

ment, there comes the essence of Divine Love as expressed in God's greatest gift to mankind. The memory of Christ's advent inspires with hope, that soothing balm for wounded spirits: our faith in the Divine is sensibly increased and even in the face of all life's obstacles our hearts may be firm and we need fear no evil, for in the words of Mulock we can say,

"God rest ye, little children: but nothing you affright,
For Jesus Christ, your Saviour, was born this happy night:
Along the hills of Galilee the white flocks sleeping lay,
When Christ, the Child of Nazareth was born on Christmas day."

M. R. F. '99

Intercollegiate Debating.

When a man enters college for the first time, "as yet a vague capability of a man," he has generally come with the idea that all that is required of him is to make himself acquainted with certain subjects laid down in the College Calendar; and in the accomplishment of this end he expects the assistance of a certain body of very learned men whose names are inscribed on one of the early pages of the aforesaid Calendar. But he who confines himself merely to mastering the studies of the curriculum fails to appropriate a very large part of the training which a college course supplies. Without enlarging on the many educational advantages, apart from the course of study, that exist in connection with an institution of learning, it will be sufficient for the purpose of this article, to mention the Debating Society only. It matters not what profession a man intends to adopt, it will always be to him a source of satisfaction to be able to express himself in public in a clear and logical manner. And this is expected, even required of every college graduate. The questions before our debating clubs to-day are not those of old. More than one of our prominent public speakers can remember when in the little country school house, as a mere boy, he stood up for the first time with fear and great trembling to deliver his unanswerable arguments on the momentous question, "Which gains the more knowledge, the Reader or the Traveller?" Of such a nature were the questions that even college men debated at that time. But these days have passed away, and now only live and practical questions of public interest are discussed by our colleges. And in order to equip himself for the debate a man is obliged to read everything bearing on the subject. Library and Reading Room are looted of their treasures; and so it happens that a defect in our college curriculums is to a great extent remedied—a man is compelled to acquaint himself with the great questions of the day.

During late years Debating has been accorded a prominent place by the various colleges, and Harvard and Cornell have even made