

brothers—whose “natural ability or inclinations” unfit them for a regular University course. If this argues lack of culture on our part, we are afraid the superior sex are even more sadly wanting. But after all culture is only a question of degree—whereon critics differ—and as to appreciation, it is a comfort to remember that water is not the only conceivable substance in this world that tends to seek its own level.

LEVANA-ITE.

EXCHANGES.

WE are sorry that *Notre Dame Scholastic* somewhat misunderstood our remarks on “stock subjects” some weeks ago, and we take this opportunity of stating our views on the question. Students who read literary essays are, as the *Scholastic* says, “generally acquainted” with such subjects. Essays on them are apt to descend into a mere recapitulation of such traditional commonplaces, and it was these and these only that we thought should be excluded from College papers. For instance, the *Scholastic* published in the early part of the present volume a series of essays on Hamlet. Some were excellent and would have done honour to any College whatever, others were mere rehashes of the trite judgments that have come down from our fathers, while others occupied a middle position. Now, it is the second class only that we object to. The third is well enough, and the more of the first that College journals publish the better. So too, some weeks ago the *Scholastic* contained an essay on “The Elegy in English,” which we think we were fully justified in calling “a collection of pompous platitudes.” As an example of this we instanced the fact that the writer spoke of “*Milton's Lycidas, Shelley's Adonais,*” &c., (the italics are our own.) Next week, however, came another on the same subject, written in a fresh, natural style, and giving a sound and valuable criticism of our four great elegies. This will, we think, illustrate what we mean.

We have noticed the *Scholastic* several times this year, not exactly on account of its intrinsic merits or defects, but because it seems to have and to be trying to attain to a very high ideal; and we think that criticism, if judicious and kindly, as we hope and believe ours has been,

will help towards its realization, and is, in a way, a higher tribute than mere praise.

COLLEGE NEWS.

DR. DYDE'S ADDRESS.

SPACE will not permit us to notice at any length Dr. Dyde's excellent address of last Sunday afternoon. We can only urge our readers to secure and read it when published. His subject was “The Meaning of Self-Denial.” He began by denying the truth of the opinion, which prevailed in the early church and throughout the middle ages, that self-effacement is desirable for its own sake or that heaven is to be gained simply by foregoing all the pleasures of this life. The highest life does not consist merely in giving up, but in giving up with a view to realizing a completer character. Thus by postponing private pleasure to the well-being of his family, a man attains to a higher character. But this is not sufficient. The principle should be extended to all our relations with others. The principle of business, that one person's gain is another's loss, is false. A man's object should be to make every act benefit all persons concerned. This principle may also be extended to nations. A country's true independence consists in a willingness to accept what is good from any source and to co-operate with all other nations in the uplifting of mankind. To give oneself up to this ideal is true self-denial.

DIVINITY RE-UNION.

“It went off well”—such was the testimony of everyone who attended the Theological Hall Re-union last Friday evening.

The “spread” did credit to the Hotel Frontenac, and those who surrounded the board abundantly proved their appreciation of good fare.

Unfortunately a few of those who had been invited were unable to be present. The absence of the Professor of Church History was especially regretted.

Though the supper itself was very much enjoyed, and the flow of wit and mirth proved excellent sauce, where sauce was superfluous, yet the succeeding part of the evening's entertainment was still more heartily received. The speeches of those who proposed or