

plain of her advance in stature, because of the inference of outsiders as to their respective ages; her mother frets because her elbows "come through," and her dresses need constant remodeling to adapt them to her growing form.

Her brother of a year or so older, the "Hobble-de-hoy," shares some of her miseries but has no sensitiveness which a hearty dinner or a game of base-ball will not totally overcome.

The school duties and friends of our Nondescript absorb all her attention except at meals, where her elder sisters discuss last night's party or to-day's engagements; her big brother talks over the contested election with her father; her mother meditates on the orders to be given to Biddy, and the Hobble-de-hoy devotes himself to the problem of consuming the greatest amount of eatables in the shortest quantity of time. And to whom does our heroine listen? If thoughtful, to her father; for she is an interested observer of politics (will she ever be more?) but does not advance an opinion which may be met by derision or silent contempt.

If she be frivolously inclined, the gossip about people and dress enlists her attention and her spicy participation.

Happy for her if there be a nursery into which she can bring the light of her merry laugh and ready wit and where she can find sympathy and pure admiration!

How does she pass her evenings? This question is often confined to the young man for whom the Christian Association does so good a work. Ah, it is pertinently applied to another class of neglected young life-voyagers! If our Nondescript be at the head of her class in school all her time is employed in preparation for the morrow's session; far into the night she prolongs her mental struggles with grammar, history, algebra, and lays her aching head upon her pillow to reënact the battles of the day.

But alas! if she realizes no affinity with the great minds of former days and no friendly hands uphold, how can she climb the weary road to knowledge? Ordinarily, she does not try but over the pages of an easily comprehended novel or in the mazes of a "sociable" hop; with others of the nondescript age, her evenings whirl away, and she reaches the age of full-fledged young lady-hood, already blasé to its pleasures and with no conception of its possibilities of character and culture.

What blessedness for our heroine if she meet some broad-minded, generous-hearted woman who shall see beneath her failings the genuine good of her character, the warmth of whose nature shall woo the neglected, frost-pinched bud into lovely, fragrant bloom!

O, anxious mother! busy with the wherewithal of clothing, food, household arrangement, what shall it profit if your daughter grow up estranged from the sweet, sacred tie of family affection, seeking enjoyment in more congenial, perhaps unsafe, companionship of which you know naught?

O, fathers! worried with the gold decline or the rise in cotton, at what per cent do you rate your daughter's affection?

It is nothing to you, parents, that her health fails under this course of frivolity or of persistent study? Is it nothing that she is living for self just as truly in her ambition to be a cultured scholar as in her aim to be the belle of her small circle? Will you not awake to her necessities and give her the consideration she merits, the affection she craves? Provide for her rational means of amusement, lectures, concerts, intercourse with your refined guests. Interest yourself in her reading. Guard her on the one hand from the influence of the whirling frivolity of fashion; on the other, from our modern forcing system of education. Teach her household tasks as a means of health and helpfulness.

Treat her thus rationally, and it shall be your highest joy and reward to see the immature Nondescript growing into symmetrical, useful, happy womanhood.

J. B. A.

Winter Resorts in Southern Europe.

TO those Americans conversant with the varied climate of our native land there is a charm for every season of the year in each section of the country, but a few years suffice to surfeit the taste and weary the mind; while on the continent of Europe, there is such an everchanging scene that *habitués* of the most frequented winter resorts never tire, and year after year finds them enjoying the ruins of Rome, the art treasures of Florence, or the gay carnival of Nice.

While each of these large cities is well known to every tourist, there are many of less note where the invalid or the sated pleasure-seeker may while away months of placid existence amid luxuriant foliage and balmy airs that seem laden with the odors of Arabia.

Commencing on the Bay of Biscay, the tourist will find Arcachon a delightful place of residence. Situated on the south side of the "Bassin d'Arcachon" and sheltered by the picturesque dunes, its temperate climate invites to a lengthened sojourn. The rains fall mostly at night, fog and damp cold are rarely known, the period of cold in winter is brief, and the forest affords sheltered walks where one may promenade without fear of being driven in by any sudden change of weather. One may live comfortably and rather luxuriously at the hotels here for the reasonable sum of \$2 per day, while, if one prefers house-keeping, a pretty villa may be hired for from \$10 to \$150 per month, plate and linen extra. Of course, by this latter arrangement parties are expected to supply their own provisions, which may be done on as liberal or economical a scale as one chooses.

Among the resorts known to the old Romans is Dax, or Acqs, situated about one hundred miles from Bordeaux, among healthy pine forests, in view of the Pyrenees. There are celebrated hot sulphur springs here which attain a temperature of 150° F., and are used for cooking, drinking, and bathing. Mud baths for diseases of the joints, paralysis, rheumatism, and old wounds are administered here.

Pau is, perhaps, one of the winter resorts in this same section of the country most patronized by English families. Here the season begins the 1st of October, and continues until May 31st. The streets are clean, there are good schools, an English club, promenade concerts, polo, cricket, golf, and lawn-tennis clubs, fox hunting thrice a week, and a skating rink. Nearly every denomination may find its favorite form of worship here, and a large circulating library affords abundant occupation to those disinclined to participate in the various forms of amusement so liberally provided by the "Union Syndicate" of Pau. Furnished apartments are to be had at prices ranging from \$100 to \$3,000 for the entire season, while board and lodging ranges from \$10 per week up to \$25, according to the locality and class of rooms.

Space will not permit an enumeration of all the inviting nooks that nestle amidst the projecting shadows of the Pyrenean range, for, from the Atlantic sea-board on the one hand to the mild shores of the Mediterranean on the other, Nature seems to have opened her fountains for the healing of the nations. On the Atlantic border lies Biarritz, and as one traverses the valley, Lourdes, Luchon, Tarascon, Prades, Belgarde, and Perpignan present their claims, and one is loath to quit them for the gayer attractions of those cities that bask in the balmy breezes of more Southern seas.

On the Gulf of Lyons, Marseilles stretches its broad thoroughfares and opens its natural harbor to the world, from whence one may seek retirement in less busy but charmingly seductive quarters. Aix, within eighteen miles, is the birthplace of Thiers; ten miles off is the castle of Mirabeau; a Roman wall still exists near the spot where Marius defeated the Cimbri, B.C. 125; and the student may find ample food in a library of one hundred and twenty thousand volumes.

Hyères is called one of the "Gardens of the Mediterranean," and is but two hours distant from Marseilles. Broad avenues, shaded by palms, form one of the great features of this resort, while the eucalyptus and pine forests fill the air with an odor grateful and invigorating. Excursions are frequently made to some picturesque islands that lie in the sea three miles away from this sheltered spot. Farther on, in a lovely bay, Toulon rises upon a ridge of hills and presents expansive views of sea and shore, while its extensive dock-yard contains a workman's village with a special museum, library, and baths for the ten thousand men who are employed there.

Cannes is noted for its fine beach and as being the residence of many English, who delight no less in its orange and lemon groves, than in the fact that Lord Brougham is the acknowledged "founder" of the place. Near by is Antibes, where Napoleon I. landed in 1815, behind which rises the picturesque hills of Esterel with a peak two thousand four hundred feet high, where the energetic climber is rewarded with widespread views of forests, smiling landscapes, sunny islands, and stretches of sandy shore bounded only by a limitless expanse of placid water over which gentle breezes float, laden with the breath of flowers.

Nice is the Mecca toward which the gay world hies, some weeks before the lenten season begins; for here the carnival flourishes in greater vigor than at Rome or Venice. Prices are high, and Fashion flaunts her brilliant banner a brief while, in rout and ball, taxing her votaries no less here than in the crowded capitals of the world. Let those who seek *rest* look elsewhere than here, for recreation seems to be the aim of the majority, although one may find all desirable repose in the environs and still enjoy the advantages, medical, clerical, and literary, which are so liberally dispensed in the city.

Mentone, twenty-four miles from Nice, is said to possess all the attractions so lavishly bestowed upon its neighbor, its exclusiveness being amply assured by the high prices which prevailed during the brief sojourn of Queen Victoria, last season, although it is by no means certain that the visit will be repeated. Still the exquisite quality of the atmosphere is of so enticing a nature that tourists and invalids should not omit a ramble amid its pleasant vales, while the more adventurous will find a panorama of surpassing loveliness laid at their feet if they accomplish the task of mounting heights which rise four thousand five hundred feet above; Corsica, which lies one hundred miles away, being in full view.

As most of our readers are familiar with Italy, we conclude by offering a few hints as to clothing, etc., for a tour of the places named above.

An excess of luggage must be avoided if one wishes to thoroughly enjoy the journey. Sixty-six pounds is the allowance free, all excess being paid for at a fourth part of third-class fares in France.

Spun silk stockings and underwear of all kinds occupy little space, are light, warm, and healthy, and cost no more, often less in London and Paris, than do good merino garments in New York. Tussore silk night-dresses, chemises, drawers, or combination suits are very serviceable, and may be obtained by *order* at some of the larger shops in London and Paris, at about the same cost of fine cotton garments in New York; underskirts of the same material are quite as warm as flannel. A walking length skirt of a good, soft quality of gray or black Surah is the best for warm days, and another of gray, blue, or crimson camels' hair serge is desirable for cool and rainy weather.

One good silk dress and a camels' hair serge of any desirable or modish color, both short, with linen collars and cuffs for ordinary occasions, and lace ruffles, or frills, and a fichu for dinner or evening toilet, will amply suffice for a six weeks' or three months' journey. Half a dozen white Chinese

silk handkerchiefs are quite as useful and pretty as linen, and they can be washed in the toilet basin with cold water and toilet soap, clapped or shaken until nearly dry, folded, put in a towel and pressed under the trunk or valise.

All of the spun silk and Tussore garments can be treated in the same manner, only allowing the garments to become nearly dry over the back of a chair, before folding them. If time permits, the cleaners will do the work better, but they require three days; charges, for undervest, seventy-five centimes, fifteen cents; drawers, one franc, twenty cents; hose, fifty centimes, ten cents, per pair; night-dress or underskirt, one franc fifty centimes, thirty cents, if plain, more if trimmed.

Buy boots, overshoes, gauze water-proof, rubber pillow, and one quart rubber hot-water bottle in America, all being indispensable, and much cheaper and better than can be procured on the continent. A double Chuddah shawl, bought in London or Paris for \$10, will be of twice the service and a fourth the weight of any railway rug. Soap and towels are indispensable in one's hand baggage, and one must guard them carefully in all railway dressing-rooms on the continent, as they are liable to be appropriated and difficult to replace.

Equal Development.

THIS is a plea for the left side of the human body,—from the brain down to the toes.

The dual person incorporate, should be even and symmetrical. To discover how much more adroit is one whole set of members than the other, make a point of using your left hand to unlock the door, light the gas, pick up the handkerchief, reach for a book; and in dressing, let the right hand merely assist the left, which shall do the principal work, instead of vice versa.

The piano pupil, to become a musician that needeth not to be ashamed, has to give the amount of an actual year or two to the practice of left-hand mechanical exercises, in order to attain equal strength and equal quickness, which is intelligence, of the two hands. With limitation, there is a minor personality in each member of the body.

In the great art galleries of Italy may sometimes be seen a no-armed artist who paints beautifully with his toes. I remember a man's left hand which was small and delicate; while his right hand was muscular and considerably larger than the other, all through use. His occupations often made him go aboard ships that were anchored in deep water; when he was climbing up the ladder let down on the outside of the vessel, all his safety from falling into a turbulent sea, lay needlessly in his right hand.

The dress-maker will tell you that she generally finds an inequality of the arms and shoulders; no wonder, for one side does two-thirds of the exercise.

The dancing master finds it harder to make his pupils take the reverse steps of the waltz—simply because there is less intelligence on the left side; simply because in kicking, getting in or out of a carriage or car, getting over a fence, stepping up or down stairs, we depend on the one side, and have not the same nimbleness on the other.

The shoe merchant, who tries shoes on hundreds of feet in a week, will tell you what a difference there is in almost everybody's right and left foot. The men at the kid glove counter will have equally as much to say on the subject of hands and gloves.

Consumption generally attacks the *right lobe* of the lung; because consumption usually being hereditary, and the right