

had begun, there were mysterious minstrelsies, sphere music and morning stars singing together. Minstrelsy is of the eternities and cannot die; the minstrel only opens his soul, already tuned, to the breezes of the Infinite, and it is they that make the melody.

I awake to find my early dream of fiddle and bell-crowned hat more than realized; for, by the constitution of our being, we are all of us wandering minstrels, fluting our roundelays and threnodies in the naphtha-glare and amid the merry-go-rounds of this poor world-fair, with weird passages of wailing as well as allegretto movements in our scores. Before and behind are the eternities, and all around are tones of sphere-music and minstrelsy of loftier worlds with influence on those who will but listen, the highest and holiest. Happy the earth-minstrel who at times shuts out the dazzle of the naphtha-glare and the clatter of the merry-go-rounds, and listens with bowed head to the sphere-music begotten of the eternities; struggling, if he cannot reproduce it, at least to be in tune with it. For him to have done so will be the better for the world, and, mayhap, not the worse for himself, when out above some Yarrow his limbs are benumbed in the wildering snows of the death-drift. CHARLTON BLACK.

### IS HE CONCEITED?

In some things college life must change, but one thing seems to be an ever fixed mark, the star to ever critical heart, the phrase "He is clever enough, but so conceited." Since I left you four years ago many reforms have been instituted. No more is heard the deep drawn cry of anguish from the pallid lip of the ill-starred freshman; no more is a Y. M. C. A. man looked upon as a portent; no more is the sweet girl undergraduate trampled upon by the beings of coarser clay; no more is an utterly incomprehensible constitution and a completely depleted exchequer of the Literary a bright dream of the future; no more, a world of other features are no more. One however constant e'er remains. "He is clever enough, but so conceited."

Just what the words mean nobody will attempt exactly to tell, but grant a man success and you bring him in the list of those thus stigmatized. The subject was always interesting to me, and I humbly tried to study its varied phenomena. One of my best friends was a bright young fellow, slightly fond of using his vocal powers, high in his class lists, and one of the few not afraid to say "I did pretty well on that paper." The majority of his contemporaries thought him conceited, but I knew only too well that under the surface lay a deep vein of thought which only bowed its head meekly and said: "I don't understand it, I know I have some success, but 'tis not I who do it. I hope I shan't get conceited, for I have nothing to be conceited over." And I think it will not take long to vindicate at once his ability and sterling worth. To take another case, some people thought Cody and Stuart conceited in their first year, but some of you have yourselves seen them exalted on a pinnacle above any breath of such a thought, where all unite in praising them as being two of our greatest men. To tell the truth, at some time or other, and by somebody or other, I heard the phrase applied to at least 96 per cent. of my class mates. You call your fellow student conceited when down deep in your heart you believe you have as good or better abilities than he has. Let us all be the opposite to conceited ourselves and I think we shall hear less of conceit in others. If you will stop and think about it you will easily see that in calling another man conceited you are betraying your own conceit. For if there were no other argument you are surely conceited in that you think you have that highly commend-

able virtue, so truly praiseworthy, of not being conceited. You do not know what are the inner thoughts of your associates. One may hold up his head in the consciousness of honest poverty, and you, misjudging him, may ascribe another motive to his actions. "Judge not lest ye be also judged." Neither do you know the effects of your unkind criticism which you so often give from mere superficial considerations.

Let us be broad and fair and student-like; let us recognize merit and oppose real cheek; let us say "He is clever enough," without adding the ignoble qualification with its deadly "but so conceited." H. K. M., '88.

### SNOW FALL.

I.

Silent as the lilies grow  
Out of dark clouds hanging low,  
Comes the soft and pale-white snow;  
Falling, sinking everywhere,  
Dancing, prancing, in mid air,  
'Round the limbs of trees all bare;  
'Round old fences, quaint in looks,  
Sleeping by the purling brooks;  
'Round old barn-walls where the sheep  
Near the cozy straw-stack sleep.

II.

Softer through the air it goes  
Than the petals of the rose  
In the gentlest breeze that blows;  
Softer than the hum of bees  
And the thousand melodies  
Floating on the summer breeze;  
Softer than the moonlight falls  
On old, broken castle walls,  
And it never seems to 'light  
Till the earth is robed in white.

III.

Like a dream it all appears;  
Thoughts and sights of other years,  
Hopes and fancies, ay and fears,  
Fall around me like the snow,  
Making nothing as they go  
But a heavy, winding-sheet  
For that which in life seemed sweet.  
Thus the first snow fall, you see,  
Opens up the past to me.

—D., in the *Niagara Index*.

### AMONG THE COLLEGES.

The Czar has sent to Stanford University 800 mineralogical specimens.

Oberlin has recently received an endowment of over ninety-one thousand dollars.

William Astor has promised \$1,000,000 to endow a negro university at Oklahoma.

Annual athletic meetings are held at Yale to find out the material of the freshman class.

The University of Michigan will erect a Grecian temple as her contribution to the World's Fair at Chicago.

Several Chicago gentlemen have purchased, for the new university of Chicago, an old German library of 400,000 volumes.

The King of Siam will soon send six youths from his kingdom to be educated at Pennsylvania. The expenses of their tuition, about \$5,000 a year, are to be borne by the Siamese Government.