

had obtained fellowships, scholarships, or teaching positions in universities of the United States. Of this list many who held fellowships, etc., were proceeding to the doctor's degree, as indeed many others also were though not included in the list. In the present year about a dozen of our graduates are taking Ph.D. work in Chicago University alone, and of these seven hold fellowships. The facts of this and the preceding paragraph will afford a sufficient answer

to your inference that our graduates are characterized by a lack of the desire for further knowledge.

5. It is almost unnecessary to add that your assumption as to the abandonment of post-graduate courses at this university is entirely without foundation in fact. No such step has been taken, nor is any such step contemplated.

J. LOUDON,

President, University of Toronto.
Dec., 1897.

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

Although the *Atlantic Monthly* does not in appearance make any special effort for Christmas the December number nevertheless is a notable one. In fiction it would be hard to surpass at this time Hopkinson Smith's "Caleb West," or Kate Douglas Wiggin's "Penelope's Progress." Mr. Fuller also contributes a short story entitled "The Greatest of These." But it is to a contribution so penetrated with the atmosphere of its subject that one almost hesitates to call it fiction that one must turn to find the most remarkable feature of the number. The name of the paper is "From a Mattress Grave," and it is an account by Mr. Zangwill of the death bed of Heinrich Heine. It is announced that the Canadian, Mr. Gilbert Parker, will in the coming year contribute another serial to the *Atlantic*, to be called "The Battle of the Strong."

Anyone who wishes to re-capture that most elusive true spirit of Christmas would do well to give half an hour to reading Merry Christmas in the Tenements by Jacob A. Riis which is to be found in the December number of the *Century Magazine*. W. Lewis Fraser and John C. Van

Dyke contribute the usual valuable papers on art which have become a feature of the *Century*. Mrs. Burton Harrison's "Good Americans" is continued. This is a fair example of the modern fairy tale evidently believed in by the author. It is perhaps entertaining and possibly moral. Of quite a different character are a number of excellent short stories, everyone of which might be mentioned for good workmanship and happy conception. "Gallops" by David Gray, who also contributed to the November number, strikes a new and exciting note for outsiders in horses.

One of Blackwood's famous short stories is reproduced in the *Littell's Living Age* for December 18th.

The Christmas Isle is the name of the first article in the December number of *Table Talk*. The place is near Java, it would appear from the article in question, but reading it you will find that the world has had more than five years of Christmas Days and that requires a thoroughly retrospective survey before one can leave it. The author of the paper, Lucy Eliot Keeler, deserves much for hav-