

A Fine Poem. [From the London Spectator, Jan. 27.] We are indebted to the Magazine for the Literature des Auslandes for the knowledge of a rising poet in the far west, of whom we believe none of our readers have heard, but whose name will certainly become familiar to all long to all lovers of true poetry. Two years ago, in the midst of the great American struggle between North and South, a society was formed of men residing in the Western States, who had been educated at any of the great public schools of the Republic. This society, which numbers between 500 and 600 members, held its annual meeting in June last, and issued an 8vo. pamphlet of 108 pages, under the title of "Oration, Poem and Specie," delivered at the Second Annual Meeting of the Associated Alumni of the Pacific Coast, held at Oakland, California, June 6th, 1865. Published by the Association, San Francisco; Towne & Bacon.

THE NOBLEST SOUL OF ALL. Were there no crowns on earth, No evergreen to weave a hero's wreath That he must pass beyond the gates of death, Our hero, our slain hero, to be crowned? Could there on our unworthy earth be found Naught to befit his worth?

The noblest soul of all When was there ever, since our Washington, A man so pure, so wise, so patient; one Who walked with this high goal alone in sight, To speak, to do, to sanction only Right, Though very heaven should fail?

Ah, not for him we weep; What honor more should a nation store for him? Who would have had him linger in this dim And troublesome world, when his great work was done? Who would not leave that worn and weary one Gladly to go to sleep?

For us the stroke was just; We were not worthy of that patient heart; We might have helped him more, not stood apart, And coldly criticised his works and ways-- Too late now, all too late, our little praise Sounds hollow o'er his dust.

Be merciful, our God! Forgive the meanness of our human hearts, That never, till a noble soul departs, See half the worth, nor hear the angel's wings, Till they do rustling heavenward as he springs Up from the wounded sod.

Yet what a deathless crown Of Northern pine and Southern orange flower, For victory, and the land's new bridal hour, Would they have wreathed that beloved brow! Sadly upon his sleeping forehead now We lay our express done.

Oh, martyred one, farewell! Thou hast not left thy people quite alone; Out of this beautiful life there comes a tone Of power, of love, of trust, a prophecy, Whose fair fulfilment on the earth shall be, And all the future tell.

THE PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL OF DESIGN. Address of Mr. Braidwood to the Senate. In the State Senate, a few days ago, the following proceedings occurred: Mr. Bigham--Mr. Speaker, as most of the Senators are aware, the Principal of the Philadelphia School of Design, Mr. T. W. Braidwood, is present, and desires to present to the Senate a portrait of the late President of the United States. The painting was executed, at least so far as the copy is concerned, by a girl educated in the School of Design, and has been sent as a present to the Senate.

Mr. Braidwood desires, in presenting the portrait, to make some suggestions in reference to the School of Design. I therefore move that Mr. Braidwood now have leave to make an address. The motion of Mr. Bigham was agreed to. Mr. Braidwood was then introduced to the Senate by the Speaker, and made the following address: Mr. Speaker and Senators, in the name of the "Philadelphia School of Design," I beg to present to you this portrait of our late and much lamented President, Abraham Lincoln. It would be vain in me to try and say a word about the character of that great man, on which eulogy had already almost become exhausted.

them begins with cheapness of production and showiness of patterns rather than that of beauty of form, color and design. France answered objections to supporting such schools, partially at the expense of the State, by establishing them in 1767, and every nation, to-day, pays homage to us, as well as having commenced the good work, refuse now to complete it?

If it is possible, I would like your Committee on Education, or that of Manufactures, or both of them, to be especially directed to inquire into the expediency of the State fostering schools of design and museums of ornamental art. A similar inquiry has been made by specially appointed committees in every civilized country in the world, and the result has been the establishment of the schools and museums. Can the greatest manufacturing State in our country get along without such, considered indispensable by every manufacturing nation on the face of the globe?

I respectfully suggest to you, Senators, if it would not be wiser for this great manufacturing State of Pennsylvania to vigorously defend the rights of the people, the most efficient and certain means of excluding foreign manufactures, by the gradual improvement of our own. Pass laws, we say, for the protection of our products, yet the great injury which is done in the universal wants of the people will modify or abolish them. I therefore ask you, Senators, if the first prerequisite of the development of taste and beauty amongst ourselves?

In view of this more philosophic method of establishing schools of design, than any that have been yet urged, (the elaboration of which will show a great many other good results, conspicuous amongst which will be the education of our people in the simplest labor for both sexes--especially women), I therefore pray your honorable body to pass in the general appropriation bill for this year, a law which will establish in this State a school of design, one thousand dollars for the Northeastern school of design at Wilkesbarre, and four thousand dollars for the Philadelphia school of design, one thousand dollars of which is to be appropriated as has been ordered for two years past, viz: That one thousand dollars be expended in procuring from European schools of science and art, the most complete copies of architecture and ornament as applied to manufactures, copies of which are to be placed at manufacturing and other available points in the State.

Senators, this is all that is required from the Commonwealth to carry forward this important work--the ultimate education of a whole people. Mr. Wallis, the head of the school of design in Birmingham, who was one of the commissioners to the World's Fair, in London, in speaking of the education of the artisan class in the United States, and especially in Pennsylvania, says: "Here, where sound and systematic education has been longest and in all probability the most perfect manner, the manufacturing developments are to be found, and here it is, also, where the greatest portion of the skilled workmen of the United States are educated. In the simplest elements of knowledge, as in the most skillful appreciation of their ingenuity to the useful arts and the manufacturing industry of their country, from whence they are spread, to the recognition of the fact that they are the originators, directors and ultimately the proprietors of establishments which would do no discredit to the manufacturing power of Europe."

A little further on in the report of which these are extracts, he says: "It has been thought desirable to make a comparison of the progress of the present state of the class of industry under consideration, as there exist in England at least very erroneous views as to the present state of the industry of the people of the United States. For whatever the past might have been, or the present may be, the future is likely to be very different. The daily increasing intercourse with Europe is pregnant with great changes, and the manufacturers have it especially, in their power to either assist the formation of a purer taste in the American people, or, by neglecting their growing judgment to oppose and retard, but not crush it. By arresting its development they are not likely to secure for themselves, or at least share very largely in the market for a long time, the fruits of their own, but which is gradually becoming occupied by trans-Atlantic competitors. By neglecting the progress of a more enlightened and purer taste, they will evidently lose it altogether."

I thank you, Senators, for this opportunity, and beg that when the matter is brought before you, you will give it your due consideration. The Speaker--I accept on the part of the Senate, with high satisfaction, this specimen of American art. It shall be cherished and preserved in the archives of the State. It will be held in high appreciation not only in honor of him whose memory it is intended to perpetuate, but also in the recognition of the fact that we have within our borders such native talent as is displayed in this work of art. The subject that has been brought to the notice of the Senate, which requires that consideration which its importance and merit require.

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