

Such a consummation is doubtless too ideal to be realized even in Queen's, but we rejoice that our last Reception approached so near to this desired goal and we heartily congratulate the three Executives on the success which marked the entertainment and which establishes it as an important factor in producing a true love for and loyalty to our cherished Alma Mater.

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The average student is without accurate information and intelligent views regarding many of the social movements of our day. Our A.M.S. with more rationally constituted programmes could very profitably combine the discussion of such subjects with literary questions. But at present such matters are almost entirely foreign to the society. The recent visit of General Booth has brought to our immediate notice one of these movements in the form of the Salvation Army scheme for uplifting what their leader has characterized as the "submerged tenth." The associations which have gathered around the Army in our country, its unnecessary display, its excitement, its crude views of the Gospel, and what may be rightly called its religious cant, have prejudiced many against it; to such an extent, indeed, that they will not unbend themselves enough to become informed regarding the most substantial elements and real results of its work.

The critical tendencies of college training, while enabling us to discern the defects of its methods should indicate also its strong points; but exclusive devotion to books and theories, and lack of contact with men of the world is apt to alienate us from the practical measures which are being taken to solve the problems of the day. We believe that it is in such practical measures that the Army is at its best. Thus, the student if fairminded and receptive can, profit much from the freshening influence that is exerted by so practical a leader of men as General Booth. That he is such is well put by a correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* who says, "Tremendous earnestness, the intensity of conviction which is the ground-work of greatness, is the first impression which he leaves, and intense keenness of interest, the result no doubt of his earnestness, backed by intellectual quickness, is the second." His work may not be the outcome of profound thought or wide culture, and because of this may lack permanency, but this "tremendous earnestness and intense keenness of interest" finds its inspiration in what is essentially akin to profound thought and wide culture, that is love for humanity. Accordingly his practical energy devotes itself to the "submerged tenth," those who by their own incapacity and the buffets of circumstance are suffering from starvation, drunkenness, or worse, and those who compose the criminal classes. These are yet an integral part of

society and cannot be provided with moral backbone by a "demoralizing charity," but must be gradually *delivered* by conscious efforts of their own. Work must be found for them and in this way they are to be "saved." The Army has accordingly established "shelters" in large cities and General Booth has under his own supervision the now famous Industrial Colony in the County of Essex, Eng. His faith in his enterprise is evident from the fact that he intends this to be a centre and forwarding depot. To estimate the facilities offered by Canada, for the establishment of one of his colonies is partly the object of his visit, and if he can infuse his followers with his trustworthiness, his concentrated energy and his love for humanity, such an immigration might be a gain to Canada and certainly a gain to a portion of the submerged. We believe that by these practical efforts the Army is giving scope for the realization of the Christ-Spirit among a class heretofore unreached, and in doing so is teaching lessons to the church, the state, and all industrial and labor associations.

LITERATURE.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

IT is fitting that Holmes should die in October when the last leaves fall. There was something about him so spontaneous and his late years suggest Indian summer; the foliage is withered but the warmth of spring is in the air. When a student at College, describing an old man, he wrote:

The mossy marbles rest
On the lips that he has pressed,
In their bloom;
And the names he loved to hear,
Have been carved for many a year,
On the tomb.

And added:

And if I should live to be
The last leaf on the tree,
In the Spring;
Let them smile, as I do now,
At the old forsaken bough,
Where I cling.

He was the last. Of his own family only one daughter survives him, and of that great literary generation all are gone. He died without pain, without loss of consciousness, almost without disease—the breeze shook the sere leaf, it trembled and fell. Next morning many a reader the world over laid down his paper with an unuttered sigh when he read, "The Autocrat of the breakfast table is dead."

Great men best write their own biographies, and we think Holmes, in a tribute to Burns, has made a just estimate of himself.

We love him, not for sweetest song,
Tho' never tone so tender;
We love him, even in his wrong,—
His wasteful self-surrender.