

But life is not all sunshine, and though Mr. Dobson loves to linger in the light, he occasionally leads us into cloudland, and then his touch is stronger, his feelings deep, and his pathos pure, as we find it in the poem called

THE CHILD-MUSICIAN.

He had played for his lordship's levee,
He had played for her ladyship's whim,
Till the poor little head was heavy,
And the poor little brain would swim,

And the face grew peaked and eerie,
And the large eyes strange and bright,
And they said, too late "He is weary;
He shall rest for, at least, to-night!"

But at dawn, when the birds were waking,
As they watched in the silent room,
With the sound of a strained cord breaking,
A something snapped in the gloom.

'Twas a string of his violoncello,
And they heard him stir in his bed.—
"Make room for a tired little fellow,
Kind God!" was the last that he said.

In the "Prayer of the Swine to Circe," we have a still stronger note, the strongest indeed in the whole volume: a virile poem which might well be ranked with those of men whom, as yet, he has not sought to emulate, but whom he evidently might with success, should he care to do so. Mr. Dobson is also very much at home among the old French verse forms, such as the *Rondeau*, *Rondelet*, *Villanelle*, and has done some charming work in them. We might give examples, but we have already far exceeded our allotted space, and must desist. Strange to say, Mr. Dobson's verse, though eagerly sought for in England, and to some extent in New York and Boston, and also by a small outside audience, to whom he has been introduced chiefly through the medium of the *Century* and *Harper's Magazine*, yet practically unknown to a great number of readers in Canada and the United States, who might have great pleasure in its perusal, did they but know his existence.

A. R.

LOUISIANA

Query:—Where is the collection of books which the Freshmen of the University have presented last term?

Owing to want of space we are reluctantly compelled to defer till next number the publication of the continuation of "Mosses from a Rolling Stone."

Professor Ritter, of Vassar College, has been appointed Musical Examiner for October, 1884, in place of the Rev. Mr. Dale, Mus. Doc. Oron.

Gate fines are the order of the day. Some twenty odd were posted at the end of last week. The library should steadily increase in size from this source of wealth which ceaselessly streams into the college coffers.

Smelts are in again, and in place of the time-honored tin plate or fire-shovel, which of yore obtained in lieu of a frying-pan, we now possess a real article, which a Divinity man was kind enough to purchase for the

benefit of his fellow students. We understand that he has used it himself once or twice however.

When we came up after the "long" we noticed two cases of stuffed birds had been added, in our absence, to the Museum. We were in the dark as to who was the donor of the handsome present until quite recently, when it was found out that Hon. G. W. Allen, the Chancellor, was the benefactor.

Out of the smouldering ruins of the Choral Club has arisen, Phoenix-like, a wraith of its former self, under the high-flown appellation of the "Appollo Club," composed of men who meet together for the advancement of musical culture and mutual edification. They mark themselves "Strictly Private," to which the occupants of the 3rd year corridor, immediately under which they practise, have added the word "Nuisance."

The weekly meetings of the Literary Institute, although poorly attended, have latterly been exceptionally good. Messrs. Symonds and Dumble, the former on the affirmative, and the latter on the negative, of the question, "Are the divisions of Christianity a bar to its progress?" at the last meeting, made powerful speeches, on their respective sides, which showed a preparation that should be more generally pursued.

A meeting of those interested in getting an organ for the chapel was held on Friday, Feb. 1st, in the Provost's lecture room, but adjourned for a month without anything definite being decided. A sum of \$1,500 has been voted for the purpose, and that \$1,200 has been promised by the students, of whom some \$300 is in the treasurer's hands. If an effort is made on the part of collectors, little difficulty will be experienced in raising the required amount.

Under the new regulations the candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts must pass the examinations, which, beginning with the first of the year, comprehend in turn all departments of the theory of music. At the first examination, held in October last, two candidates were successful, Rev. W. R. Roberts, and Miss E. S. Mellish, both of whom ranked in First Class. Miss Mellish has thus the honor of being the first lady undergraduate of this University, and the creditable examination which she passed speaks highly for her musical ability.

The annual *Conversazione* of the Literary Institute, was held on Thursday, the 7th inst, and the respective committees of it deserve congratulations on its success. Nearly a thousand guests thronged the halls. The musical management had prepared an excellent programme, noticeable features of which were the songs of Mrs. Whitehead, of Port Hope (who deservedly received an encore) and Miss Berryman. Mrs. Atkinson rendered Bishop's "Shall he Upbraid" beautifully, and Mr. Thompson, although suffering from a severe cold, took a prominent place on the programme. The Band of the Q. O. R. was stationed in the main hall, and at intervals played selections.