

Waiving the claim confidently advanced by many an honest Gael that his language was fluently spoken in Eden, there can be no doubt that the original Celtic stock spread over vast territories in the distant past. When the Romans first came in contact with them they pervaded Cisalpine Gaul or Northern Italy, and Transalpine or Greater Gaul, including France, Belgium, that part of Germany west of the Rhine, and Western Switzerland. It is a grievous mistake, therefore, to imagine that the labours of this and kindred societies are confined to a few centuries and a small geographical area. The story of the original stem of the Celtic language carries us far back in time and over many a country where its vicissitudes may be clearly traced. Yielding, as it undoubtedly did, to phonetic changes similar to those passed through by the branches of the Teutonic and Windic stocks, it produced in the British Islands two great groups of dialects. The first embraces the Irish proper, the Scottish Gaelic, and the Manx or dialect of the Irish spoken in the Isle of Man. The second includes the Welsh, the Cornish, which ceased to be spoken about a century ago, and the Armorican language of Brittany.

There is nothing narrow or small, but something noble and inspiring in the study of the literature contained in these dialects.

OUR LOCAL NOTE BOOK.

November 28th was the first anniversary of the formal dedication of the David Morrice Hall, and in honor of the event the Professors and their families took tea with the students in the dining hall. A considerable portion of the evening was devoted to speeches from members of the Faculty, including Dean Dey, Principal Macvicar, Professors Campbell, Coussirat and Scrimger, and Dr. Macnish. The students were represented by several theologues, embracing Messrs. Currie, Whillans, Ogilvie, MacKenzie (W. A.), and Lee. A motion was unanimously carried, appointing a committee to draw up resolutions expressing continued gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Morrice for their magnificent gift. The resolutions, signed by all the Faculty and students, were duly inscribed in gold and colored lettering by Mr. A. E. Duncan, M.A., B.C.L.

The usual series of missionary meetings was held in Erskine Church during the latter part of November. Among the speakers at one of them were Professors Campbell and Coussirat, and Principal Macvicar presided. The attendance on the part of students was very good.

Last month Rev. A. B. Mackay took an extended trip through the West, to urge the necessity of better ministerial support. *On dit* his forcible sermon on the subject will soon find its way into type. The students were glad to welcome Mr. Mackay back to the classroom. Homilies are of course in order since his return, and the first year men are happy.

Not long ago, during a stay at his home, a worthy senior was one night awakened by the sound of fire, and investigation revealed quite a conflagration in the dining room. The flames were extinguished, however, before any damage was done, beyond giving the patriarch and his family a severe fright. Nothing is known positively regarding the origin of the fire, but by a curious coincidence it all happened shortly after the fires of *eloquence* had been kindled in the Morrice Hall, and possibly some lingering spark caused the mischief.

J. L. Hargrave, third year Arts, has been compelled to relinquish his studies on account of ill health, and left for Manitoba on the 3rd instant. The students of his year turned out *en masse* and bade him farewell at the station. We trust he will return ere long re-invigorated and ready to complete his studies.

D. Mackay, B.A., has, we understand, received a call from the American Presbyterian Church at Port Covington, New York. As he has always been somewhat of an annexationist, he will be giving practical illustration of his theory by going over to our neighbors. Students of this college last Fall occupied the pulpit in question, under the personal supervision of Mr. Mackay, who intends going thither himself permanently as soon as he graduates.

Henry M. Ami, Esq., B.A., of the Geological Survey of Canada, has been examining the Utica slate formation in the neighborhood of Whitby.—*Sunbeam, Ontario Ladies College.*

The opening exercises of the new Methodist College were held in their Hall on University street, on Friday, November 10th. Hon. James Ferrier, after whom the Hall is named, occupied the chair. Many distinguished men were in attendance. The speakers were Revs. Prin. Macvicar, of our college; Prin. Stevenson, Congregational College of B. N. A.; W. Parker, Pres. of the London Conference; Mr. W. Gooderham, Toronto; Prin. Nelles, Victoria University, and Bishop Baldwin. The building is convenient and commodious, including a large convocation hall, two lecture rooms, registrar's office, students' dining room, kitchen, pantries, etc. The second flat consists of the library, reading-room, class-rooms, and a few dormitories. The upper flat is devoted to residences, of which there are in all twenty-four. Adjoining the main building is the Principal's residence. Our Wesleyan friends are to be congratulated on their new possessions. We wish them every success.

THE initial meeting of the Montreal Celtic Society was held in our Hall on Thursday night, 6th instant. If the attendance was not large, it may at least be said that everyone present was profoundly interested in the subject announced for discussion. Principal Macvicar occupied the chair. Professor Campbell, seconded by Mr. John Lewis, moved that the meeting constitute itself into the Celtic Society of Montreal. Dr. Macnish made a learned