

EXCHANGES.

Owing to a press of other matter this department of THE ATHENÆUM has for some time been neglected, but we hope to be able in the future, to acknowledge the arrival of our exchanges with appropriate ceremony. Although we have not reviewed their pages with the characteristic dash of the orthodox ex. man, yet we have welcomed their appearance and profited by their criticism. We have endeavored to follow their advice when it was sensible but ignored it when it lacked that element. Improvements are visible in many of them, while others, in spite of advantages, are gradually deteriorating. A few of them, in attempting to avoid the Scylla of a stiff and pompous style on the one hand have fallen into the Charybdis of weakness and sentimentality on the other. We turn to the somewhat heterogeneous mass lying before us with some misgivings, but with an interest born of common aims and awakened by similar ideals.

Our nearest neighbor, THE RECORD, has had some unpleasant experience. From a few unguarded sentences admitted into its columns it was virtually placed under the ban by the college authorities. We sympathize with THE RECORD. It has been more cautious and dignified in its discussion of the recent 'muddle' than might have been expected under the circumstances. To attempt to silence a college paper for speaking out fearlessly on a question over which dons and ecclesiastics lost their heads, is a species of petty tyranny that ought not to be successful.

The DALHOUSIE GAZETTE appears to be carefully edited. The December number has a lengthy article on co-education which contains, along with much that is excellent, not a little that is open to criticism. The article on "Our needs as a nation," deals with a live question from a sensible standpoint. The GAZETTE is welcome.

When a college journal ignores its ideal and degrades itself by becoming a medium for mere gossip and sentiment, the public is forced to conclude that its editors lack judgment and taste. Seminaries and Receptics are, doubtless desirable institutions, but constant and ex-

tended reference to either of these subjects by a paper of any pretensions is rather childish to say the least. A recent number of THE ARGOSY we think, affords just ground for the above criticism. If the students of Mount Allison would only catch and muzzle the creature, male or female, who chatters nonsense from the "Ladies' Academy," and pitch the local editor out of the highest window in the college—the higher the better—there might be some hope for THE ARGOSY; but with two such simpletons disfiguring its pages it cannot long retain the respect even of its friends.

A little stranger, modest in appearance but with face unpoetically red, looks beseechingly at us from beneath a mass of solemn exchanges. It hails from Pictou and is called 'THE ACADEMY.' We confess we have a sneaking fondness for our small brother, and we are convinced that when he will have removed the paint from his face and learned that "subdued colors are most fashionable" he will be able to take care of himself. We wish the ACADEMY every success.

Another new exchange claims from us a fraternal greetings. This is 'THE BLAIR HALL LITERARY MAGAZINE,' published by the students of Blair Hall, New Jersey. The appearance and character of the paper are highly creditable to the editors and managers. We cheerfully give it a place on our ex. list.

'CHOICE LITERATURE,' an eclectic magazine issued monthly by John B. Alden, New York, is worthy of its title. It contains an excellent assortment of first-class articles from the foremost English and American writers, and forms a valuable addition to the current literature of the day. Mr. Alden, the enterprising publisher and the leading spirit of the 'Literary Revolution,' deserves the patronage of the reading public for his success in reducing the prices of so many standard works and thus placing them within the reach of all classes. Guizot's History of France, originally sold for \$50.00, is now issued from Alden's publishing house in eight small octavo volumes of 500 pages each, printed in bourgeois type, bound in fine cloth, and containing 426 full page illustrations, at \$7.00 per set.