

throughout, the character of Portia, who, though not incapable of a woman's wilfulness, was distinguished by a grave dignity. Miss Vaux's enunciation of Shakespeare's beautiful lines—and even the most vitiated taste must have felt the power of the Great Wizard—was delightful, and true to the sense and feeling. Mr. Mackinnon's Shylock was a distinct success. Real faculty for dramatic acting was shown as much in his by-play (a great test of dramatic faculty), as in his conception and rendering of the articulate part. One cannot say quite as much for his rendering of Antony's speech, which was not altogether a success. Not the least delightful thing on the programme was Mr. McSporran's "Launcelot," which, if not exactly the "Launcelot," of Shakespeare—it was a little too modern and self-consciously witty for that, Shakespeare's character having a strong spice of simplicity and stupidity in his make-up—was almost as good. At any rate, Mr. McSporran managed to convey with liveliness and force what his conception of the character was.

The first performance of the "Merchant of Venice" was so good that it seems a pity not to give the public another chance of seeing what a real play is. No more delightful, or more profitable evening could be spent than that which the students and friends of Queen's were privileged to pass on Saturday last. The "gods" in the gallery were good humoured, though there seemed to be a section of them who preferred discordant noises to concerted singing. The more sensible part of the audience have a liking for the singing. There was a certain excuse for the elevated spectators in the unconscionable slowness of the actors to begin their performance; but no doubt that is one of the defects, incidental to a "first night," which would disappear if the piece were repeated.

J. J. WRIGHT, B. A. (1885), IN THE YUKON.

THE church has been most fortunate in the men selected to go to the Yukon as its agents in the war against sin, corruption, and the other forces of evil. Sinclair, Pringle, Grant and Wright followed Dickey. Wright

was sent at first to Dawson, and he is now at Whitehorse. We give a few extracts from a private letter. Speaking of his work in Dawson, he says:—"For a time the balance of public opinion was openly against religion and all its organized working. There, to do business, men told me they had to assume vices which they had not (??). Now the presence of children is compelling and creating a more wholesome public sense of what is good and fitting. Thrown into that whirlpool from a rural charge, I stood amazed at the power of organized evil. Saloons, gambling, scarlet women were everywhere. Everything was open and it seemed as though the officials (with some exceptions), loved to have it so. I spoke against these things, perhaps not always in love, and used a sword untried and untempered, that struck forth not fire but mocking and ridicule. Besides from temperament or training I could not at once develop the *hustle* which is needed here. Do not think I am discouraged. No, I am just getting "next to myself," as they say here. Talk as we may of christian thought, fitting one for east, west, north or south, there are conditions here to which one cannot accommodate himself in a day. The general ideas of worship, marriage and the sabbath are fundamentally different from my old time training. In the west, these things are results of civilization, not causes of it, to be changed as the majority or, may be, as the individual decides. There is no "Thus saith the Lord," as the root of acceptance. For me I may change methods but not principles. White Horse is the present terminus of the White Pass R.R., and if expectations are realized, will be a great town soon. There is an Anglican and Roman Catholic mission as well as ours.

During the week our church building is open as a reading and recreation room, where sometimes the men smoke. Last night, though travel is not fairly begun, twelve or fifteen men sat till long into the night reading or writing letters. We fly a flag over the room which I desire may come known to be known throughout the Yukon as associated with such work, as closely as the red cross is identified with hospital work. It is flying at Bennett