The *Vassar Miscellany* for December has a very interesting article on "Housekeeping from the College Woman's Standpoint" by Ellen H. Richards, '70. The paper is preceded by a brief biography of the author whose valuable work in the Sanitary Department of the Institute is known to us all.

The French society held a reunion on Monday, December 30th, with a fair attendance. Anecdotes were read by Messrs. Smith, '95, Jones, '98, and Winslow, '98. Mr. Mason, '97, told several short French stories and made the announcement that the annual election of officers would occur at the next meeting.

The meetings of the Y. M. C. A. which were held last week on Friday and Saturday were the largest and most successful that the Association has had during its work, and give the officers substantial encouragement of better work to come. The leader, Mr. S. M. Sayford, proved himself to be a man possessed with great power in speaking to young men. His words, which were heard by about a hundred and fifty students, were of a nature to include them all and it is to be hoped that all will profit by good advice. In the first meeting he spoke of his work, especially of the founder, a young man named Bemis, of Amherst, who was a typical college backslider until his Junior year, when he changed and became an earnest Christian worker. He advised all the fellows to be more careful in their mode of living and not allow pleasures of a harmful nature to creep in. In his second address he made a strong appeal to the men present not only to give up but to assist in the effort being made to discontinue the vices so prevalent among college men to-day. Mr. Sayford will spend this week with the eight colleges in Boston, and on Saturday a large mass meeting will be held at the Y. M. C. A. to which all are invited.

The report of the Committee on Summer Courses, just presented to the Faculty of the Institute, shows that one hundred and thirty-eight students took work in science and language, the largest classes being those in German and in Analytical Chemistry, with about twenty-five students in each. In the course in Physics ten students were registered, and a smaller number in Physical Measurements. Those courses were especially successful in laboratory work, a goodly proportion of the students taking them for advanced standing, many to make up deficiencies, and quite a number of outsiders, teachers of schools and colleges, also took advantage of the opportunity. Certain of the courses, as in mathematics, had a small attendance, and another year these may be supplanted by other arrangements for such work; but the Committee recommends that the great majority of the courses given last year be continued. This is especially advisable because a great number of summer schools at the present time are located outside of the cities, far removed from collections of materials and libraries. The benefit of these summer courses in the country to teachers from the city is apparent, but the Institute ought to provide a place where the teachers from the country may also find a change by coming to the city, with its collections, laboratories, and apparatus. There are now nearly fifty schools of the Chautauqua type, and several pedagogical schools like that at Martha's Vineyard, with its seven hundred teachers in attendance, but the instruction in the higher branches of science needs laboratory outfit which can alone be provided in the great city. To meet this want is the purpose of such summer courses as have been given, and the Committee strongly recommends that they be continued.

Mr. George A. Gardner, of the Corporation, has recently added a collection of famous busts of primitive men, now in the Museum of Natural History at Paris, to the collection of face masks presented by him to the department of General Studies. The originals from which these were copied were made by the