

# LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS.

A weighty authority considers a large Library as the true University. While we cannot regard a large collection of books as a substitute for University training we yet think the presence of the Library a necessary element in the most modest conception of what constitutes a College. Both the Library and Professorate are indispensable for the best kind of work. It is the instructor's office to apply stimulus, to guide effort, to point out fuller sources of information, and to indicate in bold and clear outline the leading features of that division of the realm of knowledge with which he himself has to do—but the fitting up of this scheme, the working out of the details, the storing up of a large body of facts as the ground work of meditation, must be the student's own work, wherein he takes counsel not merely with the wisdom of this or that professor, but the wisdom of scholars every where, not only with the exponents of the most recent views, but also with

"The dead but sceptred Sovereigns, who still rule"  
"Our spirits from their urns."

Now unless men have learnt to think and work for themselves independently, a large part of the benefit of University courses is lost. But that thought may be fruitful, it must lay first a good foundation of facts and information of many kinds. And thus the aid of Libraries and Museums must be mooted.

Undoubtedly one of the reasons why scholarship is so barren in America is the lack of facilities in the way of adequate Laboratories, Museums and Libraries. What hazy conceptions must he have of the art of the ancients who has not visited the museums of London, Paris, Berlin, and Munich, how can any original work be done in Epigraphy, or Antiquities, or Assyriology, or Egyptology by him who has no acquaintance with the sculptures of Rome, Athens, Olympia, Nineveh and Egypt; and who can command the attention of the theological world, on points of Biblical Criticism or Divinity unless he can also command manuscript and authorities such as the Germans have, which give their opinions the weight of first-hand knowledge? We can only regret, we cannot for a moment blame this lack of such appliances. A continent such as ours without as yet a history or a literature of its own, may be pardoned in many directions, if it shows marked inferiority to other and older lands. What magical changes have been seen, what great strides have been taken in the path of progress, since but a comparatively short time ago the first clearing was made in the primeval forest. Side by side with the material progress of the country, the noble elements of life have been eagerly cultivated. In no countries, we may boldly say, has higher as well as common education been so nobly fostered as in Canada and the United States. And this educational development has kept pace with the other interests of the people from the log College to the lordly stone Quadrangle.

Much has been done, but much remains to do. While a strong faculty is the first desideratum in college work, yet Libraries, Museums and Laboratories are likewise desiderata, essential also, but second in time and related to the Professorate as the ear and the full corn in the ear are to the earlier blade.

Where so much has been done with narrow means in so short a time it might well be imagined that the need of money would be felt in many a direction. The Library has been making large additions to its contents, but when one considers the thousands of books added each year to the literature of so many subjects, it may be readily imagined that the most liberal grant on the part of the trustees must fall far short of keeping abreast with the progress of literature in each subject.

So much the more do we feel grateful to those who, recognizing the many needs of the University, out of love

to an institution, which has always and must long depend on the liberality of its friends, to eke out its limited income, have contributed in some marked degree to the increase of our library. Among the gifts of a recent date deserving grateful recognition, that of Mr. Bawden, is worthy of special remark. Mr. Bawden, himself an ardent student of the American Aboriginal Languages, has a library rich in works, dealing with this comparatively unwrought field of philological research. Of the thirty-seven families of Indian speech his gift comprises grammar and dictionaries of more than a third of the number. Among others, he has given to the Library a copy of the Gospel of St. Matthew, in the Shawnee language, a work almost as rare as Eliott's Narragansett Bible which latter is now a sealed book, all representatives of the tribe having passed away.

In Semitic Philology—a department in which a great deal of activity has been manifested of late owing to a renewed interest taken in Bible study and the felt necessity of a more scientific treatment and thorough research into all that throws light on the subject—we find several works of more than ordinary value. Heath's Phœnician inscriptions is especially commendable for the beautiful character of the Phœnician letters. Among the inscriptions of special interest is that of the Moabite stone, and likewise an inscription found in Marseilles in the ruined temple in Baal. In Indo-European Philology—we have besides other works, grammars of the Basque and Celtic languages. The latter Zeuss' great work, to which twenty years of his life was given and which put the grammar of the Celtic languages for the first time on a satisfactory basis, has been subjected in its second edition to a thorough revision by Ebel and is enlarged by the addition of extensive indices by Guterbock and Thurneyssen. It was the recognition of Celtic as the Aryan speech which caused the term Indo-Germanic to be discarded for that of Indo-European or Aryan.

We trust that it may be our pleasant duty to chronicle many such additions to the shelves of the Library of the University.

## ARE THE WATERS OF LAKE ONTARIO WARM?

WHO ever heard of Lake Ontario being a hot lake? If I can show you the lake steaming like a pot of water when it is nearly boiling will you believe then that it is a warm lake? Certainly, answered the unwary student of a temperate clime; show me Lake Ontario steaming in that way and I shall believe that it is a hot lake. The poor fellow no more believed that this could be done than the Indian Prince believed that in other lands than his own, the water sometimes became so hard that people could walk on, or even drive over it. This most interesting phenomenon, of the lake actually hidden from view by thick clouds of steam given off from it, can be seen on dry cold mornings before the lake is frozen over, and yet as you walk along the shore the rocks and stones are beautifully fringed and thickly coated with transparent ice as dry as glass, and the ground on which you tread may be covered with pure white dry snow-dust. I call it so to draw attention to the difference between the snow in the Canadian clime and the damp flaky snow of temperate regions. To return to the lake, what is the cause of all this steaming? Let us measure the temperature of the water and show our student whether it be hot or not this morning. What! almost at the freezing point! A doubly puzzled look passes over the visage of the temperate student. But on directing his attention to the temperature of the air which was that morning about 20 degrees centigrade below the freezing point, our student readily sees that *relatively* to it the water is really warm. It is this