

they have been able to lay kindly hands. Many poor boys and girls have been rescued from privation, suffering and moral peril, of which Christian people in their fair sheltered homes generally have but the faintest conception. Such a work of mercy demands the zealous support of all capable of being moved by the excruciating trials of our fellow mortals.

In the January issue, the *Argosy* comes very boldly to the front in a futile attempt to defend itself against the just and merited criticism of the ATHENÆUM. The exchange editor seems to have made a super-human effort, and nobly has he exposed himself to our mercy. He seems quite confident that the "toothless monk," as he terms it, has taken up his abode at Acadia. If so, in this respect at least, we have been more fortunate than Mount Allison, for assuredly that personage that fills their exchange editor's chair cannot be anything higher in the grade of development than the preadamite monkey. Judging from the crude and primitive character of the paper throughout, it is easily inferred that that worthy representative of supreme idiocy does not confine his worse than senseless trash to the exchange column alone (or perhaps he is not the only such thing with which they are blest). That half-witted, thick-skulled quadrumane, clothed in the gaudy robe of conceit, displays such asinine qualities that it is extremely difficult for even the most fertile imagination to form the slightest conception of such a being. Perhaps if we were acquainted with the demons of darkness from the shades of the dead we would be able to place it. With reluctance we thus expose him, but by bringing the truth fully before the public, some benefit may accrue therefrom, for possibly the evolutionist may there find the long sought "missing link," though at present much deteriorated.

We would recommend to our scathing critic that in future he attempt something original for it would have far more effect. In replying you remind us of street urchins who can retort with nothing but the expression "you are another." Be careful how you talk about misspelled words and use a dictionary more (a dictionary is a book that tells what words mean and also how to say and spell them). If you look in such a book you will not find a word spelled "infinitesimal." We would also advise you to purchase a grammar and composition (these are books that will tell you how to talk, and write words down so that there will be some sense in them). The grammar says that when two or more nouns are joined by *and* they take a verb in the plural; also that *have been* not *has been* is the plural form of the verb. But considering your condition these are somewhat trivial mistakes and quite excusable in you.

You say that you do not supply brains. How absurd to talk of supplying an article of which the home demand is so extensive. The statement is self-evident to one reading your paper, for it is certainly the most brainless, senseless thing (save its exchange editor) in all creation. You surely either have none of that indispensable commodity, or else have forgotten the old proverb, "charity begins at home."

It is somewhat beneath our dignity to give so much space noticing a thing so insignificant, but as the Lord of the Manor, straying through his field might stop a moment to crush to death one of those cursed