

to separate its sacred name from that of dulness, while avoiding every approach to the antics of the buffoon. People in the pews have become so used to taking anything the minister chooses to give them, and the same is true of subscribers to a newspaper and its editors, that ministers and editors imagine all they say and print to be attractive and edifying, which it rarely is, except in the case of some special genius. It is useless to attack the opposite as pandering to a vitiated taste. There is nothing vitiated in a love of sprightliness and vivacity, variety of mood, and wealth of illustration, else were the love of nature and true art a vulgar thing.

The Transactions of the Canadian Institute published in October is an octavo volume, of 165 pages and some illustrative plates. Its thirteen papers are by eight writers. The Rev. Dr. McLean, a distinguished Methodist missionary, treats of the Gesture Language of the Blackfeet, and of the Picture Writing, and the language of the same people. The Rev. Father Morice, a Roman Catholic missionary, deals pleasantly with Three Carrier Myths. The Rev. Dr. MacNish, so well known to all readers of the Journal, has two elaborate and most readable papers, entitled A Review of Manx Carols and Wales and its Literature. Mr. Stupart of the Meteorological Observatory at Toronto, writes on The Climate of Alberta, and Rainfall and Lake Levels. Mr. Kivas Tully discusses The Fluctuations of Lake Ontario; Captain Cruikshank, The Fur Trade, 1783-7; and Mr. F. F. Payne, The Seasons—Hudson's Strait. Finally, the Talker has two articles, the one on Aboriginal American Inscriptions in Phonetic Characters, and the other on The Celt in Ancient Egypt and Babylonia. Our College cannot complain of being unrepresented in the learned institutions of Canada.

Messrs. Drysdale & Company are to the front once more with several volumes. Three of these belong to the Famous Scots Series, published by Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, of Edinburgh and London. They are quaint red and gold vol-