

OUR SOCIETY.

Henry Schliemann, the author-explorer, recently deceased, was as desperate an adventurer as he was brilliant and accomplished as a scholar. His life fairly bristled with incident. He was born in the little village of Ankershagen, in Mecklenburg; in 1822. His father, a Lutheran clergyman, made the discoveries of Pompeii and Herculaneum frequent subjects of conversation, and almost daily recited verses from Homer, inspiring young Schliemann with enthusiasm for the exploits of Hector, Achilles, Agamemnon and others heroes of the divine tragedy. In vain did his father assert that not one stone of Ilium's walls remained on the ancient site. The boy retorted that the houses might be partly destroyed, but the huge walls could not be, and that he would dig them out. And he did. But first he was a grocer's clerk; a cabin boy; a tramp; a California argonaut of '49; a Russian merchant; a Greek millionaire; a French scientist, and an Arabian scholar. He located ancient Troy, opened the citadel of Mycenae and dug out the Acropolis of Athens. His investigations have been fully set forth in a series of important works in English, German and French, including his *Ilios* and *Mycenae*. Dr. Schliemann was twice married. His first wife, a native of Russia, refused to leave that country, and her husband, after vainly endeavoring to overcome her love of country, took up his residence at Indianapolis and obtained a divorce on the ground of desertion as defined by the law of Indiana. He then married a Greek lady as enthusiastic as himself in the work of recovering the relics of Hellenic greatness.

There is a great deal of talk about Sir Edward Watkin's tower which is to eclipse the Eiffel tower in height and in strength. It is interesting to notice that Sir Benjamin Baker, who is now occupied in laying the foundations, is one of the consulting engineers with Sir John Fowler of the Chignecto ship railway, and that Mr. Milner, whose services are engaged to lay out the ground, is a son-in-law of Senator Dickey. Mr. Milner is the author of a famous work on "Landscape Gardening," and was the builder of the Avon Bridge near Windsor, some twenty years ago. He is a brother-in-law of Col. Stewart of Halifax.

Apropos of recent events in New Orleans, it is notorious that the Italian at home has a very bad record with regard to deeds of violence. Compared with European countries, Italy stands highest in the list of homicides, its proportion of convictions for this crime in 1889 being 8.05 in every 100,000 inhabitants, while that of Austria was 2.15, Germany 0.80 and England 0.40. Taking other forms of sanguinary assaults, Italy showed it the same year 226.06 convictions for every 100,000 inhabitants, while the ratio in Germany was 154.70, and in France only 71.62. Austria was, however, ahead of Italy in this class, its proportion being 285. 19. The best that can be said for Italy in regard to these crimes of violence is that at one time they were even more numerous than they are now. Perhaps it may also be taken as a sign of progress in the ways of civilization that whereas highway robberies have diminished in number, offences against the bankruptcy laws have steadily increased. The carbine and the horse pistol are out of date.

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Correspondents.

WILL THEY WEAR GOWNS?

I am very sorry that the students cause Antipholus so much pain in not wearing gowns; but I think he has gone the wrong way to correct what appears to him to be an error. It may be desirable that at Dalhousie students should wear gowns; it may not be desirable: Such a question is a fair one for discussion. But there is a proper place for such discussion, and there are *men* to discuss it. I think if Antipholus had even a Freshman's knowledge of the world, he would see that his suggestions are very unlikely to bring about any new University regulations. In the first place, it is more than probable that "the power that's to be" at Dalhousie are quite capable themselves of deciding upon such a question. And if a lawyer is to be desired I'm afraid that Antipholus is not the man. "Manners maketh man" saith Antipholus, the refined; very good, most excellent Antipholus; but will he consider what are some of the qualities that go to make a gentleman? "I would commend" this to his further study. He tells us that the toilets of some of the lady students would "be improved by being covered up." Perhaps it is gentlemanly to criticize our lady students in this cold uncharitable manner. But I question it; the age of chivalry in this respect is not yet past.

But my friend deals the "most unkindest cut of all" when he tries to reflect on the social origin of the students. It is quite probable,—and on this point perhaps they are to be congratulated—that many of the students were born in circumstances quite different from those which have given us the noble and magnanimous Antipholus. But if he will take the trouble to look into the facts, a duty which our adviser seems to have sadly overlooked, I think he will find the "social origin" of the students equal, if not superior, to that of any class. And—to his surprise, it may be—he will also find in their ranks in numerous instances, those sterling qualities which go to build up true nobleness of character. He may not find the students posing as the repositories of all knowledge, and vaunting their superiority by means of the "cloak of learning;" but he will find that they are not altogether wanting who take a reasonable "pride in their manners."

And now I hope Antipholus will not think I bear any ill-will towards him: far be it from me. On the contrary, I feel truly sorry for him; since he appears to be possessed of a very incomplete knowledge of the facts about Dalhousie students. **BRUTUS.**

DEAR SIR,—I am quite an outsider in civic matters, so if I seem to talk nonsense perhaps you will overlook it; everyone is liable to talk nonsense on subjects they know nothing about. Yet I have some sort of position in the city, and possess a vote in my ward, and would naturally like to know what to do with it. Most likely there are plenty others in the same position as myself; I don't properly understand the internal policy of the city council, and none of the circulars left at my house—with ballot coupons inclosed—do anything to enlighten me. Would it not be a good move for *someone* to publish some sort of a sketch of the main questions at issue, showing what we are likely to gain—or lose—by the election of any particular candidate. There seems to be no lack of people anxious to be elected:—Can you tell me whether it is for what they expect to make out of city contracts, or for the good they intend to do to their fellow-citizens? And if the latter, why shouldn't they explain exactly the public benefits they intend to advocate?

Ever yours,

BEWILDERED VOTER.