

readily accessible to all students who can profitably avail themselves of its advantages. The large number of students prevents its being of the free use which we should like to see it put to. The reduction of our numbers is one of the reforms which must be attended to in the near future. The new elevator which Dr. Black is going to give us when he gets rich will also be a great improvement.

Many books which were worn out from constant use were replaced by new copies. Johnstone McKay performed the work of assistant-librarian very satisfactorily last term. Wm. Woodbury is his successor this year.

"In old days books were rare and dear. Our ancestors had a difficulty in procuring them. Our difficulty now is what to select. We must be careful what we read, and not like the sailors of Ulysses, take bags of wind for sacks of treasure—not only lest we should even now fall into the error of the Greeks, and suppose that language and definitions can be instruments of investigation as well as of thought, but lest, as too often happens, we should waste

time over trash. There are many books to which one may apply, in the sarcastic sense, the ambiguous remark said to have been made to an unfortunate author, 'I will lose no time in reading your book.'

It is wonderful indeed how much innocent happiness we thoughtlessly throw away. An Eastern proverb says that calamities sent by heaven may be avoided, but from those we bring on ourselves there is no escape.

Many, I believe, are deterred from attempting what are called stiff books, for fear they should not understand them; but, as Hobbes said there are few who need complain of the narrowness of their minds, if only they would do their best with them.

In reading, however, it is most important to select subjects in which one is interested. I remember, years ago, consulting Mr. Darwin as to the selection of a course of study. He asked me what interested me most, and advised me to choose that subject. This, indeed, applies to the work of life generally."

—Sir John Lubbock, "Choice of Books."



The above is from a pen-and-ink sketch by Laura Evans of Class B, which takes the ANNUAL'S prize this year for this class of Original Work. The other pen-and-ink sketch on page 21 is by Jennie Nisbet of Class C.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**BELINDA.** *Ques.*—Is it usual to eat pie with a fork? *Ans.*—No, pie is much better alone. A fork is apt to cause dyspepsia. In fact only jugglers have been known to masticate such a combination. Pie may be eaten with Worcester Sauce or Tomato Ketchup, but forks are strictly prohibited by medical as well as fashionable authorities.

**SCRIBE.** *Ques.*—How large a margin should be left on a letter to a friend? *Ans.*—About two inches on the right-hand side of the paper should be allowed for writing. To be ultra-fashionable one word on a line is all that is considered necessary. It is quite good form however to fill in the margin with postscripts.

**SWEETEST.** *Ques.* Miss Popinjay arrives late at a literary evening. Should her hostess introduce her to each guest or should her name merely be announced on her entrance? *Ans.*—Her hostess should take Miss Popinjay by the arm, lead her to the middle of the room and say, "Be quiet, please, this is Miss Popinjay. Get her a chair somebody." Upon which all the ladies should fix her with their eye-glasses, while the gentlemen put their hats on and bow—except one or two who will say audibly, "Who on earth is Miss Popinjay," and "Get her a chair, Jones. I 'aint gotter." After which events will proceed in a desirable manner.

**ANXIOUS MOTHER.** *Ques.*—What remedy would you advise for a child with bandy-legs? *Ans.*—Stilt walking is generally prescribed for a case of that kind. The little one is most likely to fall and break one, if not both legs, which can then be straightened without any difficulty.

**SPEECHLESS TOMMY.** *Ques.*—In what way should one take leave of one's hostess? That is to say, how can one express one's appreciation of the evening? *Ans.*—Shake hands with her long and heartily (English pump handle shake). Say, "Awfully glad I came. Elegant turkey! Never had such a supper! Got a piece of pie in my pocket now. Bye-bye."

**DELINQUENT.** *Ques.*—At what hour is it customary to leave a friend's house where one has been spending the evening? *Ans.*—In answering Delinquent's question it depends a great deal upon the friend visited. I should advise however as a general rule staying well on into the next morning for fear of giving the impression that you are not having a good time and are anxious to leave. If your hostess yawns and looks sleepy don't go by any means. She will appreciate your staying all the more under such trying circumstances.

**MARTHA.** *Ques.*—Mamma is going to have me presented to the Queen. Please tell me what is considered the thing on such an occasion? *Ans.* Walk towards her with easy friendliness, revolving three times before reaching her so as to make a