

The Zodiac in the Catacombs.

"The prevalence of fish forms," says the St. John EDUCATIONAL REVIEW in the answer kindly accorded to our zodiacal enquiries; "in the ornamentation of Christian tombs in the catacombs of Rome is not likely to have any astronomical signification. The Christians of that time were not likely to have had good opportunities, or even the leisure to cultivate such tastes." We venture to think the REVIEW does not quite take into consideration all the conditions of early Christianity. The theories of the theosophists and mystics of to-day are pushed too far, and they are led away by their exaggerated estimate of analogy, especially in ascribing too much to the solar myth. Nevertheless, they have thrown much true light on the subject. The mass of the world was then Pagan, and that world was thoroughly imbued with solar and consequently zodiacal ideas, and it is well known that the Christian church adapted its festivals to this domination among many other means it used to justify its faith in the eyes of its Pagan fellow-citizens. It is also a fact which we take to be proved, that the more ancient religions were absolutely dominated by the sign in which the sun stood at the vernal equinox. The very idea of the "Lamb of God" was due to this rule, the constellation Aries having been sometimes called the Lamb instead of the "Ram," of which more hereafter. Many high authorities consider that the transfer of the equinox from Aries to Pisces, which was regarded as symbolical of the triumph of the principal of life over the powers of evil, and therefore applicable to Christ, was connected with this recession so definitely that the Messiah was sometimes actually styled the Fish as well as the "Lamb" of God. It therefore became a holy symbol appropriate to Christian tombs as the cross is considered now.—*Halifax Critic.*

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE.

The annual convocation of Dalhousie College took place in the Academy of Music, Halifax, on Thursday afternoon, April 25th. We have space only for the list of graduates and the winners of special honors.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Allison, Edmund Powell, Halifax, N. S.
 Brown, Ernest Nicholson, Lower Newcastle, N. B.
 Burkitt, Robert James, Athenary, Ireland
 Davidson, James McGregor, Halifax, N. S.
 Fraser, Alexander, West River, Pictou Co., N. S.
 Fraser, John Keir Geddie, Alberton, P. E. I.
 Frazee, Victor Gladstone, Dartmouth, N. S.
 Fulton, Edward, Lower Stewiacke, N. S.
 Harvey, McLeod, Newport, N. S.
 Henry, Joseph Kaye, Shubenacadie, N. S.

Laird, Arthur Gordon, Charlottetown, P. E. I.
 McDonald, Robert James, Hopewell, N. S.
 Paton, Vincent, Halifax, N. S.
 Putnam, Homer, Lower Onslow, N. S.
 Smithers, Allen, Halifax, N. S.
 Stewart, Frank Ingram, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

BACHELOR OF LAWS.

Campbell, Alexander, Sydney, C. B.
 Campbell, John A., Truro, N. S.
 Cummings, Selden Wm., Truro, N. S.
 Forsyth, George Ormond, Greenwich, N. S.,
 Lovett, Henry Almon, Kentville, N. S.
 McNeill, Albert Howard, Charlottetown, P. E. I.
 Paterson, George, New Glasgow, N. S.
 Ross, Henry Taylor, Halifax, N. S.
 Tobin, Thomas Finlayson, Halifax, N. S.
 Whitford, Joseph Arthur, Bridgewater, N. S.

PRESENTATION OF HONORS.

Classics: First rank, A. G. Laird
Mathematics and Physics: Second rank, R. J. Burkitt.
Mental and Moral Philosophy: First rank, A. Fraser;
 second rank, E. N. Brown.
English and English History: First rank, Edward Fulton.

MEDALS TO BE PRESENTED.

Governor-general's gold medal, to A. G. Laird; Demill gold medal, to Edward Fulton, presented by president of Alumni Association; Certificate of Short Course in Arts, to Miss Elizabeth H. Stewart.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

The Waverly Prize, C. L. Moore; the Avery Prize, J. K. Henry; the Early English Text Society's Prize, Edward Fulton; the New Shakespere Society's Prize, Miss E. H. Stewart. Valedictory address for graduating class in Arts, by Victor G. Frazee, B. A. Valedictory address for graduating class in Laws, by George G. Paterson, LL. B.

Spelling Reform.

INTERNATIONALITY.—We have several times heard it expressed, How well it would be to have a common alphabet to denote European tongues, especially German, French and English. Such a one will allow comparison of sounds approximately the same. The *Paris Teacher* has been for nearly three years giving samples of English, German, French, Italian, Swedish and Danish, but with alphabets not entirely uniform. With 1889 this has been changed, the same alphabet being used, except for three nasalized vowels for which typographic forms (*faute de caracteres*) are not yet ready. We consider it useful to compare pronunciation, and thus reach comparative orthoepy. With the alphabet itself apart from this use we are not in love. The question it sets about solving is to revise and enlarge the Roman alphabet consistently, so far as may be, with current use of letters by nations