

of the highland Scott. Whilst from cragged heights the Swiss hurls a rocky welcome upon the invaders of his mountain home or with the unerring shaft of Tell drives fleet death into the hated breast of Tyranny.

What power has coloured thought and its expression with such variety in different lands? Behold our Saxon forefathers fiercely fighting in the snows and mires of a foggy land, or seeking shelter in miserable huts from falling clouds and a storm-rent sky! His thoughts are gloomy as the sombre heavens above him; his love passionless as the cold and ever-present fog. For him life is a stern reality, whilst poetic dreaming haunts him not, for what inspiration is there in a muddy earth and a murky sky? The garb that clothes it is even as the thought, and plain use only, not beauty, not ornament in its design. For more pleasing thoughts decked in the livelier colours of holiday dress seek you the clear blue sky of sunny Italy. There the elements are at peace, whilst beauty reigns from the vine-clad hills beneath to the clear, calm heaven above; there smiles passionate love, whilst the delighting and fanciful visions of the dreamy Muses are skilfully painted in words. Closely allied with these results is another evidence of climatic influence, the sound of words. Italian words are soft and mellifluous, whilst those of the German are harsh and guttural, the result of an unfavourable atmosphere aided by attempts at vocal protection.

The Evil Spirit, the Satan of many religions owes his existence to that extreme of climate from which its worshippers suffer. The Scandinavian in his struggle of life finds light and heat his friends, whilst darkness and cold are the powers which make the struggle bitter, hence Jotun, the Ice-giant, is the devil feared in Scandinavia. But from another extreme suffers the Egyptian, 'tis the intense and burning heat of summer that he dreads, so heat is his devil, and his name, Typhon. The different degrees with which worshippers enter into the spirit of their religion varies according to climate from hot fanaticism to cold ritualism.

"The whole earth is my domain," says man, "and affected neither in body nor in mind, I lord it equally in zones, hot, temperate, and cold." Behold him in his domain! We have already seen that for man's benefit too prodigal is nature of her gifts in the Torrid

clime, for bred in the midst of this abundance labour to him seems as useless as it is distasteful. Enervated by tropic heat and enfeebled by inactivity, this boastful ruler of the universe is enslaved by his own passionate nature, and becomes once more the animal man.

In the dreary frozen regions man is ever at war, fighting with grudging nature in a desperate struggle for life. If by arduous toil and consuming privation he happily is successful and wrests from her the support of his miserable existence, a sad and pitiful victor is he. His highest, his one great needful aim, is to feed his hunger-wasted body, and if perchance he succeeds, when has he time for thought or leisure for mental culture? So he too drifts into the animal man.

Happy is he that dwells in the golden mean, for here is nature neither prodigal nor miserly, but inviting man to moderate and needful exertion by a sufficiently bountiful recompense. No perpetual winter, no eternal summer to kill the soul, for the change of a temperate clime destroys this weakening monotony and invigorates man with the strengthening elixir of life. Moderate toil gives leisure and a bracing atmosphere, desire for mental improvement, hence here it is that man has reached the highest development of his powers yet attained by his race. And here may we hope that still higher in development he may attain, ever approaching in form and spirit the perfection of the Eternal.

SENIOR THESES.

The programme for the delivery of the Senior Theses in the College Chapel for four consecutive Fridays during the month of February was this year as follows:—

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| C. R. Minard. | Is wealth possible for all? |
| F. M. Shaw. | The Future of South America. |
| W. B. Wallace. | Giordano Bruno and His Times. |
| H. F. Waring. | Prince Metternich. |
| C. M. Woodworth. | The Sun in Modern Physics. |
| J. E. Eaton. | Mahommedanism Past and Present. |
| L. F. Eaton. | Louis Agassiz. |
| F. S. Messenger. | The Newspaper as an Educator. |
| J. B. Pascoe. | The Place of Music in a System of Education. |