

this opportunity of stating how thankful I have often been for the pleasant way in which you received the reproof which necessarily arises from the position of pupil and teacher, and as I leave you now, I think I can safely say that no teacher ever left pupils who endeavored more than you have to make my oftentimes difficult and and trying position one of ease and comfort. I speak from the heart when I say that it pains me to say, "Farewell," and I cannot do so without thanking you sincerely for the fond and loving wishes you have expressed for my happiness, and although we may never all meet again on earth, let us endeavor so to live that we may be numbered among Christ's jewels when He cometh into His kingdom.

Believe me ever your sincere and loving friend,

M. PATERSON.

W. F. COLLEGE, Nov. 14th, 1879.

THE reports that reach us every week concerning the progress of the Literary Societies are most favorable. Each meeting seems to be an improvement on the last, at least so we would judge from the increasing and almost universally favorable criticisms of the members themselves. When the satisfaction is so general, it cannot be without foundation. Were this general satisfaction the only proof of improvement, we would not be so ready with our commendation, but it is accompanied by general enthusiasm, and as the latter is simply the outward manifestation of energy, we do not hesitate to pronounce the Societies, so far this year, a success, and to congratulate the officers and members. The impromptu speeches, lately introduced, add greatly to the interest and profitableness of the meetings. It is no small test of a student's nerve and intellect to be called upon to deliver a speech at a moment's notice upon some subject furnished on the spot by the programme committee. The surprise of being thus called upon often elicits laughable and original ideas, that had they been pondered over in preparation, or subjected in imagination to the criticism of a possible audience, would never have found the light. The recital of parts of Shakespeare's plays is another admirable feature of the Society gatherings. That, and the establishment of a Question

Drawer, are improvements worthy the name. May the Societies continue on their journey toward perfection, is the sentiment of THE PORTFOLIO on the subject.

SINCE the recent fall of snow, the question has been going the rounds, "When are we going to have the rink again?" The cold spell that visited the city the other week raised the hopes of all the skaters in regard to the nearness of winter, but the mild weather since has dashed those hopes to the ground. The vivid memory of last year's pleasure on our rink is of course at the root of all this anxious expectancy. However, we would not, if we could, hurry on the winter, it will come soon enough, bringing with it skating, Christmas, and — the attendant examinations.

It was very kind of "An old Student" to remember us in "Thoughts about Some Things." While thanking her, we add that we would prefer knowing whom we have to thank, though, if desired, the name need not be published. We now inform our old students that hereafter we cannot notice anonymous contributions.

#### EXCHANGES.

THE exchange column is always an interesting one to students in general, and editors and contributors in particular, and on the supposition that ours would be to others as interesting as those of others have been to us, we regret that we did not commence our column sooner. Last session our exchange list was so small that it was thought not worth while to devote either time or space to it; however, thanks to the kindness of friends, we can this year boast a larger list, and consequently the subjoined infliction.

The first exchange we have the pleasure of bidding welcome is *The Simpsonian*, from