

position producing music for one of these dukes. Each was anxious to have the very best possible. Thus in this environment those with musical ability were encouraged to develop this ability, and some who might have been only mediocre musicians without this encouragement became great masters who produced ~~the~~ the classics of ~~the~~ music. I heard not long ago about a man from a poor family in southern France, a young fellow chap who was drafted into the French army. There they proceeded to give training various types of training to the soldiers, many of whom were almost completely illiterate. It soon became apparent that this man had ~~the~~ a natural mathematical ability. Before long he outshone all his teachers. The French army sent him to study under the greatest mathematicians and all ~~recognized~~ recognized him as a genius in this field. It was desired that he ~~should~~ contribute to the glory of France by ~~advancing~~ making great advance in the ~~field~~ field of ~~mathematics~~ mathematics. However, according to the account that I read the man soon became the young fellow was homesick and wanted to get back to the poor his family and to the poor people in the little village where he had been brought up. He Every effort possible was made to induce him to stay in Paris and work in mathematics, but he preferred to get back to the people he loved and live the simple life of a French peasant. This is all I heard about it. Whether he returned to the soil and lived the rest of his life as a poor peasant, or whether he eventually made advances in mathematics is quite unknown to me. It is easy, however, to imagine that if he had been born into an area in which there was great interest in scholastic achievement, and had friends who were vying with one another in making progress in their studies, he might have been motivated and gone on to become one of the mathematical geniuses of history. Environment plays a very great part in life. Some people are born into an environment that gives them great opportunity to develop their natural talents. Others are born into an