

Contributed.

A PLEA FOR EVOLUTION.

THE Scientific and Biblical worlds of to-day are stirred to their foundations by this much abused, much talked of, but little understood, theory of evolution. All great minds feel constrained to express an opinion, "pro" or "con." "Such unmitigated nonsense some profess to accept, while they reject the cosmogony of the Bible," says one. "Evolution, anti-Bible, anti-science, anti-common sense," says another. Dana, Davison, Bell, Miller, and others, declare against its principles, but respect its advocates. Yet Dana says, "Geology * * may be said to have searched out the mode of development of a world."

As supporters of this doctrine we find a truly formidable phalanx: Hæchel, Huxley and Spencer, accept it in its ultra form; with slight modifications, it is adopted by Darwin, Wallace, Tyndall, Dr. McCosh, Henry Ward Beecher, Chapman, and others.

While our faith is unshaken in the "God of the Bible" yet as an humble, plodding pilgrim towards the Mecca of science, we believe that an hypothesis, supported by such powerful names, and sustained by such convincing arguments, deserves our most earnest attention.

"Infidels have a faith huge enough to swallow all this mass of mystification, but they cannot accept the simple, rational statements of Moses and other Bible writers."

Is this theory so very irrational?

Evolution develops man from a high form of mammalia, Christianity fashions him from the dust. Evolution accounts for the gradual advance of life through geological ages upon scientific principles, Christianity by separate creations. Evolution postulates the existence of inanimate matter from eternity, Christianity that of an omnipotent, omniscient deity.

Evolution, upon strong evidence, claims the truth of "spontaneous generation," and thus explains the existence of life on our planet. Christianity claims a miraculous creation out of nothing, and must follow this wonder by myriads of others. Evolution offers tangible, visible proofs, Christianity requires infinite faith and childish credulity.

It would be worse than foolish to attempt a discussion of any one of the numerous branches of the great tree of Evolution, within the limits of our College paper; but evolution, as a scientific theory, as an honest expression of the opinions of the world's leading scientists, and as a widely accepted doctrine, justly claims from thoughtful minds, something better than ridicule. John Tyndall, a Theistic Evolutionist, has triumphantly disproved the Hæchel-Bastian doctrine of "Abiogenesis."

Why cannot Christian champions arise, leaveth the rude, derisive laugh to those capable of wielding no stronger weapons and fight valiantly for the truth with earnestness and with science?

A. R. C.

College Societies.

A. L. I.

There was a good muster of No. 6 Company on February 25th, when the men assembled with their lady friends to enjoy the unbounded hospitality of their esteemed captain. An hour or more was spent in the exchange of social greetings, when the door was opened to the dining room, and command given, "fall in;" there was found "enough for each, enough for all, and enough for many more." Vocal and instrumental music, recitations, charades and various other games occupied the time until long after the light had been extinguished in the old town clock. The party separated singing, "For he's a jolly good fellow," and all went home more than pleased with the night's enjoyment. We hope that we may some time be able to reciprocate the kindness of Capt. and Mrs. Walmsley.

Corp. Donoghue has been appointed Sergeant, in the place of Sergeant Austin, who has withdrawn, and Pre. Metzler has been appointed Corporal in the place of Corporal Donoghue.

We are glad to announce that Capt. Walmsley was successful at the recent Military Examinations, and that he is now a properly qualified officer.

"Is thy servant a dog?" quoth an indignant Soph, when his landlord dished him out a huge bone for his dinner.—*Queen's College Journal*.

A young man who keeps a collection of locks of hair of his lady friends, calls them his hair-breath escapes.

There is no more sure sign of a shallow mind than the habit of seeing always the ludicrous side of things; for the ludicrous, as Aristotle remarks, is always on the surface.—*Blackie*.