

Chautauquan

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Vol. XXXVII. No. 9.

CHAUTAUQUA, N. Y., MONDAY, JULY 15, 1912.

Price Five Cents.

WHAT CAN LITERATURE DO FOR ME?

THIRD ANSWER TO THE QUESTION BY PROF. SMITH

A Consideration of Prose Fiction—A List of Characters in Fiction—The Chasm Between Literature and Real Life

In his series "What Can Literature Do for Me?" Professor C. Alphonso Smith spoke Saturday morning in the Hall of Philosophy on "It Can Give You a Wider and Deeper Knowledge of Human Nature."

So far, said Professor Smith, we have spoken chiefly of poetry because it is the purest form of literature; today we shall deal chiefly with prose fiction. All literature must reflect at least the character of its creator. Bryant's "Thanatopsis" makes no effort to portray character, but from it we can deduce many things about Bryant, at the time when he wrote it: he was a lover of nature, he was a philosopher, he was a thinker about death and hence was a young man, and he had a command of the sonority of the English language unsurpassed in American literature. All literature is instinct with personality. Moreover, if we know how popular a poem was we can deduce much about the nation with which it was popular. For instance, if one is studying national tastes and tendencies, rather than pure literature, "Home, Sweet Home" will occupy an important place in our history.

The ability to create character demands the greatest blend of head and heart to be found in all human achievement. The real test of whether a man has actually lived in the world is to be found in the extent of his influence upon other people. How many men in real history enter into your consciousness, into your memory, as do the characters of great literature? The great characters of literature are never born; they never die; they live forever.

Professor Johnson has calculated that Shakespeare has created 246 living men and women, not counting the characters in some of his made-over historical plays. There his greatness exists. Bacon's culture becomes a matter of small importance beside this achievement. In any sort of perplexity one may turn to Shakespeare. In his presence your point of view will be better appreciated than in the presence of any other person who ever lived, excepting the characters of holy writ. To Professor Wallace of Nebraska belongs the credit for one of the greatest honors America has yet had in literature. A short time ago he discovered absolute proof that Shakespeare, while in London, lived some time with a French Protestant family and was the instrument by which the daughter of the family and a young apprentice were united in marriage. Can you imagine anyone better suited to this task than the creator of "Romeo and Juliet?"

To return to Professor Johnson, he says that in the works of George Eliot there are 107 distinctly individualized characters. In Dickens there are 102, and in Thackeray 40. This gives us

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION: OFFICIAL PROGRAM

- MONDAY, JULY 15**
- 8:00 The Rivalry of Social Groups. President George E. Vincent. Higgins Hall. (Special Fee.)
- 8:30-11:00 Elementary School. Miss Florence Layman. Hall of Pedagogy.
- 8:50 Problems of the Graded Sunday School. Miss G. L. Chamberlin. Hall of the Christ.
- 8:50 The Dramatic Monologue. Professor C. Alphonso Smith. Higgins Hall. (Special Fee.)
- 9:00 Chautauqua Choir Rehearsal. Mr. Alfred Hallam, Director. Amphitheater.
- 9:00 The Woman's Club. "The Purpose of the American Drama League." Hall.
- 9:40 Primary Methods. Miss Ada Van Stone Harris. Hall of Pedagogy. (Special Fee.)
- 9:40 Studies in Nineteenth Century Poets. Professor C. Alphonso Smith. Higgins Hall. (Special Fee.)
- 10:00 DEVOTIONAL HOUR: "Bible Portraits of Persons We Know." "The Average Man." Canon H. J. Cody. Amphitheater.
- 10:30 Psychology of Childhood. Mr. Earl Barnes. Hall of Pedagogy. (Special Fee.)
- 11:00 LECTURE: "Principles Underlying the Montessori Method." Miss Anne E. George. Hall.
- 11:00 Piano Interpretation Class. Mr. E. Hutcheson. Sherwood Memorial Studio. (Special Fee.)
- 11:20 The History of Education. Mr. Earl Barnes. Hall of Pedagogy. (Special Fee.)
- 11:20 Public School Music. Mr. A. E. Brown. Sherwood Hall. (Special Fee.)
- P. M.**
- 1:20 Chautauqua Educational Council. "Value of Medical and Dental Inspection in the Schools." Mr. Frank H. Remaley. Museum Building.
- 1:30 Demonstration: Lecture on Cookery: "Small Cakes." Miss Anna Barrows. Colonnade. (Special Fee.)
- 1:45 Elementary Course in Kindergarten. Games Following. Miss Mary Ad Hill. Kellogg Hall. (Special Fee.)
- 2:30 LECTURE SERIES: "International Problems in Europe." "England's Fight with Famine." Dr. H. H. Powers. Amphitheater.
- 3:30 Mandolin Club Rehearsal. Amphitheater.
- 3:45 C. L. S. C. HOUR: Address by Mrs. Ida B. Cole, Field Secretary, Hall of Philosophy, followed by Class Meetings and Reception at Alumni Hall.
- 3:45 C. L. S. C. CLASS OF 1912: First Meeting of the Year. Alumni Hall.
- 3:45 C. L. S. C. HOUR: Address by Mrs. Ida B. Cole, Field Secretary, Hall of Philosophy, followed by Class Meetings and Reception at Alumni Hall.
- 4:00 C. L. S. C. Class of 1911. Alumni Hall.
- 4:45 C. L. S. C. Class of 1887. Alumni Hall.
- 5:00 C. L. S. C. Class of 1892. Alumni Hall.
- 5:00 Lecture Recital on Rheingold. Mr. Ernest Hutcheson. Higgins Hall. (Special Fee.)
- 5:00 READING HOUR: 1. "Religious Drama or Mystery, Miracle and Morality Play Within the Church." Miss Vida Sutton. Hall.
- 7:00 OPEN AIR BAND CONCERT. Mr. H. B. Vincent, Conductor. Hotel Veranda.
- 8:00 FACULTY CONCERT. Selected Program by Instructors in the Voice, Piano and Organ Departments of the Chautauqua Summer School of Music. Amphitheater.

- TUESDAY, JULY 16**
- 10:00 DEVOTIONAL HOUR: "The Man in the Street." Canon H. J. Cody. Amphitheater.
- 11:00 LECTURE: "Montessori Materials and Method of Presentation." Miss Anne E. George. Hall.
- P. M.**
- 2:30 LECTURE SERIES: "International Problems in Europe." 2. "The Designs and Doings of Germany." Dr. H. H. Powers. Amphitheater.
- 5:00 READING HOUR: 2. "Corpus Christi Pageant and Play—Religious Drama Outside of the Church." Miss Vida Sutton. Hall.
- 8:00 RECITAL: "Kipling." Mr. H. F. Hadfield. Amphitheater.

some idea of what English literature has done in the number and variety of its great characterizations. Hamlet, says Dr. Furness, looms larger before the world's consciousness than any other figure of history has done, with the exception of Jesus Christ.

I have made a list of characters in fiction, in which I have tried to keep from emphasizing any particular country. This list contains characters which I think are popularly known the world over. In American literature my list is as follows: Irving's Rip Van Winkle (an American work because of the rapidity with which the changes took place in the twenty years of the story); Cooper's Leather-stocking (the German Emperor declares that he knows all of Cooper's works almost by heart); Stowe's Uncle Tom; Mark Twain's Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer; and finally (though it is unknown in Germany) Harris' Uncle Remus. In this country we have used the short story for character study,

rather than the novel, as in England.

For the characters in fiction popularly known the world over, from the literature of other countries, I have this list: Homer's Ulysses, King Arthur (who represents a great rise in popular ideals, since in him it is proved that people could appreciate the glory of a victorious defeat), Dante's Beatrice (the world's greatest portrayal of spiritual love), Don Quixote (who overthrew the old feudal institution of chivalry), Shakespeare's Falstaff and his Hamlet, De Foe's Robinson Crusoe (whom Rousseau recommended as the only fit story for a boy under twelve because of the resourcefulness and individuality which Crusoe showed, and which should be cultivated in the boy of that age), Goethe's Faust, Browning's Pippa (the great exponent of the power of the influence of happiness), Thackeray's Becky Sharp, Dickens's David Copperfield.

(Continued on Page Six)

THE OLD VETERANS

OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL ARMY DAY AT CHAUTAUQUA

Inspiring Address on the "National Memory" by President Vincent—Patriotic Concert in Amphitheater—Occasion of Great Interest to All Visitors as Well as Veterans

Chautauqua celebrated National Army Day in fitting fashion on Saturday. For many years it has been an honored custom to set apart this day for the veterans, and all people join in paying respect to the fast diminishing line of heroes. A pleasing feature of the day is that the blue and the gray meet in common cause and Confederate soldiers are welcomed with as much cordiality as Union soldiers. The old bitterness has long since passed away and all are glad to unite in a real and genuine "national memory."

The exercises of the day were extremely interesting, consisting of a patriotic concert in the Amphitheater at 11 o'clock and an address on the "National Memory" by President George E. Vincent in the Amphitheater at 2:30 in the afternoon.

BUSINESS MEETING

The veterans who had been coming in at various times throughout the day held a business meeting at 1 o'clock in the Methodist House, which was the headquarters. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President Alva Matthews, Brocton; vice-president, L. L. Hanchet, Jamestown; secretary and treasurer, A. H. Stafford, Jamestown; chaplain, Lucius Markham, Jamestown; marshal, H. E. Butler, Jamestown.

THE PARADE

The parade to the Amphitheater was formed in Post Office Park shortly before 2 o'clock. There were something over one hundred veterans in line, some of course not being able to take the march. These waited for their comrades at the Amphitheater.

Mr. H. E. Butler of Jamestown was the marshal of the day, a position he has held for several years, formerly next in authority to the late Captain Bemis. His aide was Mr. Samuel Wildard of Jamestown and the color bearer was Mr. J. N. Tuttle, also of Jamestown. The bugler, who with the color bearer headed the procession, was Mr. Mark E. Cheney of Jamestown, who carried a historic bugle, one with which he went through the war, he having been a musician in the 5th New York Cavalry. With the Chautauqua Band in front the procession formed and proceeded down Roberts avenue to Hedding thence to Clark and on Clark to Palestine, continuing on Palestine until the Hotel was reached, turning towards Simpson there, and coming up the ravine to the Amphitheater. People along the avenues gave the veterans applause as they marched by and when they entered the Amphitheater there was prolonged applause. The Choir was just finishing a rehearsal and as the old soldiers entered the Choir and audience rose and