

student has the power of acquiring facts very rapidly, by the time he has finished his actual learning, he is fatigued, and the last thing he will do is to begin to ponder over the work of the previous day.

It seems to us, and the idea is not original, that the students should form clubs for the discussion of the various questions which arise in the different classes they attend. The clubs should have but a small number of members, and there should be one for each main branch of study in the College curriculum. Thus let all students who are particularly interested in philosophy form a club and discuss the questions that occur from time to time in the lectures. The form of the meetings might be varied by some members occasionally preparing an essay on the subject for the evening, and allowing the others to base their discussion on the various points touched upon in the essay. And there are many other ways in which the exercises might be modified so as to preclude all possibility of monotony. We have no doubt that such a club would be of great value and interest to the members. Again take classics. The members of the classical club might read some interesting author, and discuss the meaning of disputed passages; they could prepare essays on peculiarities of style, character, and sentiment displayed by the author under discussion. They might also read aloud merely the text of the easy authors, and the members would by this means become gradually familiarized with the sound of the classics as well as with the appearance of the words in a book, and would learn to think in the dead languages. Thus their progress in this branch of study would be materially advanced.

In the same manner clubs might be formed for the study of all the other branches. And as the courses of the club would generally be parallel, or nearly so, with the courses of lectures they would be of material service in preparing the ordinary class work, while they would be especially valuable as a means of preparation for the examinations. Now if students could be induced to undertake some such system as this, each member of a club

would derive solid benefit from it. For as we have already said, the reason, in our opinion, that men so soon lose all but the very rudiments of a College education, is because they rarely have any incentive to reflect upon and make truly their own, the knowledge imparted to them in the lectures. The work of the lecturer is over when he ceases to speak; the true work of the student only begins at this point. But at present almost any pretext affords sufficient ground for postponing reflection, and revision grows more and more difficult the longer it is deferred.

We hope that clubs may be formed in McGill at as early a date as possible, if not this year, next year; and we feel confident that, were they once put into active operation they would not soon become extinct.

MCGILL UNIVERSITY GLEE CLUB

The opening concert of this Club took place on the evening of Friday the 11th. in the William Molson Hall. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather which doubtless forced many who would otherwise have attended this concert to remain sheltered at home, there was present quite a large audience, and the Club should feel both complimented and encouraged to think that on such an evening they were able to draw so many to hear them.

The University Glee Club was organized only some three or four months since, and in consideration of the short time available for preparation for a concert, we must deem the effort of last night, a decided success. High praise is due to Mr. Houghton the conductor, for the careful training which he has evidently bestowed upon his club. And we may add, has bestowed not in vain. The club sings fluently and easily, well together and in good time. The quality of tone which was produced at the concert was generally very good, though at times it was not pure. The principal defects were such as must be attributed to want of time for preparation, and to comparative inexperience in singing together, viz:—a want of contrast between the *pianos* and *fortes*, and occasional false notes. However, it would be demanding