

EXCHANGES.

WE have held *King's College Record* over for several weeks, intending to notice it at some length, but have been unable. As it will be too late if we delay any longer, we have to be content with saying that the December and January numbers are good in every way.

We are glad to say that we were somewhat too hard upon *The College Rambler* when we noticed it some weeks ago. That is, while that particular number fully deserved our censure, those we have since received show that it was the exception rather than the rule. The issue for January 30th is excellent, the editorials being especially good.

Dalhousie College *Gazette* for February is excellent. The *Gazette* fully represents all branches of the University—Arts, Medicine and Law—a course of action which our own JOURNAL would do well to copy. The history of the football team is continued; we hope that those above will follow the *Gazette* in this also. Why the article on William Blake should be called a fragment we know not, for it seems to us the best and most complete judgment on him we have seen; complete, of course, in the *multum in parvo* sense.

The Presbyterian College *Journal*, Montreal, is always welcome. The Symposium, which is at present discussing current unbelief, and which has previously had articles on that subject by our own Principal and the Rev. James Barclay, contains this month the opinions of Sir William Dawson. With all due respect to the learned Principal of McGill, it is not equal to the other two. Why should Sir William say that "Common sense shows that belief in Robertson Smith, Driver, and Wellhausen implies a corresponding (I do not say absolute) unbelief in Moses and Jesus Christ." A belief held by so many good and eminent men, and supported by so many strong arguments, is not to be dismissed so summarily. Professor Campbell, in his "Talks about books," is also very severe on Cheyne and Driver, especially the former. Professor Pollock, of Halifax, contributes an able article on "Was Luke inspired?" a question to which he returns the wise answer that it is a matter of opinion. The article on

"Physical Culture" is excellent. As the author truly says, in that respect we are far behind the American Colleges.

COLLEGE NEWS.

ASSAYING, ETC., IN THE SCIENCE HALL.

THE variety of work done in the Science Hall shows how much needed this addition to the University was. We must reserve for another issue an account of the Classes in Chemistry, but the other day we asked Mr. Nicol to take us over his special department and let us see what has been added this session.

Assaying—He first showed us the Laboratory supplied with three wind furnaces, one muffle furnace, built on the plan of Plattner's Freiberg furnace, a charcoal furnace for cupelling, i.e., the process of separating the lead from the silver and gold. The muffle furnace is fired from the side, an improvement suggested by Prof. Dupuis, to avoid the discomfort to the assayer from standing in front and gazing into blazing heat. In these furnaces practical assays of gold, silver and lead ores can be made. Copper, nickel and cobalt ores are assayed by electric methods. For these, batteries of Meidinger's cells and Bunsen's cells are provided, and eventually for the fire assays gas furnaces may be erected.

Blow-piping—For this a room is specially provided, where practical instruction is given. Apparatus has been secured from Freiberg, from the firm of Hildebrand & Co., of the very best quality. This firm is celebrated all over the world. Several students are already taking this course.

Mineralogy—Practical instruction is provided in the determination of minerals. Students have access to collections of ores from the vicinity and elsewhere, in order to make themselves familiar with the physical properties of minerals. The aim is to make the instruction as practical as possible, to fit men to be prospectors.

Metallurgy—Mr. Nicol at present has his hands full, but if a tutor were provided he could undertake next session classes in Metallurgy, or the science that deals with the occurrence of ores and the methods of smelting them.