

Unity is inculcated as one of the essentials of all work. There is a wonderful concordance between the first and the last portions of the *Dalhousie Gazette*. If the journal is the reflex of the spirit of the students, we fear that the spirit is exceedingly effeminate. A study of Romeo and Juliet, good in itself, but perhaps a little compromising on comparison with the local column, shows the bent of reading at Dalhousie. Studies should receive more attention than ladies from our gallant friends; and we think that the ladies will feel thankful if they are not made the subjects of so many indelicate jokes.

The Kalevala, called by Max Müller, the fifth national epic of the world is the subject of an essay in the *Swarthmore Phoenix*. This poem, the source of inspiration to Finlanders, is claimed to be the oldest of all epics. This is scarcely probable for the language of the Kalevala is that of the present inhabitants of Finland, and it is hard to conceive a language which has remained unchanged for several thousand years; still it gives evidence of a pre-Christian origin. Longfellow seems to have drunk deeply at this northern fount. Dr. Crawford's English translation, the best one we have, has drawn the attention of scholars to Finnish literature, whence many treasures may yet be found when classic and mediæval stores will fail.

The Higher Illiteracy, is the subject of a very sensible article in the *Delphiæ*. The evil is traceable to three sources, short course schools, misconception by the individual of what has been given him by the course and the unreasonable popular expectations. The aim of a college course is not so much to impart knowledge, as to teach how to acquire knowledge, and even though what has been learnt at college may have no direct bearing on a graduate's future work, yet the general mental development gives power which will tell wonderfully in practical life. A writer on the triality of events in the same journal, is full of an idea, and is bound to find it realized everywhere. Hence such nonsense as the following: "The Incarnation, the Reformation, the American Revolution, are the mountain peaks of individual history, the pivotal points of human destiny." Small wonder that the author got a prize for his essay, or rather oration; it should have been the first and not the third prize.

We are glad to welcome to our table the *Cadet*, from Orono, Me. We were deceived by the title, thinking that our contemporary had powers back of it, ready to defend the expression of its sentiments, with rifle and bayonet, but it is no such thing. The *Cadet* is a peaceful quiet journal, like many more of its friends. An editorial pays a tribute to classical training in apologizing for some deficiencies which the hypercritical might observe in our non-classical confères. A beautiful poem, "There is no death," shows that even scientists may feel the poetical currents which pervade life.

A very interesting essay in the *Haverfordian* on student life in Germany, gives some practical lessons which may be useful to students on this side of the water. The Germans are perhaps the hardest students in Europe; though it may be doubted whether their work is always as thoroughly intellectual as that done in other countries—Italy, France, England for instance. The German scholars preserve their mental vigour, even to an age when scholars of other nationalities are verging towards second childhood. Simplicity characterizes the German student, his dress and diet are simple, extravagance is unknown. But the secret of the German student's success is hard work; genius with them, is what Michael Angelo defined it, "eternal practice," or what Carlyle calls it, "capacity for work." Hard work enables the German student to compass every science and makes him, not a mere *dilettante* but a thorough master of many sciences. His spirit of work which all admire but which is so much wanting in America, should find imitators here.

The *Niagara Index* comes to us as usual with a goodly lot of things worthy of attention. A writer discusses the subject how to read a book, and holds that the benefit to be derived from reading depends largely on the enthusiasm and love for the authors with whom we have intercourse. To read profitably one must study; our ideal of a student's life is serious study to which lighter reading, say of fiction and poetry, would serve as a relaxation and at the same time furnish the ornamental to the dry knowledge otherwise acquired. An editorial on reading in college advocates the necessity of acquiring a taste for the best authors while students are yet in college. We agree