

not claim to be a literary magazine, though occasional articles of thorough value find their way into its pages. But as a potent factor toward keeping up Alumnæ spirit, it cannot be spared. Therefore, if there is anything you can do for it to further its prosperity, from promptly paying up your small subscription to sending in news or interesting information to the Editor, do it by all means.

### THE OCTOBER REUNION.

The Reunion of the Associate Alumnæ which took place on Oct. 29th was a most successful one. Our outgoing President, Dr. Requa, opened the exercises with the introduction of the new President, Mrs. Gibson, in a few kind and apt words, in which she congratulated the Association in its choice of a presiding officer both efficient and thoroughly acquainted with the work.

Mrs. Gibson's address followed, and was received with interest and applause. It began with a reference to the original objects of this Association, as specified in the prefatory words of the constitution, the preservation of friendly ties formed at college, and the advancement of the best interests of Alma Mater. Mrs. Gibson, in reviewing the work already accomplished, showed how these interests had been truly served. Of the many branches into which the life-blood of the Alumnæ Association has flowed and which it has nourished, the Settlement work is a most important one.

Mrs. Gibson dwelt on the fact that all talents, whatever their direction, might find congenial work at the Alumnæ Settlement, and made an earnest appeal for more workers. The class of '98, that has not yet formed the many ties that bind older workers, was especially appealed to. Our new President's statement that it was now less an object to reach out for new interests than to sustain the high degree of excellence attained in work already begun met with much approval, as did, indeed, the entire address. It was a simple, truthful statement of work accomplished, a tribute to her predecessors, and a promise full of resolution and hopefulness of good work in the future.

For the first time in the history of Alumnæ Reunions, Dr. Hunter failed to address the meeting, being unable to attend. He had, however, with kind consideration, prepared an account of college affairs, which was read by the President of the Associate Alumnæ.

The Reunion Committee, of which Miss Kate B. Hixon is chairman, is to be congratulated on the excellence of the programme that followed. The two musical numbers gave great pleasure. Miss Edith Miller earned hearty applause by her singing of "When

Love Is Gone," by Hawley, and the charming "Come, Sweet Morning," which she sung with delightful grace and verve. Mr. Albertus Shelley's violin solo, "Csárde Jelenetek," was rendered with excellent spirit, and his playing of the Lullaby, with which he followed as an encore, was marked with tenderness and delicacy. Both artists were ably accompanied by Mr. Guiseppi Dinelli, who very kindly consented to accompany Mr. Shelley, the latter's accompanist not being able to keep his appointment.

The speaker of the afternoon was Mr. J. Wells Champney, who won the instant applause of his audience by his suggestive remark as to the removal of hats. Mr. Champney's sketches, beginning with the rudimentary drawings of the elated and the saddened pig (which doubtless have delighted many a nursery and kindergarten since), through all the changes of charming heads and faces, humorous changes from male to female, sad changes from youth to old age—pathetic doubtless in reality, but delightful to see sketched by a cunning hand—pretty peasant maid with knotted kerchief about her head, lovely Dolores evolved from a cloudy smudge, ending with the mystic landscape of black trees and shadows and glimmering vista, held the audience delighted. Mr. Champney had begun by stating that he would talk chiefly to our eyes and that his address was in his hands. But his easy and charming commentary on his work as it progressed proved abundantly that he did not want address of another kind. The speaker closed with the beautiful and apt quotation from Arsine Houssaye, which readers will be glad to find printed below.

After the singing of the Alumnæ song the company adjourned to the corridor just outside the chapel, where refreshments were served from dainty tables along the walls. The social hour, as usual, was a happy one, and ended agreeably a most successful reunion.

#### QUOTATION FROM ARSINE HOUSSAYE.

"The world is God's dream," a philosopher once said. Might one not better say, "God having created the world, and seeing it imperfect, but not deigning to recommence His work, dreamed another world, more beautiful, more dazzling, more worthy of Himself; a new terrestrial paradise, where Poetry, Eve before and after the fall, walks in all her splendid beauty. Art is this dream of God."

The artist or poet, then, is this privileged creature whose mission it is to realize that other world which consoles us for the first. The artist, poetically endowed, should not only study under the light of the sun, but he should listen to that ideal voice which



spreads over nature its enchantments. Have we ever on earth met the divine beauty of Raphael's Madonnas? Would any masks modelled from life seem as elevated as the heads of Michael Angelo? Is the springtime in France, Italy or Greece as sweet and perfumed as André Chénier's idyls? Nature, beautiful though she be, fails to have a certain accent and harmony. Art furnishes the imperfect poem which is called the world with a vague souvenir of the heaven from which it has come to us.



### GREETING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNÆ ASSOCIATION.

When more than a score of years ago our then small number of graduates of the Normal College banded themselves together to form the beginnings of our Associate Alumnæ, in the constitution then framed the reason for our existence was stated in these simple words: "We, the graduates of the Normal College of the City of New York, for the purpose of preserving the friendship and pleasant intercourse begun during our college life, and to advance by every means within our power the best interests of our Alma Mater, do form ourselves into an association, and for our guidance do adopt the following constitution and by-laws."

The keynote to this paragraph was loyalty, the paramount thought love and honor for our Alma Mater. In the earlier years the first half of this paragraph, "preserving the friendship and pleasant intercourse begun during our college life," we gave expression to in our semi-annual reunions. But what responsibility in the years to come the latter half of the paragraph foreshadowed, few realized.

As time has gone on the older ones among us have seen that paragraph grow almost into a volume, and are able to read and re-read between the lines a broader and nobler meaning. We would not be in touch with the spirit of the age in this, the dawn of the twentieth century, if we did not appreciate growing responsibilities, if we made no effort to fulfill our obligations.

Little by little our work has grown, each year the need of new interests presenting themselves, until we stand to-day at the beginning of a new year of active work with a varied and interesting prospectus which I can only briefly present to you this afternoon.

In reviewing this prospectus with me, will not each one mentally decide to offer vital help in at least one department of our work that may appeal specially to you?

Our social "At Homes" are held the second Friday in each