

therefrom a few select volumes. If this was the *utinan* of a wise head at that time, it would be hard to find words to express the desirability of such a conflagration at this, the close of the nineteenth century, when we sometimes feel ourselves lost in the world of books. But since this wholesale burning of "chaff" is not likely to be witnessed, the next best thing is for readers to choose the most excellent "wheat" of the "wheat," and treat all else as though absolutely destroyed.

BUILD ON ALL SIDES.

A young man at college, greatly pressed with lessons and class ambitions, writes for advice. He has fallen out from many of the religious habits which once held him. He does not attend the Bible class nor the prayer-meeting. He has excused himself hitherto on the ground of mental culture. But the question begins to disturb him, whether he will be able to take up his higher religious life when that far-off day of leisure comes. The honest reply to this young man would be a warning note to hundreds who are in the same temptation. Nothing is surer than that such a remission of religious duty must bring enormous danger. It will not do to build up three sides of a tower and leave the fourth unbuilt. The walls of character and culture must go up evenly. The spirit-level must be often laid upon the work. And this is only stating it feebly. The truth is that the department of conscience and of spiritual living is fundamental. It lies below the rest. If life is to have a symmetry or a safety to satisfy any Christian's ambition, the entire mason-work must go up together. It is most deplorable to see what fatal blunders are being made in our colleges and schools. Young men are going aside from the warm room of religious culture into the chilled out-door atmosphere of intellectualism. They do not see the peril they are in. It is vastly plausible to accept for a time the omission of religious duty for the sake of more study, more experiments, more scientific excursions. But society is

full of young men who have tried this experiment, and who now stand as warning examples of frozen spiritual life. Little by little they have let the chill creep over them until they were past consciousness of their peril. Parents do not see this mischief until it is too late to remedy it. Professors and teachers often think their line of duty is aside from matters of this sort. And yet how few words and how little thinking would be needed to prove that we are doing a poor business in education to bring out active and cultured minds coupled with dead or half-dead religious convictions. It is appalling to run over the catalogues and see the names of youth who came from homes of ancestral faith, but have gone out into the world saturated with the world's spirit and dead to the highest aims of godly living. This kind of life-building is going on all the time. It is accepted under the pressure of lessons and scholarly ambitions. But many, many a parent has welcomed a son home from college and has soon discovered at what a fearful cost education has been won. That parent has seen that the structure of life has been built only on one side, and that the very foundations of spiritual culture were wanting. And their bitter tears have been shed, when it was all too late, at the sight of moral and religious character tumbling in ruins because it was not built on all sides.—
Presbyterian.

Literary Notes.

Carlyle expects to complete his autobiography during the coming summer.

Oxford is to have a professorship of Archæology.

Joseph Cook has ceased the delivery of his Monday lectures, and intends going to Europe.

J. R. Green purposes writing a history that shall connect Freeman's Norman Conquest with Froude's history of the Tudors.

The California Legislature has made vocal music a compulsory branch in all the schools of the State.

Russia has now eight universities, that of St.