

journals. If it be objected that it is useless to have so much matter lying untouched, the answer must be that knowledge obtained under the influence of such a motive will be of no service. It must be expected that the varying tastes of one hundred students will never be satisfied with a few publications; but it does not necessarily follow that any one student shall read all. In the main, it will be found the most satisfactory course for each student to select, besides a daily for items of local interest, some two or three standard sheets, and by a systematic apportionment of time read every inch of matter in them.

THANKSGIVING DAY was observed as a holiday by the institutions. If the object be merely relaxation from labor, a good dinner, or an opportunity for getting up special work, the day was not lost; but if the true idea is to cherish and exhibit a spirit of thanksgiving to God for blessings received, the purpose, by the body of students, can scarcely be said to have been attained. The Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians united in holding service in the village in the evening, which the students were at liberty to attend. Very few, however, were present. These general services may be well enough in their place, but have the institutions no special cause for thanksgiving, and therefore no need of special services? We think they have, and can conceive of gatherings in connection with them of a highly interesting and profitable character.

NOT least among the opportunities for culture on the Hill are those afforded by the Literary Society. The indications for a successful year at the opening of college were extremely favourable. The attendance has been unusually large, and a commendable interest in the transactions of business has been exhibited by the majority of the members. There is, however, one thing which has seriously interfered with the prosperity of the ATHENÆUM in the past, and which threatens at present to weaken its influence. We refer to the invitations students are liable to receive to attend social gatherings on the night of meeting. Nothing can be more disastrous to the best interests of the Society than for a dozen or more of its active members to be compelled to leave the meeting during

session. It is somewhat strange that the danger should come from a friendly quarter; but these invitations are no less an evil because they come from friends of the college. We have referred with great reluctance to the matter, lest we might seem ungrateful for the kindness bestowed. But there is, on the one hand, the possible danger of offence to our friends, and on the other positive harm to the Society, and duty admits of no choice. We would suggest to our friends the propriety of choosing some other evening in the week for requesting the students' company, and ask the students themselves seriously to consider whether or not they can afford to spend Friday evening anywhere else than in the Athenæum.

THE Governors and Senate met November 5th to consider the appointment of a new professor. The results of the meeting have already been given to the public. Ignorance of the right man and the want of money, it seems, combined to prevent a regular appointment. Temporary provision is to be made for the remainder of the college year by the addition of a tutor to the present staff. It is expected that by the close of the year both of the difficulties mentioned may be removed, so that the vacancy can at that time be permanently filled.

REFERENCE was made in the June number of the ATHENÆUM to the "satisfactory condition of the Exchequer" of the Literary Society. We are sorry to be forced to state that the Society found its financial affairs in a deplorable state. Not only has the search for the "respectable balance" been in vain, but bills to the amount of some eighty dollars have been received from various quarters. A great blunder has been made in allowing bills for papers to run. The condition of its finances is a good point for feeling the pulse of any society. Steps are being taken to set things right, and it is sincerely hoped those whose business it is to audit the accounts will not rest satisfied until they are able, at least, to indicate to the Society its exact financial standing. A public entertainment is already talked of as the best way of raising money to cancel the debt. The idea is a good one, and will no doubt, if acted upon, prove beneficial in more ways than one.