

AVAUNT! Soon our exchange pen will be dipped into spring examination ink. Many college papers are speaking much of the impending ordeal and discussing preparation for, and the conduct of them. No one much disputes the necessity for them—as things are now, but they are generally voted far from an unmixed good. As long as the majority of students are not students spontaneously and are unpossessed of intellectual enthusiasm, we suppose this ghostly horror will continue to disturb the spring slumbers of college men. The millennial cock-crowing alone will drive it to its shades. It is pretty well agreed that the examination of to-day degrades the motive of the student. We all know it to be the mother of the despicable triplets—cram, grind and plug. It occasions a feverish and unhealthful industry, and when over, leaves a lassitude and disgust if met unsuccessfully, and self-gratulation of doubtful justness if passed. The meritorious often fail, while the undeserving crammer sails serenely on. Rigorous class-marking and careful observation of the student as a man, is followed in some schools—and is an important and welcome qualitative. Without discussing more the pros and contras of this question we must take up our ever faithful Kelly for the evening.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CHANCELLOR.—Professor Jones, of Acadia University, in the February number of the *Athenaeum*, pays a very handsome tribute to the Chancellor of McMaster University. We do not remember to have seen anything in biography at once so delicate, sincere and meaningful. In the course of a very beautiful introduction he says: "It is when wandering on the margin of the lake, or in floating on its surface that you catch something of the life and energy of nature, something of the charm and beauty and mystery of her inimitable pencil. So with a great and good man. It is needful to enter into communion with him, and to be encompassed with the aroma of his life. It is only then that there is any uplifting of the veil which hides the springs of his thought and life." Again he writes: "Prepare ye the way and give the toiler his wages. He enters into his vineyards, and while his own hand has not lost its cunning, directs the work. He is the skilled laborer in the great field of Christian education." Speaking of their college days passed together, Professor Jones says: "The child was father to the man. When a college boy, he had a large acquaintance with literature. With the instinct of a bee for honey, he would light upon the most admirable passages. He was conversant with Longfellow, Byron, Emerson and Shelley. Tennyson was perhaps his favorite author. His wide acquaintance with literature enabled him to wield a facile pen. Dr. Rand drew from sources which the curriculum did not supply, thus broadening his views and sharpening his faculties for the prolonged conflicts of his vocation. He has worked steadily, persistently and lovingly to snap the bonds of mental thralldom to this one all-absorbing purpose—and he met with it whithersoever he turned—and only seemed to open new sources of strength. He had faith in his work, and in the fulness of that faith carried his plans to a successful issue."