

The Portfolio.

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,	E. J. WHITE.
BUSINESS MANAGER,	M. G. MOORE.
	I. L. FISH.
ASSOCIATE EDITORS,	C. G. MORRIS.
	E. JARVIS.
	M. M. HILL.
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,	E. M. ELLIOTT.

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*We invite contributions and correspondence from the Alumnae and
former students.*

Editorials.

OUR Thanksgiving holiday, so eagerly looked forward to, has come and gone, and we are back to work again, as if no break had been made. In prospect, the time for rest and play seemed long, but happy hours fly swiftly, and these have been no exception to the rule. All that is now left us of these bright days is their memory.

Many of our students took this opportunity to make a flying visit to their homes; but there are those whose homes are at so great a distance as to render this impossible. Of these, some were entertained by friends in the city, of whose kindness they speak in glowing terms. For those who remained in the college, all was done that could be done to make the time pass pleasantly.

There is one feature about these holidays, however, which takes the edge off the pleasure of many. This is the disinclination, shown by many, to put in appearance on the morning of re-opening after any vacation, be it long or short. We have just had a renewed illustration of this fact. There are those, to be sure, who would be here if they could, but owing to the perversity of time-tables and trains, they are

unable to do so. From such we are, in charity, bound to take the will for the deed. But it is to be feared that with the majority of these tardy ones, the habit of returning after all the rest have been at work for several days is becoming second nature. At any rate, they are never here in time to take their places in the class, and the consequence is, that the teachers, always at their posts, are inspired by having to deliver instruction to classes largely composed of vacant chairs, while the students are electrified by having to answer(?) about twice as many questions as usual. We do not know whether there is any cure for such a state of things; if there is, we hope it will be speedily discovered. But we are inclined to fear that as long as this world lasts, or at least, till the Millenium day shall dawn, there will always be found specimens of that remarkable animal, possessed of three hands—a right hand, a left hand, and a little *behindhand*.

ALL acknowledge that things are relatively of greater and less importance, and that the less should be made subservient to the greater. Putting this down as a fundamental principle, the next thing is to decide what is of most consequence under present circumstances. The problem now before our "Societies" is whether "Shopping" or "Literary Pursuits" must occupy the first place, and claim the most attention. Most of the members decide in favor of "Literary," but we notice that the few who do otherwise are generally those whose names occur on the programme.

What does this mean? Of all the hours in the week, are these the only two that can be chosen for shopping? What is to be done? Excuses for buying a yard of frilling have passed into disrepute; indeed, they cannot be obtained, and a "fine" is the only alternative. Something else must be invented.