

'T was all in vain, a useless matter, —
 And blankets were about him pinned;
 Yet still his jaws and teeth they clatter,
 Like a loose casement in the wind.
 And Harry's flesh it fell away;
 And all who see him say, 'T is plain,
 That, live as long as live he may,
 He never will be warm again.

No word to any man he utters,
 Abed or up, to young or old;
 But ever to himself he mutters,
 "Poor Harry Gill is very cold."
 Abed or up, by night or day,
 His teeth they chatter, chatter still.
 Now think, ye farmers all, I pray,
 Of Goody Blake and Harry Gill!

XXXVI. MARCH.

BY WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

THE cock is crowing, the stream is flowing,
 The small birds twitter, the lake doth glitter,
 The green field sleeps in the sun;
 The oldest and youngest are at work with the
 strongest;
 The cattle are grazing, their heads never raising;
 There are forty feeding like one!

XXXVII. HOW THE LEAVES CAME DOWN.

BY SUSAN COOLIDGE.



'LL tell you how the leaves
 came down,"
 The great Tree to his chil-
 dren said:
 "You're getting sleepy, Yel-
 low and Brown,
 Yes, very sleepy, little
 Red.
 It is quite time to go to
 bed."

"Ah!" begged each silly, pouting leaf,
 "Let us a little longer stay;
 Dear Father Tree, behold our grief!
 'T is such a very pleasant day,
 We do not want to go away."

So, for just one more merry day
 To the great Tree the leaflets clung,
 Frolicked and danced, and had their way,
 Upon the autumn breezes swung,
 Whispering all their sports among —

"Perhaps the great Tree will forget,
 And let us stay until the spring,
 If we all beg, and coax, and fret."

But the great Tree did no such thing;
 He smiled to hear their whispering.

"Come, children, all to bed," he cried;
 And ere the leaves could urge their prayer,
 He shook his head, and far and wide,
 Fluttering and rustling everywhere,
 Down sped the leaflets through the air.

I saw them; on the ground they lay,
 Golden and red, a huddled swarm,
 Waiting till one from far away,
 White bedclothes heaped upon her arm,
 Should come to wrap them safe and warm.

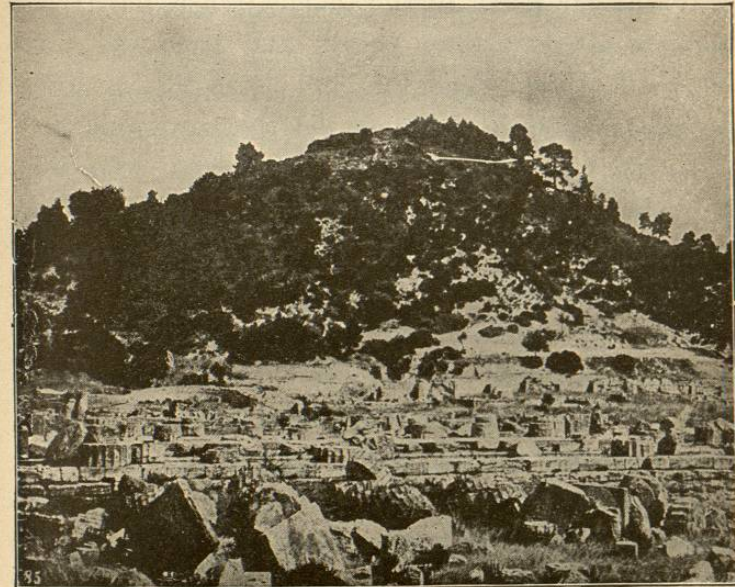
The great bare Tree looked down and smiled.
 "Good night, dear little leaves," he said.
 And from below each sleepy child
 Replied, "Good night," and murmured,
 "It is *so* nice to go to bed!"

XXXVIII. GREECE AND THE GREEKS.

THE ancient Greeks were a very wonderful people. They lived on a sunny peninsula in southern Europe, with the sea always near them. Their land was interspersed with beautiful hills crowned with trees, and with valleys covered with flowers, and fruits, and grains. Indeed, everything about them was so charming that the Greeks thought more of beauty than of

all things else. Their minds were filled with poetry. They imagined wonderful beings in every spot, belonging to every hill and tree and stream.

These beings were their gods, and about them they told wonderful tales, for they thought that the gods were everywhere and did everything. Every shower,



RUINS OF OLYMPIA.

every flash of lightning, every springtime crop and autumn harvest, every bunch of grapes, every sunset glow, was caused by some god.

As we know from our geographies, this world is a ball flying around the sun; but the Greeks thought it was round and flat like a plate. In the

center was Mount Olympus, where the gods lived. All around it was the River Ocean, which ran from south to north on the western side, and from north to south on the eastern side. Across the middle of this round plate of an earth ran "The Sea," as they called the great Mediterranean and Black seas combined.

In the far north lived a happy people, the Hyperboreans as they were called, and from the caves where they lived came the chill north winds. These people never were sick, nor did they grow old.

In the far south lived the Ethiopians, who were also always happy. The gods were so fond of them that they used to go from Olympus often to eat at their banquets.

Away in the west by the River Ocean were the beautiful Elysian Fields, where good people were sent by the gods to live forever. From the east the sun came, and the moon, rising out of the ocean.

This was the world as the Greeks believed it to be. Their fancies made everything lovely which they did not know. It was only in the middle of this world, where they lived, that trouble ever came. The gods ruled over all. Besides the lesser gods who lived in the brooks and trees, there were the great gods, a whole family of them, who lived on Mount Olympus. These were all the children and grandchildren of Cronos and Rhea, — both of an ancient race known as Titans.

XXXIX. MOUNT OLYMPUS AND ITS INHABITANTS.¹

MOUNT OLYMPUS was shut out from the people who lived on the world by gates of clouds, which were kept by the four goddesses of the seasons, named Horæ, who opened the gates to let the gods out if they wanted to visit the earth, and to let them in when they returned.

On this Mount Olympus, where the gods lived, each had his own house; but for banquets, and when they wished to confer with one another about what was going on upon the earth, they all went to Zeus's palace, which was larger and finer than the rest; for Zeus was the greatest of all the gods, and the king of them all. The Greeks pictured him usually as a great man with long hair and a vast flowing beard, very large and strong, holding in his hands a bundle

¹ In the following stories from Greek mythology, the Greek names have been used. As the Latin equivalents are more commonly known, they are given herewith:—

GREEK.	ROMAN.	GREEK.	ROMAN.
Cronos	Saturn.	Eros	Cupid.
Zeus	Jupiter.	Hermes	Mercury.
Hera	Juno.	Hebe	Juventas.
Phœbus	Apollo.	Pluto	Dis.
Athene	Minerva.	Poseidon . . .	Neptune.
Hephæstus . . .	Vulcan.	Demeter	Ceres.
Artemis	Diana.	Heracles . . .	Hercules.
Ares	Mars.	Persephone. .	Proserpina.
Aphrodite . . .	Venus.	Eos	Aurora.

of thunderbolts; for it was he who thundered and hurled the shafts of lightning to the earth if he was angry.

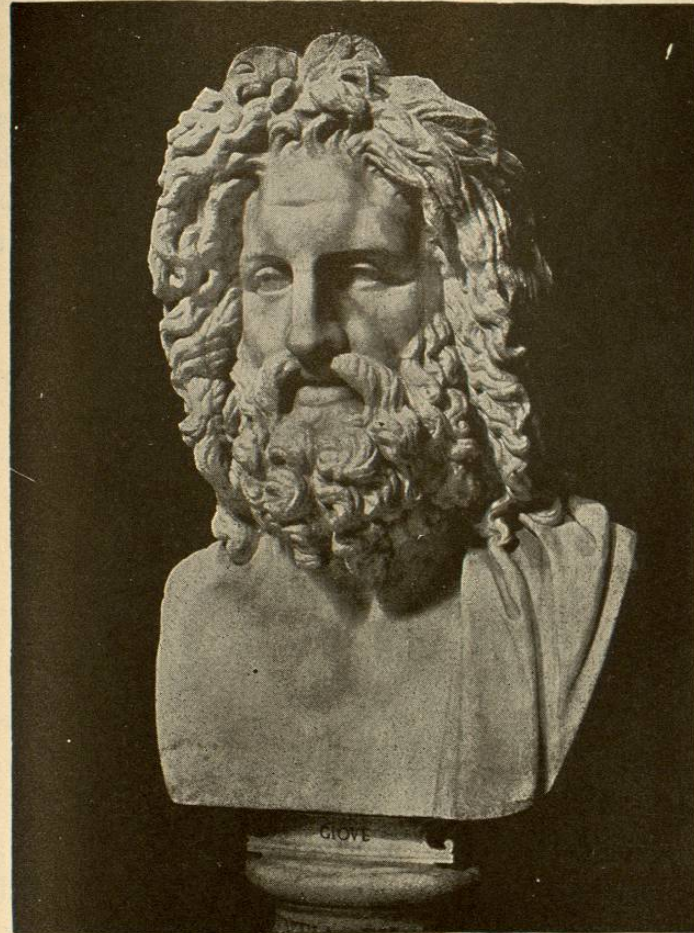
Among the other gods who used to meet at these banquets was Hera, who was Zeus's wife, — a tall, beautiful goddess with yellow hair and blazing eyes, very charming at times, and at other times very bitter and jealous. She was almost the only one who was not afraid of Zeus.

Then there was Phœbus, the god of the sun and of music, who used to play upon the lyre and sing the most beautiful songs, so that even the gods were charmed.

Athene was the goddess of wisdom, a very noble and stately goddess, dignified yet gentle, who gave to men the best of all gifts, wisdom.

Hephæstus was the worker among the gods. He built the palaces in which the gods lived; he made the armor which they wore, the chariots in which they rode, and the tables from which they ate at their banquets. In short, if the gods wanted anything made, they went down to Hephæstus where he worked in his shop underneath Mount Ætna, and he made them whatever they called for, from a palace to a pair of golden shoes.

It is said that Hephæstus once displeased his father Zeus, so that Zeus threw him from heaven. He was a whole day in falling, and was so injured by his



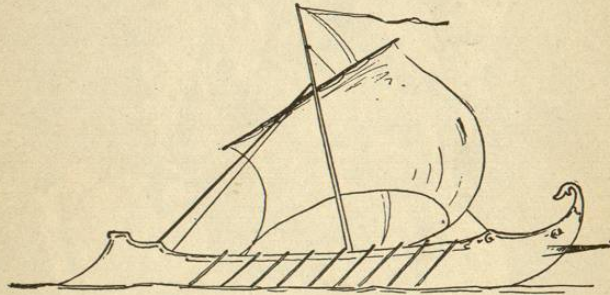
SCULPTOR UNKNOWN.

AN ANTIQUE BUST OF ZEUS.

"For Zeus was the greatest of all the gods, and the king of them all."
(Page 259.)

fall that he was always lame afterwards; but, though lame and ugly, he was very wise, and the gods liked him for the beautiful things he made for them.

Artemis was the goddess of hunting and of the moon, as Phœbus was god of the sun. These two were brother and sister, and furnished nearly all the light men had by day or night. Artemis was tall and strong and swift, and as good a hunter as her brother Phœbus.



A WAR GALLEY.

Ares was the god of war, for war was one of the chief occupations of men. He stirred up nations to strife, and rejoiced in the noise and blood of battle.

Aphrodite¹ was the goddess of love and beauty; she was the most beautiful of all the goddesses, and King Zeus's favorite daughter. No one could look upon her without loving her, and she had almost as many admirers on earth as in heaven. She had a

¹ Aph-ro-di'te (Af-ro-di'te).

son, Eros, a mischievous little rascal, who had a bow and arrow with which he used to torment both gods



RAPHAEL MENGES.

EROS.

"Eros, a mischievous little rascal, who had a bow and arrow."

and men; for whoever was struck by one of his arrows was sure to fall in love with the first person whom he afterwards met; and as Eros was not at

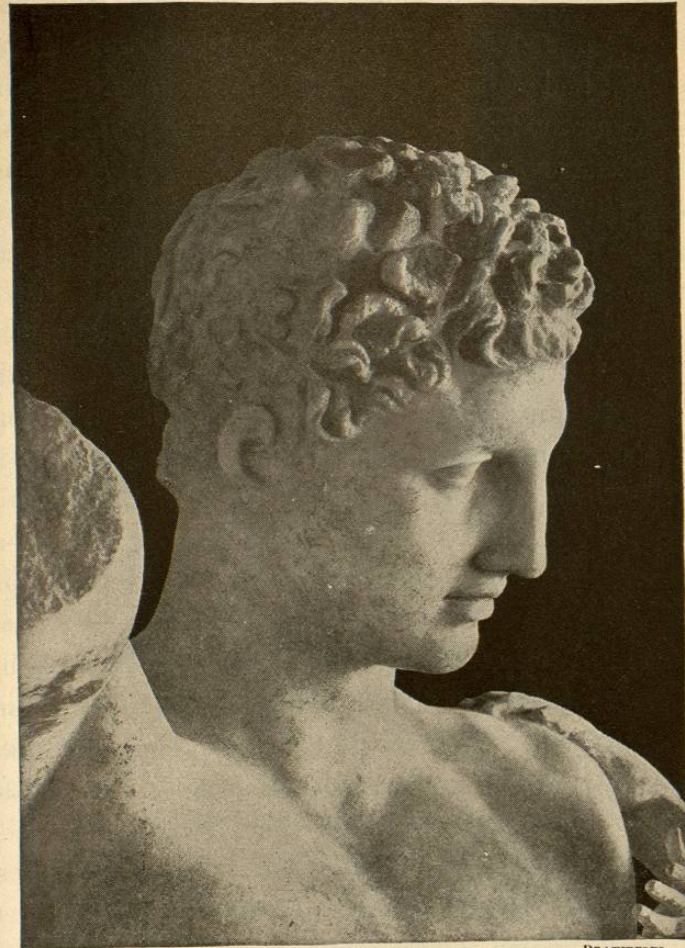
all careful whom he wounded, or when or where, a great deal of trouble was caused, and a great many were in love with very strange beings.

There were still other gods. There was Hermes, another son of Zeus, who was god of commerce and of gymnastic exercises. He was also Zeus's messenger, and wore wings on his hat and on his sandals; and whenever Zeus wished to send news to the earth, Hermes would fly down faster than you can think, and do his father's bidding. He invented the lyre upon which Phœbus played, and gave it to him for a present.

These gods, and sometimes others, used to meet in the banquet hall of Zeus and talk with one another over the affairs of men and over their own affairs. The food which they ate was called ambrosia, and the drink, nectar, — food and drink for gods alone. They were waited upon by the beautiful little goddess Hebe, who, fleet of foot and sweet of smile, flitted about the banquet tables and supplied their wants.

These banquets were not always as pleasant as they might have been; for the gods did not always agree, and sometimes they had very bitter and very foolish quarrels, — as when three of the goddesses quarreled over the question as to which of them was the most beautiful.

Zeus had two brothers, who did not, however, live on Mount Olympus, though they were great gods.



PRAXITELES.

HERMES.

"There was Hermes, another son of Zeus. . . . Whenever Zeus wished to send news to the earth, Hermes would fly down faster than you can think, and do his father's bidding." (Page 264.)

Their names were Hades, or Pluto, and Poseidon. These three brothers rebelled against their father Cronos, and conquered him, and then divided his kingdom among themselves,—Zeus taking Olympus; Poseidon choosing to be ruler of the sea; and Pluto having to take as his share all that was left, those regions underneath the earth which were called the lower world.

If you remember, the Greeks thought that the world was flat like a plate, so that under it there would be quite as much room as above it; and here all those who died—that is, all those who ceased to live above the earth—went, and over them Pluto, or Hades, reigned. So his was a great kingdom,—perhaps larger than that of either of his brothers, but dark and gloomy.

These three brothers also had a sister, Demeter by name, and they assigned to her to rule over the fruitful earth. She was the goddess especially dear to the farmers, for she made their fields fertile, and the crops to grow by which they lived.

Besides these great gods there were lesser ones, who were supposed to live in trees and fountains, and were known as nymphs and satyrs. The satyrs were very amusing. They had heads like men, with long pointed ears, and legs and tails like goats, and used to play very many pranks to amuse gods and men.

There were still other gods. Often a great hero

who had done some brave deed in war, or had rendered some great service to man, was made a god and worshiped when he died. Such a one was Hercules, who was the strongest of men, and who performed wonderful feats.

A Greek child could not so much as play at a game, could not cut a whip, or bathe in a stream, without feeling that he was in the presence of some god who might be very angry with him if he did the slightest wrong.

XL. PHAËTHON.

PHŒBUS, the sun god, had a son named Phaëthon. Now Phaëthon had grown up to be quite a large boy, but still did not know his father, because Phœbus was away all day driving the sun chariot through the heavens. He never missed a day; for if he had, all the earth would have been in darkness, and everybody would have said, “Where is the sun?”

Awful things might have happened. Phœbus knew this, and was very careful. So the light of the sun god’s chariot always shone on the earth all day long, except once in a while when his sister Artemis drove the moon chariot across his path, between him and the earth. This men called an eclipse, but it never lasted long.