

members some time previous to the completion of the new hall, but which has never been attempted because the accommodations of the association were not of a sufficient nature. Many of the more enthusiastic members desire to see established not only a reading-room, but a club—consisting of the members of all the boys' and young men's associations—for the purpose of friendly meeting and intercourse, the pursuance of indoor amusements, and the development of that intimacy and fellowship so desirable among all of the same congregation. The latter plan would of course include a reading-room as one of its departments, though of necessity not of so complete a nature as if it were the sole aim. Whether the association will feel in a position to undertake this work this season will only be known after its opinion has been expressed at the annual meeting. That, if either plan carried out, and the institution afterward efficiently maintained, it could be made one of the most useful institutions in our parish, no one can deny; and we commend both to the members as plans worthy of their most serious consideration.

Another subject to be there discussed would be the nature of the lecture course for the coming winter. Many associations in arranging for a series of lectures will endeavor (as far as possible) to have the discourses relating to kindred topics, so that the course when completed would form a series of treatises, each with a common bearing on a particular line of thought, and, as a result, the course would be possessed of superior practical information. The topics might be scientific, historical, or they might include apparent solutions of some of the grave social, moral, or political problems which are agitating the minds of the people of the nineteenth century, and furnishing philanthropists and politicians with material for reflection and controversy. The discretion of either the Association or the committee in charge would be exercised in making the selection of topics. Should, however, such a plan be considered impracticable, or should difficulty be experienced in obtaining lecturers under such circumstances, then recourse could be had to the former custom of leaving the subject entirely to the option of the lecturer.

Not least in importance, is the regular semi-monthly meeting of the association; and the attention which is given to develop those meetings should in no way be inferior to that given for any branch of the work; for the number of regular attendants at each session and in fact the real prosperity of the Association, is very largely governed by the attractiveness of the regular meetings. A committee whose sole duty would be to devise methods whereby these meetings would be promoted could, we think, be advantageously added to the list of standing committees. With the beginning of the new year we trust the members will resume their work with renewed vigor, and by earnest and hearty endeavor strive to render the season of '91 and '92 more brilliant than any yet recorded in the history of the Association. H. C. W.

THE annual meeting of the Y. M. A. will be held on the evening of Friday, Nov. 8, at 8 o'clock.

OUR RIDING TOUR.

(Continued.)

Monday morning dawned bright and clear. We rose early, and having partaken of a first-rate breakfast of ham and eggs (a class of food we learned to become very familiar with before the journey ended), saddled our horses and were once more on the road.

On leaving we were accorded a most hearty farewell. A number of the villagers had gathered to witness our departure; the boarders also turned out *en masse* and bade us adieu by discharging a whole broadside of fire-crackers, which were located at regular intervals on the fence poles.

Her Gracious Majesty had many volleys fired in her honor that day, but I doubt very much if she could count this one among the number. No. Two, if one could judge from his demeanor, was about to reply to this display of friendship by delivering a long and eloquent address, but time was pressing, and the horses were restive, so we gave them the rein and off we cantered towards Fredericton. The speech was lost. Whether the continual jolting of the horse has obliterated it from the memory of our respected friend I am unable to say, if not, I hope that at some future day he may, for the benefit of his great grandchildren, write it out and have it published in pamphlet form.

But to return to our story. A large portion of the river road lying between Gagetown and Oromocto was completely covered with water, so we were compelled to take what is commonly called the "back road." We were very glad afterwards that we had been forced to do so. For eight or ten miles there is not a house to be seen, the road is grown over with grass, and the trees in many places meet overhead. It would be difficult to describe the beauty of the scene, or to put in words the enjoyment realized that morning. At times we rode three abreast, then again in single file. A song now and then from No. Two, in which No's. One and Three joined in the chorus, made things all the more cheerful. And so we journeyed on, trotting and walking our horses until we came again into "civilization." On nearing Oromocto, No. Three rode on ahead to make preparations for our mid-day meal. Arrangements were soon made for the repast. Nos. One and Two arrived just in time to enjoy the odor of ham and eggs proceeding from the back kitchen, which caused their food craving somewhat to relax. There was more than the odour of ham and eggs in the air, however. For No. One's "soothing liniment" aforementioned, had parted company with the bottle, the contents had soaked itself through and through the wearing apparel contained in No. One's saddle-bag, and now the roof of Mr. O'F's barn was being lined with these articles hung out to dry.

Did you ask us how we liked our dinner? I can easily tell you; for it was a dinner never to be forgotten. "Plain food is wholesome." There is no doubt about the truth of that statement, but, on the other hand, there is an old saying "that cleanliness is next to Godliness"; the former element was lacking in the repast. But to be explicit I may as well give you the "menu":