

the end of the week testified to the large number of 'bumps,' and the sounds of revelry in the different Colleges on Saturday night gave unmistakable evidence of the grand finales of Cambridge races—'bump suppers.'

The date of the Inter-Varsity sports has again been changed, and is now fixed at April 4th, the day before the boat race. The University eight have been practising steadily during the past week, and it is said that a marked improvement in their rowing is visible.

The writer of an amusing article entitled 'Series,' in the *Review* of this week, has found a new use for Mathematical language. He thinks it might be applied to every-day life, and that 'by a judicious arrangement we might represent in a single line the character of a man which it now takes a novelist his three volumes to explain.' He pitches for illustration upon "Series," as one of the most precious gems which are at present hidden from the public gaze, and, coming to the Binomial expansion, at once finds himself involved in 'the question of what happens when a man becomes a Binomial (*Anglice*, takes unto himself a wife), and, raising himself to the 20th power, becomes expanded in a series (produces a long line of descendants).' This question, however, he wisely leaves unanswered, and passes on to other illustrations no less amusing. He is sanguine enough to look forward to the time when 'a newspaper will have shrunk from its present size to that of a piece of note-paper, and will contain merely a few formulæ, the gist of which can be taken in at a glance between two mouthfuls of toast.'

On Saturday last Cambridge lost one of its most honored members, in the person of Dr. Todhunter, who died at the age of 63. He had been seriously ill for several weeks from an attack of paralysis of the brain. The funeral takes place to-morrow, when the first part of the service will be read in the chapel of his own College, St. John's, of which he was an Honorary Fellow.

Yours very truly,

Cambridge, March 5th, '84.

T. C. S. M.

General College Notes.

Sweden and Norway have 500 industrial art schools.

Base ball has entirely superseded foot ball at Amherst.

Queen's has a Snow-Shoe Club. The *Journal* complains justly of the want of a gymnasium.

Amherst is to have six billiard tables in the new gymnasium, which is to be ready for use in the spring.

A number of Yale students are thinking of making a tour of France, on foot, the coming vacation.—*Ex.*

The Seniors of Wabash College have adopted the sailor suit as a class dress, in which they will graduate.—*Ex.*

The total number of students at Oberlin is 1,474. This includes a preparatory and various other departments.

Bowdoin has a polo team. According to the *Orient*, the interest in polo circles is now at flood height.

Albert E. Kent, of San Francisco, Cal., has given \$75,000 to Yale College to be used for a chemical laboratory.

A Japanese student has been appointed to the important position of assistant to the professor of anatomy at the Berlin University.

'An alumna,' writing to the *Delaware College Review*, advocates the abolishing of co-education there, giving potent reasons for so doing.

The sum of \$12,500 has been given to Glasgow University by Mrs. John Elder, for the purpose of founding a professorship of naval architecture.—*Ex.*

It is found that there are now over 3,000,000 scholars of both sexes in the schools of Italy. This is the ninth part of the whole population of the kingdom.—*High-School Index.*

The Trustees of Dartmouth College lately voted to erect a library building at a cost of \$50,000. Funds for the immediate construction of a chapel were obtained yesterday from the Hon. E. Ashton Rollins, of Philadelphia.—*Scholastic.*

A census of a Philadelphia boarding school of forty-eight girls showed that one could make bread, one knew how to fry oysters, three knew how to broil beef steak, forty-eight could embroider and forty-seven could dance.—*University Press.*

At Wesleyan the faculty gives fortnightly receptions. A certain number of professors keep open house on one Saturday evening and the remainder alternate with them. This custom is said to be becoming quite popular among the students.—*Badger.*

Prof. M. W. Harrington, director of the Ann Arbor observatory, together with W. H. Barr, of Detroit, will publish a new monthly journal to be named the "American Meteorological Journal."

While there are dozens of papers published by the students of our American colleges, there is actually but a single periodical of the sort issued in Germany. This is the *Allgemeine Deutsche Studentenzeitung*, which appears weekly in Berlin. But even this is not intended exclusively as an undergraduate affair.—*Haverfordian.*

One of the most interesting and valuable features of the John Hopkins University library is the newspaper bureau. A trained editor and a staff of assistants read all the representative dailies and mark superior articles upon economic, political, social, educational, legal, and historical subjects. These are afterwards clipped, arranged in newspaper budgets, kept in large envelopes or oblong boxes, which are marked with labels. The list of subjects includes everything of value that finds its way into the columns of the press. Bulletin boards are covered daily with the best clippings from the latest papers, arranged under the leading heads of current topics.—*Badger.*

At Vanderbilt University many students have clubbed together and given to what is known as the Messing System a fair trial, with the most encouraging results. This system is a kind of club under the management of officers chosen by the club—a Secretary, a Steward, and a Matron—and all expenses are shared equally by the members. By this means good board is now furnished near the University at a cost of from \$9 to \$12 a month. The food is abundant, wholesome, well prepared, and gives universal satisfaction. The deportment of the students in this club, under operation of the rules and regulations enforced by themselves, is as good as can be found in any private boarding-house.

A TEST OF PERMANENT POPULARITY.

(A Fragment.)

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'The history of literature attests, as has well been remarked, that power of expression is a surer preservative of a writer's popularity than even strength of thought itself.' So says Professor George Lillie Craik, LL.D.

Who it may be that has 'well remarked' this I know not; neither do I care to learn. But was there ever a more signal instance of the utter futility of the blind attempting to lead the blind? 'Power of expression,' forsooth! To how many score of writers could we not point, immortal—through their 'power of expression?'—no, except in so far as 'strength of thought' must and ever will embody itself in powerful expression? But enough of this.

To me it seems that proportionately to the reverence he excites is a writer popular—in the noble, deep sense of the word—and his works long-lived. That mere admiration that talented authors provoke amongst a small class, is it not purely a matter of the intellect only, a lower mind gazing 'in wonder and despair' at the gyrations and evolutions of a superior intellect soaring, in the same atmosphere indeed, but at an altitude which conceals the secret of its power or its mechanism—its mechanism, for I venture to say that often those soarings are due to adventitious aid, not natural vigour, to some conjuring trick perchance, or often to mere inflation with gas of lowest specific gravity? We cannot worship, bow down to, enshrine brain-force only; but goodness, straightforwardness,—in a word, truth.

And who is it that gains disciples, disciples, who, though their master commit not one thought to writing, blazon abroad his slightest gesture? Is it not the 'Saint of Athens,' and is it not He who, at that most critical moment of His whole life, undaunted, declared: 'To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth?'

Do not by any means imagine that I go so far as to say that all who do not call forth that spirit of discipleship, that contentment to lie at their feet and passively receive, must be bad, worthless or even indifferent. The one may be a scholar, the other is, however, a teacher; the one benefits our outward life or adds to our æsthetic pleasures; but the other builds up our inward life and encourages to noble action; the one discovers the beauties that line the path way of life; the other guides us along that path. Both are noble; but which is the nobler, to add to our knowledge or to increase our wisdom; to heap up facts, or to make accurate our conception of right and wrong, our discrimination between real and unreal, noble or ignoble; or, to leave the abstract and come to concrete example, to tell us that for nearly two centuries the world was mistaken in thinking that