

"Had he not resembled my father as he slept, I had done 't."

We fail to see the redeeming feature, unless every character which is not so bad as it possibly might be has redeeming traits. To us the expression seems the most inhuman of all her speeches. Alone with the sleeping, she could have stabbed her King while a guest under her roof. And what stayed her? Womanly woman indeed! Redeeming trait surely! She could not stab her own father's image as it appeared in the person of the King.

On the return of Macbeth after the murder, she mocks his fears as he meditates on the deed he has done; and then, when he refuses to go back to the scene of the murder, goes herself, and places the blood-stained daggers beside the sleeping grooms, whom she smears with gore, thus completing the horrid act.

The fainting of Lady Macbeth at the subsequent announcement of the murder, some consider real, others feigned. It seems to us one of those convenient faints which women are said to be able to assume at pleasure. There seems little probability of a faint overcoming her who planned the murder, visited its scene and upbraided her husband with brainsickness when he seemed to show signs of remorse.

In her latter days, however, Lady Macbeth begins to be affected with that feeling which almost maddened her husband—remorse for the crimes which she had instigated. Yet this takes place only when her mind and body become weak with age, and only during sleep. The blood of Duncan, which stains her soul, she sees upon her hands, and tries to wash away. And natural was it that, since her horrible crime remained unrepented and unpardoned, she should in semi-conscious sleep, see on her hands 'such black and grained spots as would not leave their tinct.' And thus despairing, she died, a fitting end to such a life.

THE CAMPUS.

HOW is it that the ground in front of your College buildings is not levelled off and fixed up as a University Lawn?" This conundrum was propounded by a student of a sister University to a member of the JOURNAL staff a day or two since. Our scribe was obliged to give it up. True it is, the southwest corner of our campus if properly rolled and sown would make a really fine ground for football or cricket. We see no reason whatever why it could not be managed, if somebody would take action in the matter. A good football ground is needed at Queen's in the worst way, as the upper part of the campus, although good enough for practice, is altogether too uneven for a match. The Cricket Club, moreover, seem to be using their ground more than usual this year, and besides it is hardly fair to ask them to give up their practice to accommodate the Football Club. The part of the campus in question, if improved as suggested, would add much to the appearance of the University buildings, and the air of desolation which now pervades that corner of the College property would be removed. The cost would

be comparatively little, and if the College authorities will not take action, we would suggest that the Football Club set the ball rolling. Let us see something done at once, before the weather gets colder.

→ CONTRIBUTED. ←

CLASSICAL EDUCATION.

THE opening of another session of the University suggests a few considerations on the subject of a classical education, a topic on which there have been many fierce discussions during the past decade. The great hold which the ancient classics have upon the learned world at the present day is due to the continuance of a prestige which they acquired at the time of the revival of learning in Europe and maintained during succeeding centuries. The human mind, freed from the bewildering entanglements of scholastic subtlety, and casting about for a literature, found in the masterpieces of ancient Greece and Rome a splendid intellectual heritage, unrivalled by the productions of any other races or times. This circumstance, combined with the fact that Latin was the language of the church, resulted in establishing the ancient tongues in unquestionable ascendancy. But the intrinsic worth of the poems, plays and histories written in these languages justified the high estimation in which they were held, and cast a halo about them which shall never depart. Let us talk as we will, no modern tongue affords such an exquisite instrument for the expression of thought as the classic Greek; no modern tongue has been reduced to such wonderful perfection; no modern tongue contains works of such rounded and matchless beauty. Indeed, the literatures of ancient Greece and modern Europe bear about the same relation towards each other as their statuary; the ancients, in the joyous youthfulness of intellectual effort, seem to have leaped to perfection at a bound—they have been succeeded by a race of imitators. Those who know how useful the study of the classics is found in the discipline of the mind feel no surprise that for centuries they almost monopolised the attention of those who aspired to a liberal education. In the nature of things, however, classical literature could not retain this disproportionate importance forever. Men have to earn their living by the sweat of their brow, in accordance with the primal curse, and to do this requires an apprenticeship to a practical calling. Handicrafts do not come to a man intuitively; they require to be studied and practised, leaving periods of leisure more or less varied for the cultivation of intellect and manners. And the material well-being of man, affecting to such a wide extent his intellectual and moral well-being, demands the attention of the learned and ingenious for its improvement. Finally, the structure and laws of the universe, the nature of the physical world, the constitution of the mind, the relation of mind to matter, and of the finite to the infinite, embracing vital and eternal interests of humanity, could not continue to be neglected for the study of any