

**LITERATURE AND
ART BOOKS: BOOK
SEVEN**

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Literature and Art Books: Book Seven by B. Ellen Burke

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B. ELLEN BURKE

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Frontispiece

LITERATURE AND ART BOOKS

BY

B. ELLEN BURKE



BOOK FIVE

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INTRODUCTION

BOOK FIVE OF THE BURKE LITERATURE AND ART READERS is a continuation of the subjects treated of in BOOK FOUR. Patriotism, heroism, and chivalry have always been considered worthy themes for the greatest of thinkers and writers.

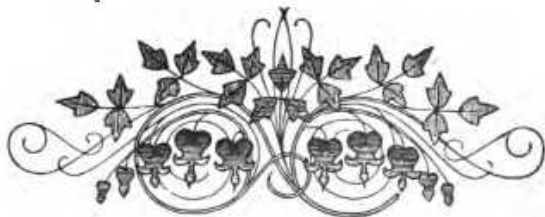
Compare the way in which different authors and artists treat the same subject. Compare "Victory" and "The Last Fight in the Coliseum." Compare the pictures of different monuments. One man tells of his hatred of sin by using the words which express the feelings of hate; another represents sin as an offensive looking dragon, and the mailed warrior crushes him to death, or the gentle maiden causes him to flee by making the sign of the cross. Pictures, statuary, and literature each contribute messages which tell us sin is hateful and is to be detested.

The full page illustrations in this book are from photographs of statues and famous buildings. Michael Angelo said Architecture was the greatest of all the Arts — that sculpture and painting were the handmaids of Architecture. We have learned that great thoughts are preserved and transmitted by words and by paintings; and we shall, in Book Five, learn some of the stories told by stone.

Beautiful and grand statues are found in many galleries

and cities, but "all the galleries of statuary become almost insignificant before the sculptures of the Vatican." In this book there are pictures of pieces of statuary in the Vatican at Rome.

Michael Angelo's great work was the dome of St. Peter's in Rome. The Frontispiece gives you some idea of this magnificent building, with its dome expressive of the whole round world resting upon the Rock of the Church which Jesus Christ founded.



To the Pupils:—

To know how to read is a blessing if by our reading we learn the good thoughts that have been put into words and pictures and statuary, or have been in any way preserved for posterity.

The "sweet-faced" little Italian boy, described on page 20, had many a beautiful thought which, when he was old enough, he put into pictures, and to-day we can read his thoughts from his pictures.

Father Faber, Longfellow, Tennyson, Adelaide Procter, and others of the writers whom we know, died some years ago; we have never seen them, but we know them through reading their writings.

If you understand what you try to read aloud, you will read well; but you must think about what you read. Think of the meaning of the *sentences*; but to do this you must know the meaning of the *words*.

Find out more about the writings of the authors than this book will tell you. What more have they written? How do their writings compare with those of others who have written on the same subjects?

As you read, learn the meaning of the allusions which are used by many authors. On page 203, Hawthorne mentions that the old Italian women of a certain place "might have been taken for the *Parcæ*." What does *Parcæ* mean? The dictionary will help you in this matter.

On page 219, the pictures of Thorwaldsen's bas-reliefs of "Night" and "Morning" are symbolic. The rosy flower

dropping to earth and the lighted torch held by the wide awake cherub, tell of the dawn, the rising of the sun, the opening day when the eastern sky flushes like the rose. This picture means "Morning." The other picture has in it the owl, which is the bird of night, and the sleeping babes. There is no doubt but this picture is meant for "Night."

To what historic event does the poem "Charge of the Light Brigade" refer? The "Centennial Hymn"?

As you read the literary selections compare them with others on the same subject. Write at least one essay about each one of the pictures, explaining its meaning, and telling something about the artist.

THE AUTHOR.

MALONE, N. Y.

January 21, 1902.