

maturity of fruits. It is generally the lowest and oldest leaves which change first. But as the perfect winged and usually bright coloured insect is short lived, so the leaves ripen but to fall.

Generally, every fruit, on ripening, and just before it falls, when it commences a more independent and individual existence, requiring less nourishment from any source, and that not so much from the earth through its stem as from the sun and air, acquires a bright tint. So do leaves. The physiologist says it is "due to an increased absorption of oxygen." That is the scientific account of the matter, only a reassertion of the fact. But I am more interested in the rosy cheek than I am to know what particular diet the maiden fed on. The very forest and herbage, the pellicle of the earth, must acquire a bright colour, an evidence of its ripeness,—as if the globe itself were a fruit on its stem, with ever a cheek towards the sun.

Flowers are but coloured leaves, fruits but ripe ones. The edible part of most fruits is, as the physiologist says, "the parenchyma or fleshy tissue of the leaf" of which they are formed.

Our appetites have commonly confined our views of ripeness and its phenomena, color, mellowness, and perfectness, to the fruits which we eat, and we are wont to forget that an immense harvest which we do not eat, is annually ripened by Nature. At our annual Cattle Shows, at Horticultural Exhibitions, we make, as we think, a great show of fair fruits, destined, however, to a rather ignoble end, fruits not valued for their beauty chiefly. But round about and within our towns there is annually another show of fruits, on an infinitely grander scale, fruits which address our taste for beauty alone.

October is the month of painted leaves. Their rich glow now flashes round the world. As fruits and leaves and the day itself acquire a bright tint just before they fall, so the year near the setting. October is sunset sky; November the later twilight.

I formerly thought that it would be worth the while to get a specimen leaf from each changing tree, shrub, and herbaceous plant, when it had acquired its brightest characteristic colour, in its transition from the green to the brown state, outline it, and copy its colour exactly, with paint, in a book, which should be entitled "*October, or Autumnal Tints*";—beginning with the earliest reddening,—Woodbine and the lake of radical leaves, and coming down through the Maples, Hickories, and Sumach, and many beautifully freckled leaves less generally known, to the latest Oaks and Aspens. What a memento such a book would be! You would need only to turn over its leaves to take a ramble through the autumn woods whenever you pleased. Or if I could preserve the leaves themselves, unfaded, it would be better still. No more agreeable pastime could be suggested to the more advanced classes of our Common Schools (especially girls) than is here suggested.—*Atlantic Monthly*.

## VIII. Educational Intelligence.

### CANADA.

—UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—ANNUAL CONVOCATION.—The annual convocation of University College was held on the 21st ult. A number of Southern ladies and gentlemen were present, who were interested in the proceedings from the fact that several students from Kentucky and Maryland have lately entered the University. The following gentlemen were admitted as matriculated students:—*Third year*—W. B. Fleming and W. Kingsford. *Second year*—R. W. Young. *First year*—R. Douglas, J. A. Patterson, A. C. Tynes, J. E. Gould, C. W. Bell, W. G. Falconbridge, T. D. Delamere, L. H. Robertson, R. Baldwin, P. M. Barker, J. G. Bowes, G. Brunel, M. Byers, R. Cameron, A. F. Campbell, H. Clarke, W. Davidson, G. Davidson, A. Greenlees, H. P. Hill, D. Hunter, A. Kennedy, W. McDiarmid, M. McKenzie, F. McLennan, M. C. Moderwell, D. H. Mooney, E. D. Moore, R. N. Palmer, J. S. Palmer, A. Purslow, C. G. Rattray, D. Reid, G. Rennie, W. J. Richardson, J. E. Ridout, A. J. Robertson, G. Shurtleff, W. Watt, and A. H. Wright. *Civil Engineering*—L. Kennedy, W. H. McCurdy and E. Webb. The prize compositions were then recited—the Greek verse (tragic Iambics) by A. M. Lafferty: English prose, (subject, "The songs of the highways,") by J. Campbell; and the English verse (subject, "The International Exhibition,") by G. H. Squire. The prizemen on advancing to the rostrum to read their productions were greeted with rounds of applause. All three of the compositions were meritorious and creditable to the writers. We give the English poem, as follows:—

"Arts embracing temple shrine  
Heaven-born Peace! the work is thine;  
Earth rejoicing shouts all hail!  
Bring again the Olympian year,  
Sheath the sword, reverse the spear,  
Let, O Peace! thy work prevail.

"Like a dove with folded wings,  
Thou hast sat despised of Kings;  
Now upon thy pinions rise;  
See the dawning of the morn,  
So a nobler age is born:  
Soar amid the reddening skies.

"Hail the dawning of the day,  
When the sword shall lose its sway,  
And the shouts of battle cease;  
Nations prizing empire less,  
On to nobler conquest press,  
On their banners blazoned, 'Peace.'

"Nations thus to harmonise,  
'Twined in friendship's golden ties,  
Is the noblest work of man.  
Giants they who boldly cope  
With all obstacles, in hope,  
Standing foremost in the van.

"Kings and princes! ye whose hands  
Sway the sceptre o'er the lands,  
Think of him who calmly sleeps,  
Resting from his toils to-day;  
Still he points to you the way,  
Whom a stricken nation weeps.

"Let thy work prevail, O Peace!  
And thine empire's bounds increase,  
Till the earth shall all be thine!  
Heaven shall hail the welcome sight,  
Nations walking in the light,  
Of thy glorious rays divine.

"Does the poet only dream?  
Are those things not what they seem;  
Promise of its wide increase?  
Comes there not another time,  
When the bells of Heaven shall chime,  
Ringin' in the years of peace!"

The distribution of prizes next took place, the following being a list of the prizemen and competitors in the various departments:—*Greek and Latin*.—S. Woods, G. Cooper, N. McNish, J. M. Gibson, W. H. Vandersmissen, J. W. Connor, W. N. Keefer, J. S. Small, J. Hill, G. Goodwillie, W. Fitzgerald, W. W. Tamblin: *Greek Verse*, A. M. Lafferty. *Logic*.—J. McMillan, and F. E. Seymour, A. J. Traver. *Metaphysics and Ethics*.—J. M. Gibson, J. McMillan. *Chemistry—Analytical*.—R. A. Reeve, W. Tytler; *Organic*.—W. Tytler, R. A. Reeve, W. B. McMurrich, T. H. Scott, E. F. Snider, B. F. Playter, and J. Preston. *Mathematics and Natural Philosophy*.—J. Loudon, A. M. Lafferty, T. W. Wright, E. Frisby, T. J. Robertson, J. Rutledge, J. S. Wilson, G. Lount, W. Malloy, W. Fitzgerald, P. Bielby, W. R. Chisholm. *History*.—J. M. Gibson, W. Mulock, W. G. McWilliams, W. Oldright. *English*.—J. M. Gibson, S. Woods. *History and English*.—J. McMillan, F. E. Seymour, J. Preston, J. Campbell, W. W. Tamblin; *Verses Composition*.—G. H. Squire. *Natural History*.—W. B. McMurrich, T. H. Scott, B. F. Playter, J. Campbell, C. Corbould. *Mineralogy and Geology*.—W. Tytler, R. A. Reeve, E. F. Snider, J. W. Connor, B. F. Playter, W. N. Keefer. *Modern Languages*.—J. M. Gibson, W. Oldright, W. Mulock, T. H. Scott, J. S. Wilson, F. E. Seymour, W. H. Vandersmissen, W. W. Tamblin, J. Campbell, W. B. Chisholm, C. Corbould. *Meteorology*.—W. Tytler. *Oriental Languages*.—J. M. Gibson, S. Young, J. McColl, W. Moore, H. McQuarrie, A. McGregor. *Agriculture*.—J. B. Thompson, C. C. Forneri, B. F. Playter. *Special Prizes—Established by the College Council, and awarded by the College Literary and Scientific Society—Public Speaking*.—S. Woods; *English Essay*.—J. Campbell. This concluded the distribution of the prizes.

The President then advanced to the front of the platform, and addressing the assemblage said, that in closing the proceedings of the Convocation with the customary address, he would limit himself on this occasion to a few statements derived from the statistics of the institution, and to one or two inferences that might be drawn from them. He was well aware that figures formed a dry and uninteresting theme for observation, but they were regarded by many of such paramount importance in ascertaining the condition and prospects of such an establishment as this, that he trusted they would indulge him with their attention whilst he briefly adverted to a few of the leading particulars. This institution, as many whom he addressed were aware, unlike the time-honoured establishments of the mother country, dated back but a very few years. In the year 1853, now nine years since, the then existing University of Toronto, was divided into two establishments—one retaining the name of the University of Toronto, and the other called University College—the same institution the convention of which was now being held. These institutions differed materially in their functions. The University of Toronto was formed on the model of the University of London, and was limited to the prescribing of subjects for examination, the appointment of examiners, awarding of gold medals, and the conferring of degrees. It had no teachers or professors of any kind. On the other hand the function of teaching belonged especially to University College. In the original establishment of the University there were four faculties—the faculties of Divinity, Law, Medicine, and Arts. By the statute passed in 1850, the faculty of Divinity was removed, and in 1853 the faculties of Law and Medicine were also removed; so that University College was in fact but the faculty of Arts, with the addition of the departments of Agriculture and Civil Engineering. The year 1853–4, was a year of transition, in which the University and College might be said to have equal claims on the students. He would, therefore, begin his statistics with the year 1854–5. In that year the total number of students was 110, and of these 28 were matriculated students; in 1855–6 the total number was 145, of which 35 were matriculants; in 1856–7, total 126, matriculants 37; in 1857–8, total 192, matriculants 56; in 1858–9, total 168, matriculants 63; in 1859–60, total 188, matriculants 80; in 1860–61, total 225, matriculants 129; and last year they reached a total number of 260, of whom 158 were matriculants. (Applause.) He regretted that he was un-