

The *Manitoba College Journal* for December opens with "A Breeze from the Foothills of the Rockies." "Water Scenes," an account of an excursion on the lakes of Manitoba, takes us back to the balmy days of the sweet summer time. Perhaps the most pleasing feature is an article on "Student Life in the Sixteenth Century." This is a portion of the translation made by Mrs. Finn in 1847, of the autobiography of one Thomas Platter, who was born in 1499. A few quotations may be of interest. "Schools were not then established in all places; and young people who wished to learn anything went either singly or in great numbers, after renowned teachers. As they were, for the most part, poor people, they lived on alms by the way, and when the thing degenerated the grown ones were called Bacchants, because they lived well on what was obtained by begging, and led a wild and dissolute life. The little ones were called A B C fags..... During the winter the fags lay upon the floor in the school, but the bacchants in small chambers, of which there were several hundred at St. Elizabeth. But in summer when it was hot, we lay in the churchyard; collected grass and lay in it, like pigs in straw..... Now and then after supper we went into the beerhouses to beg for beer, and the drunken Polish peasants would then give us so much that I was often unable to find my way to the school again, though only a stone's throw from it..... Neither had anyone printed books, except the Preceptor, who had a printed Terence. What was read had first to be dictated, then pointed, then construed, and at last explained; so that the bacchants had to carry away thick books of notes when they went home." From portions of this, we gather that the nineteenth century student is in some respects not so unlike his predecessor of the sixteenth as the uninitiated might imagine.

S.

Pelletier

Organist of St. James Cathedral and Professor of the Piano and Organ

Monsieur L. E. N. Pratte
Cher Monsieur

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votre fabrique. - Si j'en
juge par celui dont j'ai fait
l'acquisition - réunissent
toutes les qualités artistiques:
timbre limpide chantant et
et absolument pur de toutes
résonnances harmoniques ou
cavernueuses, si fréquentes dans
les basses des pianos droits -;
Douceur, facile et telle-
ment élastique qu'il répond
à l'attaque la plus incisive
comme à la pression la
plus délicate, permettant tou-
jours tout les nuances les plus
diverses - Recevez mes félicitations
pour ce beau travail
Votré
H. Pelletier
le 28 Nov. 1893*

TRANSLATION.

MONTREAL, 28th November, 1893.

MR. L. E. N. PRATTE, Montreal:

DEAR SIR.—The upright pianos of your make—if one may form a judgment from the one I have acquired—possess a combination of all the qualities esteemed by musicians, a liquid and singing quality of tone entirely free from all overtones and rumbling sounds so frequently found in upright pianos, a touch so light and elastic as to answer to the most vigorous attack and the lightest pressure,—in fact, capable of the most varied effects. Allow me to congratulate you on your good work.

Yours, etc.

H. OCT. PELLETTIER.

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