

where had large and enthusiastic audiences, and we are confident that Hamilton will not be behind her sister cities in profiting by them. It is to be hoped that the expiration of this term will find those who are attending the lectures able to manage better than the young lady who was keeping house for the first time, and for several days in succession ordered a roast leg of lamb for dinner, until at length the cook proposed that there should be a change. "Change, Oh yes?" replied the young housekeeper. "Well, let us have a roast leg of beef."

ON entering the college after vacation, we were greeted from all quarters with news of every description, and not least in the category was the fact of further information from Ottawa concerning the "Silver Medal." So much we learned at the outset then despairing of full particulars amid the general confusion we repaired to head quarters, and were provided with the following statement:—

"That a Silver Medal was to be awarded for the best examination in English Literature, said examination to embrace not only English Literature in general, but some particular author or authors." This is very satisfactory and we are sure that our fellow students could not wish a better subject. In this day when culture is everything, and indeed absolutely necessary for a position in society, what should afford a student more pleasure than to study those prominent men, and their works which form the standard libraries of English nations; and again how is this culture to be acquired save through a thorough knowledge of one's own language, and where is there a voice in the hand so powerful in governing speech as that of our greatest writers and poets; surely this fact will not be disputed, for in every home is there not a living illustration furnished by the Bible, one that is so thoroughly convincing and so generally known? The Bible that is read to-day differs but very lit-

tle from the modern mode of speech, and how far back does it date?—from the beginning of the Stuart time, 1611, nay more, we find that Tyndale's version of a century before (1526) was the guide for the translators, and therefore the contents are much alike. Now, why is it the language to-day is so similar to that of three centuries ago? Is not the answer to be found in the fact that the language of Sacred Writ has been familiar to us all our lives, and forged the first links in the chain that will forever bind us to our mother tongue? And do not other books exert their influence, each in its own sphere? Then why should we not make English Literature our chief study when we see the prominent position it occupies in educating our race. Even the universities are advocating a thorough English course in preference to a classical one. We are sure, in the face of all this, that all who possibly can will cheerfully enlist as competitors for the Silver Medal, in view of the good to be obtained from the study of this subject.

EXCHANGES.

IN answer to the kindly greetings and "happy new year" wished us by our exchanges we reply, "the same to you." The old year is gone, and with it our failures and successes, and we would add because—

"Concluded is the past,
Nor joys nor sorrows last;
Regret it not,"

but at the same time prepare to exert ourselves afresh, that we may the better accomplish the duties of the year just entered upon. Among the rest is the duty of noticing our exchanges, it is to be hoped that in the performance of it we may always prove the impartial critics that we aim to be.

WE are glad that we can no longer make the statement that ours is the only ladies' college in the Dominion that publishes a paper, for last month the first number of the *Sunbeam* appeared, issued by the Literary