

aminations than a few short weeks. This being the case, why could not these results be incorporated with the results of the final? Every student, and every person who is accustomed to have his scholarship tested by written examinations most thoroughly knows the feeling of insecurity that possesses the mind when the work of several months is made to depend on one short examination of a few hours. In most colleges these examinations are in the spring. The hard work which every student goes through immediately before the examinations weakens him and makes him more than usually susceptible to the colds which our changeable spring weather is only too apt to generate. Too frequently a cause of this nature affects the student's standing. This, of course, cannot be helped in any spring examination, either oral or written, and consequently we think that our proposal should be the more readily accepted. If the sum of the results at the monthly examinations were made equal to the sum of the results at the final, the sum of both being made the maximum, it would not only give good students a fairer opportunity to obtain their correct standard, but would also cause better attendance at the monthlies among those who need it most, though we are glad to say that the monthlies always have been well attended, considering that they have only been competitive examinations.

ONE of the greatest desiderata in our new College buildings is a reading room, in which students may not only read newspapers and periodicals, but also consult books that are too heavy or too valuable to be taken home. In order that the room may be wholly devoted to such uses, it is necessary that there should be in addition a students' room for whistling, chaffing, and such-like laudable occupations sure to be indulged in when and where waiters on classes most

do congregate. Both rooms are provided for in the new buildings, and so all tastes have been consulted. This will be good news for those who have hitherto pursued their investigations into newspaper literature under disadvantages, and for whom anything like study in a room near a great library has been an impossibility. One of the chief charms of life in Ottawa is in the conveniences furnished to students in connection with the magnificent library, so magnificently housed in the most beautiful of the Parliament buildings. It is an unspeakable comfort to have quiet surroundings while studying, and to know that any book you are likely to need is within call. For every one has not the concentration and energy of Hugh Miller, who kept up a fond acquaintance with his favourite authors in his dismal barrack, filled with a rollicking, boisterous squad of masons. Think of him, amid all the discomfort and interruptions of such a place, lying on his back with the book spread out within a few inches of the fire, an odd volume probably picked up from a wandering peddler, and his greatest grief that he was sometimes forced to close the book, when through continued rain the peat became so soaked that it refused to give out any flame. Which of us has to drink of the Pierian Spring under such difficulties! And yet these very difficulties were an important part of Hugh Miller's education. Take comfort in the thought, ye who have sometimes grumbled at the occasional hilarity of fellow-students in the roomy and secluded reading room you now enjoy, and at the same time look forward to the good time coming. Some of us shall have passed away from college life before the session of 1880, when all good things are to be enjoyed. Let our consolation be that we throve on difficulties. After all, the great evil of the present day is that we read too much and think too little. Better one book digested