

However, I don't care now; I know what Jack is, and he will always be the same to me as when we played together and were friends before his trouble came. Some day I hope Miss Flint will be ashamed of herself."

Little cared I about Miss Flint's opinion, so long as I had the testimony of my own conscience as to my motive in paying her the fifty pounds. Little cared I whether she was willing to listen, so long as I knew that Nelly would have spoken bravely on my behalf, and that her feelings towards me were unchanged.

There was another sentence in the letter that made me glad. "Give my love and messages of remembrance to all dear friends at Oakhill," and I felt I had a share in it, and rejoiced accordingly.

My piano was not silent after that evening, neither did I seek the solitude

of my bedroom to muse over old times. Instead of that, I looked forward with hope, and worked with my might to deserve promotion.

"Wait, I must. Work, I will. Win, I shall in the long run," said I to myself, as I turned over the little coin attached to my watchchain, and read once again the words so clearly cut upon it, and which I had adopted as my motto.

At that moment I am not sure that I should have been glad had everything been made as smooth for me as my girl friend would have made my future if she could.

There is a purer pleasure, a truer satisfaction in putting forth one's powers and using the talents that have been given us in order to conquer difficulties, than in merely opening the hand to have it filled with the fruits of another

man's labour. I doubt if I should have enjoyed the possession of Lint Hall and its broad acres more than I did my present life of hard work. It was not the loss of house and lands that troubled me so much now; it was the memory of my father's end, the empty place in the old home, the thought that it was the nominal residence of one who did not care to occupy it, and who mentioned his name, and mine too, with dislike and contempt.

"Well," thought I, "it shall not be my fault if cousin Dorothy continues to speak ill of us Simpsons; she has no cause to do it, and she shall have none in the future. I can forgive her for hating me, so long as she is so kind to Nelly Burford, and if ever I have the chance I will try to do her a good turn, instead of rendering evil for evil."

(To be continued.)



THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE EXTENSION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHING.

DEAR SISTERS,—I write especially to those among you who have for some time left off your regular studies, and who are left more or less to find your own occupations. You are at the age when your life is liable to become occupied merely with trivialities, or your faculties developed solely in one direction, and that possibly the wrong direction; so I want to bring before you a society which will help you to see how much you have yet to learn, how much delight there is in learning, and how much pleasure may be derived, even when one's life is well-nigh filled with other and important occupations, from the quickening of one's intellect by its exercise on some subject skilfully handled through a systematic course by an enthusiastic lecturer.

How disappointing it is that the habits of learning, only acquired after many years of toil on our own part and that of our various teachers, so quickly become enfeebled! Whereas in the schoolroom we had little difficulty in mastering a page of dates or formulæ, now we find it weary work to fix our attention for long on any intellectual question. The mind wanders again and again, and at last we give it up, and cry in despair: "I can't concentrate my thoughts enough." Now, you have got into this languid mental state because you have lost the incentive you had at school. I think the desire of not doing less than our neighbour is a very lawful motive for servants of Christ, and it has, no doubt, helped many to do their work with their might. But now you are "out," you find your neighbours mostly striving after other things than the cultivation of their intellects—after lower things than are worthy of our high calling; so that the very same motive which helped you

in the right direction formerly may now drive you away from it.

Among your friends are some entirely absorbed in Society and frivolity; some are following a profession; some have been enabled to "choose that better part," and have given themselves up to Christian work. What are you doing? Your time is probably occupied with satisfying the claims of Society, of Christian work, of music and painting, and I daresay you try to do a little serious reading; and this last you feel is not thorough and definite in aim. And why? You miss in this branch of your life the incentives you find in the others. Now, you will agree with me that you would not have less pleasure in Society, or do your district visiting less thoroughly and faithfully, or teach your Sunday-school class less prayerfully, or practise and paint less carefully, if you were also vigorously continuing the development of your intellectual faculties. You are aware that lectures are delivered at the Royal and the London Institution, at the Birkbeck, at the South Kensington Museum, etc., but you do not attend them. You find they do not exactly suit your needs; the courses are too long, too miscellaneous, the lecture hall is too far, the hour inconvenient. There are a score of other objections.

Now, the society I want you to know about is the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching, which has centres in most parts of the "county," where the very best university teaching is brought within the reach of all who have one free afternoon or evening in the week. The teaching consists of an hour's lecture, followed by class instruction, when the lecturer comments on the papers which the students may have submitted

to him on the subject of the previous week's lecture. The course consists of ten or twelve lectures spread over a period of the same number of weeks, and followed by an examination. No one is obliged to go in for the examination, but it is a good test whether you have been really digesting the knowledge imparted. Courses are given in history, political economy, literature, geology, botany, physics, chemistry, physiology, art, etc., by some of the men most eminent in each branch. The enthusiasm these men have for their subjects will be communicated to you, and will take the place of that competition you find it so difficult to do without. You will, during the term, read seriously in the groove of the lectures, with a definite aim which will make your reading much more profitable and very much more enjoyable.

The first term is from October to Christmas, the second from the end of January to Easter. The fees are always low, and sometimes merely nominal. There are also already centres in some of the large provincial towns, and there need never be any difficulty in forming new ones. If an audience can be brought together large enough to pay the expenses, which are reduced to a minimum, the society can always provide a good lecturer. Any further information will gladly be supplied by Dr. Roberts, Charterhouse, E.C.

In conclusion, dear girls, I would most strongly urge you, the clever ones, to look to it that you are not allowing to fall into disuse the splendid intellectual powers which God has given you; and you, the commonplace ones, who feel you cannot do great things, do not wrap up your one talent and hide it away in a napkin.

AN "EXTENSION" STUDENT.