

chronic, so that it is quite impossible to leave over-shoes, rubbers, etc., in the cloak-rooms without the strong probability of finding that they have disappeared on return from lecture.

This state of affairs might be attributed by a phil-anthropist to the prevalence of "Partial Moral Mania," expressing itself in this particular form, but we are quite sure that the Professor of Jurisprudence would put a different interpretation on the facts, especially when he finds some of his most valuable specimens missing after a Histological demonstration.

It is to be hoped that the publicity thus given to an unpleasant subject will prove a warning to the "light fingered gentry," and that any one detected at this disgraceful practice will be severely dealt with by the proper authorities. This more especially when the University is, or at least announces itself, irresponsible for property entrusted to its care by the students, and which it is morally bound to protect.

#### COLLEGE MUSIC.

One of the best methods of fostering the *esprit de corps* in a college, and of making the students feel that they are all children of the one *Alma Mater*, is the cultivation of music, especially of college songs. Among the distinctive features of a University life, next in rank to the unity in pursuit of knowledge, are, or should be, its college songs. They separate the student from the *profanum vulgus*, and make him feel that he is one with his fellows. When others sing the college choruses as they walk the street in groups they are mistaken for students, and for this reason the college song is recognized as belonging exclusively to the student, and forming a distinctive mark of his character. College songs, therefore, should, as much as possible, be cultivated. McGill, for years, has neglected her duty in this respect; the singing of college choruses and music of all kinds has declined, until scarcely a note is heard in hall or classroom from one week's end to another.

The execution—murder it should rather be called—of songs on Convocation Day are often a slander on the musical talent of the University. Scarcely a song is heard from the students while awaiting the arrival of a delinquent professor; it is with difficulty that a singer can be induced to render a piece at the "Literary;" and in public assemblies at which the students attend in a body, the songs, instead of being looked forward to as a feature of the evening, are looked down upon as worthy only of contempt. Reference is here made more particularly to the

faculties of Arts and Science. In Medicine, a good quartette club has existed, and singing is made a more prominent feature of hall and class-room life.

Last year an attempt was made to revive the dead soul of music by the introduction of instrumental music into the programmes of the Literary Society, and a piano was secured for the purpose. But players were lacking, in willingness if not in ability, and the attempt was almost a failure. Still, it showed that a desire for a better order of things existed, and argued hope for the future. This year a more vigorous effort is being made to have the college songs popularized, and to make music a more prominent feature of college life.

The musical spirits of the Donalda Department who have taken the initiative by the formation of a glee club, have been followed up within the last few weeks by the organization, on a more extensive scale, of a similar club among the gentlemen. The idea was conceived among the Sophomores, and the club is, as yet, confined to the Second Year. Twenty-three members have already enrolled themselves as members, and work is going on vigorously. A piano has been procured and weekly practices instituted. Both these clubs are a movement in the right direction, and we wish them the best success.

Music is always good, and, within certain limits, the more the better. If the other years in Arts follow up the scheme which the ladies have inaugurated, and organize glee clubs of their own, McGill and her songs will take the rank which is expected of them, and to which they are entitled, by the real talent which they possess.

#### Contributions.

##### SOME COLLEGE CUSTOMS.

In my reading a few days ago I came across a set of rules for the regulation of Freshmen in Harvard University, which are interesting for comparison with the customs in vogue at the present day, when the latitude granted to the "youngest skirmishers" is almost equal to that enjoyed by the "scarred veterans of the fourth year." In these days of unmitigated freedom the Freshman is liable to fall into the delusion that, if not really a senior himself, he is, at least, in every way equal to one. A profitable hour may be spent in drawing a parallel between the good old times of Harvard and these degenerate days, and the Freshie will doubtless thank his stars that his lines have fallen in such pleasant places. An account of these customs is given in President Quincy's History of Harvard, Vol. II, p. 539. It is entitled

"THE ANCIENT CUSTOMS OF HARVARD."

"No Freshman shall wear his hat in the College