Social and Personal

Fewer Lenten readings and students' classes are in vogue here this season than usual. It had been hoped that Plunkett Greene would come for a recital and that Miss Jane Meade Welch, the famous writer and lecturer on American history, would be here but at present the plans for these entertainments are at a stand still. Rev. D. J. McGoldrick has consented to give a talk to one of the reading clubs in the near future. The Chautauqua circles have been enjoying most interesting meetings, as has also the Woman's club of Green Ridge, while the regular reading clubs in various sections of the city have continued their routine work. There have been less musicales than ordinarly are chronicled in Lent.

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Among the events of the Easter tide will be a big dance at the Bicycle club by one of the society leaders of the city.

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Among the literary treats of the month will be Professor Winchester's lecture on "Castles of England," on March 24, and James Whitcomb Riley, at the Lyceum, on the 28th.

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Mr. J. Ben Dimmick's beautiful home was the scene of a memorable assemblage Thursday night at the Yale Alumni "smoker." The guests of the evening were Colonel N. G. Osborn and Mr. E. V. Reynolds, of New Haven, who were among those that entertained the company with brilliant speeches. Another guest who received much interested attention was Captain Hobbs, of the United States army. His clever and fascinating speech was heard with great appreciation. Supper was served by Steward O'Neill, of the Scranton club, and the hours were passed in the most enjoyable fashion.

The others present were: Messrs. E. M. Barney, of Connecticut; E. C. Fuller, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Harold Walden, Brooklyn, N. Y.; James Archbald, jr., Pottsville; R. H. Thayer, jr., Buffalo; Dr. L. I. Shoemaker, J. B. Woodward, J. D. Farnham, J. S. Harding, L. B. Hillard, T. B. Hillard, Herbert Conyngham, Wilkes-Barre; Hon. Alfred Hand, Hon. R. W. Archbald, Hon. W. H. Jessup, Dr. P. F. Gunster, J. Ben Dimmick, W. H. Buell, Major Everett Warren, C. S. Woodruff, F. M. Lynch, esq., Frederick Connell, W. H. Jessup, jr., W. J. Hand, esq., A. G. Hunt, P. B. Belin, L. T. Bliss, A. E. Hunt, jr., J. B. Neale, S. B. Thorne. The executive committee consists of J. Ben Dimmick, president; Everett Warren, vice president; A. G. Hunt, secretary and treasurer; W. J. Hand, P. B. Benn, H. W. Boies, J. B. Neale, Worth Scranton.

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Mr. James P. Dickson was the cicerone of a large party from Scranton, the members of which enjoyed Ian Maclaren's readings at Wilkes-Barre Tuesday evening.

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Ladies of the Hill district are beseeching the heads of their households to wire their homes for burglar alarms instead of buying new curtains for the drawing room. It costs from twenty to thirty-five dollars to wire one's house so that an unsuspecting burglar who innocently touches a window just to see if it will go up, will suddenly believe that the final day of judgment is upon him. The noise that can be produced by a carefully wired house is something terrific for even the family. It will be remembered that a prominent citizen did once have his elegant home securely wired for burglars and the apparatus was so entirely successful that it went off unprovoked every few minutes all night and after getting no sleep for nearly a week and frightening every one in the house almost to death, he put his faith once more in the protection afforded by Providence and the city authorities. Of course his house was robbed, but as he said, nobody was in an insane asylum because of that vociferous burglar alarm.

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Dr. and Mrs. G. D. Murray gave a theater party on Thursday evening for Misses Alice and Helen Matthews and their guests, Miss Weed and Miss Lake.

Miss Alice Matthews will entertain a number of friends this evening in honor of her guests, Miss Weed, of Toledo, and Miss Lake, of Evanston, Ill., after which they will be entertained at the Scranton club.

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The next important literary event of the season will be the appearance of Professor S. H. Clark, who will read at the Bicycle club March 14 for the benefit of the Young Women's Christian association. A feature of the occasion will be solos by Miss Timberman, whose popularity alone is enough to fill a house with a pleased audience. Professor Clark's great reputation as head of the department of literature in Chicago university is a recommendation alone, but when his splendid repertoire is known the advantage of hearing his work is doubly appreciated. As an instance of his versatility it may be mentioned that he gives readings from Maclaren, Browning, Tennyson, Milton, Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats, Coleridge and the entire plays of the Merchant of Venice, Julius Caesar, George Eliot's Spanish Gypsy, King Lear, Macbeth and the oriental drama of Arnold's "Sohrab and Rustum." His miscellaneous programmes are remarkably well chosen.

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schlager gave a dinner on Tuesday evening when the guests were: Rev. Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Giffin, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Hallstead, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Spencer, of Carbondale; Miss Clara Tooth, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. John Simpson, Miss Schlager and Mr. John T. Porter.

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A very pleasant surprise was tendered Mr. Charles King, of 911 Green Ridge street, in honor of his fifty-second birthday. The following were in attendance: Mr. and Mrs. King, Mr. and Mrs. Auther, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Ballet, Mrs. Charles Noach, Mrs. Orwell Noach, Misses Jessie Davis, Owen Reese, Maggie Fox, Mary J. Culberson, Susie King, Annie King, Katie King, Adina Huntsman, Master John Reynolds, John Howells, Tonny Manley, George King, Frank Elmer Huntsman, Rowland King and Harvey Slack. Music was furnished by a blind musician Mr. Howell. Supper was served and many presents were given Mr. King. Several solos were sung by G. W. King and Miss Davis.

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Miss Mary Kelly, of 407 Gibson street, was tendered a very pleasant surprise at her residence Tuesday evening. Those present were: Misses Jennie Kelly, Kathryn M. Walsh, Allie Morling, Caluce E. and Bessie Moarns, Carrie Shultz, Maud and Mabel Fairfield, Lillian Price, Marie Barrett, Annie A. Gillogly, Bertha Banks, Annie Melvin, Gertie Hampton, Messrs. John Holmes, William Matthews, James Walsh, John Durkin, James Gillogly, Thomas Culkin, John C. Ferguson, John M. McCann, Patrick Walsh, William and Percy Fairfield, John Cullen.

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Wednesday's Washington Post says: "The popularity of Mrs. Connell, wife of Representative Connell, of Pennsylvania, was shown yesterday by the large number of callers upon her at her farewell reception at the Shoreham. The parlors in which the guests were received were handsomely decorated with rare plants and beautiful flowers. In addition to the unusually large number of ladies of the congressional circle, there were present, Mrs. Gage, wife of the secretary, and Mrs. Griggs, wife of the attorney general. The hostess was assisted in receiving by her daughter, Mrs. James S. McAnulty, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. James L. Connell, of Scranton. Mrs. Connell will leave for her home in Pennsylvania next week."

Mrs. Connell wore black velvet on this occasion. Mrs. McAnulty's gown was of black and white taffeta with lace. Mrs. J. L. Connell was attired in a lavendar costume.

Movements of People

Emil Schimpff is at Philadelphia.

Mrs. Wesley Gardner, of Honesdale, is in the city.

Mrs. G. M. Hallstead and children are in New York.

Rev. C. A. Benjamin, of Jermyn, was in the city this week.

Miss Welles has returned from an extended visit in Rochester.

Mrs. J. S. McAnulty and Mrs. J. L. Connell are in Washington.

Mrs. Thomas Dickson is spending several days in New York city.

Mrs. J. J. Ryman, of Dallas, spent a few days in town this week.

Miss Simpson returned last night from a fortnight's visit in New York.

Miss Katherine Timberman has been in New York, hearing grand opera.

Miss Helen Albright, of Carbondale, has been the guest of Scranton friends.

W. J. Hand, esq., is about to remove to his handsome new home on Webster avenue.

Rev. W. L. De Groff, of Topeka, Kan., has been spending a week with friends in this city.

Colonel Schoonmaker, B. M. Winton and H. H. Coston will take a European trip this spring.

Miss Carrie Atherton, of North Main avenue, has returned from a week's visit in Honesdale.

Miss Detwiler, who has been the guest of Miss McLeod, has returned to her home in Easton.

Mr. Thomas Sprague and family are occupying their beautiful new residence on Quincy avenue.

Mr. Watson Griffin, of Priceburg, who is convalescent from a severe illness, is visiting friends in the North End.

The well known musician, Professor George Walkenshaw, of Glasgow, Scotland, is the guest of Providence friends.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Shopland left yesterday for New York. While in the city they will be the guests of Count and Countess von Rolden Kohsel.

Mrs. Ambrose Bradley, who has been the guest of Mrs. F. M. Spencer, accompanied by Mrs. Leonard, returned to her home in Newburgh on Tuesday.

Messrs. John T. Richards and John Mears have been on a southern trip this week connected with business interests in which the Alexander car replacer figures.

Mr. and Mrs. Horatio S. Keller, who were recently married, have returned from a wedding tour, which included New York, Washington, Philadelphia and other points of interest. They will reside on Mifflin avenue in the central city.

THE MINSTREL PERFORMANCE.

General Outline of the Programme to Be Presented.

The following is the general outline of the programme to be presented here April 7 and 8, in the minstrel performance entitled, "In Brightest America," for the benefit of the Home for the Friendless, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Dixie:

PART FIRST.

Opening Chorus .....The Yachtsmen
Thunderbomb .....Eight End Men
Opening Overture .....Entire Company
Comic Song .....End Man No. 1
Tenor Solo.
Character Song.
Comic Ditty.
Baritone Solo (Selected).
Negro Melody.
Grand Finale, "Here Comes the Band." Entire Company

PART SECOND.

Brightest America .....Male Quartette.
Comedy Musical Act.
Pas de Quatre.
Praesto-Eccentrique.
Heavy Dragoon March. By Sixteen Picked Men

To conclude with a laughable afterpiece entitled "A Novel Waiter."

"77"

Dr. Humphrey's Famous Specific

For Grip, Influenza and Stubborn

COLDS

Track of the Blizzard.

The track of the storm is strewn with many wrecks, but none so serious as the condition of the feeble and delicate who were so poorly equipped to endure the extreme and prolonged cold which penetrated the homes and to the very bone of the people; the result is almost universal sickness.

To counteract the bad effects take "77." it knocks out the Grip; breaks up the Cold that hangs on; soothes the Lingering Cough and heals the Sore Throat.

At druggists or sent prepaid; 25c., 50c. & $1.00.

DR. HUMPHREYS' BOOK SENT FREE.

Humphreys' Med. Co., Cor. William & John Sts., New York.

Be sure to get

HUMPHREYS'

HER POINT OF VIEW

A little maid, just grown to womanhood, writes:

Dear Saucy Bess:

You know a great many girls and you look upon them from a different point of view than they look upon each other. I want to be a success in society. I want to be popular and yet I want to be something more. I can't say that I'd like to get up to my ears in charitable and church work for I do like to be acquainted with the family at home and I have a cousin who does enough of that sort of thing to make up for what the others don't. But I don't want to be frivolous. Now you ought to know. What sort of girls do people like most? Don't you think it's better not to be too intellectual? Isn't it well to cultivate originality and don't you think that society is very insincere and trivial? Anxiously,

Madge W.

I've always thought that when people ask advice it is well to find out the kind they want and give 'em that. They'll probably do that way at any rate, and afterward it is pleasant to have them come to you and say that you have such excellent judgment. But it is rather difficult to determine just the sort to administer in this case. The young woman knows what she wants in results, but the exact method to pursue is a little doubtful. It is a desirable thing to be very popular and yet to have some earnestness of purpose besides mere popularity that those who look beneath the surface can detect. Yet, after all, popularity is a reasonably reliable test. The girl for whom everybody has a smile, and not even a metaphorical frown when she has passed, is doubtless in character worthy of all the favor she receives. People do not accord to mean, flippant or unlovely natures anything like a unanimous vote of approval.

* * *

It is lovely to be a young girl with all the beautiful opportunities of life before her, but I fear that Madge, or any other girl who has not laid the foundations for popularity in earlier years, will find some difficulty in adjusting herself to the necessities. There are certain elements in the process which cannot be overlooked. In the first place, she must have perfect self-control. If she hasn't already acquired this, it is the fault of her mother, or the person who had much to do with her childhood training. A young girl who is anything but sunny, sweet and gracious not only outside her home, but within its walls, will not be a success. One who allows herself to fall into violent rages or fits of sulking is about as pleasant to have in the family as a can of nitro-glycerine or an open keg of gun powder, which nobody can tell when it may go off. There are by far too many women in the world who should be labeled, "High explosive; handle with care."

With regard to being too "intellectual," it isn't worth while to worry about that. A girl is not likely to find herself lonely on account of her brain development in these days when everybody reads and a great many young people and old keep up regular courses of study. The girl who is really intellectual doesn't overpower her acquaintances with her learning. It is only the half-way, superficial one who attempts that feat.

* * *

As to originality, that depends on the type selected. I know a girl who takes great pride in being original in dress. To the observer this is chiefly displayed in the unfriendly terms apparently existing between her skirt and her belt in the back, and in the peculiarly unbecoming hats she selects and the rakish angle at which they are pitched. Another likes to be considered original in a habit of self-absorption which leads her to cut her acquaintances on the street and fail to hear remarks addressed to her in social conversation. She considers this an indication of genius that leads thoughts far far away from present surroundings to climb the steeps of lofty aspirations and fancies, but her exasperated friends are wont to callously term her expression at these times as semi-idiotic and her manner most ill-bred and vexatious, and among themselves to threaten her with a sudden shower bath, or the firing of a cannon cracker in the immediate vicinity.

* * *

Another girl I know decides it to be a mark of originality to criticise people very unkindly for their small or great vagaries, when the fact is that she simply is bent on encouraging a most offensive ill-temper and discontent. Her remarks are only ill-natured and in bad taste and not original in the least as they are echoes of the vituperations of snarling, crossgrained women from Zantippe down. When she was a tiny girl her mother applauded her sharp little comments on the callers that came to their home: their costumes and various peculiarities. Instead of tying up that small virago's mouth and severely punishing her for such coarseness, the foolish mother set the example on the judgment of people by their clothes, and for the discussion of scandal and neighborhood gossip in the daughter's presence. Of course she is now a bitter, harsh-tongued young woman, old in her knowledge of the history of her townsfolk, and unpopular in her own set, the members of which do not call her original but spiteful and soured, and she is anything but a comfort to her mother with whom she quarrels in cat and dog fashion.

Originality, which is gained by audacity in telling risque stories, in using street slang, and in daring conventionality isn't to be desired, neither is that which leads a girl to be a pride who affects horror at the natural ebullitions of good health and good temper, who is cold and unsympathetic because it is "so common" to be enthusiastic and pleased with the pleasant things of life.

As to the insincerity of good society, my dear Madge, there is insincerity in everything from clergymen to taffeta waists, only don't you be on the watch for it. In the case of the waists there won't be an occasion to watch, for the evidences will appear all too soon and as for the clergymen, if they were frank enough to tell their real opinion about us, would we be particularly delighted with their sincerity? Indeed there might be points in their remarks when we would devoutly wish that they wouldn't be quite so frank.

* * *

To my mind so-called society people are rather more sincere than the others, for they are apt to keep their ugly thoughts in the background, which has a tendency to destroy such thoughts and to speak aloud only the pleasant kind things they think of each other. It is easy to cultivate a habit of thinking kind thoughts, although perhaps not as easy as to form a habit of entertaining disagreeable ones. Really well-bred society people do not, any more than really well-bred people anywhere else, say gentle things to your face and hateful things about you when you are gone. If for no other reason than the wisdom gained from long experience in having remarks repeated they refrain from back-biting. If preserving temper under trying circumstances, if telling a friend that she is one of the most popular women of her circle, if refusing to add a voice to ill-natured gossip over an acquaintance is insincerity, then a great many good and lovely society women of this city are insincere and false at heart.

Don't you believe it, my dear, society treats you very much as you treat it, and sometimes better than you may deserve. If you are generous to your friend's short comings, and earnest in your friendship, you will probably receive generous, frank affection in return. If you are looking out for the faults and are spiteful and venomous in your criticisms you will be repaid in kind. One thing is certain, be sure that in your own heart and in your own line you will reflect the sort of thoughts that live with you. If they are kind and noble and unsuspicious you will enjoy in your own companionship a satisfaction that outer discomforts or uncongeniality cannot entirely mar. If you yield this precious home of your real personality to the frowning guests of envy, hatred, uncharitable judgment and revenge, you will be the victim of their usurpation, for upon you and you alone their effect is visited. The woman who seeks to "get even" with all from whom she has received real or fancied slight has an extensive contract on hand.

After all, the desire to be popular may not be the highest of aims, but it may lead to such a thorough and honest attempt to merit approbation that the development of a beautiful character will be the result.

Saucy Bess.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

The announcement made by Manager Harvey Long yesterday that he had secured the great pianist, Rosenthal, for an early date at the Lyceum will doubtless be received with much pleasure by musicians and theater-goers generally in Scranton. This is Rosen-

MORIZ ROSENTHAL.

thal's season in the world of music. Everywhere where this great artist appears the houses are crowded and the enthusiasm knows no bounds and the Napoleon of Pianists sends them away satisfied, happy and enthusiastic. After he had played Liszt's preposterous arrangement of the William Tell overture the other day in New York the crowd yelled itself hoarse and handkerchiefs and hats waved and the little virtuoso had to play again and again, and as his last encore he gave the gem of the afternoon, one of the three supplementary Etudes, the one in A flat, and any doubt about his tone, color or tenderness was refuted by his exquisite interpretation of this charming bit of Chopin. It was the poetic playing he has vouchsafed this season, for Rosenthal played it as can no living pianist. Of the dead ones, Liszt and Tausig are the two names that suggest themselves as being fit to cope with this little giant in the performance of these unique variations.

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The only operatic novelty of the present season at the Metropolitan opera house in New York will be the production on March 10 of Mancinelli's opera, "Fro E Leandro," for the first time in America. Signor Mancinelli has for some time been one of the conductors at the Metropolitan and will no doubt lead the opera himself. In this opera Mme. Eames achieved a decided success abroad as "Ero," her acting being particularly commented upon as being more dramatic than in some of her other roles, but the work is said not to be strong in musical effects. She will, of course, appear in the New York production. The "Niebelungen Ring" will again be sung in its entirety at a series of afternoon performances, beginning on March 13. These performances being without cuts usually last about five hours each. This evening "Lohengrin" will be sung instead of "Les Huguenots," which was to have been given, but the hoarseness of Mme. Lehmann prevented it. This latter opera was given on Feb. 20 with an all star cast, comprising nearly all the highest salaried artists in the company and the price of the orchestra chairs was raised to $7.00 each. On March 8 a revival of "Le Prophete" is promised, with Mmes. Lehman and Bremor, Jean and Edward De Reske and Plancois. Meyerbeer, however, is not popular with New Yorkers and the last performance of "L'Africaine" was but slimly attended. His music lacks inspiration and always sounds machine-made, no soul to it, but a constant striving after instrumental effects. It is almost singular that Ambroise Thomas' pretty little opera, "Mignon," has not been produced this winter nor last with the vocal material which Mr. Grau has at his disposal. It was said last year that it was on the tapis, but the failure to produce it was due to the fact that every soprano in the company wanted to sing the title part and not one would accept the part of "Filina." Ambroise Thomas died not long ago, having passed seventy years of age and "Mignon" was his best known and most popular work.

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Prof. H. E. Cogswell, of Binghamton, formerly a resident of this city, has been elected supervisor of music in the public schools of Syracuse.

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J. M. Chance gave a pupils' recital in his studio, 406 Jefferson avenue, on Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock. The following piano selections were given:

Polka .....Krogmann
Elizabeth Blair.
Nocturne .....Gurlitt
Grace Law.
Witches Revel .....Schuytte
Bertha Guernsey.
Scherzo .....Damm
Gladys Watkins.
Song of the Rivulet .....Krogmann
Bessie Stelle.
Waltz .....Concone
Grace McLean.
Melodie .....Bohm
May Guernsey.
Venetian Boat Song .....Mendelssohn
Ruth Hanley.
Gigue .....Godard
Mary Gearhart.
Adagio from Sonata Op. 13.....Beethoven
Mabel Reinle.

FLORIDA.

Last Tour of the Season via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The last of the present series of popular Pennsylvania Railroad personally conducted tours to Jacksonville will leave New York and Philadelphia by special train of Pullman Palace cars on Tuesday, March. 7.

Round-trip tickets, valid to return on regular trains until May 31, 1899, and including railway transportation in each direction, and Pullman accommodations (one berth), and meals on special train going, will be sold at the following rates: New York, $50; Philadelphia, $48; Canandaigua, $52.85; Erie, $54.85; Wilkes-Barre, $50.35; Pittsburg, $53; and at proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and full information apply to ticket agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; Thomas Purdy, Passenger Agent Long Branch District, 789 Broad street, Newark, N. J.; Thomas E. Watt, Passenger Agent Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or address George W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad street station, Philadelphia.

M. H. Holgate offers lots, single or double house, for sale in all parts of the city. **

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup

Has been used for over FIFTY YEARS by MILLIONS of MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, with PERFECT SUCCESS. It SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS the GUMS, allays all PAIN; CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHŒA. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

MARCH, APRIL, MAY

Paine's Celery Compound the Best Spring Medicine in the World.

Spring finds everybody more or less "run down."

"Spring lassitude" is not an empty phrase. It is not a superstition or a worn-out saying, but a strictly scientific fact.

Prudent people all over the country appreciate the fact that in the spring the health is more under every one's control than at any other time, and, whether sick or well—

They are taking advantage of the marvelous invigorating power of Paine's celery compound. On every hand there are sarsaparillas, nervines and tonics, but they do not touch the edge of the real trouble—nervous debility.

When such remedies have been tried and proved valueless, Paine's celery compound has surprised and delighted by its wonderful lasting results.

Nature, the kindest and gentlest of nurses, is disposed, during these spring days, to put the blood and nerves in a healthy condition and no remedy so ably seconds her effort as Paine's celery compound.

This best of all spring remedies is making people well and insuring others against future break-downs.

As soon as spring sets in—it is now the season—everybody has more or less a feeling of langour; there is diminished appetite, disturbed sleep, less buoyancy of spirit and less disposition to exercise; some people are so indisposed that they have to keep in the house and numbers take to their beds.

The irritability of temper, the peevishness, drowsiness, and uneasiness that comes in spring, shows that the nerves and brain are the chief sufferers.

Nervousness, that so often appears at this season, inserts the thin edge of the wedge that opens the way for a long list of maladies. If you are overworked, haggard from sleepless nights, nervous and unhappy, do not give way to dread and depression before you have tried Paine's celery compound. It is the one fair test of this wonderful remedy—to try it.

Now spring has come, the tired feelings and "out of sorts" condition are to warn one that the blood is impure and the nerves "run-down." Paine's celery compound assists nature at this critical time. It supplies a scientific nerve food. Taken now, it will enable the body to throw off headaches, rheumatism and ailments akin to nervousness. It will sweep out every impurity from the blood, and will nourish the nerves and brain. It is the most effective, accurate spring remedy ever formulated.

MUSICAL QUESTION BOX.

Professor J. Alfred Pennington, director of the Scranton Conservatory of Music and organist of Elm Park church, has consented to reply in the Saturday Tribune to questions concerning music and musical topics asked by Tribune readers. Every reader interested in music is at liberty to ask for information. Questions may be addressed to "Musical Question Box, care of Tribune," or they may be addressed to Professor Pennington. Only the writers' initials will appear in connection with the answers to their questions. They may sign fictitious initials if they desire to remain entirely unknown.

C. L.—I would like your opinion regarding the best method of improving congregational singing.

Answer.—The first method I have to offer towards the improvement of congregational singing would begin with an improvement in the hymn-books used in the churches. As briefly as possible, I shall indicate what direction that would take and my reasons therefor.

The best congregational singing in the world is in Germany. The German method in the compilation of the hymn-books used in all the state churches is to have certain words set to a certain tune, and to sing no other words to that tune nor no other tune to these words. Consequently the words suggest the tune and vice versa. In Germany a tune has no other names than the first line of the hymn which is sung to it; as, for example, "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," "O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden."

The American custom of singing any long meter hymn to any long meter tune is undoubtedly wrong. Every hymn should have its own tune, first, in order that the prevailing sentiment of the hymn may have appropriate music, and, second, on account of the power of association. The first commends itself to every thinking person. I shall now explain what I mean by the second.

In a few of our hymns the German method is followed, as, for example, those which are sung to the tunes of "America," "Old Hundred," and "Coronation." How incongruous it would sound, how weakening and unsatisfying in its effect, to sing "Our Fathers' God to Thee" to anything but the tune of "America." An American, at home or in a foreign land, is thrilled when he hears the tune, even without the words, because it at once suggests to his mind the words full of patriotism and lofty religious sentiment. Suppose that at a church service the minister says: "Let us close the service by singing 'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," and the organist proceeds to give out some tune other than the familiar "Old Hundred." There is not one in the congregation who is accustomed to attend church who would not have a feeling of disappointment. How often I have had people say to me when playing over some melody to which certain words are always sung, "Why the instrument fairly talks." Now the instrument did not talk. It was the memory of the listeners that unconsciously followed the playing of the melody with the words which belonged to it.

And it is this power of association which unfits familiar melodies, the well-known words to which are not religious in sentiment, for being used in a church service with sacred words. Church singers are not infrequently importuned by good, religious people to sing sacred words to "The Last Rose of Summer," "Home Sweet Home," "Robin Adair," "Auld Robin Gray," etc. Now in themselves there is nothing objectionable in these well-known simple melodies except that they have been spoiled for church use in the fact that for decades their words have been assigned to them and sung thousands of times, and the public cannot hear the one without mentally hearing the other.

Again. Why is it that people tell you that certain tunes in their hymn-book, which are of an inferior class, considered musically, are not to be compared in their estimation with certain others, which are really much better? A little inquiry will usually reveal the fact that these particular tunes carry with them crowds of associations. They are the tunes that father sang; mother sang these as lullabies, and although she has been in her grave for many years, the eyes fill and the lips quiver whenever these melodies are heard. In fact all the fond memories of childhood and youth cluster around these melodies. Scientists tell us that there is nothing which has the power of acting upon the memory in bringing back scenes of the past equal to melodies belonging to that far-off period. And the associations with these melodies may sometimes be unpleasant. I remember in my student days bringing home a new piece of music (I think it was Henselt's "Liebeslied") and commencing to play it on the piano. A gentleman who had the room next to mine knocked on the door and asked me if I would kindly never play that piece unless I knew that he was out. This was very surprising to me, as he was a musician himself and could have no objection to the piece in itself. Half banteringly, I began to play it again at another time in his presence, thinking that, perhaps, it had been a mere whim before. He became very much agitated and I promised never to play it again. I learned afterwards the story connected in his memory with the piece and respected his reason for not wishing to hear it.

But to come back to hymn-tunes. To this plan of having each hymn with its own particular tune some one will probably raise the objection that "there will not be tunes enough to go round." Probably not. I am of the opinion, however, that the composers who have the ability to write good hymn-tunes are not all dead yet. Besides, our hymn-books have more hymns than are necessary. There are many hymns that will not bear close investigation either from a doctrinal or a poetical standpoint. Good old Doctor Watts in one of his hymns says:

Great God! how infinite art Thou!
What worthless worms are we!

Now I submit that this is not good theology. We are not worthless worms. The Bible says that "Thou hast made man a little lower than the angels; Thou crownedst him with glory and honor, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands." Worms indeed!

Simultaneous with the weeding out of undesirable hymns, characterless and weak tunes should share a similar fate and their places taken by tunes that bear the same relation to music that the hymns should bear to the highest and holiest utterances of which the human heart is capable.

As this answer has taken the form of an essay and has already reached a formidable length I shall be obliged to defer other phases of this subject until next week.

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G. O.—1. Who is the greatest composer living?

Answer.—Your question is difficult to answer. Since the death of Brahms opinions differ as to who deserves to be called the greatest. If the question were put to vote the favored one would probably be either Grieg, of Norway, or Saint Saens, of France.

2.—Who is America's greatest composer?

Answer.—America's greatest composer is unquestionably Edward MacDowell. Mr. MacDowell was born in New York city in 1861. He received his musical education in Germany and was for some time connected with one of the prominent German conservatories as teacher. Since his return to America in 1888 he has had an active part in the nation's musical life. He now holds the position of professor of music in Columbia university, New York city.

3.—What are their most famous or greatest creations?

Answer.—All three have written for orchestra, string quartette, piano and other instruments, and songs. Grieg and MacDowell are best known by their compositions for the pianoforte.

Geo. E. Secord, the well known contractor of Towanda, N. Y., says: "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in my family for a long time and have found it superior to any other. For sale by all druggists. Matthews Bros., wholesale and retail agents. **