

Exchanges.

In looking over the improvements, which have taken place in the literary world of the Canadian Universities this year, we are pleased to see that the *McMaster University Monthly* has assumed a share in the advance. The number at hand is well gotten up. The subjects of its articles are interesting and the treatment of them is good. We notice in the number a poem, entitled "Christmas Morn," by Miss Blanche Bishop, B. A. Acadia '86. The "students' quarter" of the *Monthly* is especially well conducted and contains an interesting record of the work going on in the different departments of the University.

The *Queen's College Journal*, a sprightly weekly, comes a welcome visitor to our table. In it is given a good account of the weekly life at Queens. "De Nobis" and "College News" are brisk and enjoyable. The literary notes of the *Journal* are brief but to the point.

The *Varsity* continues to maintain its high degree of excellence. In the "Editorial Comments," of the issue of January 12, some sound advice is given to writers in general, and to writers for college papers in particular. Among other things is found the following, "Let us be plain. No high-flown, classical-sounding words and phrases, but good 'every-day' English, which will beget a truer response from the heart of the student, a firmer belief in the truth of your statements regarding the scheme or reform you are advocating, a greater sympathy on your behalf than any long-worded, heaven-piercing dissertation which the ordinary reader has to puzzle his brains to understand." This touches a point on which young writers are frequently at fault. In writing for college papers the aim should not be to display our knowledge of language, but to express our thoughts in a clear and forcible manner.

Among others we have received the Christmas numbers of the *Owl*, the *College Times* and the *Argosy*.

Our Societies.

MISSIONARY.—The monthly missionary meeting on Sunday, 17th January, was well attended. The choir rendered very appropriate selections, and three excellent papers were presented.

Miss Cunningham's essay on "Livingstone and African Missions" was carefully prepared. In the face of difficulties, Livingstone laboured for the uplifting of mankind and left a beneficial impression on all who came in contact with him. He loved mankind and had steadfast faith in the God of Missions.

The China Inland Mission was the subject of a paper by Mr. A. M. Wilson. The incipency and growth of a Mission started by Rev. Hudson Taylor was shown to be doing effective work among all classes, by men and women who are willing to work without any promise of reward. This Mission is supported wholly by prayer.

Prof. Tufts in his paper treated the past, present and future of China. The nation, hoary with antiquity, has much to be proud of. She has constructed many works of art of gigantic proportions. The conservative spirit and aversion to everything Western, produced an isolation which hindered national development. The opium war and decline of exports taught China that there was much to be learned from Western life. The internal changes, such as decline in the ancient belief, has further influenced that nation which is now, in the morning of a new life, arousing herself from the slumber of centuries.

The following officers have been elected for the ensuing term: J. B. Ganong, '92, President; H. H. Saunders, '93, Vice-do; A. Murray, '93, Treasurer; B. S. Bishop, '94, Recording Secretary. Executive Committee: O. N. Chipman, Miss Healey, J. West.

PROPYLÆUM.—The Propylæum Society continues to meet regularly, and is increasing in interest. The line of work followed exerts a wholesome influence on the members. Of late much attention has been given to the study of living authors, particularly those of Canada. This society will probably become a great educative factor among the young ladies of Acadia.

The newly elected officers are as follows: President, Miss Annie McLean; Vice-President, Miss Archibald; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Parker; Executive Committee, Misses McLean, Blackadar and Power.