

Between the Lectures.

OUR WASTE-PAPER BASKET.

The following morceau we extract from the advance sheets of a volume of "Dejected Verses" by the author of "He would be a Poet":

THE SPARROWS.

"Ye dusty little scavengers,
One always may be sure
To find you lightly perching on
A newly made manure.
No thought have ye of fly or snail,
Or lively hopper grass,
Or worm or slug or little bug;
On these ye always 'pass.'
* * * * *
We have been taught by Doctor Watt,
A great authority,
That t'other side the ocean wide
Birds in their nests agree;
But going down our way to town,
We see another sight;
Ye in your little nests fall out,
And scratch and bark and bite.
Why should this be? from what we see,
This inference must be drawn;
That now ye are and ever were
In Canada a fraud."

A SEDATIVE.—"Doctor, I want you to look at my tongue," said a loquacious belle to her physician. "What do you think is the matter with it?" "It wants rest," was the reply.

JUDGE RITCHIE has sixteen beautiful and accomplished daughters, only one of whom is married. This is what the French would call an embarrassment of Ritchies.

BROWN says he hates inquisitive people and, he thinks, that the worst kind of inquisitiveness is that exhibited by the man who stops him in the street and wants to know when he is going to pay him that little bill.

NOTHING makes a woman so mad as, on going to a shoe shop to buy a pair of cheap slippers for her husband, to have a shopman try to sell her the identical pair she has just worked for a present for her minister.

A SCHOOLBOY being asked by his teacher how he should flog him, replied: "if you please, sir, I should like to have it on the Italian system of penmanship—the heavy strokes upward and the downward ones light."

SCOTTISH ECONOMY.—One bonnet had served Maggie a dozen years, and some ladies in offering to present her with a new one, asked whether she would prefer a silk or a straw one. "Weel," said Maggie, "I think I'll tak' a straw one, it will maybe be a mouthfu' to the coo when I'm through wi' it!"—*Portfolio*.

SECRETS OF THE CONFESSORIAL.—"Is it a sin," asks a fashionable lady of her spiritual director, "for me to feel pleasure when a gentleman says I am handsome?" "It is, my daughter," he replies gravely, "we should never delight in falsehood!"—*Asrum Alberti*.

SCENE AT THE SALVATION ARMY.—Evangelist endeavouring to persuade Junior to come up to the altar:—Junior:—"Are you a sinner?" Evangelist:—"I am glad that I can stand up here to-night and confess that I am a sinner." Junior:—"Well, my Bible says, 'My son, when sinners entice thee, consent thou not.'"—*Etc.*

We have it on the best authority that a crisis in the dry goods trade is imminent. Owing to the rapidity with which the knickerbocker movement has spread, the market has become glutted, the demand for cloth being reduced by fully one-half. On the other hand, the demand for hosiery of all kinds is on the increase, and it is feared that an unhealthy inflation will be the result in this department of trade.

A FRESHMAN, pompous and dignified as all freshmen are when outside of College, entered a down-town bookstore the other day, and in a haughty tone demanded "a copy of Xenophon's Anabasis, and please be quick about it." The name of the book was unfamiliar to the shopwoman who received this order, so she cast a rapid glance at the freshly in order to determine the style of literature he was likely to affect, and then asked—"Is it in the Seaside Library, sir?"

"The idea of putting John on a jury!" exclaimed Mrs. Tomkins, when she heard that her husband had been drawn. "They might as well order a new trial right off. They won't get John to agree on a verdict. He is the most obstinate man I ever saw. I never knew him to agree with his own wife in anything, and it isn't at all likely he's going to agree with people he don't know anything about. A pretty juryman he is!"

A BAD misfortune lately befell a well-known Q. C. It is related of him that, as he was riding in a first-class railway carriage, from a single glance at the countenance of a lady at his side he imagined that he knew her, and ventured the remark that the day was pleasant. She only answered, "Yes." "Why do you wear a veil?" "Lest I attract gentlemen." "It is the province of gentlemen to admire," replied the gallant man of law. "Not when they are married," said the lady. "But I am not." "Indeed!" "Oh, no! I am a bachelor." The lady quietly removed her veil, disclosing to the astonished counsel the face of his mother-in-law!

GENERAL SHERMAN recently had some shirts made at a furnishing store in Washington, and the cutter a few weeks later, met the General with a friend walking down the avenue. The General remembered the face, but could not locate him, and the cutter greeted him with, "Good morning, General. How are you to-day?" The General stopped, shook hands, and the cutter perceiving that the General's mind needed refreshing, said quietly, "Made your shirts?" "Oh, I beg pardon," said the General quickly, and, turning to the gentleman with whom he was walking, he said, "Colonel —, allow me to introduce you to my friend, Major Schurz!"

Personals.

J. O. Stewart, Class '80, Medicine, has lately returned from the West to visit his relatives. He expressed much surprise at the changed aspect of the surroundings of "Old McGill," caused by the new buildings which have been erected since he graduated, and hoped that the Meds and Methodists would fraternize well.

We regret to have to announce that Mr. J. A. Porter, '86, Med., will not return to College this year. Mr. Porter's numerous friends will be sorry to hear that sickness in his family has been the cause of his rather sudden departure. We all hope, however, to see him with us again after next Christmas, when, we believe, he will resume his College course. Mr. Porter was on the Editorial Staff of the *Gazette*, where his eminent ability and conscientious work were much appreciated.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Merrill.—Iron Truss Bridges for Railways; Perry.—Practical Mechanics; Trigonometrical Survey of India.—Vols. VII. and VIII.; Royal Dublin Society Scientific Proceedings; Smithsonian Institute, Report for 1881; British Association Advancement of Science, Reports 1881 and 1882; Malmesbury.—Diaries and Correspondence of—4 vols.; Encyclopedia Britannica—vol. XVI.; Urquhart.—Electric Light; Montreal City Reports for 1883; U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Reports for 1881; Acland, (Dr.)—Groundwork of Culture; Flinders Petrie.—The Pyramids of Gizeh; Royal Astronomical Society's Proceedings for 1883; Report of the Commission for the Revision, Etc., Statutes Province of Quebec.

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