

KEEPING THE HOLIDAYS.

It is the children's time o' year;
 Their faces, radiant with delight,
 Fill e'en the poorest homes with cheer,
 And make the happiest still more bright;
 The gravest eyes put on a smile,
 To watch their pranks and merry ways,
 And mark how glad the world is, while
 With gifts and laughter, songs and plays,
 The children keep the holidays.

But how shall we, whom years have taught
 The bitter truths of toil and care,
 Whose sob'rer grown-up hearts are not
 Like theirs, as light as Summer air,—
 We, who have learned that time beguiles,
 That youth departs, that joy decays,
 That Fortune's frowns outlast her smiles,
 And life deceives and age betrays,
 How shall we keep the holidays?

We cannot dance in cap and bells;
 We cannot blind ourselves to truth—
 For time, the oculist, dispels
 The glamour from the eyes of youth;
 We know life's cheats and mockery,
 And hope's sweet lies and soft delays;
 And ghosts which children do not see
 Sit at our feasts and haunt our ways,
 And help us keep our holidays.

But selfish grief is vain and weak;
 Those souls are ever happiest
 Which, through this devious journey, seek
 Their bliss in making others blest.
 If we but shed one helpful gleam
 Along the world's bewild'ring ways,
 And make one sad life brighter seem,
 More warmly shall our home-fires blaze;
 And happier be our holidays.

Ah! he whose tender thought gives heed
 To poverty and wretchedness,
 Who hears the cry of woe and need,
 The plaint of hunger and distress,—
 Whose heart with pure compassion burns
 For those who walk in thorny ways,
 Who dries the mourner's eyes, and tunes
 The orphan's tears to songs of praise,
 Most fitly keeps the holidays.

QUEVEDO REFINIVS.

Graduates' Column.

A highly successful re-union of the West Kootenay graduates of our old University was held last Christmas at Slocan City, B.C. The celebration took the form of a dinner, held at the Arlington, and was attended by eleven men, as follows:—The Rev. Mr. Cleland, Sandon; the Rev. Mr. Knowles, Slocan City; H. W. Mussen, Science '96, Nelson; Walter Adams, Science '92, Midway; J. M. McGregor, Science '92, R. H. Stewart, Science '96, G. G. Hare, Science '96, Raoul Green, Science '96, and F. A. Wilkin, Science '95, Rossland; J. C. Gwillim, Science '95, and W. S. Johnson, Science '96, Slocan City. Letters regretting their unavoidable absence were read from Messrs. W. A. Carlyle, Victoria, Taylor, of Golden, O. E. S. Whiteside, of Anthracite, N.W.T., and Moffat, of Nelson.

The long and varied toast list began with the Queen, followed by Old McGill Donaldas and absentees. The various districts represented

were heartily toasted and ably responded to as follows: Rossland, by F. A. Wilkin; Sandon and Boundary Creek, by W. C. Adams; Nelson, by H. W. Mussen, and Slocan City, by W. S. Johnson. The enjoyment of the evening was greatly enhanced by the presence and good fellowship of the "Theologs," whose witty speeches and clever recitations received hearty applause. The chair was ably felled by Mr. Gwillim. The banquet hall was tastefully decorated with crimson and white. Some lady friends contributed a beautiful shield from which the three crows smiled benignantly down upon our spread, as they were wont to do in olden times.

Our evening closed with an adjournment to the middle of the street, when the hills of Kootenay were made to ring for the first time, with the classic yell of Old McGill, followed by the Faculty yells of Arts and Science, the natives being greatly edified thereby.