

or were so equitable that none but the foolish would consider either one worthy a contest. Then, in those days, not the modes but the men, the administrators, must have been in fault. Very likely they were men who made a living out of the government, who, under pretence of promoting the welfare of the country, sought their own interests and the interests of a few friends, whose friendships were exceedingly "profitable," so to speak, who were always trying to replenish the treasury, whether the means employed were justifiable or not. It could not have been otherwise; such a statement as the one with which we opened was never made of times like the present, when all legislators are single-minded, "honorable men," whose administration is in keeping with their character and the precepts of the party to which they belong. Here we pause a moment to remark in this a proof in favor of the much-discussed theory that the world is growing better, that national morality is on the increase, and that the arts and sciences are not alone in their pilgrimage toward perfection. It is not of the men that we can complain, but only the slight extremes to which they sometimes carry their party measures. The party now in power has awakened to the alarming possibility of our markets being overcrowded with foreign wares, so it establishes a system of "Protection," and in raising the tariff guards our home produce and increases the government finances. Of all things a country's manufactures ought to be sustained, no matter at what a sacrifice to the farmers and tradesmen, and the poor,—oh well, the manufacturers will employ as many of them as they can, and doubtless will give in princely style towards the erection of almshouses for the rest. The manufacturers, the pride, the glory of our country, will find at last their proper level, and if the country is already overstocked with their productions they can send their goods abroad, and Canada will win the name and fame of being one of the great manufacturing dominions of the globe. Of course "pride must bear pain," and in order to bring about this consummation, our purses must bear a little pinching; we will, perhaps, be obliged to acknowledge that Dio Lewis is right, that two meals a day are all that are really necessary to health; that cold water is far better for the nerves

than tea, and that sweetmeats, in fact sugar in all forms, is undesirable. Were it a matter of self-sacrifice,

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead"

who would not be willing, nay glad, to lay down life itself on the altar of his country? If then such small self-abnegations as these are for the country's good let us, sustained by the sweet sense of "duty done," meekly bow beneath the "protecting" yoke of the terrible tariff.

OUR last meeting of the Literary Society was unusually interesting. The musical programme and the readings were well rendered. An essay on "The best means of promoting the interests of a society" was read by Miss McCulloch. In speaking of different exercises which might profitably be engaged in, Miss McCulloch suggested "Politics," which she thought ought to receive more attention than the ladies were in the habit of giving. This provoked a lively discussion among the members, some asserting that politics ought to have no part in a Literary Society; others upholding that a great part of the literature of to-day treated of this subject and that we, therefore, should be conversant with this matter. It was finally agreed upon to indulge in this exercise occasionally. A debate in which all the members of the Society participated was another agreeable feature. The subject under discussion was "Whether the influence of the public press on the society of to-day be good or evil." The press was limited to newspapers and periodicals. The contest was carried on in a spirited manner, but at the conclusion a tie was declared by the judges. In a discussion where newspapers are alone considered, the question may be narrowed down to this: Which papers have the widest circulation, those of a moral or immoral character? Noticing the preponderance of the latter and the small amount of attention the reading public pay to the former, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the influence is decidedly for evil.

FOR some time the want of another society has been felt in the College. The members of our Literary Society being students of the third and fourth years necessarily excludes those who are among us for but a