

which the university has adapted itself to altered conditions and has striven to satisfy new demands. Perhaps one of the most gratifying features in the history of the university is its absolute independence of government assistance. It is solely a monument of the munificence and enthusiasm for higher education of the citizens of Montreal. Help from the state would have been welcomed, and was promised when the university "was embarrassed by pecuniary difficulty" and was at the point of extinction; but we question, if relief had come from that quarter, whether the citizens would have rallied around their university with the same spirit and have so thoroughly come to regard it as their own peculiar possession; at any rate, the retrospect would not now be so agreeable, and, annoyed by government interference, McGill would not hold the proud position of absolute freedom and public confidence which she enjoys at the present day. One thing strikes us as being a tower of strength to the university, and that is the Catholic basis, in respect of religion, on which it rests, and its liberal treatment of the students from the affiliated theological colleges who attend its classes. The same generous spirit is also manifested in the arrangement which has recently been made to admit students from the senior class of the normal school to the course in arts. Such enlightened action may be regarded, in relation to the community, as part of the return which is being rendered by the university for the benefactions of which it has been the recipient. We have only been able to indicate some of the points treated of in this admirable lecture, but we would recommend every one who is interested in university education and the true welfare of his country, to procure the lecture and read and study it.

Of course, modesty forbade any but the merest reference to himself and his work in McGill, but everybody knows that the narrative of the forward movement of McGill and its associate institutions is the history of the public labors of Sir William Dawson in Montreal in behalf of higher education.

The *Dalhousie Gazette* presents in its first pages a high class of literary and editorial matter: from that point it declines and ends with an amount of personal matter intended for lightness that has really very little interest even for those more immediately concerned.

Robert Elsmere, the irrepressible, has come to the front again, this time in a contribution to the *Queen's College Journal*, by Principal Grant. We have already praised the *Journal* without stint. The editorial writing is clear and strong, and the questions discussed are those that affect its university. In the last number the relation of the Y.M.C.A. to the college is considered, and a concluding sentence thus affirms: The "Stand aside, for I am holier than thou!" has done no good in the past, and we have very grave doubts of its ever doing any good in the future. But the *Journal* wanders beyond the scope of a college paper, and at times goes the length of crude criticism of second rate musical combinations.

The numbers of the *Tuftonian* are often good, but even when one is commonplace it bears marks of enterprise in collecting college news, and skill in making it readable.

"Put the *Alfred University* on your exchange list." Thanks awfully, Alf., but most of us have a little vanity in our composition, enough, at least, to rebel at seeing an exchange which makes such a polite request crowd *forty* exchanges into a space of *four* inches. Some of our professors write excellent articles, on "Work in Teachers' Classes" for instance, but would your paper lose anything, either of its rank or popularity, by contracting a little there to allow for a more extended view of your exchanges?

Tibi a me, Atlantis, your editors have done their

work well, but one duty remains before laying down the sceptre. An old Scotch woman heard a great gun preach, and gave her opinion by saying "It was a gay fine serr on if only the head and tail were nippt off." "And how much was head and tail?" "A weel, the first half was head and the other tail." With *Atlantis* the case is almost reversed; strike those ugly lines off the head and tail of each page and complete the work. The *Atlantis* surely deserves a circulation wide enough to enable it to relegate its advertisements where they belong.

Last reports from Londonderry are ante-X'mas. Anything wrong with the mailing lists of "O.S.T.?" Our address is, Box 1290, Montreal, where we are always glad to exchange the news of the week.

The *College Student* is an Exchange to which we can generally look with confidence for good matter well written. One feature which deserves commendation is its clear and exact scheme of contents. The January number is excellent. Prof. Gerhard's address, and one or two other articles give weight to a number which is well sustained in its lighter departments also. Our hope of seeing a poetical department has received a death blow in the fall of the "Patent Poet," yet we shall still look for his rising, Phoenix-like, from his ashes, to add a new attraction to his much enduring magazine.

With all due deference to our lady friends of Alma College, we would like to see a stronger college tone in their magazine. The last number of the *Almafilian* has much interesting reading, but too much of it is from pens outside college, and has too little connection with college life. Better less within the pale than more without it. The January number is good, especially some of the unselected matter.

Varsity is well forward in some articles this month. "From my Boarding-house Window" is a clever sketch of harmless student romance. "Henri" is a good writer, and his easy flowing style makes the article pleasant reading. The hazing question, which is engrossing the attention of the college, seems little nearer a satisfactory solution. We look with fellow-interest for every development that may assist in a settlement of the difficulty. Our congratulations are due in reference to the appointment of Dr. Alexander, late of Dalhousie, to the vacant chair in English.

Acadia Athenæum has a thoughtful and well-written exposition of the text "Where there's a will there's a way." Many of its sentences are gems of thought; and the essay exhibits a phrase of writing little affected by contributors to college magazines. It shows the serious, moral turn a student's thoughts may take as distinguished from the lighter and merely literary character of the majority of student articles. The *Athenæum* has no Exchange column. Can this not be remedied? We, who receive the magazine, would like to see who *Acadia's* friends are.

Ye studente breakethe ye maydene's harte;
He laughethe, unaware;
But she, she breakethe hys pocket-booke,
Which maketh matters square.