the witty things which we often find. Her paper was much enjoyed.

Mrs. Lizzie Christ-Nurse followed Mrs. Green in a fifteen minutes' talk on "Caricature," and gave a short history of caricature and satire as an art. She said the American preferred the strength and character of the black and white newspaper cartoons. But Puck, Judge and Truth are loved by all for their artistic colorings and excellent cartooning. She told how Uncle Sam first appeared in cartoon, first as a short stout gentleman, and beardless. Ten years later he was made the size he appears to this day, but still beardless, then a few years later appearing with the comical chin whisker which he still retains. Her talk was much appreciated by the members of the club, few of whom have given much attention to this particular line of newspaper work.

The next club meeting will be November 7; with "Education" as the subject.

## THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

Mrs. Fred Lehman, One of the Cleverest Members of the Club, Discusses "Miscellaneous Topics"—Other Exercises.

**Dec. 5. 1894.**  
The regular meeting of the Woman's club was held in the auditorium of the Christian church yesterday afternoon, instead of the parlors, their regular meeting place, on account of the rainbow bazaar, which is now beautifying the cosy church parlors. The "Miscellaneous Topics" were begun by Mrs. Fred Lehman, one of the club's cleverest members, who had a most interesting paper of news of the past month, written in concise and enjoyable style. She commented upon the president's annual message, death of Bismarck's wife, and at some length upon the new Russian czar and his modern ideas of government. The war between China and Japan and the latter's success; Gen. Booth's visit to this country and the good he has done for and with the Salvation army, and closed her remarks with a pretty eulogy to Rubenstein, the great Russian pianist. Mrs. J. S. Cummins smilingly remarked when she began her paper that "she guessed Mrs. Lehman had stolen some of her ideas," but as the ladies and comparatively the same subject there could but be a similarity in their reports of topics for the month. One of the im-

portant things Mrs. Cummins reviewed was the organization of the New York Women's clubs into a state federation. Another was the much-written about trouble in the Chicago Woman's club concerning the request of Mrs. Williams, a talented colored woman, to become a member and the club ruling her out. Mrs. Cummins' remarks were entertaining.

Mrs. Stewart Goodrell closed the "Miscellaneous Topics," opening her remarks with a brief review of the governor's message last spring concerning protection from fire for the Iowa towns and the result that many of even the small towns had, during the past summer, profited by it by putting in water works. Mrs. Goodrell gave a good biography of Rubenstein, which was very interesting. Foot ball came in for a good share of Mrs. Goodrell's remarks. She told of how, in 1575, a marriage was postponed because the expectant groom was laid up with a broken leg received at the fascinating game. Mrs. Van Slyke, chairman of the meeting for the afternoon, introduced Miss Sara Maxwell for the first of the series of papers on "The Institute of France." It would be a hard matter to give a concise newspaper review of any of these papers which were entirely historical, concerning the organization of the "Institute of France" and the "Royal Society of London." But every paper was full of the most interesting facts concerning these societies and the benefit they have been to the countries which they represent. The paper of Mrs. J. H. Windsor was particularly enjoyable for her introductory was a most artistic one. The ladies who had these entertaining subjects to handle were: Mesdames Maxwell, A. B. Cummins, L. F. Andrews, J. H. Windsor, Van Slyke and Miss Elizabeth Matthews. It was a very profitable afternoon of foreign literary and art and science history.

## A MUSICAL SESSION.

Hymns and Cradle Songs Discussed at the Women's Club. 1895.

## TWO EXCELLENT PAPERS.

Mrs. H. K. Love and Mrs. Sue Ankeny-Brown Have Leading Parts.

The afternoons which the Des Moines Women's club have devoted to music have always been occasions of rare pleasure. Yesterday was one of those enjoyable days, the memory of which will long remain with those who were present. Mrs. J. C. Macy was in charge of the regular programme of the day which she cleverly introduced in a humorous stanza or two in which she played upon the names of those who were to take a part in the exercises.

Mrs. H. K. Love gave the opening paper of the afternoon, her subject being "The Influence of Sacred Music Upon the Community." Mrs. Love's treatment of the subject showed a thorough appreciation of music, as well as an intimate knowledge of what constitutes the best that the world has known in sacred music. She said that since the morning stars sang together and the sons of God shouted for joy, music has held a supreme place in the world. In all ages and in every country, it has been one of the chief expressions of reverence and religion. No race so savage and no people so cultivated as not in some form to have invoked the power of tone and rhythm in their applications to a mysterious and invisible power. As nations became civilized and spiritualized their music became more and more the medium of higher ideals of thought.

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until its culmination was found in the grand oratorios which are the perfection of devotion and spiritual elevation.

Christianity owes much of its power and influence to the hymns of the inspired writers. With some persons all poetry is mere sentiment. They do not realize with Plato that poetry comes nearer the vital truth than history, nor with George Herbert "A verse may find him who a sermon flies." From the lips of "Now I lay me down to sleep" to the chanting of the Nunc Dimittis, from the cradle to the grave, Christian poetry has a great influence over our lives. The greatest among the great Christian hymns is the Te Deum. It is one of the most precious treasures of antiquity. Its origin carries us back to Easter night, 337, to the city of Milan and its great cathedral. On that night St. Augustine had been rescued from his evil ways by St. Ambrose and was baptized, and the two sang this grandest of hymns. Then it was that St. Augustine's mother cried out, "O, son, I had rather see thee Augustine the Christian than Augustine the emperor." There is scarcely anything that retains a more permanent influence over our thought and feeling in the present life than the hymns and songs which the soul drinks in during childhood.

It is related of Matthew Arnold that on the first Sunday after his return to England from America he attended the Sifton Park Presbyterian church at Liverpool, where among the hymns sung was "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died." That evening as he went down stairs to lunch, a servant heard him saying softly to himself, "When I survey the wondrous cross, etc." At luncheon Mr. Arnold spoke about the hymn, which he said was the finest in the English language. Afterwards he went out, and in ten minutes he was dead.

This touching allusion was made especially effective by a beautiful rendering of this hymn by Mrs. Meta Hillis MacRae. Later other beautiful hymns were sung by Mrs. MacRae to the delight of all.

Mrs. Sue Ankeny Brown added very much to the pleasure of all by her well-written paper on "Cradle Songs." Mrs. Brown's manner was in perfect keeping with her subject, which was handled throughout with exquisite nicety.

There are cradle songs in all countries and in all languages and the babe is lulled to rest whether the mother chant an Indian hymn or one of the sweetest of melodies. How beautiful should be the sentiment of the songs given to the child as the first means of bringing it into conscious relationship with the world around it. The sweet voice of the mother is always remembered, while the fainter tones of the grand-mother bring back the traditions of the great-grand-mother with her quaint, pleasant ways. This is one generation linked to another by the ever living spirit of song.

The speaker said she had learned lately that large families are going to be the style again and she was very glad that this new style would have all the modern conveniences. Referring to the modern woman's interest in this and that outside of the home, Mrs. Brown said it was not difficult to imagine in the not far distant future lullabys being composed for the Basso Profundo.

Mrs. Brown's essay closed with a charming picture of a Christmas reunion when the scattered family returned and greeted once more the dear old mother there.

Mrs. Walter McCain sang with much expression "Sleep, Little Baby of Mine"; Mrs. Robert Dempster played softly Mendelssohn's Cradle Song, and the musical numbers concluded with a sweet lullaby song by Miss Marie Chambers, who, when called back gave the lovely song, "When the Heart is Young."

The discussion of Current Topics was conducted by Mrs. A. L. Frisbie, who introduced Mrs. James G. Berryhill. The latter gave a very pleasing talk on the recent meeting in St. Louis of the executive board of the General Federation of Women's clubs. Their enthusiastic meetings from day to day, the charming hospitality of the St. Louis ladies and the plans for the next biennial meetings were all described with much vividness.

Mrs. Preston B. Durley then devoted a short time to the troubles in Armenia, reading a letter received by Mr. L. J. Kaason of this city from Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, founder, and for many years president of Roberts college, Constantinople. Dr. Hamlin is now in this country and is undoubtedly more familiar with the situation in Armenia than is any other one in this country.

#### DES MOINES WOMAN'S CLUB.

Scandinavian History Discussed—"The Land of the Midnight Sun" by Mrs. J. W. Vail Well Received. 1895.

The large parlor of the Central Church of Christ was not large enough to accommodate the number of ladies at the Woman's club yesterday afternoon, quite a number having seats in the gallery. The unusual attendance was perhaps due to the knowledge that Mrs. J. W. Vail, of Colfax, would deliver an interesting talk on her recent trip to "The Land of the Midnight Sun." Although this was the last thing on the afternoon's programme, it deserves the first mention for its importance as to interest for the ladies, and by its coming from an out-of-town guest. In a report of Mrs. Vail's most delightful talk justice cannot be done, for her graceful delivery and clear enunciation added a great deal to the other beauties of her descriptive talk of her travels. On board their ship was a cosmopolitan list of passengers, numbering among them many Americans, French, Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Turks and from other nations, which made their days aboard-ship all the more enjoyable. In Norway the American pronunciation of the word is not heard, as the people of that country pronounce it Norge. In Christiania Mrs. Vail had the pleasure and honor of meeting and conversing with the celebrated poet, Henrik Ibsen. In that city, as on board the foreign ships, was found all the modern conveniences enjoyed in our own America. But then the sun stares one in the face all night long, beautiful nights without darkness, without stars. The villages of Norway are built up with quaintly-shaped little cottages on the roofs of which flowers grow and blossom, and Mrs. Vail said it was once her privilege of seeing quite a goodly sized little tree growing on a roof.

Their party visited a Laplander's village, made up of little eight-foot square tents. These Laplanders are a sort of wandering people, in reality northern gypsies. Their tents are inhabited by the men, women, children and dogs. One day the touring party decided that "we will all a-whaling go." First they visited a whaling station and watched the carving of a forty-foot whale. Mrs. Vail, with her curiosity, of which she said her friends in this city were aware, remained behind her friends to further learn of the whale, and by putting her hand into its mouth discovered that the roof of the mouth contained a long bristly hair. In an old city she visited a music store and saw our own "After the Ball" in sheet music form translated into the Norwegian language. When the party paid their visit to the cleft of North Cape, the highest point in all Europe, it was a most romantic experience. It is the custom on such occasions for toast offering and champagne drinking. Mrs. Vail's partner on this enjoyable occasion was the private physician to the king and queen of Sweden, an honor indeed to an Iowa lady. Mrs. Vail was voted sincere thanks for one of the most interesting talks the club has ever listened to.

Mrs. Waisenand had charge of the afternoon programme, which was a programme of the history of Norway and Sweden. Mrs. Walker had the first paper, which was a most entertaining one on "The Eddas." Mrs. Bailey without notes gave a ten minutes' talk concerning the great Olaf, his childhood life, his remarkable beauty and his masterful manner. Olaf was twice married, once to a Prussian princess, the second time to an Irish princess. In 994, in Dublin, Olaf was converted to the Christian religion and became a devotee of it, and during his five years reign of Norway sometimes

using force to introduce it among his subject, so enthusiastic and earnest was he concerning it. This Olaf was distinguished from the other noted Olafs of Norway and Sweden by his exceptionally high aims in life, his powers and talents as poet, song writer and orator.

Mrs. A. E. Clark paid homage to Gustavus Adolphus in a very interesting resume of his life and high talents. He was a musician, an orator and man of science.

Mrs. E. H. Carter interested all with her clever paper on "The Political Outlook of Sweden and Norway," the present king of which is a child of parents of the middle class, his mother having been the great Napoleon's first sweetheart. He is a man of charming versatility, a talented scholar, a writer of books and a skillful sailor. It is said it is harder to approach the president of the United States than King Oscar II, so kind and generous is he. One unique thing of his reign is that he is the king of the two countries which are now so freely indulging their "wordy war," and when he is spoken of by Norwegians he is "the king of Norway and Sweden," when by the people of Sweden he is, "the king of Sweden and Norway."

Two flags of Sweden were draped behind the president's chair. It was a very beneficial and delightful meeting of Des Moines' largest and very enthusiastic club.

## SOCIAL MATINEE

A Brilliant Assemblage of Des Moines

Jan. 30 First Women. 1895.

## TOPICS AT WOMEN'S CLUB

Women of Fashion and Literature Enjoy Their Annual Social Day at the Residence of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, On the Avenue.

Who is the best American novelist now writing and how do you account for the present decline in American poetry and fiction?

Concerning nagging women.

Should hypnotism be suppressed by law?

Is philanthropy a science or a fad?

Do you believe that college-bred women are disinclined to marry, and why?

How can we secure a club house?

Do you believe in dress reform?

What do you consider the best novel of the past year?

What are qualities of the ideal woman?

Would woman vote if they could?

What picture in the recent Art Loan exhibition did you like best.

What have been the effects of the teachings of Henry Ward Beecher, Lyman Abbott and Robert Ingersoll?

Do men prefer beauty or brains?

The above were some of the important topics discussed yesterday afternoon at the annual "social day" of the Des Moines Women's club. The elegant affair was at the Clapp residence on the avenue, and in charge of the hostess and the social committee, which was composed of Mesdames May Mills, Nellie Wright, Maria Odell, Juliet Read, Julia Atkins, Florence Breeden, Carolyn Lyons, Sarah Clapp, Cora Cummins, Minnie Elliott, Anna Hatton, Nora Lehman, Laura Lendrum, Nettie Lichty, Florence McFarland, Mary Pratt, Ermie Scoville, Ida Smith, Hattie Trepanier, Ella Warfield, Lavina Marechal, Annie Wright, and Fanny Keith.

A more enjoyable occasion the Woman's club has never had. The handsomely fitted basement of the Clapp residence, with its elegant hard-

wood floors, rich rugs and appointments, was a roomy and pleasant place for the arrangement of the tables, around which were seated nearly one hundred and fifty ladies, engaged in interesting progressive conversation. A merry buzz of voices greeted each new comer, and on their entrance to the cozy basement a bevy of beautifully and stylishly gowned women greeted the eye. Six ladies were seated at each table, the progressions made by numbers in green and white satin bags, green and white being the standard colors of the club. The social committee wore rosettes and aigrettes of green and white ribbons in their hair, a very happy and chic idea. Much merriment was heard at some of the tables, especially the one where women were discussing the feasibility of women voting. It was about half "for" and half "against," opinion being greatly divided as to the advisability of women entering the political field. As a matter of course at the table where the "best novel of the last year" was discussed, De Maurier's "Trilby" was the first mentioned, and as much difference of opinion was found at that table as at the "vote" table. One lady considered it the most "satisfying" book in every way she has read in years; another that she laid it down with a sigh, as she does every French novel which she reads. Many were there who were anticipating the pleasure of yet reading the charming novel, and she who has that yet in store will all the more enjoy it from the various comments heard at Mrs. Clapp's yesterday concerning the musical, hypnotic and moral points of the book, as well as Trilby's pride in her feet, which were the most beautiful in all Paris.

Another interesting and undecided table was the one where "Do Men Prefer Beauty or Brains in Women?" was discussed. Much difference of opinion was discovered but each succeeding progression decided that "men do admire beauty, the majority anyway."

The discussion of a club home was a very lively corner. One bright, energetic member said: "Do as men do when they organize to build a railroad—issue bonds, water the stock, go into bankruptcy; don't know where the money comes from but men do it. Why not we?"

Many spicy sayings and jokes were told at the "joke table." Some good conundrums told and merry laughs enjoyed at the members' expense. After an hour of progressive conversation, Mrs. J. C. Cummins called upon Mrs. James G. Berryhill for a brief talk on dress reform. Mrs. Berryhill responded in her usual happy manner, speaking of that brave and courageous woman, Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, who has recently died, and the work she had done, the good accomplished in dress reform. Mrs. Berryhill told how Mrs. Lucy Stone and Susan B. Anthony first made their appearance in New York City in bloomers and their embarrassment in consequence, it being far from a success. Her little talk was highly appreciated.

The ladies next enjoyed a little talk from Rev. Ida C. Hultin of Moline, Ill., who said that no matter in what vocation a woman was engaged she was more of a success by being non-conspicuous. Miss Hultin's talk was especially enjoyable because of her former popularity in the club and in Des Moines, and it was a rare treat to listen to her yesterday.

Mrs. Jay K. Macomber told of her recent visit in Chicago and her visit to the Chicago Women's club. They have an elegantly fitted suite of rooms, for which they pay \$4,000 a year rental. Mrs. Macomber advises a similar home only on a smaller scale for the Des Moines Women's club, which now has a membership of 230.

After the pleasure of listening to these ladies the social committee served the daintiest of refreshments, consisting of coffee, cake and ice cream. An im-

LEADER:



mouse cut-glass punch bowl graced the sideboard and was frequently visited by the guests.

Mrs. Galusha Parsons of Tacoma, Wash., and Rev. Ida C. Hultin were guests of honor of the club yesterday. It was an auspicious occasion; women in handsome afternoon toilets elbowed each other and enjoyed it all in the hospitable manner of the members of Des Moines' greatest women's club.

## AN ART AFTERNOON

Profitable Meeting Held by the Des Moines Women's Club.

Feb. 13, 1895.  
MRS. DR. PATTEN IN CHARGE

Mrs. Addie M. Billington Reads an Original Poem—A Remarkably Able Paper by Mrs. Mary Chase-West—Other Features.

Many bright and eager anticipations had been indulged in by members of the Women's club for the meeting yesterday afternoon. It was an "art" afternoon and all the more enjoyed by reason of the recent art loan exhibition in this city, which opened new fields for lovers of fine art. The parlors of the Christian church were fitted to hear the afternoon programme as was also the large gallery. Mrs. Dr. Potter, chairman of the art committee, opened the programme with a very enjoyable talk on art in general. Her remarks were greatly appreciated. After them she introduced Mrs. Addie M. Billington who read a very clever original poem on art. Mrs. Billington is the club poet and her poem read yesterday was one of the best she has ever written. Mrs. Potter next introduced that happy extemporaneous speaker and one of this city's most brilliant women, Mrs. J. K. Macomber, who occupied the current topics time with a very comprehensive talk on the work of the club in the past, its present success and what it should do in the future.

The next on the programme was a fitting number for the artistic setting of the rostrum in the main parlor. It had been carpeted for the occasion in a rich Brussels carpet, with oriental rugs laid about, beautiful tables and pedestals on which rested statuary in marble. On the wall were a number of marble pieces, all works of the highest art, and owned by members of the club who kindly took them to make a perfect art picture for them as well as to hear the beautiful word pictures from the talented members on the afternoon programme. The arrangement of the many pieces was most exquisite and reflected great credit upon the art committee who had worked so hard to make an unusually pleasant and profitable afternoon, and their labor was not in vain. Mrs. Stewart Goodrell was introduced by Mrs. Potter as a Grecian maiden of early days. When the Women's club gives anything out of the usual order, especially in fancy costuming, this charming lady is always brought into prominence and never did she create a more favorable impression than yesterday in her clinging Grecian toga of white and yellow. Not a piece of the finely chiseled marble had a more perfect contour of arm or throat than Mrs. Goodrell, and she looked a part of what the stage represented—a studio, with fine works of art as ornaments. Mrs. Goodrell is an elocutionist of more than ordinary ability and recited "Heloise" most charmingly.

The studio idea was further carried out when Mrs. Potter introduced Prof. Baldwin, who had kindly consented to give an exhibition of clay modeling. Prof. Baldwin appeared in the regulation artist-sculptor trousers of white, with a long coat-half blouse, the picture of the artist at work. The spectators could easily imagine themselves in the studio of a great city with such a wealth of art to gaze upon and an artist at work. Prof. Baldwin's exhibition was intensely interesting, as were the comments he made from time to time upon clay modeling and subjects.

The paper of the afternoon was that of Mrs. Mary Chase-West upon "Modern Painters and the Renaissance." For so exhaustive and finely prepared paper great credit is due Mrs. West, all the more that she had so little to assist her in gleaning about art. In a city where great attention is paid to this subject, where many artists reside, and a gallery or salon can be visited it would be no easy matter even but here where there are none of the latter three the work of getting out so clever a paper on art and artists must have been great, and Mrs. West deservedly received the highest encomiums of praise for her paper. Mrs. West gave a complete history of art and artists and the evolution in art, and spoke of the changes which are constantly made in art in each succeeding generation. Her remarks on the world-famed artists, like Michael Angelo and Sir Joshua Reynolds, the latter gentleman, as all know, having been the only portrait artist who could make a shining soul in a subject's face. Her tribute to American artists was very fine. One must read Mrs. West's paper in its entirety to appreciate its study and to enjoy its sentiment. The "Art" afternoon was a very enjoyable one and served to make each member of the club resolve anew that some day in the not far distant future the Women's club of Des Moines will have a gallery of its own.

## LITERARY TOPICS

An Interesting Meeting of the Des Moines Woman's Club.

Feb. 27, 1895.  
PURPOSE NOVEL DISCUSSED

Mrs. W. E. Ballard Reads the Principal Paper of the Afternoon—Novels with a Purpose Have Always Been Popular.

On account of the disagreeable weather of yesterday afternoon a smaller number than usual of members of the club were out to hear a very interesting programme. That there is intense interest in this club's work was evidenced by the reading of the minutes of the meeting two weeks ago when, besides an unusually large membership present, there were also sixty-five visitors. Owing to the absence of the club's secretary, Mrs. Stella B. Morse, Mrs. E. H. Carter was chosen to act as secretary pro tem. She reported the called meeting of last Friday afternoon to discuss the permanent home for the club. Several places were discussed, a suite of rooms on the eighth floor of the Equitable, the purchase of the Des Moines club house, the Odd Fellows' room on Locust, also Mr. Hubbell's offers to build for them rooms to

suit their taste. Committees were appointed to look into the various projects and report.

Mrs. Goode read a little communication from the ladies of Louisville, Ky.; who are getting out an edition of Courier-Journal for March 27 for the benefit of the Children's Free hospital. They asked this club to purchase each member a copy of the edition. It was something of a surprise that there was no response, as the paper will be edited entirely by women.

Mrs. Warfield, chairman of the current topics committee, in a few well chosen words, introduced Miss Dr. Carothers, who read a well prepared and very interesting paper on Paine's "Rights of Man." Mrs. Hal Howell completed the current topics by interesting reviews of the eastern war, saying that we, as Americans, are prone to look upon China merely as a land of Chinese pigtails, and of the Japs as Japanese umbrellas and fans. She spoke of the resignation of Casimir-Perier of France, and the election of Faure. Her remarks were timely, and all regretted that her time was necessarily limited.

Mrs. H. L. Stetson, chairman of the literature committee, introduced Mrs. W. E. Ballard, who had the paper of the afternoon, and it was a paper full of interest from beginning and was evidence of careful preparation on Mrs. Ballard's part. Her subject was, "The Value of the Purpose Novel." Mrs. Ballard said "we are all imitators from youth to old age." She told of the imaginative literature of which every generation has had its share, but the later ones a surplus, each generation having its own literature just the same as each nation has its own law. The past year, however, has been one of an idyl literature. She took up some of the older purpose novel writers, whom she eulogized very highly especially Charles Dickens. Dickens certainly wrought great changes in many people, brought smiles and tears to the hardest, and by his purpose novels wrought for himself immortal glory. For forty years he held sway, and even the most pessimistic must acknowledge that his works did great good. Mrs. Ballard considered Victor Hugo the greatest of all French writers, and thought that Harriet Beecher Stowe had almost conquered world's with her oft-read "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which is such a faithful portrayal of the sufferings of the colored race. She spoke particularly of the good in Helen Hunt Jackson's "Ramona" and of Elizabeth Stuart Phelps and Albion Tourgee.

The literary pendulum has swung and the whole world has to acknowledge the power of the "Purpose Novel." While Mrs. Browning's poems are poetically beautiful, the majority prefers the story of such books as George Eliot's "Adam Bede" and similar novels. In most of the large public libraries statistics show that four novels are read to one of books of different nature. From an English library "Robert Elismere" has been discarded. Yet Darwin's theories are allowed to remain! Truly is "consistency a great and valuable jewel." The Purpose Novels wield a great influence over the minds and hearts of men and women of this generation, and there is yet a wide place and much material for many a master piece of fiction with a purpose.

Mrs. Ballard's paper was beautifully arranged and worded with just enough quotations in it to make it poetically pretty.

She was followed by Mrs. Hawley, who spoke of "Novels as a Class of Literature." Mrs. Hawley's remarks were very much to the point. She considers it a great mistake for parents to allow their children to read any and everything which comes in their way, even

the best novels, as the romance in them is bound to disturb their minds for more permanent learning. But few novels should be read before the age of eighteen years, and those should be wisely selected.

Miss Rachel Clarke was called upon and said she "considered the purpose novel neither literature nor science," and that the much talked about "Heavenly Twins" was both amusing and disgusting. This closed this part of the programme, which was a very entertaining and profitable one.

Miss Anna Keating, elocution teacher of the Des Moines college, kindly favored the club with selections from "Ingomar," very cleverly impersonating Ingomar and Parthenia in the forest scene where Parthenia says, "I go to cleanse the cups," and where she explains to the barbarian of Love and tells him that "Love of all things is most sweet." Then the scene where the two lovers are returning to the Greek maiden's native city and Ingomar's decision to become one of her people, all for love of his Parthenia. Miss Keating is an impersonator of much ability and her selection was very opportune.

The time of the meeting was extended fifteen minutes to hear an interesting paper from Mrs. Virginia Reichard on

"Symbolism," the new school of literature.

The next meeting of the club will be March 13, the annual business meeting, and an interesting time is anticipated.

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Mar. 13, 1895.  
Elect Directors and Delegates to the State Federation.

The Des Moines Women's Club held its annual business meeting at the Central Christian church yesterday afternoon. The first thing considered was a club home, but no conclusion was reached. The present committee, Mesdames Walker, Goodrell and Warfield, was continued, with instructions to still continue their efforts on that line. The club elected as delegates to the first biennial convention of the state federation of clubs, which meets at Cedar Rapids, May 8 and 9, Mrs. E. H. Carter, and as alternate, Mrs. J. C. Cummins.

The president, Mrs. Goode, is a delegate by reason of office, and Mrs. W. H. Bailey was elected her alternate. Mrs. Berryhill, state president of the federation, gave a short talk explaining the character of the coming meeting, and invited the members of federated clubs to be present if possible. Mrs. Henrotin of Chicago, president of the general federation, is to be there and give an address. A motion was carried that the club members choose the committee upon which they are to serve next year.

Of course each member is expected to make known her preference in order that the chairman may be guided thereby as far as practicable. A motion to raise the club dues and initiation fee was lost. The board of directors for the coming year was announced and consists of the following named ladies: Mesdames L. B. Abdill, J. G. Berryhill, E. H. Carter, J. C. Cummins, P. H. Duxley, B. F. Elbert, L. W. Goode, J. H. Macomber, A. B. Morse, R. A. Patchin, H. C. Potter, T. M. Walker, W. H. Bailey, James Callanan, E. R. Clapp, J. G. Day, A. B. Cummins, D. G. Edmundson, A. L. Friable, J. A. Jackson, R. R. Peters, D. H. Reichard, J. H. Windsor; the Misses Rachel Clarke and Elizabeth Matthews. This club is the same with the exception of four, Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Matthews, and Mrs. Friable, which has served the club so well for a number of years, and the



club feel that these tried workers will guide them safely through the dark period of building their home. A committee, Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Potter, and Mrs. Whisenand was appointed to act with other clubs in the city in providing entertainment for Mrs. Henrotin during her visit here. At the next meeting, March 27, the committee on education will have charge of the current topic. Time will be devoted to general discussion on any subject which may be introduced.

#### IT CREATED A FURORE.

Apr. 10. 1895.  
Mrs. Hume's Paper on "Woman's Limitations" Before the Women's Club.

Mrs. James C. Hume read the paper before the meeting of the Women's club yesterday afternoon. Her subject was "Woman's Limitations," and her handling of it was such as to cause quite a furore among the ladies.

The paper caused a spirited discussion. Many of the ladies disagreed with the writer, and stated their views frankly. The common opinion was that the paper was one of the most interesting of the year, and the meeting an unusually successful one.

From time immemorial, said the writer, men have asserted that "brains are ours; beauty, truth and goodness belong to woman." In the study of traits of women, courage was the first approached. Women lack courage, physical and moral. While the courage of Grace Darling has been heralded over the world, men are every doing fully as courageous things and receiving no credit for it.

In point of moral courage woman has proved herself inferior to man, not being able to resist temptations which man can ward off with a smile or a word. Much of this lack of courage arises from the too strong desire to please.

As to inventions, Mrs. Hume said it had been left to man through every century to invent the machinery to save woman from toil. Woman has never accomplished a notable thing in invention, and not until recently has she been heard of in the inventive world. In literature she has held a place, but never so prominent as the immortal Shakespeare, Hugo, Tennyson, Balzac, Browning, and many others. The Grecian women, who were cultured to a high degree, can claim only one Sappho. In Roman literature, no woman holds an immortal place. In Italian literature women were influential as an inspiration to noted men. In France Madame de Staël and George Sand approach a degree of fame, but never to compare with Balzac or Victor Hugo. In England women were subjects for poetical fame as well as dramatic, as evidenced by Shakespeare's poems and plays. Naturally, from their emotional and sympathetic dispositions, women are more fitted to shine in fiction, but only in that realm, George Eliot and Jane Austen hold high place.

Women have never reached a comparison in sculpture with men. Neither has woman been instrumental in any age in organizing a great school of painting. As to music, the divine art, women seem to have no especial creative faculty. Clara Schumann could interpret and play her husband's compositions even better than he himself could; but her ability in composition was lacking. There have been no female Beethovens, Bachs or Handels.

The physical and scientific reasons for woman's incapacity to cope with man were discussed at some length.

The paper called forth the strongest discussion of any one read in this year's work. The questions of home responsibility, the tyranny of fashion and the Darwinian theory of heredity were taken up by Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Hillis, Mrs. Bally, Miss Carothers and Dr. Jessie Ritchie.

Mrs. C. E. Risser had a short paper on "Woman's Work," crediting much of woman's higher education to club life.

In the absence of the club's president, Mrs. Lowry Goode, Mrs. A. B. Cummins presided. A report from the chairman of arrangement for Mrs. Henrotin's entertainment was heard. It has been decided to hold the banquet and reception at the Savery hotel. Covers will be laid for 350 guests, who will include members of the seven federated clubs of the city. Mrs. J. K. Macomber has been selected as toast mistress. Mrs. Henrotin will speak and be followed by a representative of each of the seven clubs.

#### IN LITERARY DES MOINES.

Mrs. J. C. Hume, in her paper on "Woman's Limitations," read before the Woman's club last week, said many things worthy of more than a passing glance. The women of the present, who are inclined to see nothing in the feminine make-up but "gray matter" and "aspirations," should ponder well the facts presented in Mrs. Hume's able argument.

There have been no great women painters, sculptors, dramatists, poets, musicians in the past, no Angelos, Shakespeares, and Beethovens, because of the idea ingrained in the mind of woman that she was created solely to minister to the pleasure of man and perpetuate the human race. Centuries of this kind of teaching could not develop the creative faculty in either man or woman. Women have had something else to do in the past than to invent or create. Now that civilization demands of her the full development of all her faculties, mental, physical and moral, will she be able enough to not swing like the pendulum in the opposite direction? Will she be able enough to avoid the danger of running her brain in the future as she has run all to beauty in the past?

Mrs. Hume, herself a graduate of Wellesley college, and a woman of thought as well as learning, perceives this tendency on the part of women to overestimate her intellectual powers and to rush into all the arts and sciences and businesses with a zeal born of what they are pleased to term their emancipation.

Her paper was broad, fair and philosophical and calculated to act as a check upon the ultra modern woman who scorns the simple old fashioned duties of the wife and mother.

Mrs. C. E. Risser in her paper on "Club Life," struck the key note of the higher education for women when she said that all culture, learning, study and research involved in the education of women should tend to make her a better wife, a more companionable friend and a nobler mother. With this end to be attained, all hail the emancipation of women and the era of a higher education and a universal suffrage.

#### WOMEN'S CLUB.

Apr. 24. 1895.  
Papers of a Biographical Nature Read by the Members.

The regular meeting of the Woman's club was held yesterday afternoon in the parlors of the Christian church. Mrs. Lowry Goode presided and Mrs. A. B. Morse, the long absent secretary, was again at the table.

Some time was consumed in transacting business pertaining to the Henrotin banquet. It was decided that each member of the club should wear a badge of white with the letters "D. M. W. C." in gilt the evening of the banquet.

As chairman of the current topics Mrs. Dr. Patchin stated that a committee has been appointed to formulate a plan to secure an art collection for Des Moines. This committee will not establish a gallery, but get information as to the best things to buy in pictures.

Several short papers were read of a

biographical nature. Mrs. Ella Andrews gave a sketch of the life of Washington Irving, and Mrs. F. G. Stevens read a paper on General Grant. Mrs. A. B. Cummins read a paper on Alice Carey. She thought it fitting that the name of Alice Carey should rank with those of Irving, Shakespeare and Grant. As the first president of Sorosis, the first woman's club, she should be highly honored by all women interested in clubs for women.

As a writer, Alice Carey did not reach the top round of fame, for several reasons, lack of early training, poor health and poverty. Mrs. J. H. Windsor's paper on Shakespeare was one of the best literary productions ever read before the club. She called Shakespeare the adept in the folk lore of the soul and referred to the Baconians as the "little party of fiendish ghouls who will soon be forgotten." In accounting for Shakespeare's genius, his many sided nature, his marvellous powers of intellect, she claimed that such a nature could only be produced by a series of incarnations; that a single life time could not give to any man such heights and depths of wisdom. She would not call such great souls inspired. The only solution lays in the theosophic theory of incarnation.

Mrs. George Carter's paper was on "The Early History of Iowa and Des Moines."

#### THE LOAN COLLECTION.

##### Twelve of the Best Pictures.

This does not mean that these are the twelve best pictures—only twelve of the best.

"A Chapter from the Koran," by Wm. Sartain, which occupies one place of honor, is a picture to which one goes back for more than a first look. It is a beautiful picture; harmonious in tone and color, and full of refined sentiment. There is something that reminds one of Rembrandt and Velasquez in the management of the light and shadow. The picture makes one feel that the artist painted with a reverence for his art. There is not an audacious or brutal stroke in it. The feeling of repose in the figures is fully expressed and, taken all in all, there is not a more satisfying picture in the room. "A Nubian Shiek," by the same artist, is one of the best heads in the exhibition.

DuMond's "Monastic Life" is a world's fair picture. It will be well remembered by those who saw it there, for it was one of the pictures much talked about, and the opportunity of seeing it here and seeing it often will be prized by those who were not able to see it in Chicago. It is a Paris medal picture, and one has the feeling in looking at it that it was not entirely a studio picture, but that it was painted, as much of the best French work is, out of doors. The out-of-doors atmosphere is well rendered. The cloistered garden in which the scene is laid is well but the interest centers in the three monks, one of whom stands reading and the other two sitting in attitudes of somnolent attention. The artist has well expressed the passivity of that rigid life.

Diana, by Ella Condie Lamb, is considered one of the good pictures of the collection. It is a forest scene. Diana, in the foreground, with bow and arrow and hounds, is followed by a train of huntresses, who fill the middle ground, and vanish in charming perspective. The same delicacy of color marks this picture that distinguishes the "Advent Angel" by the same artist.

One of the best figures in the room is E. H. Blashfield's "Dryad," in oil; the head and face and so much of the form as is visible through clustering leaves, are beautifully modelled; the flesh tints are firm and fine; and the artist's treatment of a purely imaginative subject is good.

The "Open Sea," by Alexander Harrison, is a view in mid-ocean, quiet in color—just a wide, weltering wash of water, under a quiet sky. It is a strong picture, and the artist ranks high in the east, though his name is not specially familiar in the west.

Another artist who has reputation on both sides the water, and a strong exponent of the new school, is Twachtman, whose winter

landscape is one of the best landscapes in the room. All cold, blue and white, with houses, trees and fences outlined in delicate browns that harmonize with the color scheme, it is a piece of work at once delicate and strong.

One of the best water colors is J. C. Nicoll's "Twilight, Late Autumn," a picture full of somber browns and the purples of dusk. The water color collection fills one end of the room, and overflows into a room upstairs, and is a charming part of the exhibition.

The two striking picture by Deming, "The Wages of War" and "The Morning Brave" are quaint, weird creations. They will bear study. The finest touch of the artist lies in perfect accord between the despairing grief expressed in the figures, and the desolation of the landscape.

#### ART LOAN EXHIBIT

By far the best crowd viewed the fine collection of pictures by American artists at the Art Loan Exhibit yesterday afternoon of any day since the exhibit was opened. So far none of the papers have attempted any adverse criticisms of any of the pictures, not because all of the pictures are perfect, but because as a collection they come near perfection. And little time is had by reporters to study the imperfections. It is remarkable the distance effects some of the pictures have. Landscapes seem to be the favorite style of pictures with the majority, and there are some in the collection in which every minute object is most artistically brought out. Unless one is an artist it is hard to understand how a person can bring out the effects of the horizon in a landscape view and make it the same from all points of view with the same charming effect. Then in figure painting, how remarkable it is that the eyes can be made to seem to follow an observer all over a room. This is very noticeable in a pastel by Cauldwell, "A Pair of Brown Eyes." All these things are a study to the uninitiated in art; as much of a study as some of the beautiful pictures. Many gaze upon Leigh's "The End of the Play," and surmise as to the history of the picture. Would it not be interesting in an exhibit of this sort to have a sort of history catalogue to guide one as to the stories connected with the paintings. Many of the stories, however, would hardly be as beautiful as the story on canvas done by artistic hands. The teachers are eagerly taking advantage of the exhibit and enjoy hugely every minute of the hours they can so delightfully and beneficially spend there. A painting by Conant, "The End of the Story," is greatly admired by many of them because it savors of the schoolroom, especially a kindergarten room, with an entertaining teacher and a little circle of eager interested children.

A very charming picture in the west section is one by Walter Palmer, "The Early Morn Like Opal's Rays." It reminds one in its dainty colors and shades of a beautiful opal set in diamonds, the opal the blue waters, the diamonds the rays of the sun upon the clear water. It is greatly admired for its brightness.

Another beautiful thing of the same style in this section is No. 29, done by De Haas, "Surf at Marblehead." The dashing spray is artistically brought out dashing against the great old rocks.

The daily visitors to the exhibit are becoming more and more infatuated with art and its beauties.



## SHE IS AN ORGANIZER

A Readable Sketch of Mrs.  
Ellen Martin Henrotin  
of Chicago.

IS A LEADER IN CLUB WORK.

Her Ability Shown During and  
Since the Columbian  
Exposition.

The work of Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin as vice president of the auxiliary congresses held during the Columbian exposition was second only to that of Mrs. Potter Palmer, chairman of the board of lady managers. Mrs. Palmer was also chairman of the women's congresses, but her exacting duties in connection with the board of managers threw the great burden of the work connected with congresses upon Mrs. Henrotin. It is a pleasant thing to know that they have exemplified in their personal and official relations the possibility of close, enduring, and loyal friendship between women. There was never the slightest petty jealousy as to precedence, or fear that one might be accorded honors denied the other. On the contrary, they took counsel together, planned and advised, so that the purpose foremost in the mind of each—the good of the congresses—might be carried to successful conclusion.

Mrs. Henrotin's recent election as president of the Federation of Women's clubs is a deserved recognition of her marvelous executive ability as it was tested throughout the year of the exposition. The thousands of women from all parts of the United States belonging to the federation who had an opportunity of studying her unflinching finesse and hearing her clever speeches have reason to congratulate themselves upon their choice of a chief executive.

Ellen Martin Henrotin was born in Portland, Me., her family being people of culture and distinction. At the age of 7 she removed with her parents to Alabama, where they remained but a short time. They returned to the north and took up their residence in New Haven. The daughters, one of whom is a well known teacher in Chicago, were sent abroad to be educated, remaining seven years in France, Germany and England. Mrs. Henrotin showed a marked aptitude for literature and languages, her knowledge of the latter proving of the greatest service during the congresses, where she came in contact with men and women of all nationalities.

While in Europe she met Mr. Charles Henrotin, whose family then resided in Brussels, but who is now a successful banker in Chicago, and whom she married after she returned to America. Possessed of a liberal education, quick sympathy, and breadth of mind, with the highest social gifts, she became at once a prominent figure in Chicago society, which she has influenced always for the better. Quick to recognize ability in others, in her choice of friends she has laid less stress upon mere wealth than is usual when money commands greater consideration than it deserves; she has drawn about her people of genius and talent, her little coterie constituting the nearest approach to the salon which the west affords.

She had been prepared for her arduous duties during the Columbian exposition by a long and varied experience in general club work. She was one of the first members of the Fortnightly, which is still the leading literary club in Chicago, and was closely associated with Mrs. Kate N. Doggett, its founder. She was also treasurer of the Decorative Art society when the income of that organization was something like \$18,000 per annum. She has been one of the foremost members of the Kitchen Garden association, and for three years edited its official organ, the Journal of Industrial Education. She is one of the founders of the Twentieth Century club, composed of both men and women, and is one of the board of managers and treasurer of the Women and Children's Protective Agency. This is an organization composed of influential society women who furnish

legal assistance to friendless women and unprotected children who are the victims of abuse and dishonesty. In addition to all this Mrs. Henrotin has been one of the most active members of the now famous Chicago Women's club, serving upon its committees, delivering addresses, and doing much to add to the success of its numerous social entertainments.

With all this great intellectual activity, in her own home Mrs. Henrotin is the ideal hostess. She entertains delightfully, is a fluent and entertaining conversationalist, and never, apparently, harassed or hurried; possesses in a high degree that repose of manner in which it has been charged that American women are generally lacking. She is equally at home at a board meeting, upon the rostrum, in her own charming dressing room, or in her library surrounded by her books, or busy at her desk, where she spends many profitable hours.

With all this experience in public work and with that tact and polish which are to be acquired only by the broadest social experience, Mrs. Henrotin's appointment as the head of the women's congresses was eminently suitable and well advised. The work, to consider it now retrospectively, seems incredible. It was preceded by three years' enormous correspondence with women distinguished in art, literature, science, politics, and sociology throughout the world. It is doubtful if there is a woman of any note in any line of public work, or in any profession anywhere, with whom she did not communicate in forming committees, national or international, for representation in the various congresses.

As is usual, when she was placed at the head of her department, discrimination was made in the matter of assistants and official expenses, so that at the first, when her coadjutor, Mr. Barney, received a salary of \$7,000 per annum, she not only gave her services, but paid her own secretary and even the heavy postage bills. She did this, as any patriotic woman would have done it, for the good of the country, and it is pleasing to state that the authorities were at length convinced that the laborer was worthy of her hire, and her postage bills and clerk hire were allowed. She was aided in Chicago by local committees, each with its chairman, whom she and Mrs. Palmer selected, and these committees, whose members in addition to partially relieving her of the correspondence and the arrangement of the programmes, made themselves responsible for the entertainment of delegates during their stay in Chicago.

Mrs. Henrotin's final report is an important paper, full of interesting facts and figures, and its entirety presenting a remarkable record of steady progress which women have made everywhere in all the lines where they have entered into competition with men.

In all the congresses, some thirty or forty, there were but three in which women were not represented. These were the congresses of electricity, engineering, and real estate.

The first, that of representative women, was in reality a fusion of the international and national councils, such as the Federation of Women's clubs, the National Columbian, Housekeepers' associations, the W. C. T. U., the Daughters of the Revolution, with many other literary, patriotic, and religious societies. England sent delegates from her Franchise league, the Woman's Liberal Federation of England, Trades Union league, British W. C. T. U., and Women's Co-operative Guild. From France there were representatives from the Federation of Women's leagues to secure suffrage for women, and the society to promote the advancement of women and vindication of her rights; while from Germany were delegates from the Alice Frauenverein, the Society for the Reform of Women's Education and the Society for the Protection of Childhood. No one of the congresses attracted such audiences as that of Representative Women except the Congress of Religion, whose chairman for the women's branch, was Rev. Augusta Chapin, D. D., one of the most scholarly and able clergymen of the Universalist society, and who now has charge of a congregation in Omaha, Neb.

Among the speakers at this great congress were Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Miss Anthony, the Countess of Aberdeen, Mrs. Laura Ormiston Chant, Mrs. Florence Fenwick Miller, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Lucy Stone, Georgia Cayvan, Mme. Modjeska, Helen Gardner, Rev. Anna Shaw, Mrs. James Cobbin Unwin, Mme. Isabel Bogeot, Clara Morris, Julia Marlowe. In the woman's branch of the press congress Kate Field, Lillian Whiting, "Catherine Cole" (Mrs. Field), Eliza Archard Conner, Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster, Pauline G. Swalm of Iowa, Mrs. Sally Joy White and other well-known women journalists were either present

and spoke frequently, or contributed valuable papers.

In the congress of authors there were papers and addresses from Mrs. D. Lothrop, Mary Hartwell Catherwood, Mme. Zampini Salazar, Alice French, Mrs. A. K. G. Rohlf and others equally well known.

In the congress of religions, as in the press congress, the honors were fairly divided with the women. One of the most thoughtful and eloquent of the many masterly addresses was that of the chairman, Rev. Augusta Chapin, while the cause of women in India was ably presented by Miss Jeanne Serahjis of Bombay, who has since married in the United States. The labor congress drew together every shade of opinion and belief, and of this Mrs. Henrotin herself was chairman. Miss Grace H. Dodge spoke for the working girls' clubs, which have revolutionized the domestic condition of young women of this class throughout the United States; Miss Eva Valesh spoke for the populist movement; Mrs. Leonora Barry Blake for labor unions; Miss S. Addams of Chicago for college settlements; while Lady Amelia Dilke and Mrs. Sidney Webb of London presented the latest phase of industrial problems as they are being agitated in Great Britain.

One of the ablest papers of the summer, and which attracted wide editorial comment, was one which Mrs. Henrotin herself prepared and read before the bankers' congress upon "Women as Investors". It was full of wise suggestion relative to finance, with important data as to the rapid advance women are making in the mastery of the best business methods.

Mrs. Henrotin was one of the central figures of the great religious congress, speaking not only in the general conferences but in the denominational meetings, encouraging and assisting several of the latter bodies in forming permanent organizations.

But her work in the public assemblies was but a small part of her official labor. She received and entertained with lavish hospitality during the entire year of the exposition, giving dinners, teas and receptions innumerable and assisting at social functions in the Woman's building and elsewhere. It can be said, to her great credit, that she regards her social engagements with a conscientious fidelity; it is doubtful if she ever failed to appear at any entertainment where she was expected, or at which she promised to be present. Mrs. Henrotin is rather slight physically, but no one ever heard her complain either of bodily ailments or of overwork, and she is also an illustration of the modern woman who can look after her home and public affairs, and do both admirably. She has three sons, to whom she is devoted, and as wife, mother and club woman her duties are ably and faithfully performed. She is one of the best examples of modern womanhood and of American freedom, liberality and civilization.—Mary H. Krout in Inter-Ocean, November 1.

## THE HENROTIN FETE.

The Leader of American Club  
Women Given a Cordial  
Welcome.

A RECEPTION AND BANQUET.

A Brilliant Evening Under the  
Electric Lights at the  
Savory.

Seldom have decorations exhibited a more cultivated taste than did those at the Central Christian church Monday afternoon. It was as if the effort which had been made by the club women to add to the attractiveness and grace of every surrounding culminated in this supreme effort to make the hall where Mrs. Henrotin was to address the women of Des Moines a scene of bewildering beauty. There were palms innumerable, reflecting in their foliage the varied hues from the western window. Large vases were filled with gladioli, Easter lilies, fleur de lis and other rare blossoms. In the rear of the platform a fountain sent up its sparkling waters, gleaming and glinting, and falling in a kaleidoscopic shower upon surrounding plants and flowers. The railing about the organ was decorated with snowballs interspersed with jardinières of ferns and flowers. The distant woods had yielded their fairest blossoms, too, and the scent of the wilds was in the bowls of creamy podophyllum and the purple phlox.

At a little after 3, a round of applause greeted the appearance of Mrs. Henrotin as she entered, preceded by Mrs. James H. Windsor. Mrs. Henrotin looked very handsome in a silk gown of a delicate shade with bodice of deep violet. There were clusters of dainty violets crowning her hair, which was worn high. The programme opened with an organ solo, finely executed by Mrs. Frank O. Davis. This was followed by a string quartette, the performers being Misses Reichard, Kinkead, Johnson and Smith. The audience, which now completely filled the large auditorium, expressed its pleasure in hearty applause. In a second number the young ladies were joined by Mr. Frink. A vocal solo was next given by Mrs. Cornell M. Keeler, who sang with fine expression, the "Golden Daffodils."

In introducing Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Windsor said that unselfishness was the key of all great characters for unselfishness is greatness. We are all ready to work for those near and dear to us, but how few are willing to work for a cause, a principle, subjecting ourselves to ridicule, it may be. Yet this is what those women are doing, who are leaders in the causes now before the public. Many of the older workers have passed away—Lucy Stone, Mrs. Peabody and others. The shadows are falling upon those other noble women, Julia Ward Howe, Susan B. Anthony, Mary A. Livermore and Frances Willard. To the younger workers belongs Mrs. Henrotin, who in her address accepting the presidency had shown her great adaption of the Shibboleth proposed "Wisdom and Love." Mrs. Henrotin's love of humanity is greater than her love of self.

Mrs. Henrotin began her address, which was delivered in a conversational tone, with easy grace in manner and gesture, by saying that, after all,



the spring time is the pleasant time. She was delighted with the charming green of Des Moines. She even liked to speak to an audience like this because of the pretty new bonnets. It was her fate, she said, to work in the spring. This is a wonderful time to be a woman. People will make a little allowance for what women say yet, regard it with a little inconsequence. Mrs. Henrotin's lecture was very highly appreciated.

#### THE BANQUET.

Those who attended the banquet in honor of Mrs. Henrotin will not soon forget its pleasures. Every one did her best to make the evening perfect. It was as nearly so as such things ever are. The committees on arrangement were full and no one neglected the smallest duty.

There were in the neighborhood of three hundred ladies seated at the tables. Overhead the drapery of American flags, entirely covering the walls and stretched from chandelier to chandelier, made a most effective decoration. The elegant evening costumes of the ladies, in every possible hue, the flower bedecked tables, the gleaming lights, all served to produce a scene of unusual splendor. The only regret was that the absent husbands could not at least take a peep and see how the ladies, though unused to such festive occasions, conduct them.

The divine blessing was invoked in an impressive manner by Mrs. H. L. Stetson.

After a sumptuous banquet of many courses, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode, as president of the Women's club, introduced Mrs. J. K. Macomber, as toast-mistress.

Mrs. Macomber announced that a woman's banquet was no copy of a man's banquet. Around our festal board must be bright faces, flowers, nodding plumes, smiles. Who would be six feet tall, wear black clothes and smoke?

Mrs. Macomber introduced Mrs. W. H. Baily, who gracefully toasted "Our Guests." Mrs. Baily showed quite conclusively that women have much to do with all the arts of civilized life, and paid a pleasing tribute to the charming personality of Mrs. Henrotin, speaking with equal enthusiasm of Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. Governor Jackson, as the honored guests of the evening.

Mrs. Henrotin then responded to the toast, "Women as Humorists." She said she would prove by some stories that women were humorists. A lady who sat beside her said she could very easily comprehend Daniel's equanimity in the lion's den, because when the after dinner speeches would begin, he would be in it. Again, a lady had a small dog called Chauncy Depew. Some one was trying to make him bark, when she said, the dinner is not yet over; his name is Chauncy Depew, you can't make him bark just yet.

Mrs. Bates, as a Chicago woman, was then presented, as a worker and a writer. Mrs. Bates spoke on the "Art Outlook." She possesses a deep, clear voice and very charming delivery. She said, she knew it was the unpardonable sin to refer to the world's fair, but as the vice-president had done it and still survives, she would venture to do so, though as far as possible, sub-rosa. She referred to the art renaissance in Chicago. She referred in a delightful manner to the new vigor, new inspiration, new life brought about by the fair, in kindling an art interest, and in bringing women to directing and creating a true social life. Our democracy is our characteristic. Man's environment is one of realism. If there is to be in mind any activity it must be in encouraging conceptions of insight and beauty.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie spoke on Federation: In Union there is Strength. She said that we all agree that "Order is Heaven's first Law," and illustrated her theme by the old story of the father who left to his sons a cluster of sticks which, taken one by one, could be easily broken, but when together were unyielding. It was well that the Women's clubs may gain that strength which comes through union. We need to guard against sectional pride. Pure, noble womanhood, is not the monopoly of any town or country, and when women come together they do so in such a way as to reveal themselves to each other, and we gain a glad recognition of what is true womanhood. Each club has its own interests.

"The New Woman, What and Where is She," was the toast of Mrs. Reichard. She said a revised edition of Pope was in demand which should say the proper study of mankind is woman. Every age, she thought, had had its new woman. It was a new woman that came over in the Mayflower. Mrs. Reichard gave some witty definitions of the "new woman."

Miss Ella McLoney of the Review club spoke of the "New Man." She thought him as popularly conceived was but a mythical thing. Yet there is a new man who is a real entity. Harriet Martineau had found but five occupations for woman. Commissioner Carroll D. Wright reports 345 occupations now in the different wage earning vocations. The man who holds out the helping hand to woman, has the warmest appreciation of all women, and he is the "new man" in its best sense.

"Our Children and the World's Children" was the subject of Mrs. Henry Wallace's talk which was true and tender in sentiment.

Mrs. Roswell P. Dart spoke on the toast, "The Men who are Left Out." Mrs. Dart said that when a charming orator had said that women could not respond to a toast, she could only wish that he was here this evening. Women could still do many womanly things.

Mrs. Celeste Givens made the closing response, speaking for the T. V. club. It was then a late hour, many of the speakers having made the fatal mistake of speaking at too great length. No one could complain as to the quality of the speeches, but the measure was rather too full.

Among the handsome toilets may be mentioned the following:

Mrs. Henrotin wore cream brocaded satin, lavender combination, point lace, diamonds.

Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, pale green satin, decollette, lace and diamonds.

Mrs. James H. Windsor, grayish brocade cut low with fall of point lace.

Mrs. George Carter, pearl satin with heavy brocade, pink roses.

Mrs. R. P. Dart, pale green and pink.

Mrs. W. H. Baily, pink silk mull with white lace, pink roses.

Mrs. E. S. Burgin, sea green mull with black velvet.

Mrs. E. R. Clapp, pink brocaded satin, dark bodice with duchesse lace and pink velvet.

Mrs. Edwin Bowen, black silk skirt, fancy waist of figured lavender silk.

Mrs. B. E. Israel, old rose silk and velvet, corsage bouquet of snowballs.

Mrs. Governor Jackson, light gray silk with lace.

Mrs. Fred Mitchell, black lace, lilies of the valley.

Mrs. H. C. Potter, white silk with garniture of eminence velvet, diamonds.

Mrs. J. S. Carter, old blue silk, point lace, diamonds.

Miss Emma Hyland, dark green silk and velvet with black lace, holly leaves

and berries.

Mrs. L. Young, pale green brocade, with green velvet.

Mrs. C. W. Johnston, cream China silk, lace.

Mrs. Ernest Brown, yellow mull with black velvet.

Mrs. Harry Elliott, pale blue silk, cream lace.

Miss Culver, dark green dotted silk, heavy cream lace.

Mrs. Laura Lendrum, black and white striped satin, black lace.

## MAY 6, 1895.

The climax of the social festivities of Saturday was reached in the large and brilliant reception given by Mrs. James H. Windsor in honor of her distinguished guests, Mrs. Charles Henrotin, the president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and Mrs. Weed of West Union, treasurer of the State Federation. The house was decorated with a great profusion of flowers, the extensive private conservatories connected with the home having yielded their loveliest blossoms for the occasion. The mantels were banked with roses and carnations in varied shades, while ferns and smilax were used with fine effect. The receiving party consisted of Mrs. Windsor, Mrs. Henrotin, Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, Mrs. Weed, Mrs. James G. Berryhill, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. Fred Mitchell, Mrs. E. S. Burgin, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode, Mrs. Leon A. Harvey, the list including the presiding officers of the several Federated Clubs of the city. The many club women of the city availed themselves in large numbers of the opportunity of meeting these ladies who stand so prominently before the public as leaders in club life. Mrs. Henrotin is a woman of charming personality, as many Des Moines people are able to attest who had the pleasure of making her acquaintance during the world's fair. She is a lady of 35 or 40, her fine, serene face wearing, for the most part, a serious expression, though it lights up brightly when she smiles or is engaged in conversation. Her large, lustrous gray eyes and broad forehead are possibly her best features, but more than any outward expression one values the deep sincerity and kindness of the woman which shows itself in her every word. No one can doubt for a moment that Mrs. Henrotin is deeply interested in such social problems as look to improved conditions for all classes. Equally charmed were all with Mrs. Bates, whose name is well known in literature. Mrs. Bates possesses the rare faculty of making every one feel perfectly at home with her, and that at once. Clever, vivacious, a delightful converser, with ready wit and easy repartee, Mrs. Bates must please all who meet her. Mrs. Weed is likewise exceedingly pleasing and is always a welcome visitor in Des Moines. She is a woman of much force and energy, and has done excellent work as a club organizer. The reception was one of the most beautiful that Des Moines society has ever known.



## DES MOINES NEWS

Sept. 26, THE WOMEN'S CLUB, 1894.

A new year, the tenth of those numbered in the life of the Des Moines Women's club, has been successfully entered upon. "Inauguration day" was one of the most pleasing and varied that the club has ever known and the new year is certainly full of promise. There were in the neighborhood of two hundred present on this opening day and the serving by the social committee of light refreshments from daintily appointed tables proved a pleasant feature. Among the guests of the club were Mrs. Vall of Colfax, Miss Street of Omaha, Mrs. Congressman Ellis of Oregon, Mrs. Charles Day of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Mrs. Congressman Hepburn of Clarinda; Mrs. Kearney Rodgers of Albany, N. Y.; Mrs. William Matthews, Mrs. B. F. Kauffman, Mrs. J. L. Wright, Mrs. C. Hamilton, Mrs. Randall, Mrs. Brower, Mrs. Col. Goode, Mrs. C. Cole, Mrs. Spurrer, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Soules, Mrs. Emerson Du Puy, Mrs. James Platt, Mrs. E. E. Clark, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Linaber, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Hutchins, Mrs. Heighon, Misses Lombard, Warwick, Shackelford, Pratt, Allen, Stevens, Kyle, Loring and Spinney. One of the first things in point of interest were the addresses by the retiring and incoming presidents, Mrs. E. R. Clapp and Mrs. Lowry W. Goode. The former was brief in her remarks, referring in a pleasant way to the work which she had sought to accomplish during her administration. Mrs. Goode's address was one of the most beautiful and appropriate ever delivered by an incoming president of this club. She modestly referred to her surprise upon being chosen to fill the position of president, as she felt sure there was nothing in her former life which would connect her with the idea of leadership, none of that aggressive, strong-minded spirit which is usually associated with leading club women. But as she looked back over the list of club presidents she discovered that they had been, as a rule, women of the gentle sort, really womanly women, yet each had left the impress of a strong individuality. It occurred to her that this new nineteenth century club woman was or should be the well-rounded woman who represents all that the varied culture of the end of this century can give her. The four walls of the home can never produce a sphere and the woman whose world is thus limited can never become perfectly rounded in character. To grow broadly sympathetic, wise and charitable requires the contact with other minds, and it is the home which is sweetened and blessed by this broader life. The speaker drew a charming picture of the ideal woman, who was to be the soul of gentleness, refined and tender sympathy.

This is the fifth year that Mrs. Judge Day has served the club as historian. Her reports have always been sparkling with wit and full of the most telling points and, if possible, the clever historian even surpassed herself on this occasion. Her fifth chapter of club history, she said, embraced the era of the grandmothers, that is, from the time Mrs. Clapp had been conducted to the chair. The efficient and faithful secretary, Mrs. Carter, with her full and satisfactory report of the year's work, barely escaped being sandwiched between two grandmothers, for after the reading of club history was read also by a grandmother. In the club membership are twenty-eight grandmothers, sixteen regulars, four by marriage, and eight rudimentary grandmothers, which may be understood to mean those whose children although married long enough, have failed to make them more than mothers-in-law. To the club considered as a composite grandmother have been born during the year three grand children, during the previous eight years, twenty-five. The crowning glory of this era was the royal reception in honor of one of the greatest of grandmothers, our national guest, Julia Ward Howe. Ex-President Windsor, one belonging to this era by marriage had offered her elegant home, "Windsor" for the use of the club and its one hundred and fifty visitors, and our own poet, Mrs. Billington, composed and recited a poem of welcome to this great "American queen." To all it was an inspiration to meet this rare and gifted woman. Her sweet, refined manners, and her

countenance radiant with high thoughts and purposes declared that she had found the fountain of perpetual youth. Mrs. Day named as the most desirable characteristic in a club member, reliability. While there can be no possible objection to ability, it is not so desirable as reliability. A sprightly review

of each of the club's social entertainments, the methods by which a world's fair souvenir was secured as a nucleus for the coming art gallery, the additional purchase of a noble bust of Diana, heroic size, recently arrived from Rome, together with some thoughts as to a future home for the club closed a most interesting historical record. Upon the platform resting upon an easel was the large and beautiful copy of one of Corot's landscapes, the work of Mademoiselle Hoppe of Paris, presented to the club by Mrs. Frederick Field. A letter from Mrs. Field was read in which she expressed the interest which she and her husband felt in the project of the club to establish an art gallery in Des Moines and their desire to assist in it, leading them to secure this work. The picture is indeed a beautiful one and it was accepted with sincere thanks to Mrs. Field for her thoughtful kindness. The subject of how to secure a house for the club was then discussed at some length. Mrs. James G. Berryhill presenting the generous offer of Mr. Callanan to sell his Pleasant street property to the city and invest the proceeds in homes for aged men and women. It is a part of Mr. Callanan's plan that the two buildings belonging to the property should go to the use of the Women's club and the Christian home for young women. Among the additional speakers were Mrs. Windsor, Mrs. Morse, Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Mrs. R. R. Peters and Mrs. Callanan.

## IS A CENTER OF ART.

Des Moines the Home of Many Valuable Works of Fine Art.

Oct. 10, 1894.

## AN ART DAY AT THE CLUB.

Many Fine Pictures Loaned for the Occasion and Much Enjoyed.

The possibilities of Des Moines from an artistic point of view were well illustrated Wednesday afternoon at the Women's club. It was the first appearance for the year of the art committee of which Mrs. J. A. Jackson and Mrs. H. C. Potter are chairmen. With characteristic energy these ladies, assisted by the other members of the committee, had fitted up the lecture room in which the club meets as an artist's studio, bringing to their aid a great variety of choice art treasures, pictures, many and choice, valuable bronzes, Florentine mosaics, tapestries, bits of bric-a-brac, etc. It was a revelation to many to find that so many really precious things could be brought to light from Des Moines homes on so short a notice, and, that they should be thus contributed for the time being, spoke well for the generosity and public spirit of the owners.

Among these beautiful pieces which were the object of so much interest may be mentioned a piece of wood-carving, the "Venetian page", done in the sixteenth century. It is almost life-size and shows a masterly execution. The wood has a bronze finish and might easily be mistaken for bronze, though it is, of course, much more valuable. It was purchased by General Cyrus Bussey in Venice, and some idea of its value may be had when it is stated that the duty on it was no less than \$190. It is now the property of Mrs. L. L. Hillis.

An original by Jules Breton very naturally attracted great attention. This was a small unmounted picture of exquisite coloring. No one who had seen "The Lark", that masterpiece of the world's fair, could doubt the genuineness of this painting. It is owned by Mr. L. B. Abdill.

A picture of the utmost interest to Des Moines people was a copy of Francois Millet's "Gleaners," by Miss Alice Beckington, formerly of this city, but who has spent most of her life in Paris. Those who knew Miss Beckington when she was a child here, even as early as her kindergarten day, predicted a brilliant future for her, her talents were so obvious. Her clay modeling as a child was exceedingly artistic. Although young, Miss Beckington has had two pictures accepted at the Paris salon, and her copy of the "Gleaners" is said

by critics to be the finest ever made of this picture. It was from her in Paris that Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Atkins made their purchase of this beautiful painting, and it was due to their kindness that so many had the pleasure of seeing it. Another lovely picture was loaned by Mrs. Atkins. It was the picture of an old well at Brolles, in a picturesque old-country court, the work of Mr. Harry Williams, who spent some months here several years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Atkins ran across Mr. Williams in their travels, and liking his work very much, they made some purchases of him.

Major and Mrs. Byers, from their fine collection, had loaned a charming portrait of Andrea Lugini. It is a work of the Italian school. The Byers collection is by far the most extensive one in Des Moines and chosen with superior knowledge and taste.

Mr. O. H. Perkins, from his extensive collection, kindly permitted the exhibition of several of his best pictures, a particularly fine one being "The Advance Guard" by J. Rosen, a German battle painter, deemed as great as Detaille is in France. Another owned by Mr. Perkins was "Sheep in Spring-time" by Zuegler. It has the true touch of the master. The same gentleman also loaned an elegant specimen of old Tokio bronze, interesting in the extreme.

"Rembrandt's Mother," an original etching, was one of the very choice pictures shown, the property of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Lehmann.

Miss Helen Platt furnished some marine views in water colors, the work of her brother. They were most beautiful. There were, too, many admirable portraits, a Madonna and child by Gabriel Max; a half obscured Madonna done on wood and found amid some ruins at San Jose, California. It is supposed to be very old. A dancing girl in terra cotta, owned by Mrs. James Mason, was most graceful and effective.

But among so many noteworthy things, it is impossible to mention all that are worthy of description. Suffice it to say, that the ladies who undertook to give the club and its guests so great a treat had much reason to be proud of their success.

The papers of the afternoon, following an interesting discussion of current topics by Mrs. L. Young, was written by Miss May McClelland, now in Paris, and read by Mrs. Harold Howell. Miss McClelland's paper was on the Salons of Paris, a very good acquaintance with which she has been able to obtain during her protracted stay there. Through Miss Elizabeth Gardner, a pupil of Bouguereau and an artist of celebrity, Miss McClelland has enjoyed exceptional opportunities, and her paper contained just such information as one wishes to gain.

Mrs. F. W. Thummel also gave a talk, in choicest language, as to her impressions of German art, she having but recently returned from a trip abroad, where she spent much time in the galleries.

There were short addresses by Mrs. J. A. Jackson and Mrs. Jay K. Macomber, and then followed an early closing in order that the collections might be viewed and enjoyed.

A letter from Mrs. Henry Wallace stated that she had had the pleasure of being shown through the home of Sir Frederick Leighton, the president of the Royal academy, by that distinguished gentleman himself. Mrs. Wallace also stated that she had purchased a portrait in water colors of Sir Frederick Leighton which she purposed giving to the club collection.

Mrs. Byers has extended an invitation to the ladies of the club to visit her home on Monday, the 22nd inst., to again see and enjoy their pictures. The reception will continue through the morning, afternoon and evening, and the opportunity is one which is most highly appreciated.

## OCTOBER 25, 1894.

Realizing that it is a good thing to turn from the somber things of life at times, the committee on literature presented to the Women's club yesterday afternoon a programme brightened by genial wit and gentle humor. Mrs. Henry Sabin, who was in charge of the exercises, introduced Mrs. Frank W. Vorse, whose paper on "Humor in Literature" was worthy of the writer, clever, witty and in every way entertaining. The writer, in a playful vein, discussed the question whether Americans are too much given to the humorous, saying that there are those who think that no author should write without a deadly purpose; that we give too great encourage-

ment to such writers as Mark Twain, Artemus Ward, etc. She paid a beautiful tribute to Oliver Wendell Holmes and his gentle, refined play of fancy, which made everything he said pleasing. Apropos of the allusions to Dr. Holmes a fine portrait of the "genial autocrat" with a broken sheaf beneath, and adorned with a wreath of smilax and white chrysanthemums occupied an easel on the platform. There are those, the writer thought, who would rob everything of its humorous side, and make even Robinson Crusoe a study of anthropology, psychology, etc. Even the tragic side of Falstaff had been taken up and pushed to the front. What shall we do to make merry our souls if we lose Falstaff and Don Quixote? Charlotte Bronte had very little sense of humor and it is said she once refused to be introduced to Dickens. Mrs. Vorse defended humor in literature because of its mission to drive away busy cares. The American's love for fun saved us many cases of what some writer has called "Americanitis," that is prostrate nerves from too great attention to business. Artemus Ward was one of the most successful of humorists, at first, just in his conversation. Then one day he went to a circus and listened to the use of several of his jokes, when he asked himself why he should pay to go to hear his own jokes, why not write them and make others pay him for them. He did so, and for a dozen years two continents laughed at his fun. He advertised his first lecture as one that would afford the most amusement and the least instruction of any that had ever been given from the platform. This was a reversal of things! When in London he inserted a notice in the papers that if there were any Englishmen who did not understand his jokes, if they would call at his residence he would explain them. But wit and humor are not solely for amusement. Both are a religious power. The Bible has some fine pieces of satire. Lowell's Bigelow papers are among the best possible specimens of humor, standing alone, unequaled, clear cut and diamond bright. Mr. Spurgeon was once criticized by a parishioner for being too funny in his sermons, and telling too many jokes. "You wouldn't think so, he replied, if you knew how many I didn't tell. It was good advice Oliver Wendell Holmes gave to a young writer who aspired to be witty. He said, "Make your reputation before you attempt to be funny." It is not morally invigorating to be always funny. Humor is the salt and pepper of literature. Are women humorists? This question was answered by reference to the club historian, Mrs. J. G. Day, whose clever wit has so often cheered the club meetings. "A Social Departure," Mrs. Sarah M. Duncan's recent novel, was also cited as a good example of humor. The beauties and bubbling fun of "My Summer in a Garden" by Charles Dudley Warner were dwelt upon very happily. Mrs. Virginia Reichard followed, leading the discussion very satisfactorily. The difference between wit and humor was well brought out, she using that definition of George Eliot: "Wit is a flash of the reasoning power." The German race, she thought, had contributed nothing to the general fund of wit. Miss Rachael Clarke spoke of the lack of humor in women, claiming that Mrs. Poyser was witty rather than humorous, which called forth a little speech from Mrs. Patchin, which was in itself the best possible argument in support of the opposite side of the question. In a few words, Mrs. Macomber cleverly argued that the difference in the

minds of men and women was simply imaginary, that it is idle to build up a theory for men and women as different mental organizations. A pleasant tribute was paid to Mrs. Lucy B. Collins by Mrs. James G. Berryhill who said she had spent some of the most delightful evenings of her life in company with Mrs. Collins enjoying her sparkling humorous sallies. "The women do not have as fruitful a subject to joke about as the men," was Mrs. W. H. McHenry's observation, "they can always make jokes about the women." The programme was then enlivened by a recitation by Mrs. John Trepanier, followed by a spicy paper by Mrs. Frank Green on "Newspaper Wit" and another on "Caricature" by Mrs. C. O. Nourse.



**MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S CLUB, 1894**

Something of a departure was taken by the committee on education which was in charge of the programme at the Women's club yesterday afternoon. It was the inauguration of a debate upon the subject to be discussed, that being whether education should be directed toward the symmetrical development of all the faculties or seek to cultivate only those which are prominent. It was Miss Olive McHenry, the popular principal of Hawthorne school, who was in charge of the programme and owing largely to her efforts the afternoon was one of unusual interest and profit. As usual, the committee on Current Topics made its report before the regular work of the day was entered upon. Mrs. J. B. Hatton, on behalf of that committee, introduced Mrs. Henry Wallace, who gave a greatly appreciated talk on her visit to the Royal Academy and the Kensington museums of London, and more especially to the palatial and highly artistic home of the president of the former institution, Sir Frederick Leighton. Mrs. Wallace's description was of the kind most acceptable, abounding in just those things which one can learn only through personal observation, or the observation of others. It was interesting to know just how Mrs. Wallace was so favored as to obtain entrance to the home of Sir Frederick. She had been visiting in company with her friends the Royal Academy and was very much impressed with the splendid pictures there from the brush of the president. Some talk had arisen as to which of his great works was really his best. Mrs. Wallace had her preference, but in thinking it all over when she awoke the following morning, the happy thought occurred to her that she would write Sir Frederick and ask what he considered his best. She did so, stating that she was an American soon to sail for home, that she very much admired his work, etc., and mailed the note before going out on her day's sightseeing. Upon her return in the evening, she found a note, cordially inviting her to call between the hours of 3 and 5 the next day, and he would show her through his home. It was a rare opportunity. The home is a beautiful creation, in which neither skill nor expense has been spared. Sir Frederick told her that he built it with the full belief that the home should be, so far as possible, the outward expression of ourselves. The master's studio was of particular interest, filled with the choicest treasures of art. As Sir Frederick's great paintings of the world's fair are so clearly in mind, the glimpses of the man, generous and kind as well as so supremely gifted, were particularly welcome. When Mrs. Wallace took her leave, Sir Frederick gave her one of his photographs as a souvenir, and this she has had enlarged in water colors and presented to the club as the first contribution to its portrait gallery. It is a beautiful picture and its presentation was greeted with a round of applause and a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Wallace.

This portrait from Sir Frederick's most recent photograph was painted by an artist who studied in Antwerp and Paris, and is a fine piece of work, considered worthy a place in the Academy of Arts; therefore, most fitting for the future Art Gallery of the Women's club.

Mrs. D. G. Edmundson then read a paper written by Mrs. Dr. Spinney favoring a liberal rather than a technical education, as a means of character building, which is the object of all education. Miss Carrie Hubbard very ably and charmingly took the opposite side of the question, claiming that to the special student belongs all progress. Mrs. E. A. Baylies was of the opinion that education should develop specific faculties, after a broad foundation for the sake of discipline has been laid. She said that he who has aptitude, perseverance and concentration possesses the key to success. Mrs. Baylies spoke with earnestness and to the point. Mrs. Roswell P. Dart followed with a very convincing talk for that education which fits one to perform fitly every duty of life. The discussion was continued by Miss Nash, Mrs. J. A. Jackson, Mrs. Thummel, Mrs. Dodson, Mrs. Stetson and Mrs. Berryhill.

**Nov. 22, 1894**

A very interesting programme was presented yesterday by the Des Moines Women's club, under the direction of the committee on "Current Topics and Woman's Work." Mrs. J. B. Hatton was in charge of "Current Topics" for the day, and she gracefully introduced Mrs. Clifford, who reviewed in a most satisfactory manner the events which are uppermost in the public mind. The late strike and the labor congress, the Manchester, England, canal and its effect upon the rates of transportation, greatly reducing it; the

launching of the St. Louis, the war between China and Japan; the great work of Dr. Parkhurst were all subjects which Mrs. Clifford treated in a sprightly and entertaining way. Mrs. Charles E. Risser then spoke of her recent visit, in company with Mesdames A. B. and J. C. Cummins, to the great Field museum in Chicago. The Columbian collection, that is the great number of pictures and curios connected with Columbus, the gift to this country of Pope Leo are in themselves worth a trip to Chicago to see. Mrs. M. W. Bibbins then introduced Mrs. William McHenry, who read a paper on Woman in the Professions. The ideal home was given as the place of all others which best befits the well-rounded woman. To make that home a happy one, to be a helpmeet to her husband, and a guide to her children, is the noblest position which any woman can fill; but this does not come to every woman, and there is no longer any question as to the ability of women to enter the active professions, such as the law, medicine, and the ministry. Mrs. McHenry spoke of the lasting impression made upon her by the first woman she ever saw in the pulpit. This was Rev. Mary Safford of Sioux City, whose benign face and winsome manner in addition to her earnestness and eloquence could not be forgotten by those who heard her. There were no less than 2,300 women doctors in this country and this profession seems particularly adapted to them. In the law, the hinges have been very slow of lubrication by the oil of public opinion, but the doors are slowly swinging open. At a recent examination for admission to the bar before the supreme court of this state, out of thirty-two applicants twenty-six were admitted, and the one who stood highest was a young woman from Creston. Mrs. J. L. Sooy had for her subject "Woman as Builders" and she dwelt most impressively upon the work of woman as moulders of character in the young, teaching the children the lessons of obedience, reverence and truth. Mrs. Sooy pointed out the great work that had been done by such noble women as Lucy Stone, Elizabeth Peabody, H. B. Stowe, Dorothea Dix, etc. Mrs. Hillis then gave a clever and witty talk on "Our grandmothers." She said that the good old-fashioned grandmother would soon be a thing of the past. Although it had been pointed out that the club had twenty-eight grandmothers in it, yet the fact was that they could not be told from the others by any possible means. They wore bead bonnets, big sleeves, bangs and the women of 70 occupied precisely the same position that the one of 20 did. The women's clubs of the country were fountains of youth which by the varied interests which they arouse keep their members in perennial youth.

**Dec. 5, 1894.**

There was a change of programme, an unusual occurrence, at the Women's club yesterday afternoon, yet the afternoon was not unprofitable, the sole criticism that could be offered being that the exercises were too long. Mrs. H. O. Breeden, as chairman of the committee on current topics, reported that subjects, under that head would be discussed by Mesdames F. W. Lehmann, J. C. Cummins and Stewart Goodrell. A clever review of the topics of the day was given by Mrs. Lehmann, from the president's message, which was pronounced an able state paper and very Clevelandesque, to the excitement over the London school election, the attitude towards his people of the new Russian czar, the death of Rubenstein, etc. Mrs. J. C. Cummins also spoke in an entertaining way of various incidents of the time. She referred, among other things, to the fact that the women's clubs of New York, have formed a federation; also to the position that the Chicago women's club has taken in refusing admission to a highly intellectual and well-bred colored woman, saying that the outcome would be watched with deep interest. Governor Jackson's proclamation during the heat of last summer calling upon the more isolated smaller towns of the state to bestir themselves to be ready for fire should it break out, was spoken of by Mrs. Goodrell and warmly defended, saying that many of the towns had taken the advice. The French Institute with its five sections was the subject to which the committee of the afternoon, that on Miscellaneous Topics, under the leadership of Mrs. Eva Paul Van Slyke, gave its attention, and brief papers or talks were given by Mrs. S. B. Maxwell, Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Miss Elizabeth Matthews, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Mrs. J. H. Windsor. The papers throughout evinced a careful study of the subject and brought out many interesting facts.

## MRS. COFFIN ON ART.

Interesting Facts About Artists Whose Work Will be Shown Here.

### A WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING.

Mrs. Callanan Pleads for Giving Woman Entire

Equality. 1894

The approaching holidays made no appreciable difference on the attendance at the Women's club yesterday afternoon. The enthusiasm and faithfulness of the members know no limit. The paper of the day was by Mrs. Martha C. Callanan, her subject, "Vashti." It was an able and comprehensive paper, embracing the idea of the necessity of such laws as will make women's place in the world one of entire equality with man. Mrs. Callanan is a clear and forcible writer.

In view of the approaching exhibition of pictures which is to be given here under the auspices of the club and of the Society of Fine Arts, the brief resume of American artists, and especially of those to be exhibited, as given by Mrs. N. E. Coffin, was of great interest. After remarking upon the good fortune of Des Moines and Iowa in having brought to this city a representative collection of American pictures fresh from the studios of the working artists of New York, Mrs. Coffin gave some pleasing sketches of some of these artists who are to be represented here.

Early in August last George Inness, inferior to no other American landscape artist, died in Scotland. He was peculiarly American in his versatility, elasticity and power. He was a master in rendering the higher significance of American landscape. Since the death of Inness, J. Francis Murphy is easily the foremost landscape artist in this country. His subjects, his education and development, his feeling and sentiment are all purely American. His works are not only pictures but poems, and modern poems in which a dainty embroidery of fancy and conceit is woven upon a simple theme.

With difference of touch and tone, Bolton Jones, Bruce Crane and Francis Jones paint the wooded meadow and the brookside. A. H. Wyant, an imitator of Inness and by some considered superior to Murphy, has given us many sterling reproductions from the forests and uplands of the Adirondacks. T. W. Dewing paints modern landscapes with a pleasant dimness that transfers them to legendary distance. Against this the forms of tall young women in flowing draperies stand out, vital yet dreamlike. His large easel pictures and decorations are rhythmic in color and design.

After upholding for a number of years the traditions of sober color and gospel of gray in portraits, ideal figures and other subjects, J. Alden Weir and J. H. Twatchman have lately taken the lead in that American impressionist movement that represents the acme of innovation, the highest tide of high light and brilliant tint, the aggressive purpose to bring painting face to face with nature uncompromisingly. Instead of harmonizing according to an artificial theory the impressionist tries to give an accurate rendering of objects on the basis of color values only. The harmony of contrast or agreement he thinks must become apparent if he sets everything down with relentless precision. Leonard Ochtman and Theodore Robinson also take part strongly in this movement which follows the French impressionists.

Geo. De Forest Brush, equipped by Gerome, has carefully studied North American Indians and found in them the theme for some remarkable work.

Alfred Kappes acquired his competence of power entirely at home but his studies in humble negro life and New York beggary, characteristic and original, hold their own in most comparisons for truth, color and technical sagacity.

Among romantic and ideal artists, Edwin H. Blashfield takes the lead. C. Y. Turner is an artist with the avowed purpose in life of

painting subjects from an American standpoint. Douglas Volk is our historic genre painter, his subjects largely chosen from Puritan New England. Willard L. Metcalf and Frederick Dielman are figure painters and delineators of character. James M. Hart is the leading cattle painter of America.

The picturesque artists will be represented here by Champuey, who pleasantly interprets gentle sentiment; Rhoda Holmes Nichol, justly celebrated for her Venetian scenes; Clara McChesney, a California girl who has lately made some stir in the New York world of art.

From the Moran family, etchers as well as painters, we will have two representations—Thomas Moran with his Turneresque color compositions from Mexico and the Yellowstone and Edward Moran.

J. Carroll Beckwith is our best portrait painter, his specialty being pictures of les grandes dames.

Among the newer artists will be Frank Vincent De Mond, a young man who within the last three years has distinguished himself both at the salon and in New York by paintings and drawings of an exquisite spirituality.

The illustrators will be well represented by Kenyon Cox, Will H. Low, Frederick Remington, Robert Blum, H. D. Nichols, Chester Loomis, F. O. Fidler and others.

One of the most versatile and prolific painters in America is Wm. A. Chase, president of the society of American artists and an able art instructor. He shines as an original and decorative portraitist, a clever manipulator of still life and in landscape has given the world many canvasses which convey local New York scenes with fine precision.

Alexander H. Harrison, an American artist resident in Paris, who has had many pictures in the salon, and made for himself an enviable position in the Paris art world, will have some pictures here; also Walter H. Gay, another American artist living in Paris. Mr. Gay sent a beautiful large canvas, a symphony in grey, called La Benedicite to the Paris exhibition and it was purchased by the French government for the Luxembourg.

The discussion which followed Mrs. Callanan's paper was participated in by Mesdames C. B. Atkins, Leon A. Harvey, Lafayette Young and Stewart Goodrell.



## A MUSICAL SESSION.

Hymns and Cradle Songs Discussed at the Women's Club.

Jan. 2. 1895.  
TWO EXCELLENT PAPERS.

Mrs. H. K. Love and Mrs. Sue Ankeny-Brown Have Leading Parts.

The afternoons which the Des Moines Women's club have devoted to music have always been occasions of rare pleasure. Yesterday was one of those enjoyable days, the memory of which will long remain with those who were present. Mrs. J. C. Macy was in charge of the regular programme of the day which she cleverly introduced in a humorous stanza or two in which she played upon the names of those who were to take a part in the exercises.

Mrs. H. K. Love gave the opening paper of the afternoon, her subject being "The Influence of Sacred Music Upon the Community." Mrs. Love's treatment of the subject showed a thorough appreciation of music, as well as an intimate knowledge of what constitutes the best that the world has known in sacred music. She said that since the morning stars sang together and the sons of God shouted for joy, music has held a supreme place in the world. In all ages and in every country, it has been one of the chief expressions of reverence and religion. No race so savage and no people so cultivated as not in some form to have invoked the power of tone and rhythm in their applications to a mysterious and invisible power. As nations became civilized and spiritualized their music became more and more the medium of higher ideals of thought, until its culmination was found in the grand oratorios which are the perfection of devotion and spiritual elevation.

Christianity owes much of its power and influence to the hymns of the inspired writers. With some persons all poetry is mere sentiment. They do not realize with Plato that poetry comes nearer the vital truth than history, nor with George Herbert "A verse may find him who a sermon flies." From the lip of "Now I lay me down to sleep" to the chanting of the Nunc Dimittis, from the cradle to the grave, Christian poetry has a great influence over our lives. The greatest among the great Christian hymns is the Te Deum. It is one of the most precious treasures of antiquity. Its origin carries us back to Easter night, 357, to the city of Milan and its great cathedral. On that night St. Augustine had been rescued from his evil ways by St. Ambrose and was baptized, and the two sang this grandest of hymns. Then it was that St. Augustine's mother cried out, "O, son, I had rather see thee Augustine the Christian than Augustine the emperor." There is scarcely anything that retains a more permanent influence over our thought and feeling in the present life than the hymns and songs which the soul drinks in during childhood.

It is related of Matthew Arnold that on the first Sunday after his return to England from America he attended the Sifton Park Presbyterian church at Liverpool, where among the hymns sung was "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died." That evening as he went down stairs to lunch, a servant heard him saying softly to himself, "When I survey the wondrous cross, etc." At luncheon Mr. Arnold spoke about the hymn, which he said was the finest in the English language. Afterwards he went out, and in ten minutes he was dead.

This touching allusion was made especially effective by a beautiful rendering of this hymn by Mrs. Meta Hills MacRae. Later other beautiful hymns were sung by Mrs. MacRae to the delight of all.

Mrs. Sue Ankeny Brown added very much to the pleasure of all by her well-written paper on "Cradle-Songs". Mrs. Brown's manner was in perfect keeping with her subject, which was handled throughout with exquisite nicety.

There are cradle songs in all countries and in all languages and the babe is lulled to rest whether the mother chant an Indian hymn or

one of the sweetest of melodies. How beautiful should be the sentiment of the songs given to the child as the first means of bringing it into conscious relationship with the world around it. The sweet voice of the mother is always remembered, while the fainter tones of the grand-mother bring back the traditions of the great-grand-mother with her quaint, pleasant ways. Thus is one generation linked to another by the ever living spirit of song.

The speaker said she had learned lately that large families are going to be the style again and she was very glad that this new style would have all the modern conveniences. Referring to the modern woman's interest in this and that outside of the home, Mrs. Brown said it was not difficult to imagine in the not far distant future lullabies being composed for the Basso Profundo.

Mrs. Brown's essay closed with a charming picture of a Christmas reunion when the scattered family returned and greeted once more the dear old mother there.

Mrs. Walter McCain sang with much expression "Sleep, Little Baby of Mine"; Mrs. Robert Dempster played softly Mendelssohn's Cradle Song, and the musical numbers concluded with a sweet lullaby song by Miss Marie Chambers, who, when called back gave the lovely song, "When the Heart is Young."

The discussion of Current Topics was conducted by Mrs. A. L. Frisbie, who introduced Mrs. James G. Berryhill. The latter gave a very pleasing talk on the recent meeting in St. Louis of the executive board of the General Federation of Women's clubs. Their enthusiastic meetings from day to day, the charming hospitality of the St. Louis ladies and the plans for the next biennial meetings were all described with much vividness.

Mrs. Preston B. Durley then devoted a short time to the troubles in Armenia, reading a letter received by Mr. L. J. Kasson of this city from Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, founder, and for many years president of Roberts college, Constantinople. Dr. Hamlin is now in this country and is undoubtedly more familiar with the situation in Armenia than is any other one in this country.

Jan. 16. A DAY IN SCANDINAVIA. 1895

The yellow and blue flags of Sweden formed the background and chief decoration of the room in which the Women's club assembled yesterday. The history committee, of which Mrs. J. D. Whisenand and Mrs. E. W. Cherry are chairmen, was that under which the programme was conducted. Mrs. Whisenand was in charge of the afternoon and her efforts toward a day combining pleasure and benefit were abundantly rewarded. The subject was "The Scandinavian Peninsula," including the beginning, growth and present condition of that country. "The Eddas" was the subject of a particularly enjoyable paper, brief but comprehensive, given by Mrs. T. M. Walker. The Eddas are books in prose of the mythology and ancient poems of Iceland, Scandinavian tales of warfare against the frost giants, etc. In them are reflected the social customs, fears and beliefs of the people. The preservation of these early tales of mythology was probably due to the deep interest in them taken by the early Christian priests who went to Iceland to carry their religion to the people there. There is much that is deeply spiritual in these ancient songs, though their spirit is not easy to catch unless one is alone beneath the trees. The beautiful myth of the young god Balder was told by Mrs. Walker. Balder representing light, summer sun, warmth, good spirit. His mother had obtained a vow from everything in the earth that it would not injure Balder, everything except the mistletoe. At last a cunning enemy, knowing this vulnerable point wounded him. Mrs. W. H. Bally spoke of Olaf, whose birth about 964 was surrounded by trouble. The fascinating story of Olaf, first as slave, then at the age of 12, commanding a viking with wonderful deeds of prowess, finally a king, was graphically told by Mrs. Bally and greatly enjoyed by her hearers.

"Gustavus Adolphus" was the subject of a most interesting sketch by Mrs. A. E. Clark in which the fortunes of that remarkable king were traced. Mrs. E. H. Carter spoke of "The political Outlook," bringing forth much valuable information of a country with which but comparatively few are familiar. Mrs. Carter's talk evinced careful study in many directions. It was shown that the present royal house of Sweden and Norway had its origin in the French middle-classes of less than a century ago. Sweden and Norway have nothing in common save the king, peace and war.

It was a rare treat to the ladies to listen to a half hour's talk by Mrs. J. W. Vail, who visited the land of the midnight sun last summer. Scandinavia, the peninsula, Mrs. Vail likened to a huge sea monster with wide

open mouth in which lies the city Christiania. Taking a railway at that city, a seventeen hours' journey will bring the traveler to the coast, whence the tourist may reach the North cape in four days. Mrs. Vail had the pleasure of meeting the dramatist, Ibsen, at Christiania, whom she described as a square built man, with fluffy white hair and beard. In going to the North Cape, the expectation had been to rough it, but the steamer was altogether modern, with a fine table and rich appointments. Coffee was served on deck after dinner and there they could sit watching the sun all night long if they so desired. Mrs. Vail gave some fine descriptions of the majestic firds and lovely green glens of Norway, with snow glistening on top of the mountains; of the snugly built villages, the roofs of the houses of turf, the grass, wavy and green upon them, constituting sometimes a bed wild flowers, with a roof tree, here and there. In those cottages one always found a pail with a dipper in it, but it was for sour milk, which the natives are so fond of drinking and which is said to give them their pearly teeth. Under the radiant influence of the lovely nocturnal sunshine, the heavens are brilliant indeed; now a sheet of amber or saffron, again rosy, violet or crimson. At the cape they saw the midnight sun every night. Visits to a picturesque camp of Laplanders and a whaling station were described very entertainingly. The next meeting of the club will be at the home of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, and under the auspices of the social committee. Progressive conversation is to be the order.

## THREE HOURS' TALK.

The Women's Club Have a Social Afternoon with

Jan. 30. Mrs. Clapp. 1895.

A CONVERSATIONAL SOIREE.

Three Impromptu Speeches and a Great Deal of Informal Chat.

The members of the Women's club yesterday afternoon donned their prettiest gowns and resolved themselves into a brilliant and gay assemblage of society folk. Not that this was such a decided transformation for these ladies, busy as they are, are not inattentive to the matters of the toilet nor averse to social pleasures. Indeed, the satisfaction of being entertained right royally at a pleasant home, that of Mrs. E. R. Clapp, appeared in every face. It was the social committee, headed by Mesdames Pleasant Mill, W. E. Odell, W. L. Read and J. C. Cummins, who were responsible for the varied entertainment of the afternoon, and nothing was left undone to make it complete.

Removing cloaks and bonnets the guests were shown to the great assembly hall in the basement of this elegant modern residence, an apartment fitted up for just such purposes. With its finely polished hard wood floor, its broad old-styled fire place and its splendid dimensions, it is all that could be desired in the way of accommodation for large companies. There were more than two hundred ladies in it yesterday seated at small tables, yet there was no overcrowding. The room is hung with pictures, large photographs for the most part of celebrated paintings, while festoons of the rich green lycopodium gave an air of general festivity. It was a progressive conversation party and subjects were found on each of the tables. They were as follows:

Should hypnotism be suppressed by law?  
Do men prefer beauty or brains?  
Concerning nagging women—Is the iron mask too severe punishment?  
Would it be an improvement to have each member of the club choose the committee upon which she wished to serve?  
Do you believe that collegebred women are disinclined to marry? And Why?  
What have been the effects of the teachings of Henry Ward Beecher, Lyman Abbott and

Robert Ingersoll?

Is philanthropy a science or a fad?

Can the annual exchange of formal visits among women be done away with, and can the afternoon tea, which incurs no obligation, take the place of "calls"?

Is it better to read trash, so long as it is not absolutely immoral, than to read nothing, especially for children?

Tell the best joke you know.

Who is the best American novelist now writing, and how do you account for the present decline in American poetry and fiction?

Which do you consider the best novel of the last year?

What picture in the recent Loan Exhibit did you like best?

What should be the attitude of the Women's club toward municipal and school government?

Does the ideal woman excel in beauty, brains or qualities of heart?

Do you believe in dress reform?

"I am not of those who bear injustice with a smiling face."

Would women vote if they could?

How can we secure a club house?

At the close of the conversation several ladies were called out for brief remarks. Mrs. Berryhill spoke of "Dress Reform." Referring to the bloomer costume she humorously related how Mrs. Lucy Stone and Susan B. Anthony had once in an early day attempted to wear it, and they were all but hooted out of town. They told their associates that they might do as they pleased, but as for them they would attempt no further reform in dress.

Rev. Ida C. Hultin was called upon and spoke briefly on several points of interest. She expressed surprise that there were no women on the school board in Des Moines, adding that here was something which this club should take up.

Mrs. Jay Macomber then made a short speech in which she said that women did not hold places on school boards in this state simply because they could not constitutionally do so. This matter had been tried in the Summit school district, and the men were only too willing that they should be on the board, but it had been found that they were not eligible.

A lunch consisting of delicious ice cream, cake and coffee was served at the close of the programme, the tables having been cleared and spread with the most immaculate of linen and the daintiest of china.



## VERY FINE.

## The Art Loan Exhibition Opened.

The picture exhibition is on. It opened formally at 1 o'clock this afternoon, and while not wholly in order, is much nearer that point than most exhibitions are on their first day.

At a private view accorded the members of the press this morning, a News reporter gained an impression of the collection as a whole which was most interesting and satisfactory.

The exhibition occupies the large double room at 708 and 710 Walnut, and the walls are crowded with pictures.

The exhibition is what it promised to be, a representative collection of the works of American artists. No criticism of individual pictures will be attempted in this article—only general impressions.

The place of honor on the east wall is given to the "Advent Angel" by Ella Condie Lamb—a large picture, exquisite in drawing and color, and bearing the prize tablet of the National Academy of Design.

One of the strongest pictures, and one which will attract much attention, is F. W. Dumond's "Monastic Life," in which three figures tell the story. This picture belongs to the French school, has won a "medaille" and is valued at \$3,000, and occupies the place of honor on the west wall.

The place of honor on the east middle wall given to "The Golden Gate of the Yellowstone Park," by Thomas Moran, which has all the characteristics of that well known artist.

An artist not so well known to the western public is Wm. Sartain, whose "Nubian Shells" holds the place of honor on the west side of the middle wall.

"Ma Premiere Nee" by Eauger L. Couse, is one of the large canvases and tells a pathetic story of the death of the first born; the mother kneeling by the bier, the bowed figure of the grandfather, the awed face of the little sister, show in a masterly manner, the effect of the same grief on different individuals.

A winter landscape by Stephen Parrish is one of the noticeable landscapes; full of the vivid blue tint which the average observer declares "impossible," but which the artists are teaching us to see.

In the rear of the east room is an exquisite water color forest landscape by W. Hamilton Gibson entitled, "An Autumn Note," and near by a "Twilight in Late Autumn" by J. C. Nicoll. J. H. Twachtman is represented by five most interesting works; two of which are in oil, one water color and two pastels.

H. V. V. Sewall has "The Bathers" one of the pictures greatly admired at the World's fair.

A picture full of vigorous life and movement is Gilbert Gaul's "Behind the Trenches." "Those Dreary Days," by the same artist, shows a group of soldiers sitting around an impromptu camp fire, and is a strong picture.

"Over the Hills and Far Away," by Edward Gray, is a good landscape.

There are two other pictures by Thomas Moran beside the one already noted, "The Old Town of Torcello," and "Sunrise After a Storm," are represented by a small canvas in oil, by Paul Nemo Moran, entitled "The Tramp." "The Tramp" is a cat and the other figure in the picture is a young girl, standing at the foot of a stairway.

Among those whose names are familiar as illustrators are J. Wells Champney, who has a pretty picture, "Teetering at Our Sawmill;" and E. H. Blashfield who has a "Dryad" in oil, and W. Hamilton Gibson, who sends five water-colors. He says the same things in color that he says in black and white.

Among the pastels is a notable panel by E. W. Deming "Apaches Watching a Pueblo Dance."

The collection seems to be very well balanced. Landscape and figure painting are equally well represented. The same individuality in the choice of subjects and their treatment which characterized the work of American artists at the world's fair is shown here. A small collection has this advantage over a large one that individual pictures are more faithfully studied and better remembered. It is really the first opportunity that Iowa people have ever had to study works, and there is every indication that they will avail themselves of it to the fullest extent. The exhibition has exhausted the wall space and the water colors have been placed upstairs.



# THEY DISCUSS ART.

A Memorable Afternoon in the Annals of the Women's Club.

Feb. 14. 1895.

A FINE PAPER BY MRS. WEST.

Beautiful Curios and Interesting Antiquities from Des Moines Homes.

The old saying that straws tell which way the wind blows, if it be true, would lead me to the conclusion that Des Moines is experiencing an awakening on the subject of art-study. It is seldom that the public has shown so deep an interest in the work of the Women's club as was evidenced yesterday and all because it had been announced that the art committee was in charge for the day. Every seat in the lecture room of the Christian church was taken by club members or guests, and in addition the balcony was well filled.

No pains had been spared to make the room beautiful and artistic. It was exceedingly attractive. The platform had been very much enlarged, and in harmony with the day's programme, it had been richly decorated with choice pieces of statuary in bronze, marble and alabaster and adorned with stately palms in many varieties. The whole was enclosed with a railing of the garlanded lycopodium. A background for the lovely marbles had been made of black material. Against this as a central ornamentation were several magnificent specimens of the palm flanked on either hand with the marble figures of the "Greek Slave" and "Psyche and Cupid," both of which are the property of Mr. L. B. Abdlil. At one side of this central piece was the copy of a fresco by Raphael, the original of which is in St. Luke's academy. It is evidently a youthful Bacchus. This, like many of the most valuable articles loaned for the day, was from St. Helens, representing Major and Mrs. Byers' extensive and choice art collections. From St. Helens came the numerous and exceedingly rare curios, antique for the most part, which filled one table. Among them was an Etrurian vase of bronze dating back to before the time of Christ; a small terra cotta sarcophagus with many figures in bas-relief. This was from Rome, and had really been used at an early period, as a receptacle for the ashes of the dead; a small copy of the Majestic Farnese Hercules, the original of which is in Naples, though from the Farnese palace at Rome; a finely chiseled marble foot, ancient Greek, showing exquisite workmanship; a Roman hand, also in marble; time-worn tankards in silver and zinc, such as may be found in the wealthier peasant families of Germany and Switzerland, now held as heirlooms.

Noticeable, also, were the carved alabaster vase resting upon a pedestal, kindly loaned by Mrs. B. F. Kauffman; an ideal head in marble, a valued world's fair exhibit, now the property of Mrs. Dr. Potter; a bust of Dante; the Plunger, a small dainty figure in marble. In keeping with all this were many handsome draperies of oriental texture, fur rugs, cushions, screens, etc.

In introducing the speaker of the day, Mrs. Potter, as chairman of the committee, paid a glowing tribute to the beautiful in art and nature, the love of which, she said, was innate in all. She gracefully introduced Mrs. Addie B. Billington, who recited an original poem on "The Dawn of Art." It was a gem, noble in sentiment and of choicest diction.

Then came Hellas, herself, mother of art, a vision in white and gold, with softly clinging robes, and gave her greeting. It was this,

in part:  
"To you who in the name of art are here assembled,  
I bring a greeting from the ancient Greek,  
I, Hellas, mother of the art ye love.  
Art is my own, my child, my very pride.  
Though in these later days she grows so strong,  
So grandly truthful in portraying nature,  
That I scarce know my own.

Grow on and fill the earth with works of beauty,  
For every beauty which the eye perceives  
Breeds in the mind a thought to match its worth,  
And 'tis thy highest purpose to uplift the minds  
of men."

To Mrs. Stewart Goodrell was the club indebted for the above artistic representation and the inspiring words.

Then came the paper of the day by Mrs. Harry West on the subject, "Modern Painters and the Renaissance." Any synopsis of this paper, so far-reaching and comprehensive in its scope, would fail to do it justice. It was clearly the product of the most careful and painstaking research to which the entire field of art had been made to contribute.

Mrs. West began by saying that "The art coming to maturity in the fifteenth century was generated in the early mediaeval revival. The seeds coming from antiquity, new art germs developed with new surroundings, and painting was born of a new civilization. We believe modern painting to be the child of this evolution, expressing the thought of its age, and, if that thought be revolutionary and material its expression will be but a reflection of the thought. The fens of the times have been felt in painting as in literature.

To produce an era in painting like that of the past, the world must again be plunged in the dark ages. In looking for a cause for the wonderful exhibition of splendor, richness beauty and spirituality seen in the work of the old masters, we find the age ripe for religious expression, the power of church over state.

The intense belief of Raphael and Murillo in the purity of the Virgin Mary, has given to the world the pathos, beauty and spirituality of their Madonnas.

Mrs. West reviewed the art of different countries and its effect upon the people of those countries, dwelling with loving appreciation upon those masterpieces of art which have rendered the names connected with them immortal.

Regarding impressionism, Mrs. West aptly said: Every true picture possesses impressionism. The impressionist sacrifices evident truths, of surface, texture, and things easily seen, to create an impression of a peculiar harmony of colors which is revealed to his inner consciousness. The impressionism of Corot is directly opposite to that of Monet."

When American artists cease to be influenced by foreign thought and become truly national in spirit they may look for an artistic period, for genius and originality are traits common to American people and must have their expression.

In closing her admirable paper, Mrs. West said:

"What the future in painting may be is a difficult problem. We have seen the superstitions of belief passing away and painting has ever been changing with the thought of the age. This evolution will continue until its errors are uncovered and destroyed. The desire for truth at the present time is reflected in painting as realism (evident truth), while impressionism is a revelation of obscure truths. History repeating itself, we are again returning in the process of evolution to the painting of the old masters, carrying with us new truths. The painter of to-day is studying effects and when these become unconsciously attained through an understanding of cause the painter's imagination will again be free. The discovery of Monet's effected a revolution in painting and another revolution will be a return to the ideas. As new truths are coming to light the painter will catch the thought of his age and produce marvelous results."

A further surprise was given and a further treat when Mr. C. E. Baldwin came forward and gave, in the presence of the club, an exhibition of modeling from the clay. It was done with great skill and nicety.

Mrs. Goode announced that there would be a called meeting of the club on Friday, February 22 at 3 o'clock, when the time will be devoted to a discussion of various building projects.

Feb. 28. THE WOMEN'S CLUB. 1895.

The Women's club met yesterday afternoon in the lecture room of the Christian church. In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Carter was appointed by the chair to take her place. The current item committee presented some interesting topics, the principal one, by Dr. Carrothers, was a review of Hall Caines' new novel, "The Man xman." Mrs. Hal Howell followed with historical events of recent occurrence, mentioning the China-Japan war, the Hawaiian troubles and the rapid succession of presidents in the French republic. The hour having arrived for the literary programme, the chair announced Mrs. Stetson as having charge of this part of the day's entertainment, and who in turn presented Mrs. Ballard, who gave the paper of the afternoon, "The Value of the Purpose Novel". The writer in speaking of literature in general pointed out that each generation had its own literature, and although the novel had its origin in ancient Greece, it remained for succeeding generations to develop this class of literature and it was not until the beginning of the nineteenth century that the purpose novel made its appearance. To Marie Edgeworth is due the credit of first introducing this idea of writing with a purpose. Her stories and novels all strove to emphasize that wrong-doing would not go unpunished and that virtue always received its own reward. Charles Dickens followed next in order and wrote with a versatility that has been at once the admiration and wonder of the literary world as well as inspiring men with the desire to help the suffering and unfortunate. Disraeli strikes at communists and points to political reforms. Victor Hugo leaves no condition of life untouched, and ever writes with the purpose of helping humanity to higher ideals and higher life. Among American writers, Harriet Beecher Stowe stands the first in the rank of purpose novelists and in her "Uncle Tom's Cabin" not only did much to hasten the end of slavery in this country, but also, it is said, was instrumental to break the power of this system in Brazil and Russia. Among other novelists of modern times who may be classed with those writing with a purpose was named Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Abner Tourgee, Helen Hunt Jackson, Bellamy and others of equal renown. These the writer said, "have been approved by the law of the survival of the fittest." People are more easily impressed by symbols and the story is the "text book of experience," hence there is a vast field open to the writer. In no class of literature is there so much need of a master hand. The paper was listened to with close attention and merited the hearty applause given at the close. Mrs. Hawley led the discussion that followed and spoke of the social novel which had been omitted by Mrs. Ballard, speaking of the way in which the social problems are wrapped up in the charming guise of a story. Mrs. Hawley asked "Is it good for individual or the public to have the evils of society made known in this way?" As a class of literature we read too many novels, and neglect the works of good scientific and philosophical writers who have written much that we should read and think about. Miss Rachael Clarke followed with a few terse remarks in which she criticised the reading of the social novel and its discussion by young persons. A diversion was then introduced and proved to be a most entertaining number. Miss Anna Keating, teacher of elocution at Des Moines college, gave in a most pleasing manner, a scene from Ingomar. Symbolism, or the New School of Poetry, was the theme of a critical paper by Mrs. Reichard, who described the new school as one in which the central thought was presented by being painted in strange and seemingly meaningless pictures. In illustration of this the writer gave a description of a drama by Monroe Meesterlinck, and kindly interpreted its meaning which was certainly very obscure to the uninitiated. The symbolic is a new school and is opposed to the realistic and while it presages the advent of a new kind of literature it should be treated with great caution.

March 13. 1895.

The Women's club held its regular annual business meeting yesterday afternoon in the lecture rooms of the Christian church, with a fairly good representation of the club in attendance. The treasurer's report was first listened to and showed the finances to be in a flourishing condition, the topic foremost in the minds of all was the securing of a building or rooms for a club home and the committee having charge of the matter reported several locations as obtainable, but none seemed exactly suitable for the purpose. Among those receiving especial mention were rooms in the Marquardt block, commercial Exchange parlors, the Odd Fellows rooms, one floor of the Equitable building, the

Getchell property on Ninth and Locust streets and a residence of Mr. Sherman's on Fourth street. It was further suggested by the committee that the club invest in property of its own and have the building so arranged that a part might be sublet, thus insuring an income to the club. Nothing was decided definitely, but the committee was continued to farther investigate the matter. It has been the desire of some of the members of the club to have a badge pin and the question of an appropriate design was pretty thoroughly discussed, but nothing definite decided. A delegate to the meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs to be held in Cedar Rapids May 7 and 8 was elected, and Mrs. E. H. Carter was thus honored. The president, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode, by nature of her office is a delegate, and as alternates for these two were chosen Mrs. J. C. Cummins and Mrs. W. H. Bally. Mrs. J. G. Berryhill, in a short talk, told the purpose of the Cedar Rapids convention and urged all members of Federated clubs to attend. Mrs. Henrotin of Chicago, president of the National Federation, will be in attendance and a royal good time is expected. The new board of managers for the ensuing year was announced and is composed of the following named ladies: Mesdames L. B. Abdlil, W. H. Bally, J. G. Berryhill, E. H. Carter, E. R. Clapp, A. B. Cummins, J. C. Cummins, J. G. Day, P. B. Durley, D. G. Edmonson, B. F. Elbert, Lowry W. Goode, Dr. Potter, J. K. Macomber, A. B. Morse, R. A. Patchin, R. R. Peters, D. H. Reichard, J. A. Jackson, T. M. Walker, J. H. Windsor, M. C. Callanan, A. L. Frisbie and Misses Rachael Clarke and Elizabeth K. Matthews. The new members of the board are, Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Jackson and Miss Matthews. It is the custom of the club, after the routine business is completed, to vote upon questions of interest, and if they meet the approval of the majority they are then referred to the board of directors. Yesterday, the right of each member to select the committee she desires to work with in the coming year, was in this way referred to the board. Other matters were proposed but were voted down. The defeated propositions referred to the membership fee and to the giving of public entertainments by the various committees. Mrs. Wallace, who made the motion in regard to the entertainments wished that this plan might be taken to give practical benefit to those persons who feel that the usual admission fee to places of amusement was beyond their limited income, but other ladies desired the entertainments to be given for the financial benefit of the club, and as the motion expressed the latter idea it was disapproved by the members present.

March 27. 1895.

The committee on education, of which Miss Carrie Hubbard is chairman, held the day at the Women's club yesterday and the programme was unusually good. Before the regular exercises of the day, the usual time was devoted to Current Topics. Mrs. Isaac L. Hillis spoke on the interest which has been awakened in the Newsboys' club in the past few weeks. This club was organized by a Jewish boy who came here from Chicago. There are thirty boys in the club and they represent several nationalities, coming, many of them from homes which offer them but little training. These boys come together at the rooms of the King's Daughters three evenings in the week and some ladies are trying to entertain and instruct them. Mrs. Hillis also spoke of the nickel novels, the vilest trash, which are being sold in large numbers to the boys of the town. The sales, which are large, by no means represent the number read, as boys club together and they pass from one to another. Miss Olive McHenry, the highly esteemed principal of Hawthorne school, was the essayist of the afternoon, her subject being a most interesting one—"Juvenile Literature." Literature is our legacy from the great minds of all countries and all ages, she said. There are songs, poems and stories for all stages of society. The quality of juvenile literature is of the highest importance, since literature excels all other influences in furthering the child's intellectual processes. To Wordsworth may be ascribed the discovery of childhood, since he first introduced the child to literature. Before writers dealt with children as if they were pigmy men. It is a strange thing that so many people fail to appreciate children, since all have been children. After Wordsworth came that great man of the people, Dickens, with his little Nell and other children. Goldsmith wrote the first child's book and the proper audience of a formal literature was found. Now there are children's his-



stories, poems, works on art, and even theological treatises. Miss McHenry favored the fairy tale and folk lore as being among the first books for children, books which if they cannot comprehend - they can at least apprehend. Just how much sinks into the child's mind it is not possible to say or know. What childhood could be complete without "Bo-peep," "Cook Robin," etc.? Many children's stories have the fault of being too realistic, making no appeal to the imagination. Anderson's stories are most charming. He makes souls pass into tin soldiers, even into the darning-needle. The charm of his stories lies in the fact that they are childish but mature minds will find in them a subtle undercurrent of wisdom. Hawthorne's stories for children came as a sort of supplement to those of Anderson. Hawthorne appreciated children fully. It is said that in one winter he read aloud to his children all of Scott's novels. Books of travel and adventure ought to help all, but they are frequently too much given to exaggeration. Girls' books are often strained also, the girls filled with a desire to reform the world. It is not much wonder that children begin to feel that their parents are a detriment to their advancement. A history teacher in the city was surprised a short time ago upon asking for the supposed advantage in life which Andrew Jackson had over John Q. Adams, to receive the reply that Jackson's father had died before he was born and his mother when he was but a child. The writer said that in our public schools the only children who have much knowledge of the Bible are the Jewish children. It is surprising how little the children who obtain instruction at Sunday school really know of the Bible. In commending the reading of stories and other literature to children, Miss McHenry quoted Scudder as saying "There is no academy on earth equal to a mother reading to her child. The movement to provide good literature must center in the schools. Parents should not only read to the children but with them. In two people sharing the same thing there is a power stronger than iron in welding souls together. The paper was one of the most helpful ever read before the club. It was ably discussed by Miss Minnie Howe, Mrs. J. A. Jackson, Mrs. Hillis and others."

From 2 o'clock until 5 Saturday afternoon the stately home of Mrs. J. H. Windsor was the scene of a brilliant reception given by the Women's club complimentary to Mrs. Julia Ward Howe. It was especially fitting that this popular organization should pause to do homage to one to whom, more, perhaps, than to any other, is due its existence. In the fall of 1885 was held in this city the national association for the Advancement of Women, over which Mrs. Howe presided. The work done by that body and the fine impression made by its president and leading members were destined to live, for immediately after it closed the Des Moines Women's club was organized with a constitution which followed closely in the line of the A. A. W. This was the first time that the club has had the privilege of paying its respects to Mrs. Howe, and it was determined to make it an occasion worthy of remembrance. "We look upon you as the mother of our club," remarked one lady to the distinguished guest of the day. "Oh, they used to call me the mother of clubs, and say that I had a new one each year," was the laughing reply. The Windsor home was never more lovely than on this occasion, profusely adorned as it was with rare flowers. Mantels were festooned with smilax and banked with roses and other exquisite blossoms. There were vases filled with lilies, nasturtiums and the sweet-scented carnations. Nothing could be more artistic than was their arrangement. A delightful surprise to many of those present was the singing of Miss Elsie Lincoln, who had been induced to remain over especially for this occasion. It was a rare piece of good fortune that the services of such an artist could be procured, the more so as she was an old friend of Mrs. Howe. It is needless to say that her glorious voice added very greatly to the pleasure of all. In response to Mrs. Billington's verses of welcome, Mrs. Howe gave a brief talk, dwelling upon the wonderful budding forth and blossoming of women's varied talents in these later days as compared with the days of her youth, when they were, to all appearances, frostbound. She spoke for the furtherance of harmony of action, not that harmony which would have all play upon one string, but that which arises from the union of many diverse elements. Her impressive words, spoken as if under inspiration, fell like a benediction and those who had the privilege of hearing her will not soon forget it.

#### WORLD'S FAIR ART AT WOMAN'S CLUB.

"Art at the World's Fair" was the attractive subject which drew not only the large membership of the Women's club together Wednesday afternoon, but also numerous visitors. Probably there was not one of those present who had not enjoyed the great collections in the fine arts department of the great exposition; all were therefore prepared to give their impressions, to indicate their preferences and glad, indeed, to hear from others on a subject of such interest. Mrs. L. Young and Mrs. Wm. Jacquith, chairmen of the committee on art, were in charge of the programme and the paper of the day was written by Mrs. Young. It was the cause of very general regret, however, that, although she had returned from Chicago in order to take the part, Mrs. Young was unable to be present and her paper was read by Mrs. Jacquith. The architecture of the fair was treated of at considerable length and in a highly interesting manner, while the subject of the landscape gardening was also brought forward prominently. A beautiful word picture of the great basin under the illuminations of the evening was highly appreciated. Among the pictures named as of particular interest to the writer were the Dutch Israel's "Alone in the World" and Hovenden's "Breaking Home Ties". Mrs. Frisbie, who followed, spoke of the universality of real art and of progression of art. She had observed the poor women of the Dahomey village working on the rude silver bracelets, and the Javanese women engaged in painting on coarse cloth. These for the beginnings in art while the triumph was found in the fine arts department. In every nation one finds a desire to ornament and adorn. Mrs. Gaylord gave a complete history of the making of cut glass, taking it in the clay and following the work through its every stage in minute detail until the exquisite finished piece is brought forth. Particularly entertaining and instructive was the talk given by Mrs. Dr. Patchin. As is well known, Mrs. Patchin is thoroughly able to speak from accurate knowledge in the field of art and her talk was both entertaining and instructive.

Mrs. Patchin referred to the depressing influence of Spanish art, of the superior character of the Dutch works with their homely, every day scenes, confessing that she failed to appreciate the French exhibits, particularly the paintings of the impressionists with their blue and green complexions. Decorative art, she thought had made great progress since the centennial. The very good and thorough sloyd work in the Swedish building was mentioned. Mrs. C. P. Holmes, who followed, confined her remarks chiefly to Japanese art, emphasizing the decorations of their vases. A criticism which was brought against some of the speakers of the afternoon was that they failed to make themselves heard in all parts of the room, always a serious grievance.

#### STUDENT LIFE ABROAD.

The Women's club has come to be regarded as the special attraction for every alternate Wednesday afternoon. The hall in which its sessions are held is sure to be filled with clever, thoughtful women, and the visitor to the city who finds herself there is reasonably certain of entertainment, provided of course that her tastes are those of the student. On Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Tyler Scoville was in charge of the discussion of current topics, which always precedes the general programme. She introduced Mrs. Alice Ilgenfritz Jones of Cedar Rapids, an author of not a little celebrity. Mrs. Jones is a woman of quiet, unaffected manner and dignified address. She disclaims all ability as a public speaker, nevertheless her talk was entertaining and it met with an appreciative hearing. There is always an interest attached to the man or woman who succeeds in doing something. Many of those present had read "Unveiling a Parallel", a book recently written by Mrs. Jones and Mrs. L. S. Merchant, and they desired to know how they had wrought it out together. Mrs. Jones said that she and Mrs. Merchant had frequently talked over the matter of the inequality between men and women in the matter of the code of morals prescribed for each. One day there was a great parade in Cedar Rapids participated in by certain orders. They sat at their windows watching the men in their brilliant regalia, when the conversation turned upon the question as to how it would seem if men and women did, in all things, the same. They concluded that this matter could be worked out in a book which they had often talked of writing together. They began the

book and in ten weeks it was completed. Miss Elizabeth Matthews was in charge of the programme of the day, having taken the place of Mrs. J. C. Hume. Dr. Jesse Kitchey was introduced and read a paper written by Miss Mary McClelland, who is spending the year in Paris in the study of art and the French language and literature. Her subject was "Student Life in Paris" and this was treated in just such a familiar and entertaining manner as only a careful observer is capable of. There are three classes of students who go to Paris - the ultra-fashionable, specialists, who go there for greater thoroughness in their subjects, and students of art. Miss McClelland spoke more especially of the young American woman in Paris, her life, work and pleasures. She desired to place on their guard American parents who are about to send their children abroad, saying that, in no instance, should they be sent until the exact character of the place to which they were consigned was known. An instance in point was given. A Frenchman came to this country with recommendations and traveled through the New England states to secure young girls to enter a school, the excellence of which was warmly extolled. Ten or a dozen were found whose parents were willing to entrust them to him, but one widow accompanied her daughter. Upon arrival, she found a small pension in an obscure place, entirely inadequate to accommodate the girls. Four or five of the girls were taken in charge by the widow until suitable places could be found.

The convents are the schools patronized almost exclusively by the upper classes. Expenses are very high, especially for Americans, who are always supposed to be rich. Elegance is the one thing sought, for in France to be inelegant is to have failed utterly. An interesting description was given of the American and British club houses and something of the success of the American artists, Elizabeth Nourse and Elizabeth Gardner was spoken of.

Mrs. W. L. Read, with rare elegance of expression and ease of manner, gave her views as to the choice of eastern and western schools for young men and women, and Mrs. Stetson furnished some clever and witty thoughts on the subject of coeducation. It begins in the cradle, when father and brothers return to the home; continues through the kindergarten and primary grades. The question is, shall co-education continue through the college? Possibly the month of May ought to be eliminated from the college term, yet that did not seem expedient. Ideally, she thought there was more to be gained than feared from the association of young people of both sexes. The boys often lose their egotism, which is greatly to be desired. In girls' schools there are, as all know, not infrequently, ladders and midnight suppers to which the faculty are not invited. Co-education, she thought, like woman suffrage, has come and come to stay.

Miss Matthews gave a very interesting talk on the new science of Paedology, or child study, as developed by Pres. G. Stanley Hall of Worcester, Mass.

After the regular session of the club the board convened, at which time the declination of Mrs. L. B. Abbot as newly elected president was received and accepted. Mrs. Lowry W. Goode was unanimously elected president for the coming year. As chairmen of the committee on art, Mrs. J. A. Jackson and Mrs. H. C. Potter were chosen.



## A SCHOLARLY PAPER.

Mrs. J. C. Hume Gives Some Original Ideas on "Woman's Limitations."

FROM SAPPHO TO ELIOT.

Apr. 10, 1895.  
Women on the Average Fall Short of Men in Important Particulars.

The papers presented before the Women's club are admirable as a rule, yet that read yesterday by Mrs. J. C. Hume was certainly of exceptional merit in many respects. There were some, no doubt, who would not agree with the writer as to "Woman's Limitations." Her view was not the popular one, but there could be no question as to the fine flavor and superior literary quality of that which was served, much less as to the quiet eloquence with which it was given. Mrs. Hume said in opening: It is said that no one has an easier task than she who argues the imbecility of woman, for, if she write well she has proved her argument by the force of logic; if she write ill she has proved it by a personal illustration.

"Yet I assure you, the courage it requires to this personally exploit 'Woman's Limitations' before a body of women who are peculiarly exempt from all these limitations, demands from you much of that virtue the 'quality of which is not strained.'"

"We're no denyin' that women are fools \* \* \* God Almighty made 'em to match the men' \* \* \* 'My text said the writer, 'is the first half of this remark of Mrs. Poyner. May some future occasion afford me the opportunity to expound the latter half! Upon that I could grow eloquent.'"

Mrs. Hume declared that all of us are getting a little weary of the woman question. But a woman on a woman's limitations is not as hackneyed as a man to a woman on a woman's limitations and so she ventured on the theme.

Using ordinary man, our daily companion, whose limitations are so well known to us all, as a standard, it is hard to put aside all personal feeling in the matter and be fair and candid. But a certain Mr. Lecky needs to be disproved. He says of woman: "In the ethics of intellect they are decidedly inferior. They are little capable of impartiality. Their thinking is chiefly a mode of feeling; though very generous in their acts they are rarely generous in their opinions or in their judgments."

Mrs. Hume took the ground that woman, as an average person, falls far short of the average man in certain respects. If man's usual assertion be true, "The brains are ours; the true, the good, and the beautiful yours," she concluded it would not be necessary to study her limitations in point of morality; yet timidity, physical, mental and moral is more to be found, she thought, in woman as a type than in man.

Physical courage is more man's prerogative than woman's. The very fact that women have been made illustrious for deeds which countless men have done without notice, instances their rarity. The rescue of men at sea by Grace Darling is a household tale, and yet this feat is performed yearly, almost daily, by unknown, unnamed men. Woman has been mentally more timid than man. She has more often shrunk from truth which was disagreeable to her. For centuries the social evil, which affected woman most seriously, was blindly ignored as too unpleasant for her consideration. She shrank from

a knowledge of the physical laws of her own body lest it might detract from her delicacy. To the investigations of science, where they bore upon her religion, she would shut her eyes lest her religion suffer. Owing to her mental timidity, she has more often sought for that which she desired to be truth rather than that which is truth.

As to moral courage, the writer took the somewhat unusual position that woman has most frequently proved herself inferior to man. Men, she thought, seldom yield to vice through fear of ridicule. They desire the sin and yield to innate depravity. Women have submitted to the most uncomfortable, awkward and sometimes painful and injurious fashions in dress, styles which they dislike; have been guilty of undue extravagances of dress and establishment, from which they longed to be free, rather than incur the fancied ridicule of being "peculiar." Women are more indirect, less straight-forward than men, because of their lack of courage and strong desire to please.

Woman's tact, an acknowledged amiable attribute, is an illustration of this tendency towards indirectness. While truthfulness is by no means an impossible accomplishment of tact, the social and political diplomat is the one who uses indirect rather than direct methods. And the meandering paths, leading through pleasant places, indeed, often diverge from the hard, narrow road of exact truthfulness.

Man's consummate conceit deserves the severest snubbing. One would like never to acknowledge him in the right, particularly in his offensive claim to mental superiority; but the history of the mental life of women is not flattering to their pride.

The creative faculty seems to be greatly lacking in women of the past as compared with men. In mechanical inventions woman has accomplished little. Even in her own sphere, man is given the honor of having invented the sewing machine and the Mary Jane dishwasher.

In the arts of literature, painting, sculpture and music woman has made but a dim mark.

In literature what women's names bear the perfume of immortality about them?

Notwithstanding the intellectual freedom of the women of Greece, only one, Sappho, has left any immortal work, and of her writings but forty lines have stood the test of time as being worthy of a great place in art. Yet Homer saying in the darkness and unlettered age of Greece. The odes of Pindar and the dramas of Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides are still models of style.

The Roman women, whom Portia, "noble Brutus' wife," best typifies as women of character and judgment, well worthy of honor and respect, have left no trace in literature. There is no woman Virgil, Tacitus or Horace. And later, in Italy, although woman's influence called forth immortal poems, there is no woman to vie with Petrarch and Dante for the laurel wreaths.

Germany has furnished no great women writers, although women of strong personality influenced the lives of Goethe, Schiller and Heine.

France has had a fascinating bevy of women of beauty and wit and personal charm and learning. Yet Madame De Staël's writings have faded almost to obscurity. George Sand is the French exception among woman writers, but her novels do not belong to the same aristocracy of immortals as do Balzac's and Victor Hugo's.

England in the golden days of Elizabeth almost defied woman. But the Elizabethan age which furnished Shakespeare with the conceptions of such women of intellect as Portia and Lady Macbeth, yields no woman writer in lyric or dramatic poetry.

Again, no woman ever produced an epic poem nor a drama worthy of honorable mention, although the histrionic art, the most mimetic of all arts, has had such interpreters and close students of the drama as Rachel, Mrs. Siddons, Sara Bernhardt, Ellen Terry, Eleanor Duse and Rejane.

Since the middle of this century two women poets in England have given fine and true expression, the one to the religious feeling, the other to personal love—Christina Rossetti and Mrs. Browning.

Fiction alone has any claim to great creative talent, and here the immortals are as yet few. Three names are the only ones found among the woman writers who are generally given rank with Fielding, Dickens, Thackeray, Scott, Balzac, Hugo and Tolstol. These are George Sand, Jane Austen, George Eliot, and of these but one is universally accepted as holding a secure place. The cable of woman's genius in literature is held at one end by Sappho, in the remoteness of the Sixth century B. C., and stretches out through the centuries supported at the other end in this

nineteenth by George Eliot, and how few the hands which support the wire between!

In the fine arts, there have been women sculptors, Harriet Hosmer and Harriet Ketchams, but no one who can meet on equality any of the list of great ones. Angelica Kauffman, Rosa Bonheur and Madame Le Brun have painted good pictures but none worthy of rank with the masters.

Turning to music, the most creative and original of arts—open to her before any other. From the days of the lute and the harpsichord she has interpreted music. Culture counts for less in music than in other arts. No education was needed to make a Mozart compose a concerto at 5 years of age, too difficult for him to play.

Clara Schumann could better play and interpret the writings of her husband than could he. Everywhere the great composers have found women to be most moved by their music. Yet, until recent years, only Fanny Mendelssohn has any claim to good musical composition, and hers is but a claim.

Has this lack of creative faculty been due wholly to her education? What education did Burns need as he addressed "The Daisy" or "The Field Mouse" while he ploughed? What education had Beethoven? Was Lincoln a college man?

The inherited and accumulated effects of a training different from that of man has undoubtedly had its influence in producing these limitations. The history of evolution in certain phases explains them.

There is a distinct and vital difference in the physical structure of the two sexes. That the difference will always have an influence on the temperament and possibly on the mental attitude of the sexes is probable. From the beginning great results may be traced from the differentiation of sex. From the outset, woman was at a certain disadvantage with man because of the physical strength which he had gained from the animal struggle to seek out the woman and provide food, shelter and safety for her. The necessities which called man into active struggle, while woman needed her strength and seclusion for the preservation of her offspring, developed strength and courage in him.

The inventive faculty was more largely developed in him also, by the necessity for fashioning weapons of defense, buildings for shelter, etc. Woman's necessities increased her interest in things purely personal. The necessity for giving free expression to her emotions, in order to influence man and the drain upon her nervous system by child-bearing and nurture brought about a loss of control of the emotional nature and lessened the quality of the emotions instead of deepening and intensifying them.

But if these qualities of courage and directness and creative genius had their origin there, what is the reason they were not handed down from the father to the daughter rather than to the son?

Accepting the theory of evolution, the answer to this was found in Darwin's theory that "Acquired habits not only are inherited, but those which are acquired after maturity have a strong tendency to develop only in the sex in which they originated; while those tendencies acquired after maturity develop actively in the same sex in which they were found originally, they must be latent in the other."

Thank Heaven for this latency! Upon this incidentally recognized truth we must build our future hopes. But should women develop this latency? Would not woman's courage increase at the expense of her delicacy and modesty? Does not her shrinking from that which is not pleasant preserve her purity?

Shall we be Jesuits, and in order that good may come, choose cowardice and indirectness and mental weakness?

The heredity of ages is slow to overcome, but nature's great law of necessity will settle that problem. Since personal encounter is not now the last resort woman is free from the necessity of using indirect methods. She may speak the truth; she may make a demand; she may insist upon a right.

Innocence is no such power as it is the knowledge which knows and yet refrains. Mental companionship is a nineteenth century requisite in wives.

The requirements which civilization is making, which tend to conserve rather than to scatter woman's emotional nature and give it power and virility, tend greatly and rightfully to free her from the limitations of the past and present.

The exercises of the afternoon were under the management of Mrs. B. F. Elbert, chairman of the committee on Woman's Work, who threw the discussion into the hands of the general club. It was very spirited and well conducted.

## BIOGRAPHY.

Several Sketches Before the Women's Club. Apr. 24, men's Club. 1895

Variety was given to the programme rendered by the Women's club yesterday by devoting the time to a review of the lives of prominent men and women born in April. The rostrum was beautified by a profusion of sweet-scented apple blossoms, great bowls of which were arranged on the tables. An exquisite painting, the work of Mr. Harry Williams, formerly of this place, rested on an easel and seemed to reflect the beauty of the outer world. The study was of an old stone fence, a blossom-laden apple tree standing in the back-ground, extending over the stone wall. Directly in front were flags and portraits, illustrative of the topics of the day—a fine picture in black and white of General Grant; a large steel engraving of Washington Irving and his friends, etc. The latter was the subject of an interesting sketch by Mrs. L. F. Andrews.

Mrs. Stevens followed with a well-written though brief biography of General U. S. Grant, in which, as striking traits of the man, she mentioned the qualities of truth, courage, modesty, generosity and loyalty.

The high school glee club, composed of some twenty young ladies, picturesquely arrayed in Oxford gowns and mortar-boards, then favored the club with a patriotic song, "'Tis the School House that Stands by the Flag."

"Alice Carey" was the subject upon which Mrs. A. B. Cummins gave a highly appreciated talk of five minutes. She referred to her as the first president of Sorosis and gave a bit of interesting history as to how Miss Carey consented to take that office, at a time when to take part in club life was looked upon as a very different thing from what it is to-day. It seems that Mrs. Croley (Jennie June) was wholly responsible in the matter. Mrs. Croley called upon Alice Carey to urge that she consent to become the president of the new society or club the women were forming, stating that they desired, very much, to have at its head a literary woman of prominence. Miss Carey at first said it was impossible for her to accept, so contrary was it to her tastes. Mrs. Croley urged in vain, and hurt at last by the continued refusal, the latter said in leaving, "Think of the faith, the affection, and the reverence paid you by thousands of American women, and yet you will not make this sacrifice for them. Mrs. Croley had scarcely more than reached home when Miss Carey came to say that if her name would be of any use to them, it was theirs. Mrs. Cummins gave as probable reasons why Alice Carey did not attain first rank among poets the facts that she lacked early mental discipline, was afflicted with ill health, and driven by necessity to earn her daily bread.

Mrs. James H. Windsor fairly surpassed all her previous efforts before the club both in the literary quality of her short sketch of Shakespeare and in its eloquent and impressive delivery. In beauty of diction and fine discrimination in character portrayal, Mrs. Windsor's paper will long stand out as one of exceptional merit.

Among the ladies who signified their purpose to attend the convention of Federated clubs at Cedar Rapids were Mesdames Lowry Goode, James H. Windsor, James G. Berryhill, D. G. Edmundson, W. F. Thummel, Tacitus Hussy, W. H. Bailey, Peston Durlay, R. P. Dart, Henry Plumb, J. C. Cummins, E. H. Carter.

Many other Des Moines ladies will go as representatives of other literary clubs of the city.



## THE WOMEN'S FEDERATION.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 7.—The state federation of women's clubs will meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning in the Congregational church, and after the presentation of credentials and the receiving of badges, the body will be called to order. The invocation will be by Mrs. E. R. Burkhalter of this city. Then Mrs. James G. Berryhill of Des Moines, president of the federation, will make the address of welcome. The balance of the morning will be occupied by reports. Wednesday afternoon there will be two-minute addresses by club presidents, and Wednesday evening the visitors will be tendered a reception in the club room of the Masonic library by the Ladies' Literary club of this city. The programme for Thursday is:

Election of officers.

2:30 o'clock—Ten minute address.

"Old and New".....Miss May Rogers

"Observations on the Case".....

.....Mrs. Charlotte B. Tisdale

"Wanted, the Strong Woman".....

.....Mrs. L. F. Parker

"No Club Liveth to Itself".....

.....Mrs. Harriet B. Windsor

"Liberty and Limitation".....Miss King

"Simon Says".....Mrs. Alma Whitaker

"Village Improvement Clubs".....

.....Mrs. Jessie M. Thayer

.....EVENING.

"The Citizenship of Women".....

.....Mrs. Pauline G. Swalm

"The Place of the Club Movement

in Economic Evolution".....

.....Mrs. Lindon W. Bates

"Social Aspects of Life".....

.....Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin

## A CAUSTIC CRITICISM

Dr. Frances Carothers Replies to the Paper on "Woman's Limitations."

## AN INTERESTING REVIEW

Shows Women's Powers to be Equal to Those of Men.

A fortnight ago, Mrs. J. C. Hume read a carefully prepared paper before the Women's club on "Woman's Limitations." The News presents today a review of the same by Dr. Frances Carothers, who criticises sharply some of the points made by Mrs. Hume. Following is Dr. Carothers's article:

To "argue the imbecility of woman" is as foolish as to argue the imbecility of man; in either case, by forceful logic or personal illustration, but one result can be attained. To assent to Mrs. Poyner "that women are fools" or to attempt to substantiate the idea as the correct one before a body of thoughtful women is surely a *fin de siècle* perversion. Women, whether highly educated or not, know best what they are capable of doing when opportunity for action is unrestrained. They rightfully despise the one who, talking as though he were on intimate terms with the Almighty, presumes to dictate to them what they should think and say and do. A little higher foresight would illuminate their own murky mental condition and induce a healthier action in the general results. To assert "that woman, as an average person, falls far short of the average man in certain re-

spects," is untrue in general; and in particular needs decided limitations.

It is the grossest injustice to both sexes to take man as a standard, and compare woman with him. It is as though the blood and the nerves should contend as to which were the chief. Without arriving at the point where self is lost sight of, they never could be made to see that the one is the circulating medium, from which the common sustenance is drawn; while the other is the power behind the throne, regulating, vivifying all. To judge correctly, what women have accomplished in the past is quite an impossibility, owing to two factors.

The first is that the only source of information we have is history, preserved through centuries of dark and troublous times, and written by alien hands. Such testimony is unreliable, being only half the truth.

Prior to the general spread of learning, where the author did not seem to sufficiently stultify woman and her work, the translator has abetted the prevailing idea by substituting words, where in any sense power or authority was given to woman, by replacing them with what he thought to be the proper thing. The following examples are taken from the sacred writings.

In Psalms 68:11, the word "company" or "host" was put in the place of "women evangelists"; and in the first verse of the sixteenth chapter of Romans, where Paul speaks of Phoebe as a "servant of the church which is at Cenchria," we ought to read "deaconess." No one with a clear mind doubts the altruistic effects of Christianity upon the race. Yet we find in these two instances and others which could be mentioned the most flagrant misinterpretation, chiefly because of man's supreme desire to elevate self, and to belittle woman.

The second factor is that of forced limitations. Among aboriginal people at the present time even the physical difference of the sexes is very slight. The woman furnishes the supplies except that which comes from plunder or the chase; bears the children with no interruption to labor; is the burden carrier in their frequent wandering, in addition to the necessity of transporting the helpless infant. The Alaskan women administer the affairs of state. Among them the woman is the head of the tribe. Her word is law. It is interesting also to note that before the advent of the man from "Boston" a very high state of morals existed. Proof of a violation of this one law meant death to both, man and woman. With the increase of knowledge, in the evolution of the race, men felt the intoxication of power; and woe to the designing usurper, be he man or woman. The self appointed arbiter of her destiny deemed knowledge too dangerous a thing to be trusted to woman, so the more pliable daughter, sister or wife was cajoled, ridiculed or cowed by threats of personal violence, until she was forced to relinquish that for which her mind longed, as her body for food, or her soul for living water. The wonder is that any woman in the past overcame her forced limitations at all. We read of one woman whom love freed, and her power for good has ever been the admiration of the ages. The Taj Mahal, the most marvelously beautiful structure ever reared in honor of woman, was erected in recognition of her purity, wisdom and executive ability.

We do not know how rich in thought and expression, nor how voluminous were the literary productions of the very few women in the far past who could have prepared themselves for lasting work. To have been

preserved it had to meet the approbation of men through whose hands it passed. Whatever distinctively original was in it was necessarily expurgated and the masculine interpretation substituted. They always seemed to be fearing that if once woman's ideas were given liberty there would no longer be any power to restrain them from original work in any direction. They were right, but the fear of evil coming from woman's work is ill grounded. We do meet her death at the hands of a monk madly jealous of her undoubted fame, know that Hypatia, the philosopher, Her writings on philosophy, mathematics and astronomy were destroyed by the burning of the Alexandrian library by equally fanatic Mohammedans.

In sacred history we read that Miriam sang her song at the overthrow of the Egyptian army in the Red sea; that Deborah judged Israel acceptably; that Joel thrust the tent nail through the head of Lisera, and thus delivered her people from a common enemy; that Huldah, the prophetess, dwelling in the college at Jerusalem, was the mouth-piece of the Lord, when the law was restored at the time of Josiah, the king.

The influence of the conquering West over this people, the most enlightened of the times, was to seclude the women with even more strictness, so that when the queen wanted an audience with the king she also must await his royal pleasure.

Aside from the musical Greek and charming word pictures, who finds in Homer's Clypean tales more than a harmless amusement? We are quite willing men should wear the laurels of epics, rather than indulge in such hyperbolic flights of the imagination.

Had the writer of the scholarly paper with equal advantages been able to have entered the lists with Tacitus or some of his compeers, immortal with literary perfume, she could have won easily a still higher place for her undoubted better production.

To accept as conclusive of woman's capacity the work prior to the nineteenth century is as stupid as to reject the fact of an established republic, evolved from an absolute monarchy.

Such conclusions are as worthy of serious acceptance as would be the testimony of a witness, as to the interesting features of a landscape, who had seen it only in the dim outline of the early dawn, and persisted in keeping his eyes closed hours after the rising of the sun. We are told that women seem to be lacking in creative faculty. What is creative faculty? Does it evolve *de novo* a steam engine or an electric motor? Not at all. It is a single, simple idea put into practice, a desire to drink. How shall the water be conveyed from the stream to the mouth? One stooped and drank; another lifted it in his hand; the third used a shell; a fourth a broken gourd; and later some one hollowed a piece of wood, or molded the wet clay and left it to dry in the sun. In time one after another left his idea impressed upon the cup; until now we are presented with unlimited numbers from which to choose.

Tubal Cain fashioned rude, simple implements in hard metal. Man compelled by claims of hunger to supply himself and children with food used the clumsy tools his father left him. When he had an idea of improving then he tried it and if it was a good one it staid. The idea always came when he sought to shift the burden of labor from himself to the tool. He shaped his mind in iron and brass. His thoughts were visibly expressed. But the new ideas did come easily or rapidly. A child can count the original ones upon which the numerous variations are grafted. Woman's work was a daily repetition of household cares;

of food and clothing and the rearing of children. To suppose she did not have an original idea on any of these duties is indeed to think her a fool. She has ever been full of worthy suggestions on all questions which concern the welfare of the race. There is not a man living who has risen to prominence who is not indebted to some woman for just the right suggestion. She has furnished ideas, he has had time and opportunity to work them out. Is an idea chained in brass of more value than that which elevates the race?

Since women have taken to self-support and are getting a practical knowledge of mechanics, their ideas developed in wood and metal have multiplied rapidly.

I am not arguing that women are without failings. They are full of them as are men.

If she delights in dress and conforms to a harmful fashion, he finds no end of enjoyment in making smoke, and injuring his body, while no fad or fancy she ever indulges in is as debasing as his slavery to drink.

If the "indirect method" woman has of gaining her point is as circuitous as that of the politician, or the ambitious seeker after best places in any line, we shall all be delighted to know it.

It is simply an opinion when one asserts that it comes more naturally for a woman to deceive than a man, and quite likely the result of personal experience. It is not true that women are morally inferior to men. Even the essayist acknowledges that "knowledge is power." In no other condition of life do we see the great need of knowing of these things, so much as here. How could women know when they were not allowed to investigate. They have the chance now and they are uncovering with firm hands some of the vilest corruptions of the day. In the past it has been knowledge with passion, as against passion with ignorance. While Darwin theorizes that acquired habits are inherited and developed only in the sex in which they originated, Weissman asserts that the reproductive cell is uninfluenced by any condition in the life of the individual. Leaving this subtle point for scientists to settle, we observe in real life, among our own friends and relatives, many instances, where the daughter receives from her father her strongest traits of character, and the son from his mother. Woman's delicacy is inherent in the protoplasm of her organism. Purity is not retained through shrinking timidity or noisy demonstrations, but by simply not breaking moral laws.

Women are making such advancement in philanthropy, medicine, the sciences, literature, art, that they can never again be accused of not doing original work, and that, too, worthy of a master.

The nineteenth century man has just discovered that mental companionship is a requisite in wives! The women knew the necessity of it long ago, but no one is so stupid as he who will not believe. Had his mental capacity been emptied of conceit and filled with sense it would not have taken so long to have absorbed the simple idea. Now that it has come we hope for a speedy change in all relations of life, so that the two elements, masculine and feminine, may mingle in every line of thought and action. Then we will enjoy a higher grade of production in sciences, literature, art and manufacture. We may even hope for an unbiased opinion of the representative man or woman.



Program  OF  
**Children's Day**  
 .... **Entertainment**

GIVEN BY  
 The Social Committee of Womens Club  
 Wednesday, June 12, 1895.

CHAIRMEN.....  
 Mrs. Pleas. Mills  
 Mrs. W. E. Odell  
 Mrs. W. L. Read  
 Mrs. Carroll Wright.

::: Program

- 1 CHORUS—*a* Wake, Wake.  
                   *b* Beautiful River.
- 2 TRIO—Two Violins and Piano                   *Playel*  
           Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel.
- 3 DANCE—"The Three Graces"  
           Misses Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones.
- 4 LILY DRILL  
           Pupils from Irving School.
- 5 GAVOTTE—Violin and Piano                   *Bach*  
           Miss Blanche Thiel.
- 6 BOYS' DOUBLE QUARTETTE—*a* Pull Away.  
                                                   *b* Waltz Song.  
           Irving School.

....Second Part

- 1 MAZURKA—Violin and Piano                   *De muth*  
                   Reuben Thiel.
- 2 RECITATION  
           Mary Failor.
- 3 BUTTERFLY DANCE  
           Margaret Mills.
- 4 SONG—"Little Alabama Coon"  
           Miss Vera Nelson.
- 5 DUET  
           Misses Olive and Blanche Thiel.
- 6 RIBBON DRILL  
           Girls from Cooper School.



CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT.

The Children's Day entertainment given by the social committee of the Woman's Club yesterday afternoon began auspiciously, with a goodly attendance of the club members, their friends and the children. The children's dainty summer gowns brightening the auditorium in Crocker Woods, from the stage of which the programme was given, produced a pretty effect. Before the close of the fourth number black, threatening clouds, the swash of the river along the banks, and the roar of high winds, came near breaking up the assemblage. The opening number was a chorus of eighteen girls and boys from the eighth grade of the public schools, in two parts—(a) "Wake, Wake!" (b) "Beautiful River," a trio, two violins and piano, by three little children, Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel, came next, followed by a dance, "The Three Graces," by Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones, in girlish blue and white dresses. The lily drill, by ten girls, from Irving school, gowned in white and waving stalks of Easter lilies, was lost on most of the audience in the fright occasioned by the storm, but the programme was continued without interruption, a gavotte on violin by Blanche Thiel, with piano accompaniment, and two songs, (a) "Pull Away," and (b) waltz song, by a double quartette of boys from Irving school, closing the first part. Part second was hurried through without waits. After a mazurka, violin and piano by Reuben Thiel, Little Margaret Mills, in a pale yellow dress, went through a graceful butterfly dance, some of her efforts being quite difficult and very pretty. Miss Vera Nelson sang "Little Alabama Coon;" Misses Olive and Blanche Thiel gave a pleasing duet, and the last number was a neat ribbon drill by girls from Cooper school.

Throughout, the young persons taking part did so to their credit, and it was regretted that the rain, which was of brief duration, drove so many homeward before the close of the entertainment.

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING.

The last meeting of the Des Moines Women's club until next September will be held at Crocker Woods Wednesday, June 12, at 3 o'clock. It is under the direction of the social committee, who have planned to make this a children's day. Members of the club are expected to bring their children and ladies and children receiving personal invitations from club members will be welcome. Take either the Ninth or Sixth avenue car lines. The following programme will be given in the auditorium.

Chorus .....  
.....a. Wake, Wake; b. Beautiful River  
Trio—Two violins and piano .....  
.....Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel  
Dance—"The Three Graces" .....  
.....Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones  
Lilly drill ..... Pupils from Irving school  
Gavotte—Violin and piano .....  
.....Blanche Thiel  
Boys' double quartette .....  
.....a. Pull Away; b. Waltz song, Irving school  
Recitation ..... Mary Failor  
Butterfly dnace ..... Margaret Mills  
Mazurka—Violin and piano .....  
.....Reuben Thiel  
Song—Little Alabama Coon .....  
.....Vera Nelson  
Duet for two violins .....  
.....Olive and Blanche Thiel  
Ribbon drill .....  
.....Girls from Cooper school

Children's Club Day.

The social day of the Women's Club which was held at Crocker Woods and to which the children were invited, was a complete success. Mrs. Pleas Mills, chairman of the social committee, worked untiringly to make the day complete, and was rewarded with seeing a large attendance of both members and children and of having carried out a successful programme. The little people were wildly delighted to be invited out with their mammas and made the air ring with laughter, clapping of hands and joyous song. It is impossible to always take the children along and it was a happy thought on the part of the committee to arrange this day for them.

The theater had been arranged for the meeting, and the little folks who presented the progame seemed such very little people on the far off stage. Miss Morton and Mrs. H. R. Reynolds assisted in getting the children ready and drilling them, and inasmuch as this was the first club programme ever given by the children it is published in full:

Chorus { a. "Wake, Wake."  
          b. "Beautiful River."  
Trio—Two violins and a piano ..... Played  
          Olive, Blanche and Reuben Thiel.  
Dance—"The Three Graces" .....  
          Nellie Willis, Meta and Lottie Jones.  
Lily Drill ..... Pupils from Irving School  
Gavotte—Violin and Piano ..... Bach  
          Miss Blanche Thiel.  
Boys' Double Drill { a. "Pull Aaway."  
                          b. "Waltz Song."  
Mazurka—Violin and piano ..... Demuth  
          Reuben Thiel.  
Recitation ..... Mary Failor  
Butterfly Dance ..... Margaret Mills  
Song—"Little Alabama Coon" .....  
          Miss Vera Nelson.  
Duet ..... Misses Olive and Blanche Thiel.  
Ribbon Drill ..... Girls from Cooper School  
A storm early in the afternoon almost scattered the audience before the programme could be completed, but those who did stay enjoyed it to the last. This is the final meeting of the club this season.



## DES MOINES WOMEN

Who Constitute the Membership of the Des Moines Women's Club,

Hold a Very Interesting Meeting Which Opens the Club for the Year.

One of the most auspicious gatherings of the early fall was that at the parlors of the Central Church of Christ yesterday. The occasion was the opening of the Des Moines Women's club and the afternoon was a combined social and literary one. On entering the church the eye was charmed by the sight of numerous tea tables spread with the whitest and finest of linen and each supplied with a handsome tea set in silver, brass and china. They were presided over by the fairest of the younger members and the hands of the clock, which never do slow up a little bit, were at half-past three ere this pleasant part of the afternoon was closed to listen to the opening exercises.

Very few of the people of this city fully realize to what extent this club is of importance to the life of the city. It is composed of the very cream of the culture and refinement among the ladies of Des Moines and they are not, as many suppose, given alone to literary culture, but are earnestly seeking to advance the interests and welfare of the city.

Officers' day is always considered of great importance and the attendance yesterday demonstrated the high esteem in which the retiring officers and the officers elect are held by the members. It was a tender parting and a happy greeting closely knit together that touched the hearts of all on yesterday. Mrs. E. R. Clapp very gracefully and in words strongly commendatory of the treatment she had received during her term of presiding, and with many words of thanks to the chairmen of committees and to the committees as a whole introduced the new president of the club. Among other good things Mrs. Clapp said:

Mrs. Mary E. Mumford, our general federation vice president, says "there are indications that the day of purely literary work in our clubs is passing by. Women are no longer content with the simple informing of their minds in literature, in science and history. They are going to talk up. They are now investigating governmental order and social questions, and after awhile they are coming into the kingdom, the kingdom of moral force, and this force they are going to exercise first in the little circles of their own towns; second, in the affairs of the commonwealth; third, in the questions which agitate the country at large. We are already a club with a high purpose outside of our literary ambitions, and are willing, I think, to eschew municipal and state affairs, until that is not accomplished, perhaps, but well under way. In the meantime let us cultivate the 'democracy of intellect' that Kate Upson Clarke told us about at the general federation, and we will be ready for whatever comes. I shall always think of the past year as one dear to my heart and in presenting our new president. I can only ask for her the same generous sympathy and kindly forbearance you have always shown me. May this be the most successful year the Des Moines Women's club has ever known. Allow me to present our president, Mrs. Lowry W. Goode.

Mrs. Goode, in a very clear and distinct voice, addressed the ladies of the club briefly, but in well chosen words, thanking them for the honor and asking their hearty co-operation.

Mrs. Dr. Carter, who has efficiently served in the capacity of secretary for a number of terms, on retiring from office spoke very kindly of the generous treatment she had received and at the same time pointed out to them in words witty and wise some of the needless work that carelessness on the part of the members caused a secretary. Mrs. Carter's reports have been works of art and she stands one of the most highly esteemed members of the club. She introduced Mrs. A. B. Morse who takes the secretary's chair.

The report of the historian, Mrs. Judge Day, was excellent and was listened to with great interest. The paper was very witty and consisted of a concise history of every action of the club the past year and bright sketches of several of its members. She gave a detailed account of the purchase of the pieces which were to be the nucleus for the art collection, Joan d'Arc and Diana. The events of the year in a special way were the receptions given by Mrs. Potter for Miss May Rogers of Dubuque, Mrs. Harry West in honor of Lorado Taft, Mrs. Byers at the Iliad to display the beautiful paintings gathered during travels abroad and Mrs. Windsor in honor of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

A letter was read from Mrs. Frederick Field presenting the picture—a copy of one of Corot's landscapes—which she gave as a personal tribute to the club and the art gallery that all are assured will soon be established. Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley happily addressed the club congratulating them upon being the recipient of such a handsome gift and in the name of the club thanking Mrs. Field. "The acceptance of this gift creates within us a stronger desire to carry out our plans in regard to an art gallery for the city. This, our first contribution, will be prized not alone for its intrinsic value, but for the loved associations as well."

The remainder of the afternoon was spent in discussing the possibility, probability and advisability of entering at once upon a plan to secure a building for a club house and art gallery. Mesdames A. B. Cummins, L. B. Abbill, James Windsor, A. B. Morse, R. R. Peters, James G. Berryhill and Callanan were called upon to give their opinions, which they did.

The matter of a club house which will be a credit to the city and a home for the club was argued by many, while others thought rooms could be secured for the present that would answer the purpose until more money was in sight. The question was left to be thought over and talked over at succeeding meetings.

The setting sun witnessed the closing of a happy and well spent afternoon.

## MRS. GOODE'S ADDRESS.

Sept. 20, 1894

Mrs. Lowry Goode is the newly-elected president of the Des Moines Women's club. The following excellent address was made by her at the installation of officers at last Wednesday's meeting:

Mrs. President and Ladies: I must still address the president, for I hardly feel yet that her mantle of authority has fallen upon my shoulders. I can scarcely summon courage to stand before you after your warm greeting, for it makes me both grateful and confused, and you know that a woman can never entertain more than one great emotion at once.

While overcome with grateful feelings and before I become too much confused, let me thank the members of the club for this unexpected honor.

It came to me with all the weird fancy of a dream and woke me with its weight of responsibility. Was I plunging into a new sphere, and had I heretofore shown evidences of a strong minded, aggressive nature, a typical club woman, possibly an "end of the century" woman? Surely not. Could I then aspire to leadership? I am sure I do not know where my conclusions would have led me had not something brought to my mind the former presidents of the club—a group of eight gentle, quiet, domestic women and mothers, embodying in their womanly natures not the least hint of a strong minded aggressiveness, but possessing qualities of mind and heart the most timid and domestic one might well imitate. Each one in turn has stamped upon the records of the club her own individuality, and broadened its scope, giving to us higher ideals of womanly character. But in no way has there been the least tendency toward that unpopular aggressiveness that is commonly attributed to the "new woman." So I concluded that the "new woman," she who has all the freedom if not all the wisdom of the end of the century, is not exactly our club's ideal woman. But I believe the Women's club, with its influence for a high and liberal culture, will broaden her character in proportion to her liberties; strengthen her mind, and cultivate in her withal a higher domesticity.

We should congratulate ourselves that our large and conservative membership embraces all the charming ideas of the demure, domestic home keeper, the exactness of the teacher, the push and enterprise of the woman of business, and the aggressive dash of the modern reformer. All working together with the harmony of music. Here we all come together, hob-nobbing with every hobby without the least ruffle of our feathers. It is a "grown up" public school and gives us the same needed discipline. Women especially, from the natural retirement of the home, need the peculiar views and beliefs of all sorts of people to broaden our minds and give us a knowledge of character. Without this we are apt to be uncharitable, judging other's honest views and efforts by our own narrow ideas. A charitable attitude toward others is so important in the club—would we undertake any great work—that I would emphasize it above every other virtue. Nothing will hold such a large, influential body as this together, to act as one mind, if we have not within us a high degree of Christian charity. Men acquire it in their every-day business relations. But we women rarely get it even by travel, or by years of miscellaneous reading. An uncharitable one will stand aloof from this "new movement of women," fortify herself within her sphere of four walls, with her cares and burdens, and conscientiously feel she is in her sphere doing her duty. Could she not with profit enter this school of ideas, open her heart to its influences and receive higher, broader thoughts; giving an impulse and glow of color to quiet domestic work for home and children? A stronger mind filled with happier thoughts, making a duty a pleasure, and her home and children her paradise.

Women are bound to move on. The four angular walls of home can never make a perfectly rounded sphere, no more than four angles make a circle. Just how far this new movement is going to extend and modify her character, her emotions and her peculiar sex refinement and delicacy is a question that is puzzling all who have given it thought.

We Americans are apt to consider it largely a local result due to agitation or American chivalry. But it is so vast and widespread, and yet so far apart in the world, as to indicate one of these great waves which marks the formative efforts of nature, whether in the change of man, of animals or in a continent.

But does anyone believe we will be anything but women after all this great wave of progression has passed over our heads. Sweeping some of us away out at sea, and out of our womanly spheres. If some do lose their sex refinement and are disagreeably transformed in character, may they not be the white caps that mount to the top of every great wave, only to fall back in foam and be taken by the undertow back to equilibrium? In all great changes the tendency is to swing away beyond like a pendulum, then fall back to a point always higher than the start. Let us hope to retain our womanly natures freed from all that is weak and trifling because we are women. To maintain high social qualities and grow strong as men in character and purpose, and in qualities of mind and heart. To be earnest, helpful and sympathetic, equals of brothers or husbands. Fitted by education and training to take up a life work that shall have the fullness of a sphere wherever and whatever it may be. The fullness of life for man or woman is in filling out life's angles by touching up and adding luster to every dormant faculty. Then will the sphere be encircled by the curbed line of beauty.

In the Catherine Lorillard collection of

paintings in New York is a dainty breath of fancy. A fairy angel flitting from star to star as evening comes on, touching each one with her lovely finger tips. And, as she touches, each one sparkles forth in the sky with its full evening radiance. Some of you have seen it and no doubt have gone back a second and a third time to study it again. So would I have the soul of woman touch with dainty finger tips each dull unseen gift she has, and as each is touched, lo! it will sparkle out a lovely radiant star.

Shall I propose a toast—what else could claim my tongue but the dream of our club, and the tender fancy of our fathers and brothers, husbands and lovers—our hope, our aspiration, "The Ideal Woman." Wherever she may be, may we one day find her to en-throne in our club home.

"Over the mountains of the moon  
By the valley of the shadow."  
all that our fancy paints her. How graceful and charming she comes into our dreams, like the spirit of a long ago perfection. Dainty as a cape jessamine. "A creature so bright and fair, the same lips and eyes she wears on earth, would serve in paradise." Is she dark or fair, has she golden locks or chestnut hair?  
Is she Perl, angel, nymph or sprite,  
Is she laughing, sober, placid or an intellect of light?

Is she plain or dazzling beauty, musical—  
But I see you smile at this flight of fancy. You can't paint the stuff that dreams are made of, nor can you weave a tea-gown out of the sheer threads of an autumn mist. But you long for her soft, sweet ways and refinement of manner. She is to you the acme of womanly perfection. You know she could if she would take her place in the world with a decision and energy that would insure success, yet without a sacrifice of a single trait of her sweet, tender, womanly character.

You see her a guiding star in her religious work, ministering to the weary who know not the way to rest. You see her soaring into the farthest realms of thought in literature and science. She is progress, but progress refined and made delicate and freed from roughness. She is all to you and more than words of mine can paint her, for she is the "Ideal Woman."

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Oct. 10, 1894  
During the last year's work in the Women's club only three chairmen of committees illustrated their programs. One could scarcely have an art afternoon and not have it illustrated, but no one expected the rich treat in store yesterday at the regular meeting. Mrs. J. A. Jackson and her efficient committee believing that to study art successfully one must be in an artistic atmosphere and before great artists, arranged an art studio beautiful in the extreme. From the best collections of artists and art connoisseurs in the city they had brought rich draperies, beautiful paintings, graceful tapestry work, handsome and dainty bric-a-brac, magnificent bronzes and works in marble, and with the taste of true artists arranged all into a most picturesque studio. One could easily imagine himself in the retreat of a true artist.

Mrs. Clark of the Current Topics committee introduced Mrs. Lafayette Young, who read an interesting paper on the leading events of the past few months. Mrs. Young touched upon the Oriental War, Chaining of Niagara, Bullet Proof Cloth, Fifty-third Congress, Woman's Suffrage as being the fashion in New York and the Art Institute in Chicago. The paper was well prepared and well read.

Mrs. J. A. Jackson then announced the first number on her program—the reading of a letter from Miss Mary McClelland by Mrs. Hal Howell. Miss McClelland in her letter gave a discussion of the "Salons of Paris in 1894," and pictured the trouble between the factions, one contending for the new salon, the other for the old. She presented many ideas concerning some of the famous paintings and painters now in Paris.

Mrs. Thummell, but recently returned from abroad, in an entertaining ten minute talk told of the interesting things concern-



ing German art and the Munich galleries. The speech was delightful, not alone on account of interesting subject matter, but the ready language, the distinct enunciation, the composure of the speaker made the few moments most pleasant ones.

Mrs. J. K. Macomber in her usual entertaining way talked for a short time entirely without notes, on the general subject of art and, as she always does thoroughly awakened each listener and poured into their willing ears many bright and witty sayings on that much discussed matter.

Mrs. Jackson read a letter from Mrs. Henry Wallace written from Dublin. Among other items interesting to the club members was the statement that she had purchased for the club a valuable work of art.

The club historian cannot say too much regarding the program of yesterday nor compliment the committee too greatly for their most excellent work.

#### THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

"Technical and Liberal Education" was discussed yesterday afternoon at the parlors of the Central Christian church, the usual place of meeting. The attendance was large. Mrs. J. B. Hutton having charge of current topics introduced Mrs. Henry Wallace, who has just returned from Europe. She read a paper on Sir Frederick Leighton, the artist. She told of her visit to the art galleries of Europe, and the pictures of Leighton in the Royal Art gallery. The two pictures which attracted Mrs. Wallace most were "The Spirit of the Summit" and "Summer Slumber." She wrote to Sir Kredine to ask which he considered the best and received an invitation to visit his home and see his paintings. Mrs. Wallace gave a description of his beautiful home. He owns many masterpieces by renowned artists. He gave to Mrs. Wallace his photograph, which she has had painted, and yesterday presented to the club which will help along their collection of paintings. It being "Education" day, Miss Olive McHenry, chairman of the committee presented the subject for discussion, "Should Education Aim to Develop Symmetrically all the Faculties?" Mrs. Spiney sent paper (being out of the city) and Miss Evans read it. Mrs. Spiney taking the affirmative, and advocates a liberal education. Miss Carrie L. Hubbard argued for a technical education—if we cannot find minds always to suit systems, we must adopt an educational system to suit the mind. Miss Jennie B. Baylies was on the negative side. She was glad the individuality of the child was being studied. Mrs. Mary Potter Dart closed the discussion for the affirmative. In educating the child, two things must be taught—to reverence old age and to be virtuous. His books must be three: the book of nature, the book of man and the book of God. Mrs. J. A. Jackson believed in a liberal education. Mrs. W. F. Thummel believed in both general and specific cultivation of the mind. Mrs. Berryhill held that a mean between the two extremes is the correct thing. Miss McHenry closed the discussion for the afternoon.

At the Women's club on Wednesday afternoon Mrs. H. O. Breeden had charge of the current topics and introduced Mrs. Fred Lehman, who read a comprehensive paper on various things of interest in the national government, touching especially upon the recent issue of government bonds. She also spoke of the president's message, General Booth and the death of Rubenstein. Mrs. J. O. Cummins touched upon the recent federation of clubs in New York and other important matters in the east. Mrs. Stewart Goodrell read a paper which was filled with valuable information. Mrs. Van Slyke and Miss Elizabeth Matthews had charge of the program for the afternoon, the subject being under the head of miscellaneous topics, "Royal Institute of France." Mrs. S. B. Maxwell opened the discussion of this interesting subject with a most excellent paper, and was followed by Mrs. A. B. Cummins, Miss Elizabeth Matthews, Mrs. L. F. Andrews and Mrs. J. H. Windsor. The afternoon was a very profitable one and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

## AS TO SACRED MUSIC

### The Women's Club Discusses This Very Important

Jan. 20. Topic. 1895.

### The Principal Paper Was by Mrs. H. K. Love—Miss Chambers Sang.

The Women's club held an unusually interesting meeting yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Berryhill gave a report of the meeting of the board of the National Federation of Clubs at St. Louis and complimented that city very highly upon the hospitality shown the visitors. Mrs. Ella Hamilton Durley, as a topic of current interest, gave a resume of the trouble in Armenia, which was concise and instructive.

The music committee had charge of the afternoon and their chairman, Mrs. J. C. Macy, addressed the club in original poetry, wishing them a happy New Year. Mrs. H. K. Love was introduced and read an intensely interesting paper upon "The Influence of Sacred Music on the Community. Among other good things she said:

"Since the morning stars sang together and the sons of God shouted for joy, music has held a supreme place in the world. In all the ages and in every country it has been one of the chief expressions of reverence and religion. No race so ignorant, no race so savage and no people so cultivated as not in some form to have invoked the power of tone and rhythm in their supplications to a mysterious and invisible power. In proportion as nations are civilized and spiritualized their music becomes more and more the medium of higher ideals of thought, become more comprehensive in character and interpretation until moving down the ages we have its culmination in the grand oratories which are the perfection of devotion and spiritual elevation dedicated to the worship of Almighty God." The speaker gave a short history of some famous old songs of the scripture.

"Christianity owes much of its power and influence to the hymns of the inspired writers from the beginning of the Christian era up to the present day. A verse may find him whom a sermon flies from the lips of 'Now I lay me down to sleep' to the chanting of the 'Munc D' mithis' from the cradle to the grave Christian poetry has a great influence over our lives. At a convention a few years since George Miln, the agnostic, said that one of the strongholds of the church was its religious poetry, and that agnosticism must have its hymns before it can make great progress in the affection of men, but, alas! What can inspire an atheistic hymn? Will it be sung in praise of the Almighty Molecule? Will it be an inscription to acids and salts? Will men renew their energies for life's battle by chanting a dirge to the eternal sleep of the soul? Is it not rather the sacred hymns of the ages, the hymns that are associated with all the phases of human existence that turn our hearts to Almighty God in the hours of supreme joy and happiness, in the hours of trial, warfare and defeat, that renew our soul and urge us to the accomplishment of higher purposes and ideals in this life? Mrs. Love spoke

feelingly of the hymns learned in childhood.

Matthew Arnold was fond of the hymn 'When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died,' and repeated the hymn ten minutes before he died. In relating this the speaker paused while Mrs. Meta Hills-MacRae sang one verse of that hymn very sweetly.

"When warriors return in triumph, the inspiring notes of the bugle are heard before the tramping of feet. In every civic parade the soul is stirred by the band's thrilling music. Every festive occasion has its music. The bridal procession is heralded by the wedding march. Home is made brighter and sweeter by music's cheering sounds. Joy is augmented, sorrow soothed and chastened and our souls are lifted up beyond this world into a brighter sphere—thoughts are turned to heavenly scenes and we are exalted, uplifted, purified.

"All our churches need arousing on the subject of sacred music. We are unmindful of the power that is latent here. A power which, if fully evoked, would empty our saloons, fill our churches and make us strong in God and the power of his might. Let us then use our influence to place good music where it can be heard by the masses, for it will do more to raise the conditions of society than all else combined. It is not the ravishing strains of the waltz, the opera, or orchestra that will help us to bear our burdens and sorrows or sooth us across that vale of shadows which all must pass alone, but the sustaining words of such hymns as 'Just as I Am Without One Plea,' 'Abide With Me,' and 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul.' Therefore, let us cultivate not only in ourselves but in all around us, in the community in which we live—the love, reverence, the honor which is due to sacred music."

Mrs. Walter McCain sang a sweet lullaby and was followed by Mrs. Ernest Brown in a paper on "Cradle Songs."

"Every country has its songs of love, its songs of war and its songs of patriotism that are characteristic of the marked traits of its people." Mrs. Brown gave some interesting sketches of cradle songs of the present and olden times and touched the hearts of all present by many little incidents of child life.

The program was concluded by a solo by Miss Marie Chambers.

## SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

### "Scandinavia" Topic for Discussion at Women's

Jan. 16. Club. 1895.

### Many Interesting Papers—The Land of the Midnight Sun.

Mrs. Emma W. Whisenand is to be congratulated upon the success of the program at the Women's club yesterday afternoon, and upon the fine conception of the subject. It is rather hard to follow up a musical program with a history afternoon, but the committee made a great deal out of the program and removed the dread many had of hearing dry, historical facts. The program was interesting from the first

number to the last. The Scandinavian peninsula and its history is full of interest.

The program opened with a splendid paper upon the Eddas by Mrs. Harriet E. Walker. The old Eddas of Iceland played an important part in the history of our country, and from that time until the present, have been filled with great interest and historical facts. Many of the legends of the country are recorded in these.

Mrs. Alice Bailey, without notes, spoke of Olaf. There are several Olafs in the history of Scandinavia, but the one Olaf, the Christian, the man of high aims and great power was the subject of the ten-minute talk. Olaf in 990 embraced Christianity and made a heroic effort to induce his subjects to follow his example. Mrs. Bailey talked with ease of the life of this wonderful man, giving much of his childhood history. In childhood he was noted for his great beauty which often caused him great annoyance. Olaf became a great leader; he was an orator, a poet and a song writer. He was a man of influence.

Mrs. Sarah P. Clark in a well written paper told briefly of the life and influence of Gustavus Adolphus. One charm aside from the interesting subject matter was the splendid manner in which it was read. This also characterized the paper by Mrs. Carter which followed.

Mrs. Amanda S. Carter read an excellent paper on "The Political Outlook." The efforts being made to separate Norway and Sweden is claiming world wide attention. Mrs. Carter's paper showed careful study and most profound thought. She set forth the claims of each country and the result likely to follow if either plan were followed. Each country claims for itself the greatest honor. The present king, Oscar II, is a generous, free hearted, highly cultured gentleman, and is well liked by all his subjects. The outcome of the discussion or the "war of words" will be studied with interest by all students of current history.

Mrs. J. W. Vail than whom no one is better known or could draw a larger audience in Des Moines, told in a most pleasing address the story of a journey to the land of the midnight sun. A synopsis of her talk is not doing justice to the lady herself. She said in beginning her address, that she had been asked so many questions that she would attempt to answer them just as she would do if talking to her friends individually. Miss Vail is all that goes to make up an interesting speaker, bright, graceful, eloquent, possessing a wonderful vocabulary and an easy flow of language, thoughtful and intensely earnest, she at once attracts and holds her auditors. Starting from northern Germany, she, in company with a very large circle of friends, had the pleasure of a trip to North Cape, a journey of eight days. The journey, as you would easily know, was full of interest. The steamer gave the tourists every advantage possible and they were able to gather a great many facts concerning the country. Many have mistaken ideas concerning the means of travel in that region. Mrs. Vail assured them that they had every comfort they desired. One amusing incident she told which occurred when they crossed the Arctic circle. According to custom, the young people were to jump over a rope simultaneously with the booming of cannon. It is unnecessary to say they all jumped. They witnessed many times the blazing sun at midnight, which seems to hang about two yards above the horizon and then start up again on its journey never in all the twenty-four



Capital  
hours failing to shine brightly upon the country they visited. At the highest point of North Cape Mrs. Vail drank the toast, as is the custom with all the tourists.

The club tendered Mrs. Vail a hearty vote of thanks for her excellent address.

## ART AT WOMEN'S CLUB

Mrs. H. C. Potter and Efficient Committee Present Artistic Program.

Mrs. Mary Chase West Reads an Excellent Paper on "Modern Painters."

"Striving for Perfection" seems to be the motto of the various committees of the Woman's club. Each club day the opinion is that never was so interesting and edifying a program presented as at that particular meeting. Mrs. H. C. Potter, chairman of the art committee, presented a program yesterday afternoon which will require effort to eclipse. The platform and the entire front part of the room was transformed into an ideal conservatory. Here was represented a niche from a palace garden. A dozen or more pieces of white statue were placed in a bowery of palms, and most beautiful they were. Such an artistic atmosphere was created that the large audience, whether artists, art connoisseurs or lovers of art were in just the right mood to listen to the excellent paper on "Modern Painters and the Renaissance." Mrs. Potter said in introducing Mrs. Mary Chase West that "the love of the beautiful was innate in all nations and it is a problem just who made the first contribution to art."

Mrs. West began her carefully prepared paper by the statement: "We believe modern painting to be the child of this evolution, expressing the thought of its age, and if that thought be revolutionary and material, its reflection will be but a reflection of the thought. The isms of the times have been felt in painting as in literature. We hear from every side the cry of materialism, realism, impressionism and art in decadence until we are almost persuaded the age of good painting is past. There are modern painters who remind us of the old masters' works, yet artists of today can no more clothe in form the religious beliefs of those times than they can paint holy families or see visions of St. Francis, because faith is wanting. To produce an era in painting like that of the past the world must again be plunged into the depths of the dark ages. In looking for a cause for the wonderful exhibition of splendor, richness, beauty, and spirituality seen in the works of the old masters, we find the age ripe for religious expression the power of church over state. Artists encouraged by the Pope labored patiently, and heroically with religious fervor and enthusiasm giving no thought to time or remuneration for services. They thought to portray the superstitions of their belief. Does it seem strange, that in a spirit of glorified vision were brought forth soul paintings that were never reproduced? Is it not the belief

in a cause that produces the greatness of the effect whether it be spiritual or material?"

In this particular the speaker touched upon Fra Angelico, Raphael and Muirillo and the beauty and spirituality of their Madonnas, and Michael Angelo. After Angelo painting and sculpture became separated and color fills the artists' horizon. Color and great beauty became their ideal. The paper continued by giving a complete resume of the different effects on art of the various stages of evolution in Europe. With discriminating taste the reader told of the prominent painters, their followers and their successors. "In Corot," she said, "we find nature made rhythmic; he poetizes the slightest stretch of sward, sky and tree. The secret of Corot's success is his use of what is known as values. Rembrandt told all that a golden ray falling through a darkened room awakens in a visionary brain, and Corot all that the gray light of morning and evening whispers in the pensive mind of the poet."

As regards impressionism, she said: "Claude Monet demonstrated light to be the most important faction in outdoor painting, and impressionism, as it now is, was instantly recognized. Every true picture possesses impressionism. The impressionist sacrifices evident truths (of surface texture and things easily seen) to create an impression of a peculiar harmony of colors, which is revealed to his inner conscience and becomes personal."

The paper was long and comprehensive and it would be impossible in a condensed review to give all the lines of thought. Referring to American art Mrs. West said: "American art a few years ago was in its infancy; artists were obliged to seek instruction elsewhere, today they are returning well skilled in the principles of art, but with foreign ideas and methods. When American artists cease to be influenced by foreign thought and become truly national in spirit, they may look for an artistic period, for genius and originality are traits common to American people and must have their expression. The rapid growth of painting in America and the number of really great landscape painter is remarkable, it having been rumored we come nearer having a school of landscape painting in America than elsewhere. America has just reason to be proud of such painters as Sargent, Dewing and many others who are not inferior to modern painters in their handling of color."

"What the future of art may be is a difficult problem. We have seen, with the superstitions of belief passing away, that painting is ever changing with the thought of the age. This evolution will continue until its errors are uncovered and destroyed. The desire for truth at the present time is reflected in painting as realism, evident truths, while impressionism is a revelation of obscure truths. History repeating itself we are again returning in the process of evolution to the painting of the old masters carrying with us new truths. The painter of today is studying effects, and when these become unconsciously attained through an understanding of the cause, the painter's imagination will again be free. The discovery of Monet effected a revolution in painting and another revolution will be a return to the idea. As new truths are coming to light, the painter will catch the thought of his age and produce the marvelous results." The paper closed amid hearty applause and the audience felt that it had been highly entertained and instructed.

Mrs. Addie Billington recited a beautiful poem of her own writing on "Art," which received much favorable

comment.

Mrs. Stewart Goodrell impersonated "Hellas" and brought to the club and art committee greetings from the Grecian art world.

Mrs. Jay K. Macomber occupied the current topic time in an animated talk upon the present, past and future of the club, giving some gentle hints concerning the proportionment of members on committee work and some good advice to be followed at the next annual meeting.

Aside from the paper the really attractive feature of the afternoon was the exhibition in moulding given by Professor Baldwin. Taking the clay and what was apparently but a few sticks, he builded and moulded a classic head. This object lesson was a source of benefit to the club and Professor Baldwin was tendered a hearty vote of thanks.

Major and Mrs. Byers most kindly loaned a number of their antiques for exhibition.

FEBRUARY 28, 1895.

## THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

The fate of the purpose novel hangs in the balance. A short period of time will decide whether it has come to stay or whether the reading world will turn away from the book and its influence. Mrs. W. E. Ballard, who is an earnest thinker and who weighs carefully her own opinions and those of other people, read a carefully prepared paper upon the subject yesterday before the Woman's club. "How far imaginative literature influences the age in which it lives is a source of curious inquiry," she said. "Indeed, so prominent a place has the question held through many years in the curriculum of popular discussion that one might easily be forgiven for believing the theme well nigh exhausted. But on the contrary so much of freshness, crispness, suggestiveness has characterized the opinions that year by year have appeared regarding it that they simply invite a repetition of the query, and thus has the question revolved on its axis of time propelled by the motor of public opinion which like a veritable Penelope weaves and unravels her literary fabric. Leaving traces in the web as it unfolds, which remains to vary the form and character and hence influence and value of the creations which are sure to follow—for each generation (history has conclusively proven to us) has its own literature as it has its own law."

The novel has traveled far from its original source; has emerged from forests where Robin Hood and Friar Tuck plied their trades; straying far from Arcadia's shores, where prince and princess sang their lives away in idle contentment. It has dispelled the scented moonlight in which Edwin and Angelina declared their eternal constancy, and today it stands forth in the clear, strong sunshine of life. No longer a source of amusement, but grown a power.

Of all the novel children the most precocious and least bidable is the youngest, the daughter with a purpose, with all the vigor and independence of the nineteenth century which gave her birth.

By her dauntless courage, freedom of speech and denial of limitation has this daughter of purpose called down on the heads of the entire novel family a volley of notice and criticism unprecedented.

Mrs. Ballard thinks the purpose novel more ancient and honored than at first appears. During her paper she mentions most of the good writers of such novels. Charles Dickens, "whose magnetic pen through the medium of

purpose novels has wrought so many reforms—so much educational progress and engendered much widespread interest in the poor and unfortunate, held a pen that at every stroke could call forth a smile or a tear. Every shadow that swept the brows of his train of children brought through sympathy, inspired floods of sunlight into many a real darkened home."

Mrs. Ballard touched upon the subject of French novels of which she said: "Perhaps no country could with more profit, apply the winnowing process to its fiction than France; its chaff thrown away, its wheat preserved. For it has wheat and that of best quality. But we will only pause to note the great masterpieces of the great master, Victor Hugo, 'Les Miserables' the greatest of all purpose novels. So broad a survey of life does it take that, like love, in taking up the harp of life, it smote on all the chords at once."

"There are many social questions of which the general world should not remain in ignorance. None but the children of paradise enjoy the privilege of the stars, to dwell apart. The children of earth, no matter how tenderly guarded, must pass the dangerous shoals and rocks amid life's storms. The cup of temptation, which precedes that of sorrow, must sooner or later be offered to all, and for the love of God and care of his creatures, no stone of truth or enlightenment should be left unturned."

"One of the greatest thinkers of our day said: 'That life itself is a moral lesson and, as the novel, is but a reflection of life, it must be perfect, contain distinct moral element.' Lowell believed that 'nowhere today was a master hand as needed as in the novel world. An artist as it were, who, with soul in hand, would take up this instrument so powerful for good (as well as evil), and unbiased by thought for gain, group and portray human lives, combining as far as possible the imagination and social philosophy, laying bare innermost souls, pushing aside with delicate but impressive touch the screens which hide pitfalls and closets containing skeletons, untying knots which bind their lives."

"When this deed is done for mankind 'thro the broad earth's aching breast runs a thrill of joy prophetic, trembling on from east to west and the slave wherever cowered, will feel the soul within him climb to the awful verge of manhood as the energy sublime of a century bursts full blossomed on the stormy stem of time," and humanity is worth our loving. "The cause that lacks assistance, the wrong that lacks resistance and the good that we can do," and I doubt not through the ages one unceasing purpose runs. Thus the minds of men are broadened with each setting of the sun."

## THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

Mar. 13, 1895.  
Elect Directors and Delegates to the State Federation.

The Des Moines Women's Club held its annual business meeting at the Central Christian church yesterday afternoon. The first thing considered was a club home, but no conclusion was reached. The present committee, Mesdames Walker, Goodrell and Warfield, was continued, with instructions to still continue their efforts on that line. The club elected as delegates to the first biennial convention of the state federation of clubs, which meets at Cedar Rapids, May 8 and 9, Mrs. E. H. Carter, and as alternate, Mrs. J. C. Cummins.

The president, Mrs. Goode, is a delegate by reason of office, and Mrs. W. H. Bailey was elected her alternate. Mrs. Berryhill, state president of the



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federation, gave a short talk explaining the character of the coming meeting, and invited the members of federated clubs to be present if possible. Mrs. Henrotin of Chicago, president of the general federation, is to be there and give an address. A motion was carried that the club members choose the committee upon which they are to serve next year.

Of course each member is expected to make known her preference in order that the chairman may be guided thereby as far as practicable. A motion to raise the club dues and initiation fee was lost. The board of directors for the coming year was announced and consists of the following named ladies: Mesdames L. B. Abdill, J. G. Berryhill, E. H. Carter, J. C. Cummins, P. H. Durley, B. F. Elbert, L. W. Goode, J. H. Macomber, A. B. Morse, R. A. Patchin, H. C. Potter, T. M. Walker, W. H. Bailey, James Callanan, E. R. Clapp, J. G. Day, A. B. Cummins, D. G. Edmundson, A. L. Frisbie, J. A. Jackson, R. R. Peters, D. H. Reichard, J. H. Windsor; the Misses Rachel Clarke and Elizabeth Matthews. This club is the same with the exception of four, Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Matthews, and Mrs. Frisbie, which has served the club so well for a number of years, and the club feel that these tried workers will guide them safely through the dark period of building their home. A committee, Mrs. Abdill, Mrs. Potter, and Mrs. Whisenand was appointed to act with other clubs in the city in providing entertainment for Mrs. Henrotin during her visit here. At the next meeting, March 27, the committee on education will have charge of the current topic. Time will be devoted to general discussion on any subject which may be introduced.

THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

The Women's club had its fortnightly meeting yesterday in the parlors of the Central Christian church. No business of importance was transacted. The informal vote of the last meeting, electing delegates to the Cedar Rapids convention of federated clubs, May 8 and 9, was confirmed, and Mrs. Carter will represent this club as delegate, with Mrs. J. C. Cummins as alternate and Mrs. Bailey as alternate for the president, Mrs. Goods. The new printing committee was announced and consists of Mrs. Peters, chairman, Mrs. Durley and Miss Matthews. Miss Rachel Clark moved the club matronize the presentation of a play written by Sig. Ventura, which he offers to put on the stage with a cast of society young people. The motion was lost—not but that the play is well vouched for and its success almost certain if undertaken—but because everybody is tired after a long winter of work and study and does not feel it possible to undertake anything more, especially anything that would require much work and more or less expense. Mrs. Carter, who has been serving as secretary pro tem during Mrs. Morse's absence from the city, asks to be relieved of the work, and Mrs. Ernest Brown was appointed to serve until the return of Mrs. Morse. The current topic time was occupied by Mrs. Hills, who made known the desire of the managers of the Associated Charities to have any kind of goods, old or new, donated. This will enable them to continue the sewing class of women who are being taught to sew and utilize old clothes and such other material as is furnished them, at the same time enabling them to earn 50 cents day, which is paid them in clothing or provisions. Mrs. Hills further spoke about cheap novel reading and its harmful influence among children. Members of the club are requested to indicate in writing to the secretary the committee on which they wish to serve next year. Attend to this before next Wednesday, April 3, as at that date the committees are to be formed. A vote of sympathy was extended by the club to Mrs. Lyle Young, Mrs. Abdill and Mrs. Walter Reed in their late bereavements. Mrs. Hubbard, chairman of the committee on education, introduced Miss McHenry, who read a very fine paper on "Juvenile Literature." Miss McHenry has had much experience in training the young, and is qualified to speak as to their needs, which she did in a way wise and sympathetic. She spoke for the little children, which involves the imagination, and made a plea for the historical novel,

which she thinks is often quite as true as history for the older people. Scott's novels were recommended and mention was made of Hawthorne having one winter read all of Scott's novels aloud to his children. She recommended that parents read to and with their children, because children love to do what grown people do, and at the same time it strengthens the ties of sympathy between parents and children. In the discussion after the paper many good thoughts were brought out. The next meeting of the club will be April 28, when Mrs. Hume will read a paper on "Women's Literature."

APRIL 11 1895.

The meeting of the Women's club at the Central Church of Christ, Wednesday afternoon, was largely attended and one of the most enjoyable and profitable in the history of its organization. The club has concluded that it is better to have fewer papers and more discussion at its sessions and yesterday's meeting was so conducted. It proved very satisfactory. The meeting was in charge of Mrs. Elbert. The paper of the day was read by Mrs. Hume. It was one of the very best read before the club. The subject was Woman's Limitations and the utter lack of partiality and fearlessness with which the subject was handled subjected the paper to many criticisms. The paper was discussed a some length by Mrs. W. H. Bailey, Mrs. L. F. Andrews, Miss R. H. and Miss Carothers. The meeting was well attended.

APRIL 25, 1895.

THE WOMEN'S CLUB, 1895.

The Woman's club met yesterday afternoon in the parlors of the Central Christian church. After welcoming the return of the secretary, Mrs. A. B. Morse, and expressing its appreciation of the services of Mrs. Ernest Brown, in the interval, they took up the business of the afternoon. A letter was read from Mrs. J. H. Windsor inviting all the members to meet Mrs. Henrotin at her home Saturday afternoon, May 4. It was decided that the members should wear a badge of white with the letters D. M. W. C. in gold, the evening of the banquet. Papers were read on Washington Irving, General Grant, Alice Carey, Shakespeare and Froebel, April being the birthday of each of these noted personages. The first paper on Irving, by Mrs. L. F. Andrews, was all that could be given in so short a time, the readings being from seven to ten minutes long. She spoke of his life, his character, his authorship and closed with the wish that our modern literature "might be fed from the same sources." Mrs. F. G. Stevens took up the history and life of Gen. U. S. Grant. One feature in her reading which gave it great interest was the speech delivered in Des Moines by General Grant, which Mrs. Stevens read in full. Mrs. A. B. Cummins' sweet tribute to Alice Carey was charming and vivid. She gave glimpses of her social and literary life, and her reference to the Carey sisters was sympathetic and beautiful. The paper prepared by Mrs. S. B. Maxwell on "Iowa" was read by Mrs. Geo. Carter. She gave a history from the beginning, going back to the ownership of France, Spain and ending with the grand and glorious now. Her paper was very interesting. Mrs. J. H. Windsor's paper on Shakespeare, which closed the literary program, was a fine biographical sketch of the poet, and was rich in study and thought. She called Shakespeare "the adept in the folklore of the soul" and referred to the Baconians as the "little party of fendish ghouls who will soon be forgotten." The program had been arranged by Miss Elizabeth Matthews, but owing to her absence in New Orleans, Mrs. Van Slyke, the alternating chairman, took charge. Miss Matthews sent her greeting from the land of roses. Another interesting part of the afternoon was the appearance of the "High School Girl Glee club" in their costumes. Their first song was "The School House and the Flag." The second, "Iowa," composed by D. R. Lucas, a former resident of Des Moines. The platform was draped with flags, decorated with sweet blossoms, ornamented with paintings, pictures of Grant, Irving, Froebel, the "Froebethum," the "child garden," of Froebel, American artists, etc. The portrait of Froebel was draped with the German colors, red, white and black.

MAY 7, 1895.

WOMEN TO BANQUET

The Federated Clubs to Give a Banquet Tonight at the Savery.

The Event in Honor of Mrs. Charles Henrotin.

The Arrangements, Menu, Toasts and Incomplete List of Those Who Will Attend.

The first banquet ever given in Des Moines exclusively by women—club women at least—will be given at the Savery tonight in honor of Mrs. Charles Henrotin of Chicago, president of the National Federation of Women's clubs. The honors of the occasion will also be shared by Mrs. Lindon W. Bates of Chicago, who is, with Mrs. Henrotin, enroute to the meeting of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs, which begins Wednesday at Cedar Rapids. The banquet is given by the federated women's clubs of the city, and will be the most thoroughly representative gathering of women in the history of Des Moines. The hour set for assembling together is 8 o'clock; the banquet will begin promptly at 9.

Spoke This Afternoon.

Mrs. Henrotin addressed a large audience this afternoon at the Central Church of Christ. Gentlemen as well as ladies were admitted, and the address to which they listened evoked the heartiest applause and kindest words of praise, showing that it was a rarely appreciative audience.

Different From Some of Them.

It will be a materially different affair from a banquet given by men and indulged in by men entirely.

In the first place, the women will not congregate in the lobby and tell stories over cigars supplied by the forty odd candidates for governor, like the men do.

Neither will they order phosphates in the drug store attached to the hotel, as the men do.

These representatives of the better half of humanity will not have to be excused during the responses to the toasts to "see a man," as "the other half" does.

And no one will wear some one else's hat home as men are said sometimes to do—because each individual woman there will have the prettiest hat in town, and wouldn't exchange it for the lovely little bonnet worn the by one whose sleeves rubbed against her at the table, for anything.

And to conclude, they intend to go home at a civilized hour.

They Will Wear Sleeves.

Yes, they will wear sleeves—sleeves, spelled with a two-line "S" and followed by an exclamation point, known in printing house dialect as a "screamer."

Mr. Brown became painfully aware of this fact when, on being asked by the committee having the banquet in charge how many could be seated at the tables in his spacious dining room, he began to estimate, and after planning in every manner possible, running the long tables length-wise and side-

wise and corner-wise, was only able to figure out the accommodation of 250 women. Then at the earnest solicitation of the committee for as many plates as possible, he revised his estimate, but after a night of the sleepless agony of a morning newspaper diagram editor, he was only able to find places for 260, though he had wriggled in 387 men at the recent Grant club banquet.

And that is just the number who will turn the covers tonight at 9 o'clock when the doors have been closed and the women are given complete control of the Savery dining room, while "the other half" rocks the cradle at home and sighs for the return of the natural order of things.

The Clubs Who Give It.

The clubs in the federation and which participate in giving the banquet for Mrs. Henrotin this evening are:

- The Des Moines Women's club.
- The Review club.
- The Frank Russell circle.
- The Tourist club.
- The Unity club.
- The Conversational club.
- The Madeline de Seudery club.

Tickets Went Quickly.

The tickets for the banquet sold rapidly from the start, and by 10 o'clock Saturday there were no more to be had. The price was fixed at \$1 a plate, and the women of the federation pride themselves that they are giving as good a spread for \$1 as the Grant club did for \$1.50 last week.

The Decorations.

The decorations will be the same superb adornments as used at the Grant club banquet last week, except that they will be gone over and added to wherever possible, so that the elegant dining room of the Savery will tonight present the handsomest appearance in its history.

The table decorations will consist of exquisite floral pieces, etc., and will be everything and more than the most exacting could demand. These and the snowy table linen and the lovely gowns that will be worn by our mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts will make the banquet of the Federated clubs the most notable event of that long list of grand banquets that have been given in this great banquet hall.

The Toasts and Menu

The menu will be handsomely printed on heavy card and be, in itself, a neat souvenir. The front cover will read:

Banquet of Federated Clubs  
In Honor of  
Mrs. CHARLES HENROTIN,  
Monday Evening, May 6, 1895,  
Savery House, Des Moines, Iowa.

On the first page, inside the cover, will be found the list of toasts, as follows:

- "Our Guests," Mrs. W. H. Bailey.
- "Woman as a Humorist," Mrs. Charles Henrotin.
- "The Art Outlook," Mrs. Lindon W. Bates.
- "Federation: In Union There Is Strength," Mrs. A. L. Frisbie.
- "The New Woman—Who and What Is She?" Mrs. Virginia Reichard.
- "The New Man," Miss Ella McLoney.
- "Our Children and the World's Children," Mrs. Henry Wallace.
- "The Men Who Are Left Out," Mrs. Roswell P. Dart.
- "Our Aims: What We Would Be, What We Would Do," Mrs. Celeste Given.

The third page will contain the menu, which follows:

- |                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Bouillon en Tasse.    |         |
| Breadsticks.          |         |
| Salted Almonds        | Pickles |
| Baked Pike            |         |
| Potatoes Parisienne   |         |
| Sweet Breads in Cases |         |



JUNE 6, 1895.

Potato Chips French Pens  
Orange Ice with Wafers  
Chicken Salad  
Macaroons Kisses  
Ice Cream Strawberries  
Assorted Cake Coffee

The last page of cover will carry a cut of the Savary.

### Who Will Be There.

First is Mrs. Charles Henrot'n of Chicago, the guest of honor, then Mrs. Lindon W. Bates, also of Chicago. Following these will be Mrs. E. H. Carter, delegate of the Women's club to the Iowa federation meeting at Cedar Rapids, and the following ladies who will attend the meeting there:

#### Mesdames—

Burgin, J. C. Cummins,  
Bailey, Fammeli,  
Harvey, Young,  
Hawley, Van Slyke,  
A. B. Cummins, L. F. Andrews.

The following members of the Women's club have purchased tickets and will be present:

#### Mesdames—

Lena M. Abdell, Julia Morris Aiken,  
Sophia M. Andrews, Mary S. Atkins,  
Alice A. C. Bailey, Louisa Bailey,  
Jennie B. Baylies, Eva H. Begun,  
Marie Beninger, Virginia J. Berryhill,  
Minerva S. Bibbins, Addie B. Billington,  
Ellen C. Bowen, Florence M. Breeden,  
Sue Ankney Brown, Fannie Brown,  
Mary E. Burgin, Martha C. Callanan,  
Minerva Campbell, Frances S. Carothers,  
Amanda R. Carter, Mary E. Carter,  
Sarah R. Clapp, Sarah P. Clarke,  
Kate Fiske Clarke, Elizabeth B. Clifford,  
Winnie Ewing Coffin, Sarah J. Conger,  
Clara Dewey Cook, Ida L. Cummins,  
Cora M. Cummins, Mary Potter Dart,  
Minerva M. Day, Hetta F. Douglass,  
Ella Hamilton Durley, Elizabeth M. Edmundson,  
Helen V. Elbert, Susie Hamilton Fairburn,  
Minnie Mills Elliott, Mary E. Gatch,  
Ida V. Fleming, Ida C. Cherry,  
Martha C. Frisbie, Hattie Newton Goode,  
Mary J. L. Gaylord, M. Magdalene Greife,  
Celeste B. Givens, Clara Lacey Greene,  
Laura M. Goodrell, Lulu C. Harvey,  
Daisy A. Greene, Anna Matthews Hatton,  
Cynthia J. Hartenbower, Cora Bussey Ellis,  
Jennie M. Harwood, Elizabeth B. Howell,  
Harriet Hatton, Mary M. Hughes,  
Alice O. Holmes, Julia M. Hunting,  
Louise E. Hughes, Bird Ankney Israel,  
Angie H. Hume, R. S. Jackson,  
Jennie C. Hussey, Martha B. Johnston,  
Luette B. James, Nora S. Lehmann,  
Mary W. Jaquith, Luella A. McHenry,  
Alice M. Kennedy, Mattie L. Macomber,  
Laura C. Lendrum, Louise M. Marine,  
A. E. McMurray, Stella H. Morse,  
Isabelle M. Maey, Lizzie Christ Nourse,  
May Easton Mills, Sophia G. Park,  
Laura J. Newell, Marietta Percival,  
Marla E. Odell, Minnie H. Plumb,  
Callista Halsey Patchin, Elizabeth J. Potter,  
He en Baylies Peters, L. O. Rawson,  
H. F. Harlin Porter, Juliet B. Reed,  
Mary R. Pratt, Virginia H. Reichard,  
Mary M. Raymond, Margaret Robertson,  
Hattie B. Reed, Esther F. Sabin,  
Kate Riser, Marie E. Fielder Sooy,  
Della E. Rutkay, Mary C. Stetson,  
Ida C. Smith, Jeannette Stephenson,  
Josephine C. Spinney, Hattie Conrad Trepanier,  
Martha Stevens, Agnes Newton Vorse,  
Edith Hepburn Thum- Nannie C. Wallace,  
mel, Sophia Glover Watrous,  
Eva Paul VanSlyke, Emma W. Whisenand,  
Harriet E. Walker, Harriet B. Windsor,  
Ella L. Warfield, Nellie Elliot Wright,  
Mary Chase West, Josephine B. Young,  
Mary Mildred Wilson, Carrie M. Hawley,  
Mary S. Witmer, Fannie Lewes Keith,  
Bina M. Wyman, Lavina Marshall,  
Sallia Russell Cole, Laura Dye Samson,  
Anna Kauffman, F. A. V. Ingersoll,  
Alice S. Longley, Antoinette Akers,  
Edith Payne Parsons, Graber,  
Annie Wright,  
Bertha Frederick Barnes,  
M. Cecilia Hutchins.

#### Misses—

Carolyn E. Byers, Dr. Frances S. Carothers,  
Rachael C. Clarke, Margaret Cox,  
Dr. Gould Fosnes, Harriet Hatton,  
Louise E. Hughes, Olive McHenry,  
Ella M. McLoney, M. D. Nash,  
Dr. Jessie M. Ritchey, Cordelia Kyle,  
Susie Estelle Duke,  
Nellie Young.

MAY 9, 1895.

#### WOMEN'S CLUB.

The Women's club held its regular meeting at the Central Church of Christ yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Lowry Goode being absent the chair was filled by Helen Baylies Peters. The program was in the hands of the committee on political economy. Mrs. Patchin's talk was interesting and many remedies for existing wrongs were suggested, among which she mentioned education, religion, legislation and co-operation. Mrs. James G. Day read one of her humorous letters, "Aunt Melissa," "Old Foggy from Away Back." Miss Ella McLary read a paper on "Labor Discontent." Would closer relations between employer and employee afford a remedy? Her paper showed great thought and study. A discussion followed by Mrs. H. A. Foster, Mrs. M. J. Grylord, Mrs. C. B. Atkins, Mrs. Patchin and Mrs. W. G. Reed. The afternoon was a very interesting one, though on account of the Cedar Rapids meeting a large number were absent. The next

meeting will be in charge of the music committee.

#### THE WOMEN'S CLUB.

One of the most interesting meetings of the Women's club was held in the auditorium of the Central Christian church yesterday afternoon. "History of France" was the subject, and the papers read on the occasion showed great study and thought. Mrs. Cherry, chairman of the historical committee, introduced Mrs. S. L. Frisbie, who began her speech with the beginning of France when it was inhabited by the Gauls; then on down to the Roman inhabitants, and on to the reign of Louis XIV. She described the wonderful arches, columns and bridges, which today stand as mementos of these strange people. She spoke of the feudal ages and described the feudal castles of the middle ages. With her fine word painting and with photographs which she explained, she held her audience in rapt attention. Mrs. Cherry next introduced Miss Louise Hughes, who took up the thread Mrs. Frisbie laid down, and continued the description of people, times and places. She told of the royal palace and with her photographs made it plain. She spoke of Louis XIV., of his marriage, his reign and his death, of the sad life of Marie Antoinette, her nineteen years' residence in the palace, her few joys and many sorrows. She then told of the many notable events which occurred there. Her paper was full of thought and study. Mrs. Cherry then introduced Mrs. C. E. Rawson, who concluded the "Monuments of French History" with a description of the palace of Fontainebleau, it being the favorite resort of kings and queens, a home for exiles and a prison for a pope. It is one of the greatest monuments of France. The grounds consist of 42,500 acres and it has 12,403 miles of roads and walks. It is celebrated for its architectural and artistic points and is supplied with hundreds of fountains. Her explanations and descriptions of this palace were very fine. The rostrum was decorated with a large center-piece of clematis and ferns and on the pedestals on either side cut bowls of roses. These with the dozens of large photographs, showing places of interest in France, made the place very attractive. The following resolution was passed: "A member of the board having served five successive years is ineligible to re-election for a period of two years. This rule does not apply to officers. Vacancies occurring in the board shall be filled by the club nominations from the floor; also article 9 was amended to read, "each member who reads a paper before the club shall be requested to furnish the historian a copy thereof upon paper 8 by 10 inches on which shall, at the expiration of her term of office, be turned over to her successor." The secretary shall furnish to each member of the club a printed list of all members

eligible, and each member shall erase from the list all names but twenty-five, which shall be her choice for board of directors, and shall indicate her choice for president by writing the word president opposite one of the twenty-five names. Each vote shall be sent to the president at least one week before the annual business meeting, the president and secretary acting as electoral board.







**Some Club Matters.**

The women's clubs of the city are very greatly interested in the coming of Mrs. Henrotin in May. She was to have been here the 5th and 6th, but has now decided to be here on May 4 as well. Mrs. Windsor will give a large reception for her on that date, and on Monday afternoon she will give an address at the Central Church of Christ to women. A very liberal spirit characterizes the arrangement for this meeting. There are to be no reserved seats. No distinction will be made as to club officers, club members or outsiders. All women are invited to hear this gifted woman, and seats will be provided for all who attend. But the federated clubs of the city are talking of entertaining in a very handsome and dignified way at the Savery house Monday evening. A banquet is being considered, but whatever they decide upon it will be interesting and very complimentary to the distinguished guest. After-dinner speeches and music will be features. There are seven federated clubs in the city, and when they arrange a social affair in conjunction it will be quite worthy of notice.

At the next regular meeting of the Women's Club Mrs. Hume will read a paper on "Woman's Limitations," which will doubtless be one of the best of the year.

The plan of allowing each member of the club to signify her preference concerning the committees for next year is being tried. The members are handing in their names to the board. It remains to be seen whether the plan will prove successful.

**Reflections.**

The week which has been the one of vastly more importance than other weeks to the women of Des Moines has come and gone. The results are yet to be determined. Passing by minor details and the multitude of events which seem of little importance, but which count in the final summing up, one great fact is written indelibly upon each one's record, and that is, that Des Moines women climbed one step higher. The step was not a short one, and all stepped at once. It was a red-letter week. It means that from this time forth there is to be not the slightest trace of prejudice against the organization of women, not a murmur against women's clubs, not an incident of shrinking upon the part of woman. It was the first banquet, the first instance of entertaining a national president, and that it was well done is proven in the various expressions of satisfaction on every hand.

Ellen M. Henrotin, first known to the public as first vice-president of auxiliary congresses at the Columbian Exposition, and later as president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, is a beautiful woman. She has a beautiful face, beautiful eyes, a gracious and winning smile, a wealth of gray hair, wears lovely gowns, but above all is loved for her scholarly attainments and goodness of heart. A brilliant woman, with tact and good judgment, superbly equipped for the exalted position she holds, she is not formal in manner; possibly the only criticism which could be offered was a seeming affectation in speech. But she is destined to bring women closer together and to establish her theory of organization. A result of this movement will be that every woman in Des Moines will arouse herself to an interest in the great throbbing, moving life about her. She will be thrilled and filled with a longing to bring out the best that is in her, to take her place

in the onward progress, to atone for neglected opportunities in an unbounded enthusiasm in developing her better self. There is no better way of improving one's self than associations and study such as is afforded by the clubs, and the state and national federations are meant to bring the women closer together, that the touch of elbows may be a sustaining element toward the guidance of faltering feet.

"I dearly love Mrs. Bates," remarked a banqueter. "Her lovely voice would win me if I did not endorse her theories." But her theories are endorsed. She lives her ideas. She is thoroughly democratic. She is not content to live an idle life, giving her time to the ceaseless demands of society. But she works. She is young, handsome, rich, and possessed of a happy, vivacious manner. She is a graduate of the Chicago University, a close friend of Mrs. Reginald de Koven, and occupies an enviable place in society. Yet she takes time to give to the world and her friends her best thoughts. And they are great, uplifting, inspiring thoughts which establish in the minds of her readers a warm place for the dear woman who penned them.

Mrs. Henrotin made her strongest plea for organization by citations from history. Since the organization of the Order of the Sisters of Mercy in the early Catholic church there have been organizations of women who devoutly believe that in "unity there is strength," and the success of their undertakings has been a reward for that belief.

The four young ladies who handled their violins so skilfully during the musical program preceding Mrs. Henrotin's lecture on Monday demonstrate the wonderful progress the old world is making. There was a time when a woman was not allowed to handle a violin—a superstition existed that the devil was in it.

Wherever women go there will be beauty and artistic elements. The surroundings must be in accordance with their own lofty ideals, pure thoughts, bright eyes and lovely faces. They cannot assemble but they must have roses and lilies, fountains and music. The Central Christian church never before looked half so beautiful as it did on Monday afternoon. The banquet hall at the Savery as well as the corridors and parlors were transformed into one immense conservatory. If this be the case what is the coming caucus to be? What will woman bring into politics? It is not all sentiment. The uneducated, the evil-minded, the laggard, the fool could not create this. Who shall say that it can be prompted by aught than a well balanced mind, a creature of high ideals, a woman of brains and culture in whose bright eyes may be seen the dawning of a better era?

The banquet was the climax of the series of events. From eight until nine the guests were received by the guests of honor and the presidents of the seven federated clubs. Kromer's orchestra discoursed sweet music while in and out of the rooms roamed beautiful creatures in shimmering silk and dainty gowns of swiss, each having on her best company manners as well as her best gown invariably carrying the bunch of flowers most becoming to her complexion and gown. It was a great event, the first in this city's history. It was an impressive moment as each of the three hundred and two guests stood quietly by her place while Mrs. Stetson in a few sweet words offered

thanks and invoked the divine blessing upon the assembly. The serving of the elaborate menu proceeded with out a break. Mrs. Lowry W. Goode, president of the Des Moines Women's Club, introduced Mrs. J. K. Macomber, toastmistress of the evening. Much deserved compliment was given Mrs. Macomber for the manner in which she executed the duties imposed upon her. As an introducer of speakers she can not be equaled. The toasts followed in rapid succession and even then it was the first hour after midnight before the company dispersed.

Mrs. Bates urges organization for concerted action and co-operation for the greatest good.

"The men who were left out." One of the toasts of the banquet Monday evening did not include all the men of Des Moines as seen from the "cage" in the dining room—they had to be caged—were many familiar faces, among them Dr. Breeden, James Savery, O. H. Perkins, W. F. Mitchell, W. R. Warfield, Captain J. S. Clark, Walter Irish, Judge Stevenson, Mr. Pratt, Mr. C. W. Johnston and others.

Mrs. Virginia Reichard is handsome and queenly, a splendid example of the "new woman," whom she introduced in such an eloquent manner Monday night. She spoke of the new woman as one who has added the incident of learning to the accident of brains.

Is this new woman distinctly a product of the nineteenth century? Were not progressive women of ancient history "new women" in their day? "She is only the old woman in balloon sleeves, minus the spinning-wheel. The spinning-wheel has been banished, but not the energy which characterized its successful use."

No comparison was drawn between man and woman at the banquet. It was a study of progress. The nearest step to the comparison was in the remark that women were quite well satisfied with themselves, and entirely unwilling to change. "For who would be six feet tall, huge wear black clothes and smoke?"

Mrs. Frank D. Jackson, wife of our honored governor; Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, Mrs. Lindon W. Bates and Mrs. Galusha Parsons of Tacoma were toasted as honored guests by Mrs. Bailly.

To Mrs. H. C. Potter is due much praise and compliment. The credit for the management of affairs at the Savery house is due her, and is given her in the minds of most women interested.

**Some Henrotin Receptions.**

Members of the federated clubs of the city were delighted at the privilege of meeting Mrs. Chas. Henrotin, of Chicago, president of the General Federation of Women's clubs, on Saturday afternoon and of being otherwise happily entertained by the accomplished woman who presides over beautiful Windsor. Nothing makes an event of this kind more inviting and pleasurable than flowers and foliage, a fact recognized by all women who entertain. All the spring blossoms in the catalogue were secured to grace this occasion, filling the spacious rooms with a delicious odor and nodding a sweet welcome from high mantels and lovely vases. To the gracious hostess, who by her superior intellect and charming hospitality is becoming a leader among the state's best women, many are indebted for a truly enjoyable afternoon.

Mrs. Henrotin and Mrs. Lindon W. Bates of the receiving party have made many warm friends who counted a brief half hour in their presence a source of unalloyed pleasure. Mrs. Windsor was otherwise assisted by Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. James G. Berryhill, Mrs. Weed of West Union and the presidents of the federated clubs of the city.

**Stray Thoughts On the Biennial.**

The first biennial meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs has come and gone. Cedar Rapids was turned over to the fair and noble women of the state last week who came as delegates and visitors to the biennial meeting. It was all so very pleasant and harmonious and the sessions were so impressive that it is but fair that those of our city who were obliged to stay at home should have a taste of the spirit and enthusiasm of the meeting by hearing those who were there tell about it.

Mrs. Alice Bailly, who by the way was elected to the position of recording secretary of the federation, said she was most delighted with Mrs. Berryhill as a presiding officer and with the hospitality and cordiality of the Cedar Rapids people. The Cedar Rapids Ladies' Literary Club, she said, fairly outdid themselves in undertaking and carrying out successfully the Herculean task of entertaining that large convention. The club is limited to thirty-five members and the perfect manner in which every detail was carefully looked after was marvelous. She was charmed with the harmony of the convention and with the intellectual as well as womanly appearance of all those who reported from the clubs. There was nothing of that so-called strong minded element visible. Mrs. Berryhill was so dignified yet so gracious and kindly withal that she drew the whole convention into doing just what was the right thing to do. It was an event of great moment, this federation meeting and it is more than probable that the women of Iowa will look back upon it as the date of all dates most important in the history of their development.

Mrs. C. E. Risser says that she was impressed with the manner of the women who made the two-minute speeches in which they reported their clubs. It means that one must be strong intellectually to be able to make such a speech in two minutes without notes. The reports were concise and to the point and the women who made them spoke loud enough to be heard. Des Moines women come in for a good share of the praise. It is remarkable how many capable women there were in that assemblage.

Mrs. Howe, of Marshalltown, was elected president; Mrs. Alice C. Bailly, recording secretary; Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer, of Chariton, corresponding secretary.

The convention was seated much as are large political conventions. The delegates occupied the same section and the same sitting at every meeting. The gaudy, unmanageable banners were conspicuous by their absence on this occasion.

Mrs. Windsor thinks the most learned address was given by Mrs. Bates. She also says the convention was a complete success, not one disappointing feature could be detected.

Mrs. James G. Berryhill, who, being presiding officer, had an excellent opportunity to observe every event, says that she was impressed by the ability of the women to



speak and to speak well. The sincerity and the interest of the various club members was likewise quite noticeable. There was much enthusiasm through all the meeting. The spirit so often common in such meetings of telling over and over "what we women have done," etc., was decidedly absent. There was one mighty effort to improve every opportunity for advancement on the part of the clubs this year, and it was here that the clubs found voice and told of their achievements and their future plans. Two of the best speeches made were those of Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer, of Chariton, and Mrs. Whitaker, of Marshalltown. Coming as they did at the last of the program, the bright wit and originality were greatly appreciated.

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Mrs. Dr. Carter says that one of the most striking visitors at Cedar Rapids was that eccentric, attractive "queen of Bohemia," Amber. While everyone who attended the convention knows of the inspiration of the various sessions, they were also aware of the visitors from Chicago. I was somewhat disappointed in Amber's personal appearance, but was thoroughly impressed with her genius. Her features are homely, but her heart is so great and true and her mind so brilliant that to know her is surely to love her. She discovered that she had many friends in Cedar Rapids, and in order to meet them all she held a reception, which was rather impromptu but enjoyable nevertheless. She was, says Mrs. Carter, one of the most intensely interesting features of the convention. She is a great, strong woman, much above the ordinary height, but as good as she is big.

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Mrs. H. B. Hawley is a great admirer of Mrs. Henrotin. Her gentle influence and loving spirit permeated both the Des Moines and Cedar Rapids meeting. Seeing and hearing Mrs. Henrotin once is not knowing her. She has some mannerisms quite offensive to some people, but she is the most thoroughly unselfish woman in the world and so devoted to the cause of womankind as to be always ready to talk about it and to suggest some practical methods for work. Her work is done quietly but well. Her influence has a tendency to remove some of the feeling of personal importance if such a tendency shows itself. Mrs. Hawley gained the impression from the reports that clubs as a rule were delving too far into the past, were giving too much attention to research and not nearly enough to originality. An extensive knowledge of the past is necessary to build for the future, but there is a tendency to overdo the matter. Club study is neither modern enough nor as practical as it should be. There is too much Shakespeare class feeling to the exclusion of the village-improvement idea. Mrs. Hawley observed with pleasure the gathering of Iowa's best women in a very harmonious body.

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Pauline Swalm says in the Oskaloosa Herald: "The Federation of Women has no cause to champion, no ism to exploit; no subjection to beat their wings against. It was a free, sunny-hearted, open-minded body of women, a market of exchange for thought and friendship where each levied on the other for what was best and truest in brain and heart. It made an Iowa woman take on glory of pride in Iowa womanhood, as she stood before an assemblage of six or seven hundred such women and caught the finer spirit of the gathering. Never did an Iowa auditorium hold such

a scene before. The flower of Iowa womanhood gathered into a single garden on a shining May-day was so fair a sight that even the 'shadow of the sheaves,' which Miss May Rogers so deftly humorized, did not dim, and one which Iowa men, under knightly custom, might have gone across the state to see.

#### THE NEW WOMAN.

If THE REVIEW is correctly informed, and it is inclined to think that it is, as to a little women's clubs committee conference a few days ago, some expressions at that conference are typical of the new woman, it has simply to say that it hopes she won't swoop down on this community in droves. One at a time, and the times considerably apart, will do.

At this conference, the matter of furnishing the lady reporters of the several newspapers with admission tickets was mentioned, and one lady expressed, so 'tis said, the idea that while it was very desirable that the press reporters should be present in a professional capacity to report the Mrs. Henrotin banquet, yet that the thought of admitting them to the same table would be perfectly shocking; she intimated that she would as soon think of inviting one of her waiting maids to sit with guests at her own home! And so it was proposed that the girls who earn their living by working with their brains and hands might sit in the balcony of the Savery House dining-room and look down upon the assembled feminine intellectuality while it ate and indulged in speeches!

This sentiment was, we understand, expressed by but one woman, but the thoughtless act of discourtesy to the young ladies who are intellectually the equal of any in the city came near being settled upon by all.

We trust that the extent of this sort of new woman idea is, in the several women's clubs of Des Moines, very limited. To work for one's living is no disgrace to a lady. To intimate that so working unfits her for association with even the richest woman of the city is an indication of bad breeding. Mrs. Henrotin, who is to be Des Moines' honored guest the coming week, is in most hearty sympathy with the working girls' cause. Were the suggestion made to have met with endorsement from any great number of ladies, it would have been as near a direct insult to the coming visitor as anything could be.

The time hasn't come for class distinction in Des Moines. If it be the girls who earn an honest livelihood should rank above the women of whom chance fortune or speculation has made aristocrats.

#### HERE GOES!

The Des Moines women's clubs will do well to take a hint from Mrs. Henrotin and get started along some new lines. The writer some time ago received a letter from a lady friend in a

neighboring town, saying she had been asked to prepare a paper on the origin of the continued story, and asking him if he could give her any helpful suggestions on the subject. He answered, suggesting that she "write a roast" on

a program committee that, in these days when there is crying need of practical suggestions and work to the end of bringing about better house-ventilation and better sanitary conditions generally; for more wholesome system of living for working people; for a beautifying of house lawns, etc., etc., and etc. some more, should ask a woman to waste time on the origin of the continued story! The story being a good one, what does it matter when, where or how it originated?

The dear club women, bless them, are running too much to superfine intellectuality; it isn't jealousy that inspires this remark; we give a women, Mrs. Henrotin, credit for it.

We would suggest that in making their program for next season's work the clubs arrange for the holding of at least a few sessions in residences south of the railroad tracks; also that, when it is desired to make an investment in a piece of statuary it will be made to take the form of a drinking fountain.

(The editor leaves immediately and will remain until the storm blows over.)

A visitor at the Woman's Club Wednesday, made the criticism that few speakers could be well heard all over the room, and suggested that each person having anything to say, should take a place upon the rostrum by the president. The exercises were also very long and tedious, not closing till after 5 o'clock. When a limit to speeches is fixed, those overstepping the limit should be called down.

By direction of the board of directors of the Women's Club, that organization yesterday purchased several hundred dollars worth of pictures. They will be hung in the public library probably until the club gets its art rooms, a project which is receiving constantly augmented encouragement, and which, it is hoped, will end in successful accomplishment, simultaneously with, and in company with the public library building. Among the pictures bought yesterday were three from Mr. Baldwin. One was a portrait of Miss Belle Hunt. Another was a picture called "Ready for Shopping." Three paintings by Harry Williams, who was in Des Moines several years ago, were also purchased.

The music at Mrs. Henrotin's Monday afternoon address was a carefully prepared and well-executed program. Mrs. Frank Davis and Mrs. Celeste Givens, organists; Mrs. Mary Johns-Keeler, soprano, and four violinists presented several excellent numbers.

Since the committee from the Women's Club headed by Mrs. Cora Bussey-Hillis has been so successful in the swimming-pool venture, they will next take up the contemplated move for the benefit of the wage-earning women of the city. Mrs. Hillis has been earnestly looking into the wages of women in the stores, factories and other walks of employment, and says there is a deplorable condition of affairs, the meaning of which two-thirds of Des Moines' citizens have no idea. Instances have been related to her and numbers of her friends which she tells me are simply terrible. She intends to personally investigate these cases and see if employers cannot be cultivated to a proper realization of their duties and obligations to young girls and women, and to have these girls and women organize themselves into a union for their own benefit. Mrs. Hillis looks philosophically into these things and says she can see no reason why a young woman and a young man shall have the same duties at the same counter and yet the former draw from six to ten dollars a week and the latter from fifteen to twenty. And every spare minute of the young woman's must be devoted to sewing or fastening on tags or repairing or any of the little duties which come up in a large establishment, while the young man employs his time between sales at "guying" the girls or manicuring his well-tended nails. Should the women of the clubs take up and make a success of this work it will save more lives than even a safe swimming-pool will do. And oh! the years and years of unhappiness and misery it will obliterate from many a feminine life.

#### Club Lore.

A room has been secured in the Masonic building by the Women's Club and Society of Fine Arts for the art loan to be brought here during the holidays. The committee appointed to arrange all details and make all the contracts for this loan is composed of members from each club with Mrs. Lowry Goode as president and Mrs. Patchin chairman of the art club committee which comprises Prof. Baldwin, Mr. Merrill and Mesdames Peters and J. A. Jackson; Mrs. Harry West is chairman of the committee from the Women's Club the members of which are Mesdames J. S. Windsor, A. B. Cummins, P. B. Durley and E. H. Carter.



MAY 11, 1895.

Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin has of late been visiting many of the larger cities in the federated union preaching among women the doctrine of federation. Mrs. Henrotin, as every one knows, is president of the Federation of Women's Clubs, and has very decided opinions as to the advantages accruing from such organizations. Her visit to this city was in the nature of a genuine treat to the seven federated clubs and their friends who heard the lecture at the Central Christian church Monday afternoon. Socially Mrs. Henrotin is a charming lady with a winning personality. In a club way she is a power and an example for less pretentious club devotees.

In a lecture Mrs. Henrotin has the grace of ease and originality which makes her such a favorite among her working sisters. She spoke Monday afternoon to an eager crowd of ladies, fashionably gowned, a verification of the fact that the day of the plainly dressed blue stockings is over, and that beauty, brains and fashion can easily travel the same road with no conflict. Her subject was "The Organization of Clubs;" her idea so intelligently expressed roused new thoughts and aspirations in the minds of her hearers.

"The general federation is an outcome of the individual club and has been wonderfully successful in establishing good feeling, liberality of thought, speech and general improvement for women of all grades and classes. Thirty years ago we started with the literary and social club, which has proved a wise beginning, for along these lines all women were willing to work, and all women, radical or conservative, were in sympathy on those subjects. Many of them felt their training had been defective, and without some training in the life of the community for a larger life they would be unable to avail themselves of new avenues of employment, in trade or profession, in which women were even then entering. Great strides for that period had been made in organization, in temperance, in missionary and in sanitary commissions.

"When the idea of forming a federation was announced by Jennie June—Mrs. Croly—with whom the idea originated, and a committee was formed to affect the permanent organization, hundreds of clubs already existed in the United States. The idea of sociability had something to do with it as well, for cards of introduction are furnished on application to club members visiting other cities and states. So the solitary life which was almost every woman's in the past need no longer exist.

"The object of women's clubs is exactly opposite to that of the men,"

said Mrs. Henrotin. "They have their's as a place for leisure hours, for ease, comfort and luxury, while ours is where we receive our education in semi-public life, to learn to work with and for others, and listen with respect with adverse views. At one time it was next to impossible for women to look on a question from any point of view except that of the personal. Thanks to the training of women's clubs, a large community now exists in this country able to judge educational, social and political questions of the day from quite an impersonal standpoint.

"The general aim of the federation," Mrs. Henrotin continued, "is to unite the individual clubs in an organization that will preserve the independence of each club, and at the same time be a bond of union between them. The general federation does for the clubs what the clubs do for the individual woman, and is a sort of clearing-house of the state, showing what has been accomplished. We want to be sexless as far as work is concerned, and sect-less in regard to our religious views. Wait and see our great results. We have by diplomacy gained much with men; they will be our co-workers and advocates later."

The banquet at the Hotel Savery Monday evening was another evidence that literary ability in the coming woman does not conflict with her love of dress and fashion. Many exquisite new gowns were shown which will later in the season grace many a favorite summer resort ball-room when the club women are taking a rest from arduous duties of the year's study. The decorations in the dining-room were the same as for the banquet of the Grant club last week, with the addition of bowls and jardinières of choice cut flowers. Throughout the parlors and corridors quantities of the dainty and fragrant spring blossoms were used, beautiful foils of dame nature against the work of the florists. It was an artistic occasion in more ways than one, in the culture of women's minds, the work of fashionable modistes, the beauties of nature and the adaptation of women to their new and popular sphere.

Mrs. Henrotin wore a magnificent costume of lavender satin with point lace overdress, violets in her hair; Mrs. Linden Bates an exquisite pale green satin, with point lace and green velvet trimmings; Mrs. J. H. Windsor, green silk brocaded in white, with thread lace and green velvet accessories; Mrs. Galusha Parsons, black and heliotrope satin; Mrs. H. C. Potter, white satin and chiffon; Mrs. J. C. Cummins, black satin and pink silk, pink flowers; Mrs. E. L. Bowen a striking gown of black moire silk pink silk bodice with green velvet and jet trimmings; Mrs. A. B. Cummins black and red satin; Mrs. Henry

Plumb, orange silk with black lace overdress; Mrs. Frank D. Jackson, lavender silk and laces. On every dress the huge sleeves of the '95 season were in evidence, a proof of which was that at the Grant club banquet three hundred and fifty men were accommodated, while only two hundred and ninety women could be placed at table and that to the detriment of many a gorgeous sleeve.

The toasts were as follows: "Our Guests," Mrs. W. H. Bailey; "Woman as a Humorist," Mrs. Charles Henrotin; "The Art Outlook," Mrs. Linden W. Bates; "Federation; In Union There is Strength," Mrs. A. L. Frisbie; "The New Woman—Who and What is She?" Mrs. Virginia Reichard; "The New Man," Miss Ella McLoney; "Our Children and the World's Children," Mrs. Henry Wallace; "The Men Who Are Left Out," Mrs. Roswell P. Dart; "Our Aims: What We Would Be, What We Would Do," Mrs. Celeste Given.

Mrs. Jay K. Macomber, who enjoys the distinction of being Des Moines' readiest extemporaneous woman speaker, as toast-mistress characterized her toast with her usual brilliancy, wit and cleverness. Mrs. Henrotin's toast was humorous, bright as any toast Chauncey Depew, the famous after-dinner speaker, ever gave and pointed as a stiletto. Mrs. Linden Bates, the beautiful and gifted literary woman of Chicago, made an excellent opening for thoughts on art for the club women and art devotees. Not a club of the seven federated ones in this city but was proud of the representative it had chosen to officiate for it at the banquet.

It was exclusively a banquet for women, a foretaste to many a husband of what the new man is to bear in the reign of the coming woman.

Mrs. W. L. Brown, wife of the popular manager of the Savery, furnished dainty souvenirs of the occasion, her own handiwork, in the water color covers for the menu.

For many a day in the coming summer will the memory of Mrs. Henrotin's visit be recalled with pleasure; over many a cozy cup of tea will the events of the reception, lecture and banquet be recalled; on many a cool verandah with congenial spirits will reminiscences of the greatest club event in Des Moines be indulged in, and words of compliment always paid Mrs. J. H. Windsor for her kindness in bringing Mrs. Charles Henrotin in our midst. It has put new energy in Des Moines women for club life and club work.

At the annual business meeting of the Des Moines Woman's Club, on March 13, Mrs. Isaac L. Hillis, wife of our mayor, agitated the question, in a few brief and telling remarks, of

philanthropic work in addition to the literary work done by the club members—the philanthropic work to reach not only the poorer youth of the city, but in some ways the children of wealthy parents. Illicit literature was the most important thing to be considered, and already are good results rising from the committee named that day, with Mrs. Hillis as chairman.

Another result is the swimming pool question for the protection of the many boys who consider a daily plunge in the river necessary to their health and happiness, with never a thought of their safety. The query arises in my mind concerning the club women's new project for the boys' safety, will it be appreciated, and will the boys think it so much fun in a plunge in a safe place? Does not the idea of the danger connected add just enough of spice for them to incur the risk?

Every city, be it large or small, is blessed with women who make the name of a city better for their having lived in it. It may come from some heroic deed, philanthropic acts or literary culture. Des Moines is unusually fortunate in having so many women whose influence make the surroundings brighter and better. While the Women's Club does not by any means claim all these women as members, it does assert the ownership of many of them. Even now I fancy I can hear in future years the children of these women referring to their mothers as members of the body of women who accomplished much good in a literary, philanthropic and social way. Club life is a school for fine character, and a school where one learns by unconscious acquisition of knowledge most beneficial. Furthermore it is a school where woman is stimulated to go to the very brink of her possibilities, having a tendency to broaden conception and thought. A look backward over the years' work of the Women's Club will give one an idea of what a studious and enthusiastic body of women can accomplish, their habits of the higher and better thoughts.

The 24th of last September the Club began a new year's work with the regular officers' day, when Mrs. Clapp, after a year of successful occupancy of the president's chair, stepped down and out from that responsible and honorable position, succeeded by Mrs. Lowry Goode. Mrs. Goode's acceptance of the position was made in beautiful thoughts expressed in the brightest words. Her subject was "The Ideal Woman," and as her hearers listened to her smooth tones and noticed her charming personality, many thought their new head officer as near approached the ideal woman as it is given the woman of the nineteenth century to do. That impression Mrs. Goode has held good throughout the year of close work.



Mrs. James G. Day, the class historian, gave a clever and spicy review of the previous year's work, as only Mrs. Day can do. She has held the office of historian since it has been an office in the club work and it seems adapted particularly to her bright and original ideas.

Many instructive papers have been read during the year just closing, all good, some exciting no end of comment and one or two not a little furor among the members. Notable among the year's papers was one by Mrs. Cora Bussey-Hillis, on "Our Grandmothers." This was received most favorably and set many to thinking that the grandmothers of a generation ago are surely but a dim and distant memory, with their smoothly combed silvery locks and inevitable knitting in hand. The grandmothers of to-day are club women, and the Women's Club is proud to have a score and a half of them on its list.

Mrs. Martha Callanan, in December read an exhaustive paper on "Vashti," which opened many eyes as to the possibilities of women in the future. Mrs. Callanan's paper has been enjoyed at other assemblages since.

The first of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-five was ushered in by the Club in an artistically enjoyable manner. It was a music day with Mrs. Pattie B. Love and Mrs. Ernest Brown as the principals. Mrs. Love's paper, "The Influence of Sacred Music Upon the Community," was a production of more than ordinary merit because of its newness, and from the fact that it was her first attempt at public preparing and reading of a club paper. Mrs. Ernest Brown's "Cradle Songs" thoughts were so full of beauty as to be almost a song. Appropriate music was rendered by club members and friends.

"Social Day" was held at the elegant residence of E. R. Clapp, on the avenue, and proved one of the most delightful social events in the Club's history. Progressive euchre and whist were done away with to give room to the more beneficial and unique "progressive conversation." Over a hundred ladies discussed every subject from sanitary uses and abuses to the popular novels of the day. Not even was Trilby forgotten, although she was not accorded a special card or table.

The next meeting was "Art Day," and upon entering the parlors of the Christian church one could easily imagine herself in a foreign studio, where painting and sculpturing were the only thought and enjoyment in life. Prof. Baldwin modeled a head in clay for the benefit of the interested club women. Mrs. Stuart Goodrell, the Club's favorite in elocution and posing, made a perfect picture in her

toga of white and yellow, a typical Grecian maiden. Mrs. Harry West, an art enthusiast, had the paper of the day and an excellent paper it was in every way.

"Woman's Limitations," the clever paper prepared and read by Mrs. J. C. Hume, excited more comment favorable and unfavorable than any paper ever read before the Club. It was a brilliant and daring venture, with a bright woman as its author.

Many noted men were remembered at the "April Birthdays" meeting, and eulogized by some of the brainiest and brightest club members.

May closed with "Musical Conversations" in charge of Mrs. Celeste B. Givens. It was a Rubinstein memorial and contributed to by such well-known musicians as Mrs. I. Reigelman, Mrs. Vorse, Miss Hatton, Mrs. Belknap, Mr. Paul Metcalf and the String Quartette.

The last meeting for work was Wednesday of this week, with the "Historical Monuments of France" for the subject, and Mrs. A. L. Frisbie and Miss Louise Hughes as principal entertainers. The last meeting of the year '94-95, on June 19th, will be another social day. At the opening of next year's work Mrs. A. B. Cummins will take up the yellow-ribbon ornamented gavel and wield a new influence over Des Moines' largest club—The Women's.

Since the committee from the Women's Club headed by Mrs. Cora Bussey-Hillis has been so successful in the swimming-pool venture, they will next take up the contemplated move for the benefit of the wage-earning women of the city. Mrs. Hillis has been earnestly looking into the wages of women in the stores, factories and other walks of employment, and says there is a deplorable condition of affairs, the meaning of which two-thirds of Des Moines' citizens have no idea. Instances have been related to her and numbers of her friends which she tells me are simply terrible. She intends to personally investigate these cases and see if employers cannot be cultivated to a proper realization of their duties and obligations to young girls and women, and to have these girls and women organize themselves into a union for their own benefit. Mrs. Hillis looks philosophically into these things and says she can see no reason why a young woman and a young man shall have the same duties at the same counter and yet the former draw from six to ten dollars a week and the latter from fifteen to twenty. And every spare minute of the young woman's must be devoted to sewing or fastening on tags or repairing or any of the little duties which come up in a large establishment, while the young man employs his

time between sales at "guying" the girls or manicuring his well-tended nails. Should the women of the clubs take up and make a success of this work it will save more lives than even a safe swimming-pool will do. And oh! the years and years of unhappiness and misery it will obliterate from many a feminine life.

The Woman's club held a special meeting of much importance in the parlors of the Christian church Wednesday afternoon. Three items of importance were brought before the club, the bringing of an art collection to Des Moines, a club home and a club pin. The attendance was not as large as the president had hoped for, but the meeting was an enthusiastic one. The board of directors, after being instructed in open club, voted to unite with the new art society in bringing a fine loan collection of pictures, by the best American artists, to the city during the holiday season. The time being too short for satisfactory discussion, the matter of a club home was deferred to a later date. Designs for the club pin were shown, but not any one decided upon.

The public library demands not only the sympathy and support, but the active co-operation of every man, woman and child in the city. It should be our special pride, our hobby, if need be. No other institution is so open, so free, and of such lasting benefit to all alike. Mrs. Morse, in her paper given before the Woman's Club on Wednesday, said truly that the taste for reading is the door to culture, and in regard to public libraries we must all agree with her that it is impossible to estimate their value, not only to the poor, but to all classes. The better kind of reading is in active demand, and scientific works are constantly called for, showing the actual good accomplished in an educational way. Speed the day when our library shall have a home of its own, with reading rooms and all modern conveniences, but until then let us withhold no word of encouragement, no iota of assistance. Let us second every effort put forth to make it a complete and overwhelming success. Col. Gatch, ever alive to the interests of this enterprise, put in a strong plea for it before the club.

It seems unfair to designate as a fad any useful study or idea which becomes popular. Women are becoming more and more interested in social and economic science, hence, according to one journalist, political economy is perforce degenerating into a fad.

The Woman's Club of this city has always given two afternoons out of each year to the discussion of political economy. Long before the word fad came so pat from everyone, this club studied and thought it part of wom-

an's education. It seems to vex those who would fain monopolize the right to think, that the seeking to know how the greatest good to the greatest number may be brought about, is actually becoming the study of the masses, and that the middle space between the scholar and the laborer is bridged over by "the realist in the realm of fiction and the idealist in the ranks of womanhood."

#### The Byers' Art Collection.

Major and Mrs. S. H. M. Byers extend a most cordial invitation to the members of the Womens Club to Come to their new home, "St. Helens," on Terrace road, Monday next, to examine their private collection of paintings, from 10 to 12 and from 2 to 6, also in the evening. Each member may bring a friend, either lady or gentleman.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie is said to be the only member of the Woman's club that doesn't use a manuscript when making an address. Her oratory is as fluent and ready as that of her noted husband. In fact, they say that the good Doctor always preaches a sermon better the day after the Woman's club meets.

#### Looking Forward.

Des Moines society and club women are all agog over the coming entertainments of next week and the week following. A number of very distinguished visitors will be in the city and the main entertainments will be the Windsor reception, the lecture on Monday afternoon and the Henrotin banquet on Monday night. Des Moines women will shine, there is no question about it. They know just how to entertain in the most profoundly, dignified and handsome manner and will let nothing interfere with their plans. There will be no time for the giving of small companies before the hour for starting for Cedar Rapids. Every woman in town is invited to the lecture on Monday afternoon, May 6, at the Central Christian church. From the time of the first appointment of committees on arrangement the thing uppermost in club talk has been the visit of Mrs. Henrotin and now that the time is drawing near the enthusiasm is unbounded. Two hundred and more women representing the culture, beauty and refinement of Des Moines assembled at banquet will be a sight worth seeing and the brilliant after-dinner speeches which will be made will be well worth hearing. It will be the day of all days for Des Moines.



## Sept. 26. Woman's Club Opening Meeting, 1894.

The Des Moines Woman's Club held its first meeting Wednesday afternoon in the parlors of the Central Church of Christ, under the most auspicious circumstances. It being officers' day, a large number of the ladies were present, and the rooms were made most lovely with flowers and palms. The platform was banked with palms and potted plants and bowls of roses. Tea and wafers were served from small tables, and after a pleasant hour spent in pleasant conversation the programme was commenced with a farewell address by the retiring president, Mrs. E. R. Clapp, this ending with the introduction of the new president, Mrs. Lowry Goode. Short papers were read by different members of the club, Mrs. J. G. Day, the historian, giving a bright and humorous sketch of a few of the lady members, and of some of the noted personages who have been the club's guests. Mrs. Ella Hamilton-Durley gave a short talk on art, and tendered thanks to Mrs. Frederick Field for the kind gift of the beautiful Corot. Among the leading questions agitated was the ones concerning new club rooms and the idea of having an art gallery in connection with the city library, both of which were carried over for future action. The Woman's Club was organized in 1885, with Dr. Margaret A. Cleaves of New York City as its first president. To-day the club numbers 157 members. Of the two ambitions of this club, the one of a city art gallery deserves special mention. They have now in their possession several works of art which have been purchased or presented to them, including a bronze statue of Joan of Arc, which was on exhibition at the world's fair; a marble bust of Diana, executed at Rome, and an Italian landscape of Corot's, purchased in Paris by Mr. and Mrs. Field. The club have a carefully prepared programme for the years 1894-5, their tenth annual announcement being embellished with the motto, "Was man nicht bespricht, bedenkt man nicht recht." The new officers are as follows: Mrs. Lowry Goode, president; Mrs. A. B. Cummins, vice-president; Mrs. R. R. Peters, second vice-president; Mrs. A. B. Morse, secretary; Mrs. O. G. Edmundson, corresponding secretary; Mrs. W. W. Witmer, treasurer; Mrs. J. G. Day, historian.

## Oct. 10. The Women's Club, 1894.

An especially interesting day to the Women's club and their friends was Wednesday, art day, in charge of the art committee, of which Mrs. J. A. Jackson is chairman. A large number of ladies were present and listened to an excellent, well-rendered program, and enjoyed what was perhaps the best collection of gems of painting and sculpture ever gathered together in this city through the kindness of a number of the city's art connoisseurs, who loaned their valuable pieces.

One of the most interesting papers of the afternoon was read by Mrs. Hal-

Howell, who is a charming reader. It was written by Miss Mary McClelland, and was entitled "Paris Salons of 1894." Miss McClelland is in Europe studying art in the true sense of the word, as was shown by her masterly production.

Mrs. Lafe Young read a fine, strong paper on "Current Topics," describing the Japanese-Chinese war and the advantages of modern appliances. She spoke also of recent inventions, late views on "Woman Suffrage and the Art Institute of Chicago," etc.

Miss Edith Hepburn Thunnell recently returned from Germany, gave a short talk on "Some Tendencies of German Art," and spoke of some pictures in the galleries of Munich. She was very interesting and instructive. Mrs. Macomber followed for a few minutes in her own incomparable manner on art in general and, for one who professed to know nothing of art, revealed a very high artistic sense.

Major and Mrs. S. H. M. Byers have extended a most cordial invitation to the members of the club to come to their new home on Terrace Drive Monday, Oct. 22, to enjoy the pleasure of examining their private collection of valuable paintings and sculptures from 10 to 12 and 2 to 6 in the evening, and each may bring a friend, either lady or gentleman.

The following is a list of the objects of art which were exhibited and also the names of those who so generously contributed: A portrait by Andrea Lenigini, loaned by Major and Mrs. Byers; "The Advance Guard," by J. Rosen, "Sheep in Springtime" and an old Tokio bronze, O. H. Perkins; A Jules Breton and two George Gays, L. B. Abdill; two original Rembrandt etchings and two water crayons, also an old Pueblo vase, Mrs. F. W. Lehmann; a beautiful piece of wood carving, almost life size, "The Venetian Page," done in the sixteenth century, Mrs. I. L. Hillis; a copy of Francois L. Millet's "Gleaners," by Miss Alice Beckington; an old well at Brolles, by Harry Williams, and "Monk with Flask," by Agostino, Mrs. C. B. Atkins; companion pieces of a stone frieze from old chapel St. Paul and St. John, Venice, "Madonna and Child," by Gabriel May; a copy of Bodenhausen's Madonna, "A Peasant Gial," by Grace Mosier, Mrs. J. B. Stewart; a graceful figure in terra cotta of Canova's "Dancing Girl,"

Mrs. Richmond; Della Robba's "Dancing Boys," handsome vases from the German and Austrian world's fair exhibit, Mrs. James Mason; a plate bought at the royal Berlin pottery by Mrs. Thummel and loaned to the club; seven beautiful water colors, the work of a well-known American artist, C. W. Platt, by his sister, Helen Platt; an exquisite Japanese screen, Mrs. Firestone; a lovely bronze, by Mrs. L. B. Callender; a cast of the Venus di Milo, a head of a child, and a Florentine mosaic, Mrs. Dr. Rawson; a collection of etchings, by Mrs. J. G. Berryhill; a collection of prints from American art, by

Mrs. E. G. Pratt; a collection of prints, a Flemish jug, and casts of frieze of the Parthenon, by Mrs. Will Jaquith; two large bronze plaques, representing the siege of Troy and a Holland interior, a copy of Rembrandt's "Burgomaster's Wife," also a tapestry banner, a portrait of Vandyke, by himself, Mrs. J. K. Wilson; a bronze figure of Mercury, Mrs. Dr. Potter; a Chinese mandarin's gown and other artistic draperies, Lowry Goode; Bagdad portieres, Mrs. C. B. Atkins; portieres brought recently from Cairo, Egypt, Mrs. Fred Field; a carved chair done by Miss Halsey and loaned by her sister, Mrs. Dr. Patchin. The chairman for the

day was ably seconded by Mrs. Will Jaquith and other members of the art committee in transforming the church parlor into a veritable artist's studio.

## Oct. 24. The Woman's Club, 1894.

A meeting of the Woman's Club is always profitable and entertaining, not only to its members, but to the stranger. But the regular meeting on Wednesday of this week was characterized by a freedom and breeziness of discussion which has not always prevailed, and which gave added zeal to the afternoon. Under current topics, Mrs. Patchin gave briefly the substance of an interview with John Brisbin Walker of "The Cosmopolitan" who, having had unusual opportunities for the study of the character and resources of the Chinese, says that they are essentially a non-military people, but that they will rapidly develop into a formidable military nation, and that the present war is one of the most important of modern times, and a menace to civilization.

Mrs. Sabin, chairman of the Literature Committee, introduced Mrs. Agnes Vorse, who gave a paper on "Humor in Literature." It was a charming one, delicate, sensitive, and keenly appreciative of the best humor. Mrs. Vorse's handling of her subject was thoroughly artistic. She did full justice to Artemus Ward, to the author of Bigelow papers and others. Of humor in the pulpit she quoted Spurgeon, who said to the persons who criticised him for levity there, "If you only knew the things I think of and don't say!" She gave one of the best passages in, "My Summer in a Garden," and ranks Chas. Dudley Warner high as a humorist. She analyzed American humor, and paid a tribute to Dr. Holmes, whose portrait had been placed upon the platform.

Mrs. Virginia Reichart opened the discussion with a very thorough comparative view of the literary humor of the five great foreign nations. Her remarks, in length and in value, rose to the dignity of a sub-paper, but were given entirely without notes.

Miss Rachel Clark thought that women betrayed no sense of humor in literature. Mrs. Poyser and Mrs. Tulliver were witty, not humorous. Women have wit. Mrs. Patchin thought this was not altogether true. In stories of New England life, writers

like Sarah Orme have not failed to render the genial new England humor. Mrs. Stowe considers herself a humorous writer, in "Old Town Folks," and while she was glad that no woman had written Tom Sawyer or Huckleberry Finn, there was at least one woman whose literary humor sold her books, "Josiah Allen's Wife."

Mrs. Berryhill recalled to the club the gentle, genial nature and brilliant wit of a lady lovingly remembered in Des Moines, Mrs. Lucy Collins.

Mrs. Macomber objected to the suggestion that men are more humorous than women. The line was not to be drawn in that way. Women were simply more fastidious.

Women most of all, Mrs. Peters thought, needed the saving grace of wit, and it could be cultivated by always trying to see the humorous side of every-day situations.

Mrs. McHenry said the reason men were more humorous in print than women was because they had women to write about.

Mrs. John Trepanier gave an exceedingly choice rendition of that episode in the Spoopendyke family in which Mr. Spoopendyke nips in the bud the ambition of Mrs. S. to go on the stage.

"Newspaper Wit," by Mrs. Daisie Ankney Green, was a bright and complete resume of the newspaper situation, and like Mrs. Lizzie Christ Nourse's paper on "Caricature," it stood for much time and research. The latter paper, which rapidly stretched the history of caricature from Hogarth down, did full justice to the subject, was given without notes, and closed an unusually interesting program.

## Nov. 7. STATE FEDERATION CONVENTION, 1894.

A large number of ladies, representatives of the various women's clubs of the city and of the state, were delightfully entertained by Mrs. James G. Berryhill Friday afternoon in order to meet the executive committee of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Berryhill was assisted by the following named ladies of the executive board: Mrs. Mary W. Coggsell, vice president, Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Anna B. Howe, corresponding secretary, Marshalltown; Mrs. Maria Weed, treasurer, West Union; Mrs. Adeline Payne, auditor, Nevada; Mrs. J. H. Windsor, chairman of state correspondence of the general federation of Women's Clubs, Des Moines; also by the presidents of the city's federated clubs. They are: Mrs. Lowry Goode, Des Moines Women's Club; Mrs. F. W. Cherry, Conversational Club; Mrs. Henry Sabin, T. V. Club; Mrs. Charles E. Risser, Monday Club; Mrs. A. R. Begun, Tourists' Club; Mrs. Leon Harvey, Unity Club; Mrs. E. S. Burgin, Review Club; Mrs. Webb Dart, Frank Russell Circle; Mrs. E. D. Graber, North Side Club. In the dining room refreshments were served by Mesdames Fullerton, C. A. Finkbine and the Misses Matthews, Louise Hughes and



Rachael Clark. Two years ago the Federation of Women's Clubs was organized in Des Moines with fifty-seven clubs represented. During the meetings of the board of state federation the executive committee decided to accept the invitation of the Ladies' Literary Club of Cedar Rapids to hold the biennial convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs in that city, which will occur Nov. 8, 1895. The convention will be in session two days. A representative meeting of Iowa women and distinguished guests from abroad will be present. Each club will send two representatives. The board also appointed committee on program for biennial convention.

#### Nov. 7, WOMEN'S CLUB, 1894

Education day was down on the Women's Club calendar for last Wednesday's regular meeting, the subject under discussion being: "Should Education Aim to Develop All the Faculties?" a most successful innovation from their usual mode of treating a subject being introduced by the committee in charge, as the subject was presented in the form of a discussion instead of being dealt with in one paper, Mrs. Mary Potter Dart and Mrs. Spinney taking the affirmative, with Mrs. Bailey and Miss Hubbard on the negative. After the preliminaries of the meeting Mrs. Hatton, chairman of the current event committee, introduced Mrs. Henry Wallace, recently returned from England, who gave a graphic description of the home and a number of the works of Sir Frederick Leighton, the president of the Royal Academy of Art in London. Mrs. Wallace, by invitation of Sir Frederick Leighton, had visited and taken opportunity to make special study of both his home and works. She gave a very clear description of a number of his pictures, two of special mention being "The Spirit on the Summit" and "Summer Slumber," the former considered by the artist himself as his best work. On her departure from his home the artist presented Mrs. Wallace with his photograph, from which she had a painting made, and which at the close of her remarks she very gracefully presented to the club for their first portrait collection. After a vote of thanks had been extended Mrs. Wallace by the club, Miss Olive McHenry, chairman of the committee on education, in a few fitting remarks introduced Mrs. Edmunson, who read a paper prepared by Mrs. Spinney, and which gave a noble application to the object of education, showing that its highest aim was not for personal use alone, but to develop character symmetrical in its strength, beauty and general utility. She said an educated woman was a subject so much in the air of present social life that to be a woman in the highest sense of the word her education must be broad, useful and symmetrical. Miss Hubbard next read a well-prepared and thoughtful paper in which were brought forth the superior advantages of a specialized education. The whole

tendency of our education is to make all people as nearly alike as possible. The progress of our present civilization is due to the specialists of our day, and that specific, inherent adaptation of a faculty in a child should receive special attention in order to bring out the best results toward a high and progressive nation. Mrs. Bailey gave a shrewd and convincing paper to the same purpose, showing that concentration of efforts toward some particular object should be a feature in the education of everyone. Mrs. Dart followed with a finely prepared discourse, maintaining that the object of education being to equip the individual for all the duties of life, it could only be reached by a liberal education of all the faculties, or else the highest good of the individual would suffer. She deplored the present day, which produced no such versatility of achievements in one man as in Michael Angelo and others of his day. The subject was afterward open to general discussion, which showed the opinions about equally divided. Mrs. Berryhill then congratulated the committee on the fine success of their new method in treating the subject, and so well had both sides been brought out that she for one was like Miss Polly at the women's suffrage convention in New York—when both sides of the question were brought to her she signed both papers. Mrs. Berryhill felt that the truth lay between the two points. Miss McHenry closed by saying that though it is said a child's education should begin three hundred years before it was born, yet the teacher's study must be confined to the years of the child's school life.

#### Nov. 21, WOMAN'S CLUB, 1894.

Wednesday afternoon an unusually large number of ladies assembled at the Christian church parlors to listen to the regular program of the Woman's Club. The subject being that inexhaustible one, "Woman and Her Work." After roll call and with Mrs. Lowry Goode in the chair Mrs. Hatton introduced Mrs. Gifford, who gave a feminine and therefore sweeping birds-eye view of the present political, commercial and social world in her excellent paper on current events. She was followed by Mrs. Risser, who gave informally a short description of Field's museum and the Woman's Club in Chicago, which place she visited in company with Mesdames A. B. and J. C. Cummins. Field's museum was established through the generous donations of Marshall Field to preserve intact the available remains of the World's Fair. Mrs. Bibbins, chairman of the woman's work department, in a few strong remarks introduced the subject and Mrs. W. H. McHenry, who read an imposing paper on "Women in the Professions," showing a vigorous and dauntless trust in woman's public fitness to enter the professions when either inclination or necessity calls for her to do so, though in every woman, she thought, there had been wisely implanted the desire, stronger than all other to preside over an ideal home;

yet, if women do enter the profession of either medicine, ministry or law the effect of her mind for order, honesty and cleanliness and purity would do much toward raising humanity to a higher plane. She gave a vivid and not altogether tempting picture of our local law courts, and said that when women were oftener seen on the bench criminal trials might be treated more as necessary surgical operations and not as obscene shows. She spoke very highly of women in the practice of medicine, and also when she entered the ministry, for she seldom disgraced that high calling. Mrs. Sooy then read a noble paper on "Woman as Builders," builders in the home and in the philanthropic field, beginning with that pioneer for women's emancipation, Mary Wolsoncraft. She paid touching tribute to the present large number of workers, who are devoting their lives to noble purposes. The program was closed by Mrs. Hillis, who spoke without notes and with finished ease and vivacity. She said that she had changed her first idea of treating her topic on learning that the subject would be opened afterwards to discussion, and that she would now endeavor to produce a diversity of opinions by her remarks and would therewith speak of our grandmothers who were fast becoming an extinct species with their quaint courtly manners, modest, quaint attire, in fact our ideal grandmother, the all-around house wife with her multiplicity of duties and her strange sense of morality and propriety. Now it was most difficult to distinguish in the club woman of to-day, gowned with latest fashion, with hair in most approved style and with a lively interest in everything under the sun; a typical grandmother. She gave praise to the present woman who, though her hair might be gray and lines were traced on her forehead, yet was as full of interest as her younger sister of 20. She deplored the lack of reverence and the good old fashioned qualities of our fast disappearing grandmothers. Her paper was unique; fearless talking and much enjoyed. "Be good and you'll be happy" might be the grand total of the afternoon's thought.

#### Dec. 5, WOMEN'S CLUB, 1894.

Wednesday afternoon occurred the regular meeting of the Women's Club, which was held in the auditorium of the Central Christian church instead of the parlors, which were at that time given to the busy mart of the rainbow bazaar, and which, by the constant coming and going of visitors therefrom gave rise to an appreciation in the auditorium for clear enunciation, which was a most commendable feature of Mrs. J. S. Windsor's number. After the usual business was transacted, the president, Mrs. Lowry Goode, spoke a few words in the interest of the art exhibition to be given during the holidays and then introduced Mrs. Breeden, chairman of the current topics committee, who at once introduced Mrs. Fred Lehman, Mrs.

J. C. Cummins and Mrs. Stewart Goodrell, each giving in part a resume of this globe's progress for the month past from foot ball to the president's message. Mrs. Van Slyke, chairman of the miscellaneous topics committee, then introduced Mrs. Sarah Maxwell, who gave the first of a series of papers on the "Institute of France." She was followed by Mesdames A. B. Cummins, L. F. Andrews, J. S. Windsor and Miss Elizabeth Matthews. Mrs. Andrews' paper gave the history of the Academy of Art. Mrs. Cummins, the Academy of Letters, and Mrs. Windsor's the Academy of Science, while Miss Matthews' gave a concise, logical resume of the merits and demerits of this world-famed institute. Mrs. Van Slyke closed the programme with a paper on the history of the "Royal Society of London." In respect to the afternoon, it might be termed a "learned one" with the learned.

#### Dec. 19, WOMAN'S CLUB, 1894.

"Political Economy" was the subject for Wednesday's meeting of the Woman's Club. Mrs. Lowry Goode presiding. Mrs. Harry West, chairman of the Art Loan Exhibit, stated that the Woman's Club committee settled the question of admittance to be charged to the exhibit. Mrs. Hatton introduced Mrs. Nat Coffin, who read an excellent paper on the art loan. She gave some of the characteristics of the different artists and their works. Mrs. Burgess then introduced Mrs. Martha Callanan, who read a paper on "Vashti." She gave a graphic account of the banished queen of Ahasuerus and her strength of character to hold her own against the absolute and despotic will of her drunken husband, and with the decree that from that time forth every man should bear rule in his own house, which was sent forth to every people in their own language. So ever since it has been with every savage tribe and heathen nation, and has been engrafted in the written code of every civilized country. In it is contained the spirit of subjection that the young woman has been taught to take upon herself with her marriage vows. It has not been told her it is no part of God's law; that in the beginning it was written that "God created man in his own image: that male and female created he them." She showed the bible's version of man and woman's equality, and that marriage should be more than a civil contract. There should be unanimity of thought and purpose, and where that is the question of authority will never occur. She reviewed briefly the fact of our country's code being taken from that of England, which was based on man's authority over woman. Speaking also of the abuses and injustices done thereby, and to have this country true to its own declaration of rights and conform the plan of God's government, there should be a second amendment to the constitution removing all restrictions that can be construed as opposed to women. In closing she said: "If Vashti, queenly and true to every womanly instinct,



## MARRIAGES.

**ANGELL-WATROUS**—December 18, at St. Paul's Episcopal church, Miss Marion Watrous to Mr. James Rowland Angell of Chicago, Rev. Dr. Wilkins officiating.

Presumably no bride ever looked lovelier in her bridal gown and veil, or carried with her more love and esteem than did Marion Watrous Tuesday evening as she passed up the center aisle of St. Paul's church on the arm of her father to receive at the altar the marriage vows which united her to Mr. James Rowland Angell. The chancel was a bower of green fragrant lilies and roses, arranged by the Altar Chapter. Ropes of arbor vitae festooned the chancel rail while on each side leading to the altar were placed on small white covered tables bowls of white roses. Back of the altar stately palms and ferns were banked to the chancel ceiling from the center of which hung festoons of arbor vitae. Around the altar, suggestive of the sacred occasion, of Christmas good will and of the bride herself were placed the easter lilies. Before six o'clock the church was filled with friends and relatives and Organist Sinclair heralded the coming of the bridal party with several selections, which were, Wedding Bells, Swedish Wedding March and Mendelssohn's Wedding March from which he changed to Lohengren as the white robed choir appeared chanting "The Voice that Breathed o'er Eden." Following the choir, up the center aisle guarded with the white ribbons came the bridal party, Reverend Doctor Wilkins accompanied by Reverend Doctor Cooley, and next the ushers, Mr. Jones and Mr. Edward Watrous, Messrs. Phillip and Charles Watrous; following them coming the bride on the arm of her father, and preceded by her maid of honor, Miss Mary Maish. At the chancel rail they were met by Mr. Angell and Dr. Thomas B. Cooley where they received the betrothal. The vows of marriage were then received at the altar with the full Episcopal service. After the benediction the choir rendered "O Perfect Love." The bridal party then following them out—the couple proceeding to the home of the bride's father, Capt. C. L. Watrous, where an elaborate supper was served the following wedding party: Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Watrous, the host and hostess; Pres. and Mrs. Angell of Ann Arbor, father and mother of the groom; Dr. A. C. Angell of Detroit and James Angell, also their sons; Dr. T. J. Cooley

of Ann Arbor and Mr. Robert E. Jones of Webster City, who, together with the bride's three brothers, Messrs. Phillip, Edward and Charles Watrous, ushered at the church; Mr. and Mrs. Thummell, Mr. and Mrs. Jaquith, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Gage, Dr. and Mrs. Wilkins and the Misses Maish. The home had been beautifully embellished with lilies and roses, the decorations of the bride's table being the pink and white hues in roses. At nine twenty-five the couple left for Chicago, their future home where Mr. Angell occupies a chair in the Chicago University. The bride wore an imported gown of white liberty satin and point applique, made and designed by Miss Kight; also the veil and carried lilies of the valley tied with long white ribbons. Her maid of honor, Miss Mary Maish, was gowned in delicate blue silk and carried a huge bunch of pink roses. Both Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Angell are graduates of Ann Arbor where they met. The bride is of a strong intellectual character, well fitted to fill her place as companion of a man in high literary pursuits. The out-of-town guests also left the evening of the wedding. President and Mrs. Angell and son, James, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thummell during their stay in Des Moines. Mrs. Thummell entertaining at one o'clock luncheon on the day of the wedding, the wedding party. The repast was served from four tables which were handsomely decorated with flowers—one with yellow roses, one with pink, one with white marcessus and the other with white roses and green.

**LYONS-BYERS**—At the residence of Major S. H. M. Byers, Terrace Road, December 19, Miss Carolyn E. Byers, to Mr. D. B. Lyons, Rev. A. L. Frisbie, D. D., officiating.

There were present at this quiet wedding only the parties to it and the parents, sisters and brothers of the bride and groom. It occurred at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the service used by Dr. Frisbie being the ring service, so-called. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons left on the Rock Island train for Chicago the same evening, to remain there a few days, during which time rooms in the Iliad are being pleasantly fitted up for their occupancy. They will be at home in their rooms after Christmas. No invitations have been and no at home cards will be issued, but those who know Mr. Lyons and who have become acquainted, since her residence here, with the lady who has become

his wife, will understand that the doors of their home will always swing hospitably for the reception of their friends; they will do so in a charmingly informal manner. Others than Mr. and Mrs. Lyons will have a heart-interest in the dedicating, on the eve of Christmas, of the new home. Two boys, Willard Lyons, aged 9 years, and Raymond, aged 6, will have a large part in such dedication. The marriage was indeed fixed at this particular time that these two little boys might, on Christmas eve, in a home of their own, hang up their stocking as they were wont to do in the home in which they lived as little children, but which home, by the illness of their mother, was broken up in May, 1892. The coming one will be the first Christmas since 1891 in which Willard and Raymond have had the opportunity of thus making ready for the visit of the patron saint of the children, the world over. The gift from the groom on the wedding day was a deed to the pretty grounds at Manhattan Beach, Lake Okoboji, and the handsome cottage that Mr. Lyons a few years ago built upon it, and also a block of ten thousand dollars' worth of the stock of the New England Syndicate, which organization erected and owns the well-known Iliad apartment block. This marriage is one of more than ordinary interest because of the prominence of the parties to it, such prominence being not merely because of their social positions, but also because of their recognition for qualities that confer distinctions of a much more enviable character. Mr. Lyons has been known for a good number of years as one of the successful business men of Des Moines and Iowa; as one whose judgment and energy in the line of projecting and carrying to successful issue large enterprises has been marked by the spirit of combined wisdom and courage. He was the organizer of the Central Loan and Trust Company, one of our leading financial institutions, and has been its active head from the date of such organization; he was the organizer of the Vermont Syndicate and has been the leader in its splendid work in the line of improving Kingman Place, and he has had the same sort of leadership with and conduct of the New England Syndicate, which gave Des Moines the beautiful Iliad. Prominent in business, Mr. Lyons has also been foremost in unselfish projects where public spirit and charity have had opportunities. To him, more perhaps than to all the other men of Des Moines, is a debt of gratitude owed for the movement which culminated in the building of the permanent and comfortable structure known as the Children's Home; he

has been a generous giver to, and always ready to be called-upon worker for the welfare of, that enterprise, as the ladies connected with its building are always pleased to testify. In other ways he has qualities that help to make up the man of well-rounded character; the busy man who always somehow finds time to help good causes. She that was Miss Byers, and is now Mrs. Lyons, is a lady of rare culture and refinement. She has been at the head of the school of physical culture and elocution which has gone by her name and which has been the means of quite a little progress in our city along two important lines and is possessed of a noble character. THE REVIEW joins in congratulations that are richly deserved.







could but express herself on the Iowa situation, I doubt not she would bid our women of to-day to lay by their crown of political ease and work with energy and determination for their emancipation and the power to rid themselves of their present estate of indifferent dependence and the thralldom of written laws, and would be instructing them in the duties of the hour." She also urged with her usual force, the need for women to gain the right to vote in order that the liquor evil be the more effectively battled with. In the discussion that followed Mrs. C. B. Atkins spoke of the little Island of New Zealand, where women are allowed to vote. It called to her mind the song, "There is a Happy Land Far, Far Away." Mrs. Stewart Goodrell then read a paper on temperance. Though expressing the fact that the most graceful way of living was to have mild opinions, and no prejudices, the paper displayed a deep conviction on the present state of temperance in our city. She held that there should be no compromise between right and wrong. Mrs. Leon Harvey then read an excellent paper on city sanitation. She spoke of the menace to health of garbage barrels, and of the ignoring by many of the directions of the health officers, not by the poor and ignorant alone, but by those ranked as good and influential citizens. She spoke of the necessity for closing the surface wells, and that every house should be connected with water pipes and sewer. Filled grounds are responsible for many of the evils attending the building of homes. In closing Mrs. Harvey earnestly urged that the women of the club should use their influence for the obtaining of good sanitary laws. Mrs. Lafe Young closed the exercises with an instructive paper on Vashti and political economy. It was concise and much to the point.

### Jan. 2, The Woman's Club, 1895.

The Woman's Club met Wednesday afternoon, and as usual the current topics were taken up. Mrs. Frisbie as chairman introducing Mrs. Berryhill, who made an animated report of the meeting in St. Louis of the board of the National Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Durley followed with a very careful and succinct account of the "Armenian Question," including a letter written to Mr. L. J. Kasson by Mr. Cyrus Hamlin of Turkey, deprecating the neutral attitude of the United States in the matter.

Mrs. J. C. Macy, chairman of the music committee, prefaced her program in very appropriate verses, and introduced Mrs. H. K. Love, who read a paper on "The Influence of Sacred Music in a Community." She spoke of the universal use of music in even the earliest and crudest religions down to its culmination in the oratorio which embodies the very spirit of devotion. Tubal Cain and Miriam were the earliest in biblical times to chant sacred songs. David wrote sacred cantatas and oratorios which were sung at triumphal processions, while following later were Solomon's songs of praise. All the religious ceremonies of the Jews were solemnized

with sacred music, and Christianity owed much to its influence. She quoted from George Herbert, "A verse may find him whom the sermon fails to reach." The writer made some very taking hits on the supposed aesthetic hymns of the agnostic to the "almighty and everlasting molecule."

The first of Christian hymns was the "Te Deum," sung by the newly converted St. Augustine upon Easter in 387. Many of our hymns are translated from the Greek and from the Latin.

Mrs. Love related that Mr. Matthew Arnold chanced to attend the church of Rev. John Watson where was sung "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died." The hymn impressed Mr. Arnold so much that he hummed it once afterward, and spoke of it at lunch as being such a beautiful hymn. He soon after started out for a walk, and in fifteen minutes he was dead.

The writer then went on to speak of the martial uses of sacred music; of the hymns sung in the armies of William the Conqueror and Oliver Cromwell uplifting and leading them on to victory. But as music exalts, so it may, by being put to base uses, deteriorate. More money is annually paid by salaried for the attractions of music than is paid by churches for their choirs.

To illustrate certain portions of the theme Mrs. Mac Rae from time to time sweetly interluded with a verse from "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and "Abide with Me." Altogether the paper was excellent.

Following this was a contralto solo by Mrs. Mac Rae, "Ninety and Nine," accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Faatz.

To introduce the next paper, by Mrs. Ernest Brown, entitled "Cradle Songs," Mrs. Walter McCain sang "Sleep, Baby of Mine." Mrs. Brown's paper was, as she said, to celebrate that part of the day between daylight and dark called "children's hour." Every country has its songs of war, of love and its cradle songs. These folk-love ditties handed down from generation to generation link the present with the past. Nowadays when many mothers essay to study Froebel and set up kindergartens at home the old though dear Mother Goose absurdities seem to find no place. The writer had heard that large families were to be again in fashion; if so, how could they "sing a song-o-sixpence" and the story of Cock Robin be dispensed with? She recited a quaint lullaby translated from the German. All very sweet and soothing till, if the child were not asleep at the end of the third verse, a fourth verse was sung hinting of wolves and other dangers to babies who did not go to sleep. But why, asks the writer, do all cradle songs emanate from mothers? Why are not some sung by the father? She made a few racy allusions to the modern jokes bearing on the new departure of women, and the fatherly lullabys said to be in preparation for the basso profundo.

After reciting a tender lullaby by James Whitcomb Riley, she spoke of the lullabys of nature as autumn lulled the flowers to their long winter's sleep, and of the birds' twittering lullabys to their young. At the mention of Mendelssohn's lullaby songs, their soft strains began to accompany the speaker as she dropped into the supposed reverie of a mother sitting in the twilight of life and of the day thinking of her children, now in their homes with children of their own. Mrs. Brown's clear voice and distinct utterance was only rendered more effective by the music. The reverie was interrupted by the home-coming of the

children to spend the holidays at the old home, and the music modulated into the "Christmas Carol," making a touching and beautiful finale for the essay.

The last number on the program was a lullaby song by Miss Marie Chambers of Ames, who afterward responded to an encore by singing "When the Heart Is Young." She was accompanied by Mrs. Robert Dempster.

### Jan. 16, THE WOMAN'S CLUB, 1895.

The Wednesday afternoon meeting was in charge of the history department. As the program was long, current topics were dispensed with. Mrs. Whisenand in a few introductory remarks said that it had been decided to depart from the beaten path and discuss Norway and Sweden. She then introduced Mrs. T. M. Walker whose subject was "The Eddas" of Ireland. She said the Eddas were two collections of writings made at different dates and containing history, mythology, poems and rules for writing and gave an insight into the social customs, religions, fears and aspirations of the people. She said the people were very susceptible to Christianity because of their belief that all their gods would sometimes die. All the missionary priests had to do was to tell them that their gods had died and they straightway became converted. In closing she gave a beautiful legend from "The Eddas."

Mrs. Alice A. C. Bailey was then introduced, her subject being "Olaf of Norway." She said that Olaf was born 964. That he and his mother, being pursued by enemies, started to flee to Russia but were captured by pirate ships and sold into slavery. Olaf, however, was never abused on account of his wonderful beauty. He had a masterful disposition and being after some years set at liberty at the age of 12 he assumed the command of a Viking ship. After spending much time in travel, Greece and Prussia, he was confirmed to Christianity in Dublin. By this time the usurper in his own country began to dread his power and so had him decoyed back home. Here, to the surprise of both parties, the people declared him king. During his short reign of five years he used every effort to promote christianity and to this is due the superior place which this king holds in history.

Mrs. Sarah P. Clark followed with a most excellent paper upon Gustavus Adolphus. She touched upon his ancestry and gave a clear idea of the political condition of the country. She said that at the age of 17, when he succeeded his father to the throne, he was a fine military leader, a brilliant writer and an eloquent orator. In closing her paper she described the war which Gustavus waged in Germany which was so remarkable in its lack of deeds of violence.

Mrs. Amanda R. Carter followed with a paper on "The Political Outlook." Her paper gave so many historical facts hinging upon each other that it is almost impossible to give a synopsis. She set forth most clearly the position held in history by the family of Bernadote, whose wife was the first love of Napoleon. She said that Oscar II, the present sovereign, is a poet, painter and orator, besides being the most kindly-looking monarch in Europe. She described the peculiar position which Norway and Sweden held towards each other. It seems that they have nothing in common but their king and war and peace; an attack upon one country meaning an attack upon both. She said that their present conflict was concerning foreign representation.

Mrs. J. W. Vail of Colfax was then introduced and gave the address of the day. Mrs. Vail was gowned in a Worth creation, a gray crepon, with a garniture of the same around the skirt, interspersed with black moire bows. The waist was belted with black moire ribbon and trimmed with white passementerie. She wore a stock of emerald colored velvet, with a tiara of the same shade in her hair. Mrs. Vail's subject was "The Land of the Midnight Sun," and she described the things she saw when she visited the North Cape in a tourist steamer last summer. She said that the boats were fitted up with every modern convenience, and that there was no seasickness on the trip on account of the natural breakwater afforded by the islands. Before starting, however, she met that eminent playwright, Henrik Ibsen, at Christinia. As the boat wound around near the coast she saw many picturesque villages, with their roofs covered with turf, green with grass and blooming with wild flowers. She describes a natural tunnel in one of the islands with roof 600 feet above the level of the sea and large enough for a ship to pass through in full sail. The legend connected with this natural wonder was that a giant horseman shot an arrow at a disdainful maiden and it pierced the rocks at this place. Mrs. Vail gave a description of a Lapp encampment; told how they made their tents, and their custom of hanging up their baby's cradle and all on hooks, inside or outside, on some tree. She also described the manner of catching and cutting up whales. When the party reached the North Cape they repaired to a summer house and drank a toast. In closing Mrs. Vail gave a beautiful quotation from Thomas Carlyle on the subject of the North Cape. When Mrs. Vail had finished her paper the club tendered her a vote of thanks for the pleasure she had afforded them. This closed one of the most entertaining and instructive of the club's meetings. Mrs. Vail while here was the guest of Mrs. Whisenand.

### Feb. 13, Club Doings, 1895.

At this week's meeting an unusually large attendance was observed. One of the first events of the afternoon was a short address by Mrs. Macomber, who announced her topic as "The Woman's Club," and prefaced her remarks by challenging disagreement on the part of her hearers. Too often had they followed the easy way of concession. The club, she said, had long been a literary organization, and so far had done good work; but there were no signs of even literary growth—as a club. The papers of this year were no better than last year's or of the year before, and for sufficient reason; all are first papers. Her ideal of a working club was one that does original work. She approved of the Schumann afternoon, when, in addition to papers about Schumann, Schumann's music was played, and another afternoon when all of the literary efforts were original stories. She favored what she termed practical work. To illustrate: "At a recent conversational meeting few present knew what system of music is being taught in the public schools." As few, perhaps, know anything about our municipal affairs. She recommended that next year each committee on practical departments be formed from those who would, from choice, be on those committees, so as to have on them those most interested and who can, therefore, do thorough work.

Mrs. Potter, chairman of the art com-



mittee, then took up the afternoon's work, and after a neat introductory speech, introduced Mrs. Abbie Billington, who, in a pleasing manner, recited a very creditable original poem entitled "The Dawn of Art."

The chairman then, with mysterious suggestiveness, announced "Hellas!" when there appeared a beautiful Greek-draped figure, who, in musical tones, recited an ode to art. The part was well assumed by Mrs. Stewart Goodrell.

A paper on "Modern Painters and the Renaissance" was read by Mrs. Harry West. She began with the observation that all modern art was a renaissance of some kind, and painting has its isms like literature, as realism, romanticism, classicism, etc. The old masters came in an age of religious expression and portrayed their sincere religious sympathies. Fra Angelico began work by fasting and prayer. When Art appeared in Holland painting got separated from religion. The revolution which gave national life to Holland made art materialistic. The utmost care was taken in mentioning the most noted artists of Holland, Flanders, France, England and America, and what particular trait distinguished the work of each, as: Rembrandt loved the effect of light through masses of shade. Turner, beloved of Ruskin, so loved his pictures that he had one of his greatest pictures buried with him. Detail, of no importance to the romanticists, is of first importance to the realist. Jerome is distinguished as the great impressionist. Impressionism sacrifices any obvious detail for the sake of painting what is seen by the inner consciousness. Every good painting has impressionism. The Norwegian art is simpler in its methods than that of other nations. Their strange light effects are now discovered to be owing to their long day.

This being a day of surprises, another very interesting one was the illustration by Mr. Clarence Baldwin of how modeling is done. With a plain pine cross, resting on a work-desk, and a pail full of wet clay, Mr. Baldwin exhibited the mysterious process of creating form out of shapelessness. As the work progressed the deft fingers of the sculptor could be seen feeling for the cheeks, the eyes or the brow, which all the time were there waiting to be found. "In modeling, unlike building, we start from the top and build down," observed the gentleman, as he clapped the first chunk of mud on the top of the wooden frame. The exhibition was watched with almost breathless interest by the spectators, and in not over twenty minutes the head of a man was seen in clear outlines, reminding one of a bronze bust of some Oriental. A brisk applause greeted the close of his work, and a vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Baldwin for his favor. It was rumored regretfully throughout the balcony that Mr. Baldwin will leave Des Moines in the spring for New York and wider opportunities for study. A number of curios and antiques were on exhibition. The stage was most tastefully decorated with gems of art.

#### Feb. 27. The Woman's Club, 1895.

As usual, the meeting Wednesday, at the Central Christian church, was full of interest. Mrs. H. L. Stetson, as chairman of the literature committee, presided. The chief feature of the afternoon was a critical synopsis of Halle Caine's novel, "The Manxman," by Dr. Francis Carothers; a month's review of current events, by Mrs. Harold Howell; a strong and eloquent paper on "The Value of the Purpose Novel"; by Mrs. W. C. Ballard; a splendid

reading from Ingomar, by Miss Keating of Des Moines College and another fine paper

"The Symbolic School in Literature" by Mrs. Reichard. The annual business meeting of the club will be held Wednesday, March 13, at which time the matter of securing a permanent club house will be discussed.

#### Bright Thoughts From Clever Women.

Mrs. Virginia Reichard read before the women's club recently a carefully prepared paper upon Symbolism, a subject which is receiving more and more attention from thoughtful readers. The following thoughts were gleaned from her writings: "Symbolism tho' builded upon the broad foundation which says 'all language is symbolism and all art is language,' as a school necessarily confines itself to narrower bounds." Its followers, variously known as "decadents," "impressionists," "symbolists," have had an organized existence for more than a decade. They are just now the "latest literary fashion" in France, and are laboring to prove to an unsympathetic world that they and they alone have the key to literary perfection—but only recently has it been conceded that they are a possible revolutionary force in French literature. The "yellow primrose" type of humanity has nothing in common with this school of writers. Not only must the principle, the idea, which lies beyond the object be grasped, but we must, in order to be in accord with the poetic mind, be able to clothe inanimate things with a personality—even the world itself. \* \* \* The thought of affinities and secret analogies between color and sound, sound and fragrance, or fragrance and color, is not new. Geo. Elliott makes Dorothea say: "It is strange how colors penetrate one like scent." Cardinal Newman wrote: "I can not of that music rightly say, whether I hear or touch or taste the sounds." It is sometimes said of a picture that its "color scale is musical." \* \* \* Poe was unwittingly a symbolist and expressed their own theory in saying "just as the lily is repeated in the lake or the eyes of Amaryllis in the mirror, so is the mere oral or written repetition of certain forms, sounds, colors, odors and sentiments a duplicate source of delight." Symbolist writers show a fine disregard of established precedents and have discounted the Alexandrine form in which all French dramatic poetry has hitherto been written, claiming that it hampers expression. It is a fundamental principle of symbolism, as the name implies, that back of every sentence and page there lies depths of thought and feeling only fathomed by an inner sense which reveals beauties far transcending perceived by the literal or external reading. Thus in parable and allegory, as with outer husk or wrapping, do they attempt to convey to the world the principles of truth and beauty, while critics amuse themselves sending their stinging arrows of sarcasm toward a school which takes itself seriously and seems to be holding its own with dignity."

#### A Suggestion.

A gentle criticism has been made by a number of women prominent in literary clubs that the committees fill the afternoon entirely too full, that there is no time left for discussion or to ask questions. Just recently a number of interesting subjects and quite new ones, too, have been brought before the club in papers of great length and especially well written, which would admit of very extended discussion. Those who do not take part feel that they are cheated. Unless one can be able to listen most at-

tentively, or to take copious notes, there is very little opportunity to learn much of an entirely new subject.

#### The Women's Club.

The annual business meeting of the Women's club on Wednesday was well attended, and the business of the hour demanded the attention of the entire membership. After reports of various committees, the matter of sending delegates to the Cedar Rapids convention in May was presented to the society. Mrs. E. H. Carter was elected as delegate, with Mrs. J. C. Cummins as alternate. Mrs. Lowry W. Goode is a delegate ex-officio, and Mrs. W. H. Baily was chosen as alternate. The new board will consist of Mesdames L. H. Abdill, W. H. Baily, J. G. Berryhill, E. H. Carter, E. R. Clapp, A. B. Cummins, J. C. Cummins, J. G. Day, P. B. Durlay, D. G. Edmundson, B. F. Elbert, Lowry W. Goode, Dr. Potter, Jay K. Macomber, A. B. Morse, R. A. Patchin, R. R. Peters, D. R. Reichard, J. A. Jackson, T. M. Walker, J. H. Windsor, M. C. Callanan, A. L. Frisbie, and Misses Elizabeth Mathews and Rachael Clark. Mrs. Callanan, Mrs. Frisbie, Mrs. Jackson and Miss Mathews are new members.

#### Stray Thoughts.

Pity 'tis that in such a noble organization as the Des Moines Women's Club there should exist a spirit of strife. In every well organized body numbering over a hundred members there is always more or less dissatisfaction over an election, but that does not always mean that ill feeling toward any especial member or members exists. But more deplorable still is the fact that there lives a member of the board capable of telling what belongs strictly to the club, and cannot possibly be the business of anyone out of the board or club, if such be the case. At any rate a report has been circulated that the "warmth" of the board meeting, recently, attained such a degree that it almost reached the point of dividing the club into factions. Whether or not this is the case—which many firmly deny—is the business of no one outside of the membership, and that anyone should furnish facts enough that a sensational letter might be written to a neighboring town paper is certainly a most deplorable fact. Let the newspapers and gossips call a halt and put forth an effort to make reparation for the unkind slurs and remarks thrown at as noble a body of high minded, discriminating and cultured women as ever formed an organization for their own advancement, which will naturally result in good to every citizen of this city.

#### THE HORRID MAN.

Some member of the Women's Club has been telling him tales out of school and City Editor Bicknell, of the Register, has been embellishing them and writing horrid stuff to the Marshalltown Times-Republican. He pictures the excellent ladies, on the occasion of their recent election, as coming but little short of having had a regular hair-pulling scrap. It was wicked in Bicknell to go to telling about their little troubles, but the excellent women themselves should get on to so high a level of unselfishness and good behavior that even members who are disposed to gossip cannot tell hurtful truths outside.

#### Mar. 27. At the Women's Club, 1895.

This is undoubtedly the children's age. Much is being written of them and for them. Miss Olive McHenry at the Women's club Wednesday read an excellent paper upon "Juvenile Literature." "Wordsworth was one of the first writers that discovered children and wrote about them. Dickens following soon after thought it the most natural thing in the world to give child character and after the first surprise was over others took it up. Wordsworth discovered the solitary element in childhood, and as no one had done before, invested it with a fine spiritual and ethical quality. Referring to the selection of books for children she said that they should read fairy books and other like tales. What would life be to us if there were no childhood days where fairies danced on the green and even the trees and flowers could talk. It is also a mistake to give the child something that has been written down to his comprehension. It is important to develop a child's love of history, as no one can be well read without a knowledge of the past. Some of the best thoughts of a writer, depending as they do upon historic events or persons, are entirely lost to the reader not familiar with history. It is so, too, with bible reference, with which all literature is enriched. A knowledge of the bible belongs to an intelligent education. Miss McHenry said that next to the parents the one who should influence the child's reading is the teacher. The best part in a child's education is the interest created in good literature. The teachers are waking up all over the land and the children are reaping the benefits of this awakening. The value of a school library can scarcely be comprehended. The children will read and if the books be not carefully selected the result will be far from beneficial. Speaking of literature for boys she said: "Boys are fond of intense energy and action, and this fondness is appealed to in the books written for them. This is all right under certain limitations. Travels and adventures properly told ought to interest all healthy minds. But in many of the books written for boys the general spirit is of a boy who runs away from home, has many adventures, becomes wealthy, returns, marries the prettiest girl in town, and all live happy ever after. The more impossible the situations into which his daring leads him, the more impossible the manner in which he gets out of them, the more thumb-marks the book has on the margins. Girls books, many of them, run to a sentimentality that is exceedingly morbid—especially the kind we call goody-goody. Here we see a girl, forsaking dolls and healthy games, filled with a desire to have a 'mission'—and she begins by trying to reform her parents—and dies when she has just about accomplished her work. It is no wonder children begin to think their parents a detriment to their proper development."

#### ENLARGEMENT OF THE HEART.

Des Moines' Woman's Club has graciously decided to hereafter admit the press-reporters to their meetings, provided the boys produce the usual admission fee at the door. This is kindness indeed and will certainly result in much mental and moral good to the reporters.



The members of the Woman's Club take a vast and justifiable degree of pride in the acquisition of the beautiful bronze statue, "Joan of Arc," and well they may, for its ownership bespeaks the energy and determination which usually characterizes that body in its undertakings.

The striking figure of the dreamer to whom the "voices" said such portentous and unutterable things, finally impelling her to deeds of strength and valor the world has never wearied in recounting, impresses the observer by its fidelity to the principles of truth and beauty in art, and it is the nucleus around which other valuable works will eventually gather. The statue will remain for the present in the public library. Apropos of the purchase by the club a presumably well-meaning person has kindly volunteered the opinion that the money thus expended would have been much better bestowed in aiding or educating some of our working girls. In the same vein it has been often and broadly hinted that it is quite time for this representative body of women to identify itself with charitable work of some kind which shall gain for it honorable mention, if not a medal. Charity and philanthropy have many meanings to many minds, but in the sense of universal love and goodwill they are synonymous. There is other giving than the mere bestowal of clothes, food and shelter, and there are starved people who go about making no sign—those who have a mighty yearning for intellectual sustenance, for companionship, for the sweet association of books, pictures, music, and other amenities of life.

The effort to establish an art collection seems to the writer to be pure philanthropy in its truest sense. The high standard and literary excellence of the work accomplished by such organizations as the Woman's Club has helped many a bright, ambitious woman to a realization of her powers—has given comfort and encouragement to many a weary worker—strengthened and refreshed tired mothers—furnished intellectual stimulus equally to the young girl and the elderly woman, and surely counts for much in the line of philanthropic endeavor, remaining always a power for good.

#### JOAN OF ARC BEATIFIED.

NEW YORK, April 21.—A dispatch from Paris says: It is estimated that at least ten thousand strangers are in town to attend the services to-morrow in Notre Dame in celebration of the beatification of Joan of Arc, to be hereafter known as the venerable Johanne of Lorraine. The principal celebration will take place in the Cathedral of Notre Dame, for which eight thousand tickets have been issued. The archbishop of Paris will celebrate high pontifical mass, and seats will be reserved for President Carnot, his advisers and the members of the senate and chamber of deputies without regard to theological affiliation. The chanting of the Te Deum will be assisted in by the bands of four regiments of the national guard. The services will be general throughout France, and especially in the dioceses of Rouen, Rheims and Orleans, with all of which regions the new saint is identified.

Poor Joan of Arc is not to be admitted to the calendar of the Catholic saints. Joan is said to have no qualities which would entitle her to sainthood. Not a miracle has been wrought by her intercession. She is said to represent a national sentiment, not a

#### Women's Club Notes, 1895

Mrs. C. E. Risser in her paper before the Women's Club Wednesday touched the keynote of women's work in the club. She said: "All over this land, and other lands, the influence of the Women's Club is being felt in helping to usher in this new era of the higher education of women. Women are finding in their social and intellectual club a stimulus, a strength and inspiration which our grandmothers hungered for and never found. The scholarly woman finds in her club the social companionship which she demands and the appreciative working force which cannot be reduced to any such terms. Clubs have taught women to know themselves, to understand the highest duties of motherhood, to feel the sacredness of home life, to see existing wrongs and to apply needed remedies, to attempt reforms on the broadest basis, to value the power of higher education, to discuss measures, to value social duties and business habits, to think earnestly and to express their thoughts clearly. They have strengthened two weak hands with the combined power of twenty or a hundred. They have taken a dull, uncut gem of thought and polished it until it has been fit for the purest setting in refined gold. They have mastered great difficulties, conquered absurd prejudices, solved difficult problems, and the greatest work of all has been to teach the women their own possibilities, and the glory of their own heritage. A true club woman can never ride one hobby. Club life forbids it. \* \* \* Thought sharing develops character, as profit-sharing develops the labour; both are parts of the Divine principles of human helpfulness. This thought building and character building has been the work of our Women's Clubs in America."

The successful discussion of Mrs. Hume's paper on Wednesday afternoon sustains the feasibility of the suggestion that the papers should close in time for discussion. Mrs. Hume read a pointed, well-written and spicy paper on "Woman's Limitations." Despite the fact that it was exceedingly well prepared, abundant in most profound thought and was beautifully read, it was not broad enough for the easy acceptance by the audience of distinguished women in attendance at the club. They gained from it that the main thought was the belittling of women, which fact was implied more in the quotations used in the paper than in the speaker's own words. The moment time was given for discussion there were several ready to speak against the theory advocated, the result being one of the warmest discussions ever held in the club. Much more value is received at such a club meeting than when the entire time is entirely occupied by the paper minus the discussion.

The "coming man" was introduced on Wednesday. He is to share with the wife and mother the care of the children, the study of their moral training and their education. While the wife is growing mentally and coming nearer to the every interest of the husband he is growing more gentle and patient and walking in closer communion with his intellectual wife. The question as to which is the more given to hysterics is still unsolved.

Mrs. A. L. Frisbie was chosen to respond to the toast on behalf of the Woman's Club at the Henrotin-Club banquet at the Savery house May 6. The federated clubs are making great preparations for the entertainment of Mrs. Henrotin. Mrs. Berryhill is to introduce her on Monday afternoon at the Christian church and Mrs. Macomber is to be toastmaster Monday evening.

The following chairmen of committees have been chosen:

Art—Mrs. S. H. M. Byers, Miss Mary Roberts.

Literature—Mesdames H. B. Hawley, C. B. Atkins.

Education—Mesdames W. H. Harwood, Edwin L. Bowen.

Woman's Work—Mesdames C. E. Rawson, Roswell P. Dart.

Miscellaneous Topics—Mrs. C. W. Johnston, Miss Ella McLoney.

Sub-committee on Philanthropic Work—Mesdames Isaac L. Hillis, C. E. Risser.

Political Economy—Mesdames F. W. Dodson, F. A. Baylies.

Music—Mesdames T. F. Stevenson, Harold Howell.

History—Mesdames William Kennedy George Carter.

Social—Mesdames Harry Elliott, John Trepanier, D. B. Lyons, N. E. Coffin.

Current Topics—Miss Kyle, Mesdames T. N. Newell, J. L. Sooy, E. C. Spinney, Leon A. Harvey, B. F. Kauffman, W. N. Clifford, Herman Cook.

As members of the board, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Mrs. S. A. Marine and Mrs. H. C. Potter, there were elected Mesdames E. H. Conger and Ernest Brown.

Mrs. D. H. Reichard was duly elected second vice-president in the place of Mrs. R. R. Peters, resigned.

Mrs. C. B. Van Slyke was elected chairman of the committee on printing for next year and Mrs. J. C. Cummins was placed on the same committee for the remainder of this year. Other members are Miss Matthews and Mrs. P. B. Durley.

May 22, 1895

It is not always that a committee chairman has a good conception of a subject assigned her to work upon, but Mrs. Givens, chairman of the music committee, had not only this conception, but the ability to carry it out, making for the Women's Club one of the best programs of the year. Rubenstein, he who did so much for music in Russia, as well as for other countries, was remembered, the program being designated a Rubenstein memorial. Mrs. Givens announced in a happy opening talk that the afternoon would be devoted to conversational music, and so it was. He is an artist who can understand the thoughts of another and clothe them in that language which will best express them to waiting auditors. Des Moines musicians never do anything by halves, consequently the afternoon was a complete success. If the string quartet, composed of Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton had organized and practiced simply to play that "adagio," their names would have become famous. They seemingly never played better, nor ever more favorably impressed an audience. The audience did likewise all it could to express appreciation. Mrs. Belknap and Mr. Metcalf were greeted with hearty applause as they appeared upon the platform, showing that they are favorites. Mrs. Belknap in her other numbers received merited encores. Her voice was

clear and sweet, and the spirit of her song shown out from her bright eyes. Miss Maude Orr Nelson is a skillful pianist, with a splendid appreciation of masterpieces. Mrs. I. Riegelman and Miss Hatton played the opening number as only two such devotees of the art could. The program, which was excellent, is given in full, that those who read may know what kind of programs it takes to win praise from a Des Moines audience:

ANTON RUBINSTEIN.

Piano—Ballet music, Nos. 2 and 3, four hands. . . . . From the opera, "Feramors," Mrs. Riegelman and Miss Hatton.

String Quartet—Lento. . . . . "Music of the Spheres." Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.

Songs {a: "Die Lerche," . . . . . Mrs. Belknap. {b: "Du Bist Wie Eine Blume," . . . . .

Piano {a: Romance, op. 44, No. 1. . . . . Mrs. Maud Orr Nelson. {b: Kammenoi—Ostrow, op 10, No. 22

Duet—"The Angel," . . . . . Mrs. Belknap and Mr. Metcalf.

Piano {a: Impromptu, op. 16, No. . . . . Miss Maude Orr Nelson. {b: Le Bal, op. 14, No. 16. . . . .

String Quartet—Adagio. . . . . Messrs. Riedelsberger, Graham, Steele and Heighton.

Mrs. Dr. Carter occupied the current topic time in reading a most concise and excellent report, as delegate, of the Cedar Rapids convention, in which she told of the great biennial and its originators; the place of meeting and the hostesses; the need of such a meeting and its possible effect on the future. It was a model report and interesting in every paragraph.

#### June 5, The Women's Club, 1895

Mrs. F. W. Cherry, chairman of the history committee of the Women's club, directed a very interesting program Wednesday afternoon. The subject chosen was "Historical Movements in France" and which she introduced in a very charming short talk. Mrs. Frisbie gave one of her interesting talks, occupying the first division of the subject and speaking for twenty minutes or more without notes. She always charms her hearers. She gave much of interest concerning the early history of France, mentioning more particularly the amphitheater at Artes, the citadel at Carcassonne, the tower of Charlemagne at Tours and the castle of Blois. Mrs. Frisbie was followed by Miss Louise Hughes who read a paper on the palace of Versailles and she in turn was followed by Mrs. C. E. Rawson with a sketch of Fontainebleau and its mighty forests. Forty or more photographs were displayed which splendidly illustrated the subject of the afternoon.

Mrs. Stella B. Morse resigned the secretaryship of the club and Mrs. Van Slyke was elected in her place. The next meeting of the club will be on Wednesday of next week when the members and their children are invited to assemble at Crocker Woods and listen to a program by the children. This most happy arrangement was the work of the social committee and has met with the hearty approval of all interested. The club year has been very successful from start to finish and may be called the climax of the ten years' work. The sessions have been harmonious on the whole and the programs have been broader and the sentiment for things literary and artistic greatly enlarged and strengthened.



**The Woman's Club Art Purchase.**

In view of the fact that Prof. Baldwin is soon to leave the city, and that his pictures have been very much admired by the members of the club, which is determined to establish an art gallery, the board purchased three pictures from him—the portrait of Miss Hunt, "Ready for Shopping," and "The Dancing Girl." The club is jubilant over the purchase, and the genial artist feels highly complimented. They also purchased from Mr. Harry Williams three pictures, an original, "The Brouelle Road," and two copies, "La Vieux Filet" from Rapin, and "Le Soir" from Hald Schmidt. Besides these recent purchases the collection belonging to the club now consists of the portrait of Sir Frederic Leighton, presented by Mrs. Henry Wallace, and a copy of Corot presented by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Field, and the two pieces of statuary, "Diana" and "Joan D'Arc." These new pictures will be placed in the public library as soon as they are transferred from the purchasing committee into the hands of the property committee. If very much more is secured to be placed in the city library it will surely necessitate the erection of a new building. But the club should be congratulated for its liberal spirit in insisting upon an art gallery for the city, and for its generosity toward the public demonstrated in its willingness to place this valuable collection where it can be seen by all, even though it be in crowded quarters. The "Joan D'Arc" was a world's fair purchase, and was listed at \$340, but they were given the duty off, which made it cost \$100 less. The "Diana" was an order, and was received through the port of Des Moines, but the club did not have to pay the duty. Mrs. Harry West was chairman of the committee making these purchases.

**For Next Year.**

The Women's club calendars for 1895-6 are being distributed. They are quite handsome, the first page bearing the club monogram in the club colors, green and white. The work is very nicely arranged and makes their eleventh annual announcement one of the best ever put out. The principal thing of interest it contains, for the general public, is the year's program, a synopsis of which is as follows:

September 25—Officer's Day.

October 9, Art—A day of art at St. Helen's.

October 23, Literature—Curiosities of American Literature and Two-minute Talks on Literary Subjects.

November 6, Education—Our Public School System: "Present Condition," Florence C. McFarland; "Its Needs and How to Supply Them," Elizabeth B. Clifford.

November 20, Woman's Work—"Woman in Politics," Martha C. Callanan and Nora S. Lehman; "Social Settlements," Alice S. Longley; "Hull House," Delia E. Ruttkay.

December 4, Miscellaneous Topics—"What are the Characteristics of an Ideal Municipal Government?" Juliet E. Read; "Women's Club Work," Frances S. Carothers; "Co-operative Housekeeping," Minnie H. Plumb.

December 18, Political Economy—"The Perils of our Republic," Marguerite B. Foster.

January 1, Music—"Mendelssohn," Sara L. McCain.

January 15, History—"The Poets as Preservers of American History," Addie B. Billington; "The Development of American Colleges for Women," Mary C. Stetson; "Historic Mothers and Wives of our Heroes,"

Mary M. Hughes; "American Teachers are American Character Builders," Sophia M. Andrews.

January 29—Social.

February 12, Art—A Madonna Day.

February 26, Literature—"Original Character Sketch," Virginia J. Berryhill; "A Code of Ethics," Harriet B. Windsor; "A Phantasy," Miss Howe.

March 11—Annual Business Meeting.

March 25, Education—"The Beautiful as an Educator," Ella Hamilton Durley.

April 8, Woman's Work—Sanitary Cooking: "Rumford Kitchen," Ida C. Cherry; "Household Economic Association," Luella A. McHenry; "Home Utilitarianism," Isabelle Matthews Macy; "Woman's Advantages," by the committee.

April 22, Miscellaneous Topics—"Do we Accept the French Literature?" Sarah A. Clapp; "Our Magazines," Lulu T. Shepherd; "The American Poets," Mary E. Carter.

May 6, Political Economy—"Public vs. Private Control of Municipal Franchises," Sue M. Lombard.

May 20, Music—"Woman in Music," Delia E. Ruttkay.

June 3, History—"Robert Burns and his Relation to Modern Literature," Lulu Cranston Harvey.

June 17—Social.

**JANUARY 24, 1891.**

The paper read before the Des Moines Women's Club recently, by Mrs. A. L. Frisbie, on "Judaism and Civilization," was one of the most thoughtful and deep-reaching papers coming before that body of intelligent women for some time. There was a golden thread running through the entire length of it from the first sentence of authorized history, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," binding it with unmistakable links to the present age, showing that she had been and still is a patient searcher of that Book upon which is based all law and history, and that by the light of the closing nineteenth century the former and more obscure parts should be interpreted and made plain. The Jews, as she states, are a most remarkable race, and though intermingling with nearly all the nations of the earth, without a living language, a flag, a nation, or a king, have kept themselves separate and distinct from all nations, as when first set apart as a peculiar people in the days when Abraham, with family, herds and flocks went out to seek a land promised him in the future to become, as his name indicates, the "father of many people." The straight forward march of her thoughts across history's page, looking neither to the right nor to the left, can not be followed in the space allotted here, but the paper should be carefully preserved in the archives of the club for the benefit of those who may come after, for she has, by her admirable paper, caused the turning of the eyes backward for a little and has put thoughts in the hearts of many, who, though knowing these facts abstractedly, have never had them placed before their minds in so plain and simple a light and language as in her admirable effort. Des Moines is justly proud of her talented women and

in this respect compares very favorably with any city of its wealth and population in the west.



# A WOMAN'S CLUB.

How to Form One, Conduct It,  
and Make It a Success.

The Best Authority in the Land on  
Women's Clubs—What Are  
the Essentials?

How Can a Woman's Club Be Successful?—How to Select Officers—  
Duties of the President—  
Does a Woman Make  
a Good Presiding  
Officer?

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Women's clubs are semi-public organizations. With few exceptions, women compose the entire membership, and only women are present at their regular meetings. This at the beginning—and it may long continue so—was a necessity. Where men and women meet in equal numbers, men take prominent places, while women retire into the background, and so fail of attaining what women's clubs are intended to secure.

It is of the conduct of women's clubs by women that this article is to treat. Their management must be determined by the material they have to work with, the objects they have in view, and the processes by which those objects are to be attained.

In most women's clubs there are some members who have had training which fits them for important positions. They are not only good writers, but they have learned to speak in debate and elsewhere extemporaneously. They are more or less familiar with parliamentary usage. They have the gift of leadership. In club organization, women thus qualified should take a prominent part, first in initiating the movement, and then in drawing up and adopting suitable constitutions. The constitution of a woman's literary club had best be brief yet definite. It should give the name and object of the club, provide for the election of officers and committees, fix the date of regular and annual meetings, and make alterations in the constitution. Possibly this is about all the constitution itself need contain. The working rules of the club should find embodiment in a system of by-laws that, by provision, may be easily changed. My reason for this suggestion is that almost every club, beginning small and without experience, is sure, as members and plans enlarge, to require very considerable changes, and these changes should be introduced into the by-laws rather than into the constitution. Experience proves the wisdom of such an arrangement.

In the choice of officers, persons of most experience and fitness should be selected, and every officer should feel that she has a personal responsibility. She should be always at her post and ready for duty. One who cannot do this should not accept office. On the officers and chairmen of committees rests the chief responsibility in the conduct of a woman's literary club.

In all ordinary cases the president must take the principal burden, giving thought, time and toil to the work of her organization. In many instances clubs having apparently no special advantages have sprung at once into prominence and efficiency because of wise management. Other clubs have remained for years in a condition of childhood, having but little growth or progress for want of a suitable leadership. While every club member has work to do from which there should be no shirk-

ing, and while the whole club should be in the best sense democratic in spirit, it will yet in most cases, be found true that success or failure will depend largely upon the tact, skill and efficiency of the presiding officer.

What, then, are her chief duties?

First of all, she must accept her position with a sense of responsibility, with a strong conviction of the value of the woman's club movement in general, and of the worth and possibilities of her own club in particular. She must put her mind, heart and time into it. Of course she will preside at all regular meetings. The order or disorder, the speedy or tardy transaction of business, all depend very largely on the presiding officer. She should call meetings to order promptly on time. She should have in mind or on paper an order of business that shall be clear and definite. Of course at times this order will be broken in upon. When the club is properly opened, let the president state directly the general purpose of the meeting. If any particular topic or resolution is to come up for discussion and action, let her state the question distinctly and call for remarks. When the time for action comes, or is supposed to have come, the resolution having been moved and seconded, let her restate the point and ask, "Are you ready for the question?" and then without much delay, if no one claims the floor, let the motion be put, giving—except in complimentary votes—the "ayes" and "nays" an equal opportunity, and afterward declaring the result. The president is never to take part in discussion unless she appoints a vice president or some member to act for the time in her place. It is her business to keep order, to decide questions of order, and to make sure that all the club members enjoy equal privileges. Routine business should be dispatched quickly. The president receives and introduces guests, receives and sends messages, and generally represents the club. She is expected to look after the work of committees, and to preside at joint committee meetings where the general interests of the club are concerned. These are simply a few leading points that an inexperienced club president would need always to keep in mind. The duties of other officers are usually defined in the by-laws of the constitution or in the constitution itself. They are so definite and obvious that they may be left to the good judgment of those concerned.

Club members can help on or hinder the orderly and profitable conduct of club gatherings. Let no member speak who has nothing to say, or continue speaking after the thing is said. Let her always address the chair and no one else. When a question is once decided, let the matter rest, unless some one who voted with the majority moves a reconsideration. Do not delay without good cause the prompt and rapid disposal of business; much time is lost from not observing such obvious parliamentary usages.

It has been said that the constitution of an organization should state its main object. A woman's literary club is not primarily a benevolent or charitable society. It was not organized to advance any particular "ology in religion, any scheme in politics, or any hobby in reform. Its members may take a deep and practical interest in such movements, and the club may qualify them to become efficient workers in these and other departments of philanthropy and religion. Indeed, women's clubs may often "lend a hand" incidentally in behalf of any needy cause; but still the real purpose of their organization is something different. They are organized and conducted primarily for the intellectual, social and moral improvement of their members, and for the general elevation of women. This end,

variously stated in their constitutions, is the prime reason for their existence.

And that reason is great enough to justify the necessary expenditure. If woman's work and sphere are to be enlarged, as they are enlarging continually, she must be trained for her new position. If women go into deliberative assemblies they must understand parliamentary usage. They must so overcome natural timidity and acquire such training as shall enable them to rise and speak consecutively and to the point on the various questions that may come up for discussion. They must acquire, if they do not already possess, that knowledge on literary subjects and on questions of the day that shall enable them to do this. Women's clubs are schools for this sort of training. They are colleges for post-graduates. They are a loving, confiding sisterhood in which class distinctions are put aside, strangers are brought to know and love each other, and those whom prejudices or differences of opinion may have separated come practically to forget their differences and to work in true fellowship for the great interests that are common to all. All who approve such ends and are qualified to assist in their promotion are eligible to club membership.

To the question, How should women's clubs be carried on so as best to accomplish the ends for which they exist? no answer can be given that shall apply to all cases. What may be well suited to one set of circumstances might not be best where different conditions exist. No two clubs are exactly alike as to the elements that compose them, as to surroundings, or as to the special objects they may have immediately in view. They all seek individual and collective improvement; but this may be acquired in different ways, and each club is at liberty to employ its own method. Some clubs—the "Pro Re Nasa" for example—allow only extemporaneous speaking. In other clubs essays are the rule; some combine the two plans; some limit themselves to consecutive study upon special subjects; some confine the exercises to their own members; and others rely largely upon outside help in the discussion of topics. Each club selects its own methods; and yet there is unity in the midst of diversity. They all seek a common end—the intellectual, social, and moral improvement of their members; and this as a means of increased usefulness in their varied departments of life.

Although uniformity is not attainable or even desirable in the working of women's clubs, there are yet some general principles in accordance with which their operations should proceed. Such plans should be adopted as shall best promote the general welfare. What might interest and profit a few members might not be adapted to the needs of the majority. In every organized work the general welfare is to be first consulted, and the deliberately expressed will of the majority should be accepted as law.

At the same time the views and wishes of the minority are to be respected, and as far as possible be provided for. In woman's club life no favored few are to govern. All members are on equality, and are to be alike consulted. Those who at first are not prepared to take leading parts in discussions or in holding office are not to be ignored or counted as of no value. Their presence as earnest listeners is something, and often those who are timid and self-distrustful at first become, in time, by gradual and growing experience, the most able and useful of club members. Provisions should therefore be studiously made for drawing out those who, if left to themselves, would remain permanently in the background. If at first they cannot do one thing, ask them to do another. There is work in a woman's club in its social, business and literary de-

partment for every member, and success in one often leads to success in another.

As a rule, to which there are exceptions, I should favor frequent rotation in office. At times a club has an exceptionally good president or secretary, and there may exist reasons why a change would be very undesirable. And yet, unless the case is very exceptional, I should favor rotation. This seems fair to the whole membership, who should share in such burdens and honors as the club has to bestow. Then every new president, if she is unlike her predecessor, has ways and plans of her own that are likely to infuse the whole movement with new blood and life.

And this leads me to suggest that methods in club work ought frequently to change. The proposed end is never to be forgotten, but the means for reaching that end may well be varied. What was useful in one set of circumstances may have lost its value in others. Nothing is worse for a club or for anything else than falling into ruts. And yet it often happens, when considerable changes are introduced, that some club members express dislike of the new wine; they think the old is better. Changes should not be made for the sake of change. But when the club itself has changed by reason of growth in numbers or in ability, the old garment should be laid aside as having served its day, and a new one put in its place.

One of the best means of learning how most usefully to conduct a women's club is to be in conference and consultation with other clubs that are working for the same common end. Experience and observations are the best of teachers. Hardly any two clubs are conducted alike or have the same methods. If a considerable number of these clubs could meet, as churches do, for consultation, and comparison of methods, and mutual fellowship and encouragement, the result would be modification of methods, increased zeal, and enlarged success in the organizations of clubs. There is a method of work that, on the whole, and as a rule, is better than any other—certainly than most others. Women's clubs, by reason of these club conferences, are finding out the best ways of work, and are dropping the poorer methods; and, as a result, women's clubs, taken as a whole, are far more efficient for the end in view than they were a few years ago.

To secure more perfectly and on a broader scale the benefits of fellowship, consultation, and co-operation, it was felt for years that some general plan ought to be devised that should bring all women's literary clubs of the land into closer relations with each other. This feeling led, about one year ago, to the organization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The organization is becoming a great success. It has now brought nearly one hundred clubs, from twenty-six different states, into federated relations, and has awakened a wider and deeper interest in the whole club movement. The Federation, by correspondence, publication, biennial and other meetings, and in various ways, is expected to impart to woman's literary club work a unity, a breadth, and a power far beyond what has been attained. In this federation all clubs, great and small, stand on an equality, and the door to membership stands open, so that no eligible club need wait for an invitation to join. It has only to send its application, with copy of constitution, to the president or other officers, and it will soon have notice of its membership in the loving sisterhood.

These are some of woman's club methods. By means of them women are making great advances and preparation for the responsibilities of the twentieth century. Much has been achieved



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by the woman's club movement. The whole system is not yet twenty-five years old. What it will do in the next twenty-five years for the development of woman's mental, social and moral powers, and through that development for our nation and the world, the future alone will fully disclose.

CHARLOTTE EMERSON BROWN,  
President General Federation of Women's Clubs in America.

#### OF NATIONAL SERVICE.

The delegates to the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which close their session to-day, have devoted themselves and their time with zeal and diligence to the discussion of the methods and work of the clubs in which they are interested, and which are represented in the convention.

The admirable objects for which these clubs are organized, nearly all of them being directed to self-cultivation in various forms, from simple social contact up or down to a wide range of studies and pursuits, are probably not much helped or hindered by the results of the representative gathering in this city. But it would be a great error to imagine that the transaction of business, the delivery of addresses and a fresh social contact are all or any one of them the most important results of gatherings like these, which bring delegates from all parts of the country, though principally, it must be confessed, from the North.

Nothing is more important in our national life than wide, constant and continuous national acquaintance. Spread over a continent, with a population of 65,000,000, adding 2,000,000 a year to our great numbers, it is indispensable, if the Union is to be more than a political bond and a legal nexus, that the country, as a whole and in all its parts, shall be permeated by myriad strands of mutual acquaintance.

A convention like that now sitting performs a great national service in promoting the personal solidarity of the nation. A like work is done by other great unions of women, like the United Council which sat here this week, small in numbers but large though somewhat vague in its constituency. The Boston Convention of Working Girls' Clubs discharges the same end for a class which would otherwise be without acquaintance outside the family and work-room. The delegates to the Federation of Women's Clubs represent wide social relations, a broad acquaintance and the multifarious contact and knowledge of the American woman of social position, who travels farther, more frequently and has friends scattered over a wider territory than any other woman on earth. For all European women but those of high position and large means it would be the event of a lifetime to take the journeys American women take every year or two. But with all this wide wandering and wide acquaintance no woman can return to her own home life and work from the meetings of this week without a new consciousness of national life, and a new knowledge and appreciation of the wide extent of cultivated, educated, well-poised womanhood, whose mutual acquaintance, common ideals and united aims tend to keep our American life sound, healthful and steadily advancing to higher standards of knowledge and morals.

MAY 11, 1894.