

ELECTIVE AFFINITIES. A Novel. TRANSLATED FROM THE GEBMAN OF GOETHE. PART I.

CHAPTER V.

LETTER OF THE LADY SUPERIOR.

experiences any sharp unpleasant emo-"Your ladyship will forgive the brevity tion which she wishes to resist, of showof my present letter. The public exami nations are but just concluded, and I have ing it in the unequal color of her face the left cheek becomes for a moment to communicate to all the parents and guardians the progress which our pupils | flushed, while the right turns pale. I perhave made during the past year. To you ceived this symptom, and I could not prevent myself from saying something. I I may well be brief, having to say much took our Superior aside, and spoke seriin few words. Your ladyship's daughter has proved herself first in every sense of ously to her about it. The excellent lathe word. The testimonials which I in | dy acknowledged that she had been close, and her own letter, in which she wrong. We considered the whole affair; will detail to you the prizes which she | we talked it over at great length togeth. has won, and the happiness which she | er, and not to weary your ladyship, I will feels in her success, will surely please, and | tell you at once the desire with which we I hope delight you. For myself, it is the concluded, namely, that you will for a while have Otilie with yourself. Our realess necessary that I should say much, because I see that there will soon be no sons you will yourself readily perceive. If more occasion to keep with us a young you consent, I will say more to you on iady so far advanced. I send my respects the manner in which she should be treatto your ladyship, and in a short time I | ed. The young lady your daughter we shall take the liberty of offering you my | may expect will soon leave us, and we opinion as to what in future may be of shall then with pleasure welcome Ottilie. most advantage to her. back to us.

"My good assistant will tell you about Ottilie."

LETTER OF THE ASSISTANT.

"Our reverend superior leaves it to me to write to you of Ottilie, partly because, with her ways of thinking about it, it would be painful to her to say what has to be said; partly, because she herself requires some excusing, which she would rather have done for her by me.

"Knowing, as I did too well, how little able the good Ottilie was to show out what lies in her, and what she is capable of, I was all along afraid of this public examination. I was the more uneasy, as it was to be of a kind which does not admit of any especial preparation; and even

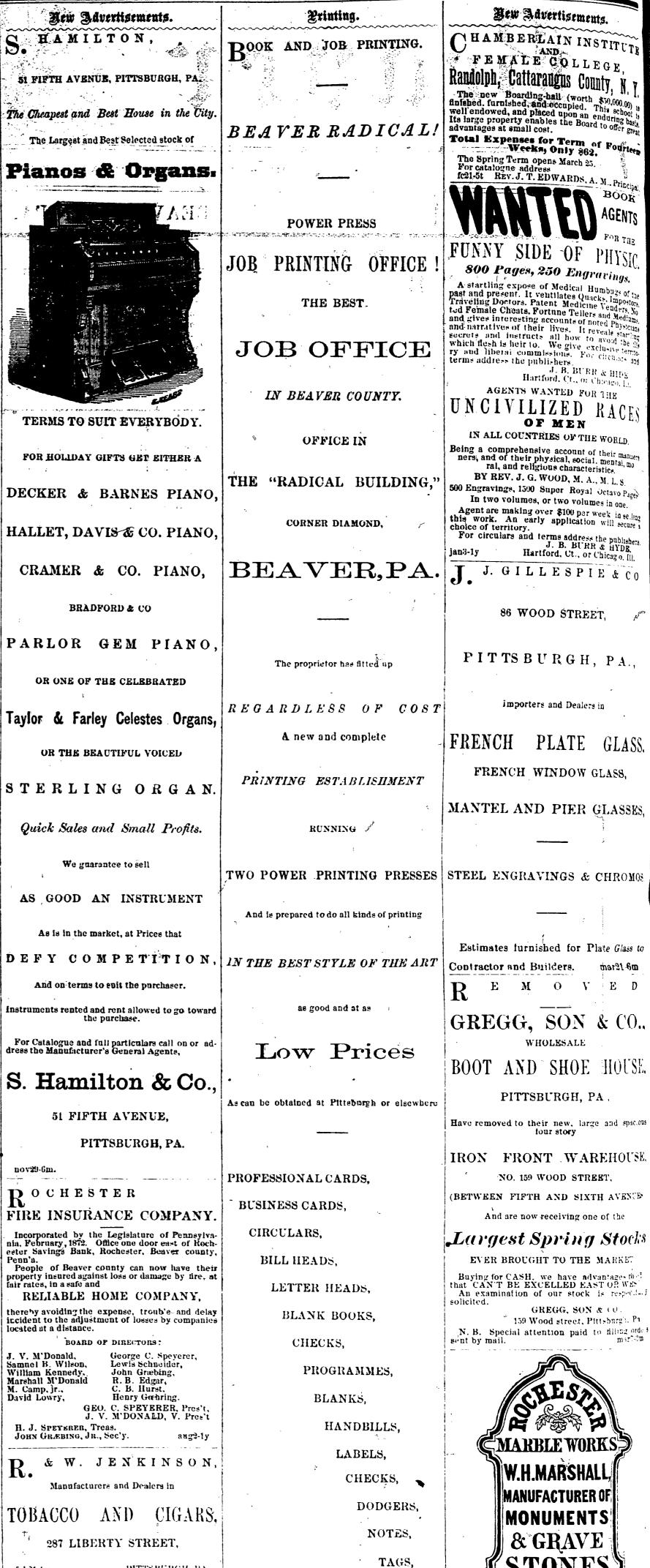
time she would have to spare, she begged to-day was overflowing with the violence Charlotte to divide her hours for her, and of her spirits. She ran from room to to these she adhered exactly. She workroom with her prizes and testimonials, ed at what was set before her in the Way and shook them in Ottilie's face. 'You which the Assistant had described to have come badly off this morning,' she Charlotte. They let her alone. It was cried. Ottilie replied in her calm, quiet but seldom that Charlotte interfered. way. 'This is not the last day of trial,'-Sometimes she changed her pens for oth-'But you will always remain the last,' criers which had been written with, but these, she found, would soon be cut sharp "No one but myself saw that Ottilie was disturbed. She has a way when she

and fine again. The ladies had agreed with one another when they were alone to speak nothing but French, and Charlotte persisted in it the more, as she found Ottille more ready to talk in foreign language, when she was told it was her duty to exercise herself in it. In this way she often said more than she seemed to intend. Charlotte was particularly pleased with a description, most complete, but at the same time most charming and amiable, which she gave her one day, by accident, of the school. She felt her to be a delightful companion, and before long she hoped to find in her an attached friend.

At the same time she looked over again the more early accounts which had been sent her of Ottilie, to refresh her recollection with the opinion which the Su perior and the Assistant had formed about her, and compare them with her in her own person. For Charlotte was of opinion that we cannot too quickly become acquainted with those with whom we have to live, that we may know what to expect of them; what we may hope to do in the way of improvement with them, and what we must make up our minds, one for all, to tolerate and let alone.

This examination led her to nothing new, indeed; but much which she already knew become of greater meaning and importance. Ottilie's moderation in eating and dricking, for instance, became a real distress to her.

The next thing on which the ladies were employed was Ottilie's toilet. Char lotte wished her to appear in clothes of a richer and more recherche sort, and at once the clever active girl herself cut out this attitude, as with your treatment of the stuff which had been previously sent



if it had been conducted as usual, Ottilie never can be prepared to make a display. The result has only too justified my anxiety. She has gained no prize; she is not even amongst those whose names have been mentioned with approbation. need not go into details. In writing, the letters of the other girls were not so well formed, the strokes were far more free. In Arithmetic, they were all quicker than she; and in the more difficult problems, which she does best, there was no examination. In French, she was outshone and outtalked by many; and in history she was not ready with her names and dates. In geography, there was a want of attention to the public divisions; and for what she could do in music there was neither time nor quiet enough for her few modest melodies to gain her atten tion. In drawing she certainly would have gained the prize; her outlines were clear, and the execution most careful and full of spirit; unhappily, she had chosen too large a subject, and it was incom- ly on the right. If we happen to be afplete. "After the pupils were dismissed, the examiners consulted together, and we teachers were partially admitted into the council. I very soon observed that of Ottilie either nothing would be said at all,

or if her name- was mentioned, it would be with indifference, if not disapproval. I hoped to obtain some favor for her by a candid description of what she was, and I ventured it with the greatest earnestness, partly because I was only speaking my real convictions, and partly because I remembered in my own younger years finding myself in the same unfortunate case. I was listened to with attention. but as soon as I had ended, the presiding conically, 'We presume cipibilities : they breast. are to be converted into accomplishments. This is the aim of all education. It is what is distinctly intended by all who have the care of children, and silently and distinctly by the children themselves. This also is the object of examinations, where teachers and pupils are alike standing their trial. From what we learn of you, we may entertain good hopes of the young lady, and it is to your own credit also that you have paid so much attention to your pupils' capabilities. If in the coming year you can develop these into accomplishments, neither yourself nor your pupil shall fail to receive your due praise.'

"I had made up my mind to what must follow upon all this; but there was somewhich had soon to be added to it. Our

her it is not likely that you will, think of me, and spare Ottilie."

"One thing more, which another time

I might forget to mention ; I have never

seen Ottilie eager for anything, or at least

ask pressingly for anything. But there

have been occasions, however rare, when,

on the other hand she has wished to de-

cline things which have been pressed

upon her, and she does it with a gesture

which to those who have caught its mean-

ing is irresistible. She raises her hands,

presses the palms together, and draws

them against her breast, leaning her

body a little forward at the same time,

and turns such a look upon the person

who is urging her, that he will be glad

enough to cease to ask or wish to: any-

thing of her. If your ladyship ever sees

ed the other, and ran away,

Edward read these letters aloud, not without smiles and shakes of the head. Naturally, too, these were observations made on the persons and on the position of the affair.

"Enough !" Edward cried at last, "it is decided. She comes. You, my love, are new drapery. And thus, from the moprovided for, and now we can get forward with our work. It is becoming highly necessary for me to move over to the right wing to the Captain ; evenings and mornings are the time for us best to work together, and then you, on your side, will have admirable room for yourself and Ottilie."

Charlotte made no objection, and Edward sketched but the method in which they should live. Among: other things, he cried, "It is really very polite in this niece to be subject to a slight pain on the left side of her head. I have it frequentflicted together, and sit opposite one another-I leaning on my right elbow, and she on her left, and our heads on the opposite sides, resting on our hands-what a pretty pair of pictures we shall make." The Captain thought that might be

dangerous. "No, no !" cried out Edward. "Only do you, my dear friend, take cars of the D. for what will become of B, if poor C is taken away from it?'

"That, I should have thought, would have been evident enough," replied Char lotte.

"And it is indeed," cried Edward; "he would turn to his A, to his Alpha and Omega," and he sprung up and taking examiner said to me very kindly but la Charlotte in his arms, pressed her to his



The carriage which brought Ottilie drove up to the door. Charlotte went out to receive her. The dear girl ran to meet her, threw herself at her feet, and embraced her knees.

"Why such humility ?" said Charlotte, a little embarrassed, and endeavoring to raise her from the ground.

"It is not meant for humility," Ottilie answered, without moving from the position in which she had placed herself; "I oooo am only thinking of the time when I could not reach higher than your knees, and when I had just learnt to know how 0000 you loved me."

She stood up, and Charlotte embraced 0000 thing worse that I had not anticipated, her warmly. She was introduced to the gentlemen, and was at once treated with

to her, and with a very little assistance from others was able, in a short time, to dress herself out most tastefully. The new fashionable dresses set off her figure. An agreeable person, it is true, will show STERLING ORGAN through all disguises; but we always fancy it looks fresher and more graceful when its peculiarities appear under some ment of her first appearance, she became more and more a delight to the eyes of all who beheld her. As the emerald refreshes the sight with its beautiful hues. and exerts, it is said, a benificent influence on that noble sense, so does human beauty work with far greater potency on the outward and on the inward sense ; whoever looks upon it is charmed against the breath of evil, and feels in harmony with himself and with the world.

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herdess could not bear to have one of her flock lost, or, as was the case here, to see attentive to the conversation, without it undistinguished, after the examiners taking part in it. were gone could 'not contain her dis. The next morning Edward said to Char-	cooo gooda. cooo gooda. coo gooda. cooo gooda. cooo gooda. cooo gooda. coo gooda.
pleasuse, and said to Ottilie, who was lotte, "What an agreeable, entertaining standing quite quietly by the window, girl she is !" while the others's were exulting "Entertaining !" answerd Charlotte, over their prizes, 'Tell me, for heaven's with a smile; "why, she has not opened	AND WOOD STRE pittsburgh, p
sake, how can a person look so stupid if she is not so?' Ottilie replied, quite calmly, 'Forgive me, my dear mother, I have my headache again to day, and it is very painful.' Kind and sympathizing as	J. M. FIFE & CO., BEAVER FALLS, PH Manufacturers of COOKING, HEATING, AND PAR
she generally is, the Superior this time, the household. Ottilie saw rapidly all the answered, 'No one can believe that,' and turned angrily away. "Now it is true—no one can believe it what was to be provided for the whole	of different styles and fin The Designs are of the late are highly approved, being chaste a appearance.

-for Ottilie never alters the expression party, and what for each particular memof her countenance. I have never even ber of it. Everything was done with the seen her move her hand to her head when utmost punctuality; she knew how to dishe has been asleep. rect, without appearing to be giving or-"Nor was this all. Your ladyship's ders, and when any one had left anything daughter, who is at all times sufficiently undone, she at once set it right herself. lively and impetuous, after her triumphs As soon as she had found how much

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