and women in the colony, nor have other directors. The people of Ainay were at first fearful of men patients, but soon found them tractable even in the homes of widows whether with or without children. Indeed women become difficult to place, because meddling, gossiping and indiscreet, though more acceptable to women needing a maid or companion. Some of the boarders work with their guardians in the fields, others seek remunerative occupation elsewhere in the village.

In the summer of 1898 I went to Scotland, to see what I could in a brief visit of the Scotch care of the insane, which is authoritatively recognized as the most complete and efficient in the world. I saw various admirable asylums in some of which there was a simplicity of structure, a freedom and comfort and a respect for the patients individually, most gratifying and inspiring. The feature, however, which I most desired to see was the boarding-out of patients in private families. With Dr. John Frazer, commissioner in lunacy, and Mr. Spence, secretary of the commission, I spent a day in Lanarkshire, on the upper Clyde, going from cottage to cottage and seeing the patients as they lived with their "guardians," as those are called who take patients into their houses to board. Everywhere the housing was very simple, frequently there were only the "but" and the "ben," the kitchen and parlor with a double box-bed in each and a narrow passage between, which make the typical Scotch cottage. The cleanliness was admirable, the cottages were well furnished and in every instance had a pleasant air of homely comfort.

In one of the cottages a vigorous old woman was seen. She was lighting her pipe at the fireplace with a comfortable air of possession. We were told that when first sent from the asylum she had been rather "wild," lifted her stick when crossed or annoyed, etc. Now she was a quiet, orderly woman much interested in some young lads who were also boarded in the house and with her corner by the fire, her pipe and her grandmotherly fussing over the boys, she really had a nibble at some of the joys which appertain to old age. In another cottage three men were boarded. The head of the house raised fruit for market, and one of the boarders who had been a gardener now helped in the kind of work he knew how to do.

As to the proportion of insane who may be boarded out with safety, the most conclusive guide is doubtless afforded by Belgium and Scotland, the two countries which have long made boarding-out an integral part of their systems of public care of the insane, and in both of which about one-fifth of their insane are thus cared for.

The question of relative cost of boarding-out and of institution care is of great importance of course. In France the daily cost for each patient in the asylums of the department of the Seine is a little more than twice the cost of a patient living in a family in the village of Dun-sur-Auron. In Scotland the current cost of boarding-out is about two-thirds that of asylum care. These figures disregard the item of the value of the asylum plant, i. e., the interest on the sum which is sunk in the building and improvements and repairs and which, when added in, greatly increases the total institution expense. This item, for instance, in the Inverness asylum in Scotland is about $45 a year, and it would be not less for the average American asylums and in many cases far more. The economy to the state in boarding-out such patients as may be thus cared for in safety is self-evident even if the current cost were the same in the village as in the institution. Of course it is plain that this system can succeed only under intelligent and painstaking supervision by public officials.

In the 1901 report of the Scotch lunacy commission, Dr. Charles McPherson, an inspector of boarded-out patients, writes as follows:

> The important questions then are—Is it necessary in the public interest that these patients should be detained in public institutions? and is it to their personal advantage, on the score of health, happiness and comfort? The first question is disposed of by the fact that during the 43 years in which this system has been in operation there has been only one serious assault committed by a boarded-out patient, a record of success which no asylum can equal. Of course, this success resulted from most careful selection of patients, and most credit is due to asylum superintendents for the careful manner in which this selection is made. As regard the other question whether it is to the personal advantage of the patient to remove him from an institution and place him in a private house, we have the testimony of the patients themselves—when they were capable of giving it—in at least 90 per cent. of the cases, that they much prefer their life in the country; and we have the evidence all through these years of the deputy commissioners, whose duty it was to visit them, testifying to marked physical and mental improvement in many cases, even in cases boarded in very humble homes, where the dietary was inferior to that of the asylum. The freedom from irksome discipline and the social advantage of mixing with sane people of their own rank in life—and on a footing of equality, has a wonderfully beneficial effect, and has resulted in not a few cases in complete recovery.
>
> Many of these can and do appreciate their freedom, and derive much pleasure from a life in a family occupying much the same social position as they did themselves before their mental trouble changed the course of their lives. We constantly see examples—men working in the garden or field or farm offices alongside of their guardians. True, it may be said that now that asylums have mostly considerable farms attached to them, the same opportunities of healthy out-door work exist there. But it is different. There they are one of a squad of patients working under the eye of an attendant. Here they are mingling with sane men, women and children, practically on a footing of equality, and all their surroundings tend to make them forget that they are different from other people.

At first it might be feared that no families could be found in this country who would take such boarders, but the ease with which places are found to board children shows that there are many people who are willing to take pains to add to their incomes under their own roofs. Moreover a brief experiment in Massachusetts made by Mr. F. B. Sanborn, the commissioner in lunacy in 1885 when 180 patients were boarded out, showed as he has recently stated that "there were more applicants in good families than they could well supply with boarders."

A dispassionate survey of the business of taking boarders as an industry certainly indicates that, for amiability, contentment, and general non-interference, insane boarders are much to be preferred to sane ones.

AN EXAMPLE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

THE WORK OF JULIA C. LATHROP IN ILLINOIS.

Miss Julia C. Lathrop is the daughter of Hon. William Lathrop, of Rockford, Ill. Miss Lathrop, after graduating at Vassar college, studied law in her father's office, but never entered upon the practice of law. Instead, she went into a manufacturer's office in her native city, and eventually became the efficient manager of the growing enterprise.

Highly educated, experienced in affairs, of assured judgment and sound sense, Miss Lathrop, answering the appeal of her own heart for a life of unselfish usefulness, came to Chicago to live and work with Miss Jane Addams

at Hull House. Here came lessons in practical helpfulness such as are open to all who live among the poor of a great city, lessons and work which absorb the few who try to do even a little to lighten the flood of human want and suffering.

At one period Miss Lathrop was in charge of the relief work of the Hull House neighborhood, and in assisting afflicted, needy woman and children, she became well and intimately "acquainted with grief," and at the same time saw all there is to be seen in connection with those who seek entrance or are forced into the County hospital, detention hospital for the insane, the poor house and all the other agencies —public and private—for the relief of the suffering, deficient and unfortunate.

Attracted by the efficiency and courage shown by Miss Lathrop in her work in Chicago, Gov. Altgeld, in 1893, appointed her a member of the Illinois state board of charities. She served throughout Gov. Altgeld's term, continued through that of Gov. Tanner, resigning in July, 1901, soon after the coming into power of Gov. Yates.

During her eight years of service to the people of the State, Miss Lathrop worked as I verily believe no State charity commissioner ever worked before. Her services were entirely gratuitous, as those of all the State board are, except those of the secretary, who is a salaried official. Miss Lathrop, being without business or family responsibilities demanding her presence in some one place, was able to visit all the State institutions of charity and correction, including the county jails and poor houses, and this work she performed systematically and unflinchingly.

Long journeys to out-of-the-way alms houses and county jails did not dismay the devoted traveler, and, indeed, the journeys themselves were not a burden. It was what came as the object of them that would have appalled any ordinary woman or man.

What is disclosed by a visit to the insane wards of a county poor house need not be specified to anyone having even a remote idea of the real situation of the incurable insane in such places. The buildings provided are often inadequate, and the necessary conditions for proper care of the suffering charges upon the public are in many cases absent, and even unknown to the superintendent and his aids.

In the jails of counties remote from the centers of active life, insane patients were often found awaiting the time when the sheriff should be able to take the unfortunate to a State asylum. Sometimes Miss Lathrop found the poor sufferers who had remained in the jail cells, uncared for, perhaps bound by ropes and straps, a week at a time, before they could be placed in competent hands.

Every effort was made to assist the responsible officials in their difficult tasks, duties for which they were unprepared and unprovided with necessary means. In many counties the board of charity commissioners, through Miss Lathrop's efforts, established semi-official committees of visitors to the county institutions, thus starting the growth of humane feeling toward the county's charges, exactly where such feeling would do the most good.

In her reports to the State authorities, Miss Lathrop placed in the hands of responsible officials a complete description of almost every alms house in Illinois, with practical recommendations for the improvements needed in each case. These observations and recommendations, such as could be published, came to the view of the people of the State through the official reports of the State board of charities. To read one of these volumes is enough to make any citizen of Illinois quit boasting, once and forever.

In the State institutions Miss Lathrop's influence was felt for good, and never was it used to create confusion, insubordination or ill-feeling, and that is something which can seldom be said for a reformer. Indeed, a trait strongly characteristic of the subject of this sketch is her tact, courtesy and fairness of mind. These qualities enabled her to fill without friction or discord her difficult role as a tireless, enthusiastic and practical member of a board made up of men of affairs, who were for the most part immersed in their own business.

Through the annual State conference of charities, which was cherished and fostered by Miss Lathrop's influence and work, many charity workers and many competent and valuable outsiders, physicians, judges and persons of all sorts and conditions to whom the public welfare is dear, were drawn into touch with the interests of the unfortunates who are the care of the State.

Miss Lathrop's position of heavy responsibility without authority or practical power to right the wrongs she so clearly understood, finally became intolerable. There was no longer any hope of working reforms from within the management of the State charities. It seemed better to work, with a free hand, from without, unhampered by official restraints and political considerations. Miss Lathrop resigned in July, 1901—resigned her office, but continued with unabated zeal her work for the weak and suffering wards of the State. The public service lost an efficient servant, but gained, at the same time, a wise, well posted and fearless critic of its political methods and system. And intelligent criticism is what the State management of charities most needs.

Among women's clubs Miss Lathrop's precept and example still actively works. She has, since she left the State board of charities, delivered many addresses before women's organizations, and has continued her labors in behalf of civil service reform, or trained service in the public charitable institutions through every means at her command. And her work tells.

In the recent beneficent changes brought about in the county institutions at Dunning, Miss Lathrop has borne a good share of the heavy work. She is active and untiring in assisting by her helpful suggestions and intelligent work the carrying out of the plans made for the improved care of the thousands of men and women whose only place of refuge is some corner of the great aggregation of buildings known as the Cook county poor house.

At what cost of time, strength and nervous energy Miss Lathrop has worked during all these years no one can tell, and she herself is the last to call attention to her work or to the sacrifices she has made. She remains a strong, capable and earnest woman whose best days and best work are yet to come. Her active work has been but faintly indicated—and only one branch of it—in this rapid survey. That her example will inspire other women to take up their burden in the charitable work of the State is sure.

There can be no permanent improvement in the State institutions until the laws demand, and the executive enforces, a merit system of appointment in them. Miss Lathrop urges that the insane asylums, schools for the blind, deaf and dumb, and for those of defective intellect—that all the public institutions be relieved from political management. They are now used by party organizations for party urposes, and with small attention to their real needs and original purposes.

Miss Lathrop believes a sweeping merit law to be essential, and she also

favors a reorganization of the State board of charities upon a basis entirely apart from political schemes and party management.—Ada C. Sweet, in Home Education for June, 1903.

Within my earthly temple there's a crowd;
There's one of us that's humble, one that's proud;
There's one that's broken-hearted for his sins,
And one who, unrepentant, sits and grins;
There's one who loves his neighbor as himself,
And one who cares for naught but fame and pelf—
From much corroding care I should be free,
If once I could determine which is Me.
—Pirated Poems.

"So your daughter is going to marry a nobleman?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox; "but he's only a nobleman by profession. Personally, I must say he strikes me as a pretty common sort."—Washington Star.

"Tusks was boasting to me that he knows just when to stop."

"Well, he doesn't seem to be able to do it. Maybe knowledge isn't always power."—Puck.

BOOKS

MR. CHESTERTON'S BROWNING.

The story is told—I think of the great Archbishop Whately—that when some flatterer was complimenting the eloquence of a certain sermon, the preacher turned upon him and said: "My dear friend, if my sermon had been really eloquent, you would be thinking of your sins and not about my preaching." This, after all, must be a true test of a great writer as well as of a great orator—that he makes you think of the subject-matter and not of himself. Tried by this test, Mr. Chesterton in this delightful little volume (Robert Browning, by G. K. Chesterton, Macmillan, $1) must be accused of falling short. He is himself so interesting and piquant, makes so many clever and even brilliant obiter dicta, that the reader is at times in danger of forgetting Robert Browning.

Anyone who has read Mr. Chesterton's chance essays would be prepared to find that a book by him would be bristling with bright sayings, and he will not be disappointed in this criticism of Browning. The book is this—a criticism and appreciation of Browning; but it is at the same time an exposition of the author's own trenchant thoughts about some of the great events and problems of life.

Speaking, for example, of the intellectual atmosphere in Browning's younger days, he has this to say of the French Revolution: "The French Revolution was at root a thoroughly optimistic thing. It may seem strange to attribute optimism to anything so destructive; but, in truth, this particular kind of optimism is inevitably, and by its nature, destructive. The great dominant idea of the whole of that period, the period before, during, and long after the Revolution, is the idea that man would by his nature, live in an Eden of dignity, liberty, and love, and that artificial and decrepit systems are keeping him out of that Eden."

He remarks that Browning was born in the afterglow of the great Revolution, and what he says of the influence of the succeeding age upon the poet is good as far as it goes. He notices at another place that "we have seen in our own time a great reaction in favor of monarchy, aristocracy and ecclesiasticism." Now it may be that this reaction was feeling vaguely after something noble, and was "full of admiration for the great virtue of chivalry," but no one who really believes in democratic ideals can fail to see the harm that this reaction has done and is still doing. It has retarded the growth of liberalism; it has in fact practically killed liberalism in Europe, and has substituted therefor a thin, Roseberrian thing without vitality. How much did Browning do, with his professed liberalism, to carry on the fine enthusiasm of Shelly for a new "Eden of dignity, liberty and love?" Such poems as The Lost Leader show that he saw the point—but does it not seem that in his magnifying of little things, in his attention to details, in his absorption in "the symbolism of material trifles," he missed the march of the great movement, or at any rate failed to give it his cheer.

Mr. Chesterton has done well to emphasize the fact, which most critics have overlooked, that Browning is a poet of passion rather than of intellect. "The usual accusation," he says, "against Browning is that he was consumed with logic." This view he opposes with striking success. "In the character of Paracelsus," he maintains, "Browning wished to paint the dangers and disappointments which attend the man who believes merely in the intellect. He wished to depict the fall of the logician." So far from being what we call logical, Browning was remarkably not so. "The fact was," as Mr. Chesterton says, "that it was part of the machinery of his brain that things came out of it, as it were, backwards. The words 'tail foremost' express Browning's style with something more than a conventional accuracy." Of course, it is this that makes so much of the poet's work appear grotesque and fantastic. "The tail," Mr. Chesterton wittily continues, "the most insignificant part of an animal, is also often the most animated and fantastic. An utterance of Browning is often like a strange animal walking backwards, who flourishes his tail with such energy that every one takes it for his head."

Let no one imagine that Mr. Chesterton's book fails in admiration of the great poet, "who," he says in one place, "combines the greatest brain with the most simple temperament known in our annals." The book is indeed a most enlightening piece of work. Nowhere else can one find so satisfactory an accounting for and explanation of Browning's obscurity; nowhere else can one find so satisfactory a summary of many salient points of Browning's method and philosophy.

J. H. DILLARD.

JOHN WRYLAND.

Modern in environment and application, while slightly archaic in conception and style, the "Travels of John Wryland" (Allentown, Pa.: The Equitable Publishing Co.) is a cutting satire in the guise of an interesting story of adventure. The principal scene is laid in the unexplored regions of Tibet. Here there is a little kingdom of superstitious folk, living on an island in a lake supposed by them to be enchanted. John Wryland, a strenuous product of the civilizing influences of the British army in India, makes his way to the island and conquers the kingdom. Thenceforth he takes up the "white man's burden" there by ruling the inhabitants after the most approved methods for advancing civilization. With pious submission to the doctrine that "destiny determines duty," this devoted exemplar of the strenuous life reaps the reward of an approving conscience, along with considerable loot, until his destiny determines his duty in the direction of a wanton war upon the Near-Bi-Ans. The result is disastrous, and the adventurer is driven ignominiously from his conquest in Palti as an exposed impostor.

Erratum.—In review of Cornaro's "Art of Living Long" (p.287), the price was stated as $1.00. This is the price of the book in "Princess" cover only, the price of the parlor binding is $1.50. The book is published by William F. Butler, 57 University building, P. O. Box 985, Milwaukee.

PERIODICALS.

In the Nebraska Independent of Aug. 6, Mr. Tom Bawden, of Detroit, and Mr. John S. Crosby, of New York, have replies to certain criticisms of Mr. F. Englehard upon the single tax. It seems worth while to call attention to these brief communications, because they are models of the right spirit in which such replies should be made—courteous and taking it for granted that their opponent is sincere. One of these speaks of Mr. Englehard's paper as a "really able article," and the other as a "very able contribution." There would be more truth and less division if this spirit prevailed among controversialists.

J. H. D.

The Nation of Aug. 6 very well disposes of some of Mr. Chamberlain's recent boosting of retaliation in tariff legislation, and points out that retaliatory tariff legislation against America would entrench the protectionists here. "The course of things a hundred years ago," says the editorial, "when successive orders in council fought with Napoleon's decrees, should have warned Mr. Chamberlain that countries can be as insensate and ferocious in a trade war as in one with fleets and armies." There is one good thing about this talk of retaliatory tariffs. It shows up the essentially hostile nature of the whole tariff principle.

J. H. D.

One of the richest bits of plutocratic eloquence that the country has been favored