

doubtless be encouraged. But when students allow the spirit of emulation to approach nearer a feeling of animosity, and carry this disposition beyond the realm of their societies, into social and student life, they are a source of disturbance and breach of college discipline. There is now a tendency for Canadian students to unite with American secret societies. In regard to this we accept the opinions of one of our exchanges. If we must have secret societies, organize them at home, and if advantages accrue from them let us enjoy them here.

We have only to look back a few years to see how the views of educationists have changed on the matter of co-education. Faculties that ten years ago spurned the idea of admitting young ladies to the class-room, much less permit them to take a degree on a common basis with gentlemen, have now thrown open their doors, and co-education is to-day the practice of over half the colleges in the country. We can hardly believe that those who took such a firm stand against co-education have changed their views in so short a time; but public opinion supported by the example of some of the leading institutions has forced them to yield. Looking at the results thus far, at the high standing many of the ladies have taken in American and English colleges, and also to the results which must follow from admitting women to a higher standard of education, it cannot be doubted but that the movement will result in placing all on a higher plane of moral and intellectual attainment. Evidence of confidence in the ability of women has been shown by the London University, which has resolved to admit its female graduates to Convocation. Thus the young women may not only take a degree there, but may take part in government of the University. This is the farthest step towards "equal rights" that has yet been made by any institution of learning, and looks like an action towards female suffrage.

The mind, even in the most desirable cases, is unable to retain all that one reads. And to derive any lasting benefit from a good book, the leading truths must impress themselves upon the memory. Yet how many read vo-

lume after volume, thinking, perhaps, that all contained therein is theirs; but if we stop and think of works we have read three or four years ago, we find that our knowledge of them has vanished. How much that is lost might be restored, or what is indistinct, made clear by the use of note books. We do not mean here a book in which we jot down half of what we read, but of one which shall be as a servant. A book which shall contain only leading principles and facts which, when revived, may suggest their bearings and the connection in which they occurred. A book of this kind is a never-failing friend, not only for reference, but also aids to secure facts which at first reading, the mind did not fully grasp. Too little use is made of note books. Some condemn them as encouraging carelessness by relieving a tax upon the memory of us because looked upon as involving too much trouble. Doubtless the brain is the most reliable memorandum, but it is not every one that retains every thing as it were stereotyped upon the mind. We find that some of the wisest authors have pursued the custom of using note books with admirable results, and perhaps in the greater number of cases their example may be followed successfully.

### *Our Lecture Course.*

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The audience which assembled to hear Mr. Campbell's lecture, entitled: "A Trip to the Stars," was not as large as generally greets our lecturers, owing, probably, to the fact that it had been postponed.

After giving an account of the disputed origin of the science of astronomy, and the different noted astronomers up to Sir Isaac Newton, who by the discovery of the law of gravitation laid the foundation of the science, the lecturer proceeded, as he himself termed it, "in a purely conversational method," to make a general survey of the heavenly bodies, and their relation to the earth. The sun, the planets in their order, the fixed stars, and nebulae were in turn described in regard to their distance from us, their motion and their composition. Many of these descriptions were made much clearer by the use of several diagrams. Those who have studied astronomy