

test went on. Suddenly amidst the noise and confusion a great cry was heard. Human forms were seen looking down with terror-stricken countenances upon that sea of upturned faces. Ladders were immediately procured. The firemen with surprising agility mount up the steep ascent. As each one is rescued, a great shout goes up from the throng below, who receive them with inexpressible joy. Some of the firemen enter the burning structure again, lest any one may be overcome by the suffocating smoke. Soon one is seen to appear at the window, bearing in his arms an infant, who, unconscious of the threatening danger, was sleeping the sweet sleep of innocence. The precious burden is handed in safety to a companion, when, with a great crashing of timber, the structure falls in ruins, burying the noble heroes amid the debris. A wail of anguish goes up from the throng; but all is over for the gallant firemen!

Thus they perished! Nobly, unselfishly, giving up their lives, their all, for the cause of humanity. What nobler heroism! What more could man do! Life was sweet to them; home and family were dear; the evening sun had set; leaving them with bright hopes; the morning sun arose, and found them dead, but transformed into heroes. There was sadness in many dwellings; there was mourning in a few homes when the sad news was known. Their lives were indeed sacrificed, but their names and deeds will live in the hearts of all lovers of the good and noble in human nature. How truly may it be said of them; that, when stern duty beckoned, they did not disobey; and, that,

"The noblest thing that a man can give
Is to lay down his life that a friend may live."

EXCHANGES.

We are in receipt of the *Student's Journal*, a monthly publication devoted chiefly to the study of Phonography. It, however, finds space for the discussion of other branches of science, and reports many items of interest to the student of the fine arts. From the single copy before us, we believe that the *Journal* is a periodical deserving of patronage. We gladly exchange, and tender it a hearty greeting.

Donahoe's Magazine comes to us this month bearing with it the usual amount of good reading matter. Its contents are as follows:—Portrait of Washington, Early History of the Church in Boston, Some of our Weak Points, The Flower of Finae, The Jesuits and their Persecutions, The Golden Jubilee of the Sisters of Mercy, The Augustinians of Dublin and their New Church, A Good Editor, Molly Vaughan, The History of the Planet, The School Question, The Cupidity of Mice, True to His Memory, From Elizabeth to Victoria, French Estimate of Farnell, Anecdotes of the Late Archbishop McHale, The Irish Soldier in the Rebellion, The Loos, Parody on, "Believe me if all those endearing Young Charms, A Small-pox Remedy,

The Execution of Robert Emmet, The Holy See, Coming Liberty, The Nun of Kenmare at Knock, Character of Washington, The Dewy-winged Breezes were Soaring, Our Young Folks, Five Little Farmers, Useful Knowledge, The Humorist, Talk with our Readers, Personal, Notices of Recent Publications, Obituary, Rev. Patrick Cuddihy. All the articles are very well written, The School Question, The Flower of Finae, The Jesuits and their Persecutions, Molly Vaughan, The History of a Planet, Character of Washington, The Golden Jubilee of the Sisters of Mercy, and many others of equal literary worth attracted the SPECTATOR'S undivided attention.

The Haverfordian, Haverford, Pa., comes to us with a goodly amount of excellent reading matter. Its literary worth is above the ordinary, and its entire management and neat arrangement reflect credit upon the Managers. The "ex" man vigorously brandishes the quill in defense of the *Ohio*, at least so we surmised after reading the bitter comments on the *Niagara Index*. We cannot say what provocation led to those aggressive outbursts, since the *Index* did not deem the SPECTATOR worthy of being inserted on its exchange list. We will, however, endeavor to return good for evil. The criticism (?) of the *Index* by the *Haverfordian* was, in our opinion, far from being gentlemanly. The *Haverfordian* says: "We believe in exchange criticism most fully, and when a man expresses an opinion candidly we respect him for it, let it hit where it will." Very well said. But in what does it make exchange criticism consist? Certainly, not in heaping abuse upon a contemporary. We would, however, be led to believe so by the lecture of the aforesaid article. Perhaps, the *Haverfordian* returned the fire of the *Index*, in eodem modo quo. If so, both are in our estimation entirely wrong. College Journals meet, as it were, in the arena for literary contests, and these conflicts assuredly do not consist in "throwing mud" at any combatant. It is the province of the "ex" editors to judge of the merits of each exchange. When, therefore, they insultingly attack the Editors of any contemporary, they overstep their bounds; for they herald before the exchange world the man with all his failings, and do not, as they should, criticize the offspring of his intellect.

The *Sunbeam* has taken exception to an editorial which appeared in one of our late issues on Canadian Independence, and criticises us on two points: first, on the spirit of the article; then, on its propriety in the columns of a college journal. We can hardly believe that the exchange editress gave enough of consideration to the matter before selecting the ground of her criticism. To deny the propriety—and to deny this is to deny the right—of a college paper to express its opinions on the questions of the day is simply to confine within very narrow limits the field, in which the student writer seeks matter on which he may exercise his mind. A