

EXCHANGES.

The *Xavier*, while complimenting us on our prose, finds fault with our poetry. Criticism, unlike charity, does not begin at home else had our esteemed contemporary not passed over halting metre and defective rhymes in "White with the Years of the Altar," before pointing a scornful finger at "De Vita Ottaviensi." The former is a pretentious poem on a lofty theme, but it is marred by such rhymes as "God" and "Lord," "God" and "sword." On the other hand the "De Vita" is of a light, humorous nature and deals with a subject purely local. That which is "meaningless jangle" to the uninitiated may be fraught with musical mirth for those who understand it. The *Xavier* has a large and varied table of contents, the articles most worthy of notice being a sympathetic essay on Father Ryan's poetry, and "Art Notes," neither of them written by students.

Trinity University Review says "De Vita Ottaviensi is good." Truly there is no accounting for tastes! The article on Kingsley's "Water Babies" is an appreciative exposition of the plan of that charming book. We would beg of the *Review* to remember that "fine feathers do not make fine birds," nor would more ambitious apparel make THE OWL essentially better than it is. You yourselves hold no low rank among college journals although your garments are not of the finest texture.

The *University Gazette* is giving publicity to a rather indelicate dispute regarding a Science Fellowship. The issue of March 10th contains an article on "Evangeline" which might be criticised somewhat severely. We thank the exchange editor for his good wishes.

The *Dalhousie Gazette* wishes that our patron goddess may continue to favor us. This journal is criticising the action of the Board of Governors in extending the college session from six months to eight.

The *Varsity* is welcome to our sanctum. We expect to derive much pleasure and information from a perusal of its columns, if it be worthy of the high reputation it has gained among college journals.

The *Catholic Press* of London, England, was established by English Catholics who disapproved of the stand taken by the *Tablet* on certain questions. Of course the latter will continue to live upon its reputation, but it deserves to be supplanted by the *Press* which is a very ably written paper, and "Catholic" before it is "English." Lengthy accounts of foreign missionary work appear in each issue, and the tone of the leading articles is serious and dignified. We are delighted to find our modest performances observed and appreciated at such a distance, and words of encouragement from journals like the *Catholic Press* make us determined to try to deserve them.

The *Canadian Freeman* is one of the briskest and brightest papers in the field of Canadian

Catholic journalism. Its Christmas number was one that any paper might well be proud of, and its regular weekly issues are uniformly excellent. Messrs. Cicolari & Daley have the courage of their convictions, as was proved by their not being daunted by the action of the Orange ruffians who tried to murder William O'Brien.

The *Catholic Record* which is a weekly visitor to our sanctum is becoming more widely and favorably known with every year of its existence. It is an able and fearless champion of Catholic rights.

The newly organized diocese of Wichita, Kansas, has already a diocesan organ, the *Wichita Diocesan News*. This is a neatly gotten up little monthly. The number before us is filled with local and general church news, and short, spicy clever editorials.

ATHLETIC NEWS.

On Thursday, March 1st, the annual winter sports of the A.A. took place. The day was looked forward to with much interest by the members, and we feel convinced that the results of the contests proved highly satisfactory to contestants and spectators. The weather was excellent for outdoor sports, and hence a large number witnessed the snow-shoe and skating races, and the hockey matches. The green race on skates was a laughable exhibition, while much skill was shown in the two mile race, especially by the members of the junior department. The fancy skating also, though not very closely contested, was an exceedingly interesting competition, and would have done credit to professionals. In the gymnasium the contests that excited the keenest interest were the sparring matches, the tug of war, and the Indian club and dumb-bell exercises. In the sparring some clever work was done by the competitors, and the winner of the final round proved himself to be an adept in the manly art. The winning team in the tug of war will soon meet some of the best teams of the city organizations. The storming of the ice palace and a grand hop ended what was a most enjoyable day, and we hope, an annual feature of our cycle of winter sports.

The following is a list of prize winners:—

Swinging Indian clubs, 1st T. F. Black; 2nd C. Gaudet. Dumb-bells, 1st, N. D. Pound; 2nd E. Hedekin. The hockey match was a draw. The handball contest was won by Mr. Masson's team. One hundred yard dash on snow-shoes, 1st, O. Labrecque; 2nd, P. Guillet. Fancy skating, 1st, R. Macauley; 2nd, R. Paradis. One mile race on snow-shoes, 1st, O. Labrecque; 2nd, John Chabot. Skating race, two miles, 1st, J. J. Ryan; 2nd, C. J. Kennedy. Long jump on skates, 1st, J. J. Ryan; 2nd, William Bourgeau. Green race on skates, T. Abele. Sparring—four classes, Messrs. McNally, Clinton, T. Murphy and Panet. Tug of war, Mr. Hedekin's team.