

wholly unfitted for the meannesses, the petty jealousies, and the soul-chilling conventionalities of commercial cities. Boldness in the conception of an idea; courage in project; soaring thought and energy in action; charity, piety and humanity; justice, magnanimity, and unquailing bravery: these were some of the mental and moral qualities of Christopher Columbus. He was grand in the plan of his enterprises; unwearied in their prosecution. He was dignified in power; merciful in conquest; vigorous in conflict; benign to the weak and poor; magnanimous in suffering; religious and patient in distress; grateful to those served; he bore no malice toward those who wronged him. Toward the King only, who treated him with an ingratitude so base, was he ever bitter in the utterance of reproach; and, if some of his actions in the new world appear of equivocal humanity and equity, we must not, in judging of them, apply the standard of our own civilization to measure the conduct of a conqueror in the fifteenth century.

Try the actions of Columbus by the test of the times in which he lived, and it will be seen that, so far from being a cruel, an avaricious, or mean-souled man, he was pre-eminent among a barbarous people, in barbarous times, for his human and generous character.

For the enlightenment of the simple souls who believe in Friday being an unlucky day, it may be well to note, that Columbus sailed from Palos on a Friday, and on the same day of the week, just two weeks thereafter, he first saw land.

H. M.

A Life of Christopher Columbus, by Horace St. John.

Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus, by Washington Irving.

Life of Columbus, by Arthur Helps.

McGill Song Book.

Those of us who were here last year will remember that a committee was appointed to revise, if necessary remodel, and issue a new edition of the McGill Song Book. For some time it had been patent that the book we had—while a great stride in advance from the little "Students' Hand-book," which some of the older graduates will recall with a smile—was sadly below the needs of the present day; that beyond one or two scattered pieces, and the interest that always centres around the memory of a certain number of time-honored College ditties, there was nothing to raise it above the level of mediocrity; there was scarcely any part singing, no glees, duets, trios, quartettes; no scope offered for that passion for sweetly blended melodies, which, like the greater delicacy of tracery in the polished marble, seems to be the more refined and true in its conceptions, the more polished the rough gem of human nature be.

A book which would please both student and outsider; that would be as acceptable in the drawing room concert as in the class room song; a book that would contain the best of the old songs *plus* a lot of new ones; a book that would contain the best things in the way of part singing, etc., that could be obtained;—in short, a book that would be, so to speak, head and shoulders

above anything of the kind published, and be a credit to Old McGill—such a book it is the intention and hope of the committee to issue, and, with the sympathy, good will and hearty co operation of every student of McGill it will succeed, and not without.

With reference to the work done so far, as hinted above, the book has been divided into two parts (in one volume), Part I containing only college songs, Part II containing selections for part singing, chorus, etc. Part I has been almost finished, the Faculty songs from Medicine, Arts, Law and Donald's alone remaining to complete it. Part II has been commenced on, and already a number of pieces have been filed, and it is just here that the committee would like to receive suggestions for the insertion of suitable glees, duets, etc. As to the nature of the changes, many old songs have been transposed to a more suitable key, many accompaniments rearranged, many choruses harmonized, and the fact that Mr. Gould, Mus. B. (who has lately been appointed Librarian), has consented to look after the musical portion of the book is sufficient guarantee of a high standard of excellence in that department. Owing to the enlarged scope of work, the committee cannot see its way clear to an issue before the spring, so that those Faculties which have not yet sent in their Faculty songs are urgently requested to do so at once, so that there may be no unnecessary delay at the last moment. Any suggestions as to music, etc., will be gladly received and noted by the various representatives of the different Faculties as below.

FACULTY.	REPRESENTATIVE.
Donald's,	Prof. Harrington, <i>Chairman</i> .
"	" Moyses, <i>Vice-Chairman</i> .
Medicine,	Mr. R. Wilson, jr., '93, <i>Secretary</i> .
"	" A. G. Nichols, '94.
Arts,	" W. Donahue, '94.
"	" F. J. Day, '94.
Science,	" N. Evans, B.A.Sc.
"	" A. R. Holden, '94 B.A.
Law,	" A. R. Hall, B.A.
"	" J. R. Cameron, B.A.
Veterinary Medicine,	Mr. Campbell.
"	" " Denny.

Y. W. C. A.

The first Theo Dora (Missionary) Meeting of the Y. W. C. A. was held on Thursday, October 20th, at 4 p.m., the subject being "Mission Work in our large cities." It was the privilege of those present to listen to Miss Barber, of the W. C. T. U., as she told of her work among the women and girls of Montreal.

Miss Barber spoke most earnestly for a yet larger number to take upon themselves the "Pledge of the White Shield," and all that it means. Miss Lighthall, who is so active in connection with the Chinese Classes, was present, and spoke of the Jewish work in this city, referring especially to Mr. Newmark and his Mission. This address was followed by a paper on the Jewish work in New York, in charge of Mr. Warszawiak, and