

relative advantages and disadvantages of universities, for all have both, is a question of public interest, and we think we are not wrong in using the columns of the JOURNAL to expose a long existing error, and to congratulate the *Mail* on the more liberal spirit which prompted these words:—"The weak and paltry years of jealousy are past; now is the season for mutual help, sympathy and good-fellowship."

WE believe we are giving voice to the wishes of all the students when we bring up again the matter of our weekly holiday. The JOURNAL, in its first number of this session, mentioned in connection with this fact, that at Cornell, this day had been changed from Saturday to Monday. To receive the full benefit of the collegiate course and also to keep the work well in hand for the exams, so as to obviate cramming as much as possible, it is necessary that one day in the week should be given to reviewing. It is also quite as necessary that another should be given to mental rest. This being the case, it will be quite plain to every one, that if the greatest good is to be obtained from these reviews, they should come after the day given to rest, when the mind will be fresh and vigorous and better able to do justice, both to the subjects on hand and to itself. If the holiday is on Saturday, the brains of the students are in a state of mental exhaustion and they do not feel equal to the necessary grind. The natural result is, that the day is taken for recreation, leaving barely enough time, at the last moment on Saturday night, to get up the class work for Monday, or perhaps it is not done at all, let alone any review work. Or what is still worse, the whole thing is left over until Sunday, a course practiced by many. Now, if Monday were the holiday, both days would be put to their legitimate uses and the result, as no one will deny, would be very beneficial. Not only this, but we think, indeed, we feel sure, that

if this change were effected, the Saturday night meetings of the Alma Mater Society, would be much better attended, for reasons that can be gathered from the foregoing remarks. If this alone were the only gain, it would be amply sufficient, as a reason for the change, for it is acknowledged by all, that the culture obtained from a participation in the debates of this society, is nearly as necessary for the proper development of the mind, as the discipline of the collegiate course itself.

We therefore strongly recommend to the Senate this change. It is merely the change of an established holiday from one day to another, which, to say the least of it, can make no difference in the college routine, while much can be said in its favour, besides what we have said. It would aid a weekly systematic review, the attendance on the Alma Mater Society and would, in a great measure, put away the temptation to desecrate the Sabbath. On the other hand, nothing, we think, can be said against it, more than it is the breaking of an old custom. We again urge the change. Give it, at least, a trial.

HONOR CONFERRED ON OUR CHANCELLOR.

THE greatest honour that a city in Great Britain can confer upon anyone is to enroll him on its list of burgesses; and inasmuch as it is still true that the prophet is usually without honour in his own city, the distinction is felt to be all the greater when it is bestowed upon a townsman. His native town of Kirkcaldy, in "the Kingdom of Fife," has conferred this unwonted honour on our highly esteemed Chancellor, and has done it with a heartiness that makes it doubly valuable and agreeable. The "lang toon" of Kirkcaldy has a history that goes back to the days of St. Columba. It was one of the centres of the Culdees, thirteen centuries ago. Its present Parish Church has withstood the blasts of the German Ocean for six hundred years. Last Century the town gave Adam Smith to the world. And in our own Century, at one and the same time, it had as schoolmasters Edward Irving and Thomas Carlyle. Now, it is becoming an industrial centre, and boasts its great manufactories and thousands of skilled mechanics, and mechanical engineers. Kirkcaldy, too, has been chary of its civic honours. In 1843.