

THE HUM OF THE COLLEGE.

VOL. I. Published fortnightly by the Mt. Allison Ladies' College Rhetoric Class.

No. 5.

CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

RHETORIC CLASS OF '94.

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CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.

As the Christmas season draws near the mind naturally turns to its festivities. In modern times the Christmas tree, laden with its numerous presents, is eagerly looked forward to. The old Saxons used to burn the yule log, which was always brought in with great ceremony on Christmas eve, the Teutons used to roast their large boar, and other nations also had their various customs.

But probably when preparing for their holidays few persons give much thought to the preparations that took place before the first Christmas, and the various events that attended it. Think of the difficulties the three Wise Men of the East overcame in order to go to Bethlehem to worship the Saviour of the World. And remember the results in consequence of that Christmas. First, the terrible persecutions and wars, and then the final acceptance of Christianity, till now it is the prevailing religion. And it is asserted that those nations which have accepted this religion have advanced the most in civilization and culture. It was by the softening influence of Christianity that woman was elevated to her true sphere and was enabled to take the position which she has in the world to-day. People may not think that Christianity has had much to do with the progress of society, but look at the other religions and compare what they have done. Many men have sprung up and tried to influence the people by calling themselves Christs, but they did not accomplish much and their birthdays are not even remembered.

•Christmas is always made pleasant to children by the visit of St. Nicholas, and they look forward to Christmas as the time at which he comes, but we think they should be reminded, too, of the reason for which the holiday is kept.

We do not intend to convey the thought that we think the Christmas season should be only a solemn one, for we think it should be the brightest and most joyous of the whole year, and as it only comes once a year, we should try to make it as pleasant as we can for every one. Of course the girls don't have much chance to do this while at school, but when they go home for their Christmas holidays they can surely find some poor person or family to whom they can carry good cheer. There seems, too, to be a peaceful, happy feeling in the air which makes every one wish well to all men, and echo the song of the angels on that memorable night, "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The outside of the Art Building is finished excepting the terra-cotta trimmings, which are to come later. The inside of the building, however, is not so nearly completed. The walls have only received their first coat of plaster. Some of the heavy staging is still standing, and there are no doors. We hope the building will soon be finished and the staging cleared away so we can admire it inside as well as outside.

We hear that there is talk of building a new Post Office in Sackville. Although we are not allowed to cross the threshold of the present one, we always take an interest in what will benefit Sackville; and a new Post Office certainly will. Surely the present structure has served its day and generation. By the look of it, it must have been built in the day of log cabins. If they are to keep as well up to date as some of Sackville's new stores, they will have to make it very large.

When word came that the Mt. Allison foot-ball team had been defeated, and Mr. Butler hurt, every one was indignant. Of course we like to see our team come out ahead, but we do not like to see our players mangled as if they had just come off a battle field. Foot-ball may once have been a harmless game and we hope it will be made so again if our boys are to play it. Meanwhile we offer our heartiest sympathies to Mr. Butler and hope his ankle will soon be better.

The question has often come up among the members of the Rhetoric Class as to whether reading or travelling is the better means of education. In one number of "The Hum of the College," a debate was written on this. We, in our capacity of editor, might be allowed to advise on this subject. If we went to Rome to learn about the Colosseum, we might find out what the ruins look like, but we would not know much about its history. Even to go to the Lanl of Evangeline, we would not see very much, except a tract of rich meadow land, if we did not know the story of Evangeline. In these