CHARITY AND RED-TAPE

During the winter months in Paris, says the Confectioners' Journal, various charitable societies issue bread tickets, called bons de pain, which are on sale at the tobacconists, and cost ten cents each. Charitable people, who don't care about giving money to the poor, buy these tickets and distribute them to the indigent, and every baker in for one of these tickets. Business having called me the other day to the Caisse de la Boulangerie, or central bakers' cash office. Clearly that mother has no part in I! was present at the refunding to the bakers of cash in exchange for the tickets they had received from the poor during the ast month. This cash office is situated on the Quai d'Anjou, near the far-famed Ho-tel Lambert. The cashiers consist of five master bakers, who volunteer for the servce, and these five were seated at a long able. In front of four of these gentlemen were piles of oblong-shaped pieces of black cardboard, which had very much the appearance of slates without frames. In front of each pile of slates was a pile of money-one of copper, one of silver, one of gold. and one of bank notes. The fifth

cashier, who sat nearest the door, had neither slates nor money. It was his duty to examine and initial the written bill presented by each baker as he came in. The account he then passed on to his colleague at his side, who had the copper in front of him. This gentleman examined the bill and then took from his heap of copper the amount of pence in the balance of the account, placed them on the side of his slates, and passed this to his colleague with the silver, who added the amount of loose francs marked on the bill and then passed it on, on the slate, to the gold cashier, who, having added the gold pieces requisite, GOOD ADVICE FOR ALL YOUNG | handed it to the bank-note cashier, who added bank-notes to make up the amount of the bill and paid over the amount due in notes, gold, silver and copper to the baker, Is it true that a fine young man can who had followed his bill behind the chairs.

As a sample of old-world tomfoolery this account of how bills are paid in Paris will certainly interest Americans. Does it not seem incredible that in a business age, when time is literally money, such a custom, surviving from the darkest middle ages, should be tolerated? It took just five minutes for each bill to pass through the hands of the copper, silver, gold and bank-note cashiers before the baker got his money. This absurd mode of payment, I am glad to say, exists nowhere else in Paris and is a survival of the customs which were in force in the mediæval "ancient and worshipful company" of master bakers in Paris. In those hoary times massive silver trays were used for carrying the "boodle" from the company's cash box or treasure chest to the baker who had to receive it. On one tray gold was carried, on another silver, and on another copper. Stately nonsense of this sort was all very well in the days before America was discovered, in the nineteenth century it is a downright anomaly. The only sensible thing about this Caisse de la Bouloven in which any baker in Paris, at an emergency or in case of accident to his own

## LITERARY STYLES.

Lasting Success.

We may test contemporary literature, says Charles Dudley Warner in the Atlantic, by

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Babylon's palace, to do God's right in. But the right can be done anywhere by the earnest good, the faithful Daniels. And soon their noble resolution is put to a severe test. Before them is spread gence-fattening dishes. To eat is to die, and not to eat is to die perhaps. But they do what they believe to be the only right thing for them to do. So they respectfully request a dinner of herbs. It is a hard request to make, and a still harder one to grant, but it is made and granted, and around their dinner of herbs, legumes, the fair youths, with God's love illuminating their faces, sit, and are happy. How good for them, good for all their future, that they choose temperance in preference to intemperance, right in preference to wrong, God's love rather than the king's favor, homely fare versus splendid misery !

But let us turn to another table-scene. It is in Babylon, too, Belshazzar's Banquet. A thousand lords, and a thousand ladies, feast with the voluptuous king. The wine flows. Mirth is mad. Laughter holds his sides, and haw-haws vociferously. Music clangs. Then they The ladies scream and faint. The lights so with us.-Atlanta Constitution. burn dim. Horror reigns. Daniel comes in, and tells the king his dreadful doom: "Weighed in the balances and found wanting !' And the finale is, "That night the city is taken, and Belshazzar the king is slain."

Now, looking on this scene and thatthis with its pulse and that with its its God love and that with its God-hate, sure to lose them all unless he stops; stalled ox and hatred therewith.'

one painted by the Master's skilful fancy-sketch. No; there is deep, earnest, solemn, awful truth in it.

A rich man dwells in a grand house, and fares sumptuously every day. His table groans with plenty--meats and drinks. His friends come to feast with him-to eat his meat, drink his wine, help his joy, pander to his indulgence. Ah ! how hollow and empty such joy and friendship; splendid misery!

Dying of want at his gate lies a poor, but good man, and yet he cannot spare him the crumbs that fall from his overloaded table. Oh the meanness of ex-

hard place, Babylon, and especially little quarrels their children have with other children. The children them-Bill in Paris. selves so soon forget and forgive it all; but we children of a larger growth cannot so soon forget the hurt we feel because our children have been complaina table of dainties-wine, meats, indul- ed of. I was once calling on a friend when her little boy of eight years came in said tearfully: O mamma, Harry Cole hit me! Well, well, returned the Paris exchanges one pence's worth of bread mother, complacently, you go out and hit Harry

her children's quarrels, and the carelessly given advice was dangerous to the child. It was so far from the turningof-the-other cheek-also teaching, and it was not right; but it was not much more harmful than the words of the mother who says, "If Johnnie hits you, you come and tell me, and I'll go and tell his mother on him.

We don't see the faults of our children as others see them, but, all the same, we don't want to be reminded of them by persons of clearer vision than ourselves. No matter how carefully we may guard and guide them, the little mortals will get into trouble, but they can often get out of it themselves much easier than begin cursing—cursing Jehovah, the God of Daniel. But see ! What is that? we can help them out. It is seldom the nature of childhood to cherish anger and A spectre-hand writes doom on the resentment long. The boys who are palace wall. The king is terror-struck. foes at noon are friends at night. Not

## MEN.

hardly be found in Springvale? It is beginning to be frequently so said. What is the cause ? "They all drink !" Of wine, this with its simplicity and that | course that is not all but it is the root of with its extravagance, this with its all. The young man who drinks pawns right and that with its wrong, this with health, intellect and character, and is this with its blessing and that with its and the rule is that he does not stop uncurse, you would say-would you not ?- til he has lost them, and then he dies. with the wise Solomon, "Better is a That is the road you have started on if dinner of herbs where love is, than a you drink. Habitual drinkers are men who tried to be moderate drinkers and Still another scene let me show you, failed. They are sure to fail also in at least four other things-health, hand; and yet it is not unreal, a mere intellect, character and business. Is that what you propose to do with your life? You can easily do it, but will you? Do you consent to take the risk? Look around upon the examples in Springvale which you have begun to imitate. Is it a company that angerie is that on the premises is a large you are honored in being counted with ? They all began by doing as you are now private oven, can have his bread baked. doing, and some of them are pleased to see you follow in their foot-steps; indeed, they baited the trap in which you have The Quality Which Most Contributes to been caught. Let it be your firm purpose to have and deserve the honor of being one of the few young men in this

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travagance ! the cruelty of indulgence ! The rich man's dogs are kinder than himself; they come and with their soft beggar's inflamed ulcers.

Now, look on this scene and that; look on unconsecrated, unblessed plenty, and then look on consecrated, Godblessed want; look at Dives in his they will respect you far more and serve and prodigality in adjectives. But, style? palace, and Lazarus out at his gate unsheltered, uncared for ;-look, I say, at the two scenes as they are, side by side, to do.

But look again, the death-curtain ishes like a gorgeous day-dream the splendor of wealth, and over the hill crawls the solemn pageant. Then comes a pauper's neglected funeral, and everyis out of the way.

going on. Heaven's elite is therewait upon the happy guests. A new arrival is announced. He is led to the seat of honor beside Abraham. Who is this honored one? Did you catch the name? Lazarus, the dog-befriended pauper that lay at the rich man's gate. Let all the welkin ring with glad hosannas, praise to the all-cleansing blood of the Lamb.

But where is the rich man ? Ah ! a message comes to Abraham from him. He is in awful want; he begs just one little drop of water to cool his burning tongue. But he is denied it ; he cannot have it. He has had all the good he will ever have. He dwells in everlasting burnings.

Now, you are prepared to make your choice. You say, "Let me be Lazarus ill-fed here and well-fed yonder, rather than Dives well-fed here and ill-fed yonder." "Better is a dinner of herbs," crumbs, "where love is, God's love, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith "-God's hatred.

AMEN.

#### CHILDISH QUARRELS.

I don't think very much of the neighbor who comes running into my house to tell me every time my Johnnie gives her Tommy a little hurt. Her Tommy has to handle my Johnnie very roughly indeed before I would run to her with a complaint about it. I don't like to see Sec'y F'ton Boom Co. | parents mixing themselves up with the need to proclaim it.

village who are always both sober and that is, if it has not that, we may conclude respectable. Such young men are in that it lacks one essential lasting quality. demand for employment, for office, for cooling tongues, they lick the wretched business, and for every relation of life and society.-TRUTH, in Springvale Ad- ing for half a century, but it will be a fashvocate.

Do not be afraid of your servants;

you far better if you insist on their hav. Yes, there is such a thing as style, good ing your way instead of their own. You and bad, and the style should be the writer's no doubt will dread a change, but even and if you had your choice to make of if that comes it may be a change for the own sake, a style that attracts my attenthis or that, what choice would you better instead of the worse. Neither be tion so constantly that I say, How good make? Ah ! you would not know what afraid of your husband if your bills ex- that is! I begin to be suspicious. If it ceed your allowance, tell him so promptly, if he growls, accept it as your due, drops on both. The rich man dies, be- bravely and cheerfully; no man worth cause perhaps he is overfed, and the poor | loving or marrying will growl at a woman dies because he is underfed. Van- man brave enough to own she is in the wrong, and open confession saves all Then I can not have the glass too clear. Is those delicate secret complications that | it to affect me like a strain of music? Then help out the interest of a novel, but are intolerable in real life. body thanks God that the poor wretch Don't be afraid of other people, their words, their opinions or their Still again we look. A banquet is customs. If you cannot afford expensive carpets, put down cheap ones, or Abraham, David, Elijah, Isaiah. Angels nothing, and take them as a matter of course; never apologize for them. If you have cheap chairs, fall back on their comfort and cleanliness when you think of it, and do not inwardly cringe because they are cheap. It is neither sinful nor shameful to be poor; if you have to be careful and troubled about many things, dear Martha, like your scriptural namesake, do not let this be one of them.--Rose Terry Cook in Christian Union.

#### CHOCOLATE PIE.

One cup of milk, three eggs, two thirds of a cup of granulated sugar, two heaping tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate, a pinch of salt, and vanilla extract enough to flavor. Mix the chocolate in two tablespoonfuls of milk. Stir in the cup of milk, and scald. Beat one whole egg and the yolks of two with the cup of sugar, stirring while pouring it on. Bake in a deep pie-plate with one crust. When done beat the whites of two eggs used in pie to stiff froth. Add two tablespoonfuls of pulverized sugar, spread over the top of the pie and return to oven until slightly browned.

The highest plane of giving is giving for love's sake; this is the Divine motive in giving.

He who is pure in desire, noble in character, rich in good deeds, has no

y to the canon of simplicity It may please, it may be ingenious, brilliant even; it may be the fashion of the day, and a fashion that will hold its power of pleasion. Mannerisms, of course, will not deceive us, nor entravagances, eccentricities, affectations, nor the straining after effect by the use of coined or far-fetched words own and characteristic of him as his speech is. But the moment I admire a style for its is too good-too pronouncedly good-I fear I shall not like it so well on a sec-ond reading. If it comes to stand between me and the thought, or the personality behind the thought, I grow more and more suspicious. Is the book a window, through which I am to see life? I am still more disturbed by any affectations. Is it to produce the effect of a picture? Then I know I want the simplest harmony of color. And I have learned that the most effective word-painting, as it is called, is the simplest. This is true if it is a question only of present enjoyment. But we nay be sure that any piece of literature which attracts only by some trick of style, lowever it may blaze up for a day and startle the world with its flash, lacks the element of endurance. We do not need much experience to tell us the difference between a lamp and a Roman candle. Even in our day we have seen many reputations flare up, illuminate the sky, and then go out in utter darkness. When we take a proper historical perspective we see that it is the universal, the simple, that lasts.

#### A Division of Pleasure.

Friend (to Colonel) - "I hear, Colonel, that vou and Major Sevengallons were taken down with the jim-jams together, sir, the other night." Colonel (hotly)-"No, sir. There was not enough liquor between us for that. I had the jims and he had the jams; but, sir, we couldn't combine!"

A Difference in Cigarettes. A correspondent of the Boston Transcript, talking about cigarettes, says that "those bought by our boys are quite another thing from those comparatively innocent ones smoked by Cubans and South Americans. that set the fashion. Wrappers, 'warranted rice paper,' are proven to be ordinary paper whitened with arsenic. In the sixteen expensive popular brands, with one exception, were found sufficient quantities of opium to create such a craving as could only be satisfied by an incessant use of cigarettes or resort to opium alone. We see many cases of lightning paralysis, insomnia, insanity, unquestionably so produced, and the whole army of cigarette smokers show it in skin, weak eyes and weaker manhood."

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