

OUR LOCAL NOTE BOOK.

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the conclusion of Montreal's Winter Carnival, the Great Unwashed have vanished from our streets, and some sort of rational quiet again pervades the city. Theological and other students shared in the general excitement, and even some of the "reverend clergy" are supposed to have lost their senses in the mad whirl of pleasure seeking, one at least, going so far as to dismiss his prayer-meeting out of deference to a pyrotechnic display. Another minister, however, with characteristic courage, held a special service in the very heart of the festival, and preached a powerful evangelical sermon on the New Jerusalem as described in Revelations, that topic being naturally suggested by the famous structure on Dominion Square,—an idea of suggestiveness, by the way, which has been crystalized in the following verse of Mr. John Read's carnival rimes on Winter:—

Out of 'his frozen torrents
We carve a glittering mass,
And raise a dome whose fairy charms
E'en Greece could not surpass.
Upon its fair proportions
Men gaze in silent awe,
As those who in a dream behold
The streets of pearl and gates of gold
Which John in Patmos saw.

Of course we all went to hear and see His Excellency at the reception in Molson Hall; and of course we all came away highly pleased with ourselves and with the new Governor-General and his Lady; and of course we were all delighted when some vinegar visaged reporter characterized our innocent jollity as "undergraduate horse-play." *Horseplay indeed!*

The truth is that the McGill students were never better behaved than on the occasion referred to, as well as throughout the week of festivities in which they took no inconsiderable part. In their procession on the gala night, as far as we can learn, there was little if any roughness, a consequence no doubt of the persuasive efforts of gentlemanly marshals. This unwonted inclination to gentleness was duly chronicled in most of the daily papers.

In fact, University students are only beginning to receive the public attention they have long merited. On the evening of January 31st quite a number from the various colleges responded to the kind invitation of the Young Men's Christian Association to a reception in its commodious building. An excellent entertainment was provided, which included selections by an instrumental quartette, vocal solos by Mr. Thomas, Miss Macmaster, Mrs. Whitman and Miss Lusher; rousing songs by the medical quartette and McGill students; a violin solo by Mr. Reichling; a capital reading by Mr. Smith, B. C. L.; addresses by Mr. Hague and Drs. Osler and Campbell; and, by way of climax, a sumptuous repast served by the ladies.

A similar reception on a smaller scale was tendered to our Glee Club on January 28th by its esteemed conductor and trainer at his home on University street. After a good solid drill in singing, Mrs. Becket thoughtfully provided refreshments, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

The first regular meeting of the Celtic Society was held in the David Morrice Hall on January 25th, Dr. Macvicar in the chair. The President, Dr. Macnish, delivered his inaugural address, which was a profound treatise on the history of the Celtic language. The President, at the conclusion of his speech, assumed the chair, and an interesting discussion on various pertinent topics ensued.

Children ought not to meddle with things they cannot understand. The following incident is merely by way of exemplification: In one of the dormitories of a region familiarly known by a name suggestive of its altitude, there is a wonderful instrument which, in times gone by, was warranted to flash electric signals to the fire station in case of conflagration, or to the police station in case of burglary, or to the cab stand in case locomotion was desired. Now, tradition declared that this wonderful instrument having been long out of use, had become disconnected and was no longer capable of fulfilling its responsible functions; but a meddlesome Artsman has recently found to his cost (twenty-five cents in silver) that tradition cannot always be relied upon. It happened thus. He was very curious to know if the thing really worked, and with a grim determination to settle the matter with experimental proof, touched the signal for a cab. History fails to explain why he preferred to experiment with a cab rather than a fire-reel or squad of policemen; it leaves us only to imagine his chagrin when the Jehu promptly demanded his fare at the door a few minutes later!

At the regular meeting of the S.M.S. on the 18th ult., very interesting verbal reports of winter missionary work were given by Messrs. J. W. McKenzie, B.A., and Murray Watson, and an earnest missionary paper was read by Mr. Murdoch McKenzie. At the last meeting of this society, February 8th, besides some instructive matter from the news committee, a long and well-sustained discussion took place in reference to the fields to be taken up next summer.

What becomes of the old magazines in the reading-room from year to year? Occasionally we catch glimpses of stray copies here and there in dusty recesses of the library shelves, and we have often wondered if some more permanent use might not be found for them. It has been suggested that after a certain period they should be sold to such students as express a desire to possess particular papers or numbers. It is a glaring fact that our supply of magazine literature is meagre and unsatisfactory; and were some arrangement come at for holding an auction