

In such studies and recreations the winter of 1883 passed rapidly and happily away. Leaving Athens May 23, they enjoyed a busy but most interesting week in Constantinople. Then, turning westward, they came, by way of Vienna, to Dresden, which they made headquarters till the autumn. The sojourn here was varied by excursions, now to Bayreuth, to hear Wagner's great opera of "Parsifal," now to Nuremberg, "to live in the heart of the middle ages for four or five unforgettable days," and then to the university towns of Leipzig and Halle.

In October, they went to Berlin for the winter, drawn chiefly by the attraction of the university lectures, especially those on Greek archæology, art, and history, for which his winter in Athens had given him redoubled interest. It was characteristic of Dr. Conover that though he was abroad for health and recreation, and might have enjoyed some of the privileges of that great literary center without formally entering the university ranks, he was unwilling to take advantage of the rare opportunities except in the prescribed way. He was therefore matriculated as a regular student in the university for the winter semester. A letter to his sister shows with what eager delight he entered upon his privileges:

"I am giving four hours each week to a course of lectures by Prof. A. Kirchhoff, upon Greek political antiquities; four or five to a course by Prof. Curtius, on the history of the fine arts among the Greeks; two to a course by the same on 'art mythology;' and one to what is called here 'uebungen,' or practical exercises, in the same department, and under direction of the same professor. * * * Prof. Curtius is the author of the best German history of Greece, was one of the two or three German professors who conducted the exploration of the wonderful remains at Olympia, and is a great enthusiast as well as a very high authority in his department. In his lectures he makes liberal use of the museums of ancient art here, which are almost the richest in the world, in fact, bewildering in their richness."

The dark, damp days of a Berlin winter were more trying to the delicate health of Dr. Conover than the sunny