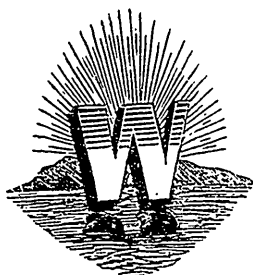


[For the Maple Leaf.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF SCHOOL-DAYS.

NO. I.



HENEVER a grey hair has been discovered in a person's head, he is presumed to have collected a vast amount of wisdom and experience, and obtained a prescriptive right to give opinions upon things in general, and his "recollections of his young days," in the style of an oracle, and to command the reverence and attention of his younger friends ; and justly so. But unfortunately that phenomenon has not yet made its appearance in my head, and, in consequence, I cannot now speak under such favorable *prestige* of my school-day recollections, as I may perhaps do some score of years hence, when, of course, I may look for grey hairs ; so that I shall have to give my thoughts just now under one advantage, and one disadvantage—the advantage of being "just off the irons"—the disadvantage of not having gray hairs. Yes, and with the natural dogmatism of youth, I will not allow that my class ought not to command a certain degree of respect and attention when they talk of bye-gone days, when "we lived and played together." I will grant that they have not as much wisdom and experience as, it is to be hoped, they will have some time hence ; but, then, what wisdom or experience does it require to recall the happy days of our youth ?

As we all have been either school-girls or school-boys, we have all recollections of that epoch. Some of us have sunnier souvenirs of our school-days than others ; and, with many of us, the sunshine has burst out only in memory's landscape—yet this is very natural. How often have we been sorely troubled with vexations and difficulties ; but when we have surmounted these, and arrived at the slippered ease of repose, we have looked back lightly upon what was, at the time, such a source of trouble and annoyance. And so, if we have passed through one trouble, only to enter a greater, we would gladly exchange the greater for the less, esteeming the first not so bad, after all. So, when amidst the turmoil of active life we allow our