His reading and everything about him is wide, and he spares no pains to proclaim this laudable fact. He seems to labour under the impression that the value of an article depends on the amount of knowledge displayed in it, and he has made his as valuable as possible. His wit is shown in fourteen puns, his learning in sixteen French and Latin phrases, and his multifarious learning in thirty-two quotations, ranging from Shakespeare to Pinafore. In fact to judge from the disjointed condition of the article and the lack of relevancy in many of the quotations and witticisms, one would suppose that the article had been written for the sake of the quotations and puns instead of their being introduced to illustrate what he had to say.

And yet the writer displays many excellent qualities. He has great industry and considerable research. The collection of nick names and noms de plume that he offers us is interesting and highly curious. His abilities as a compiler are evidently great, and if only turned in the right direction, as for instance, to the work of a lexicographer, would, no doubt, give valuable results. And on this very account it is especially to be regretted that so much industry has been wasted in the collecting and rehashing of stale jokes. It is really heart-rendering to see these old, things revived that we had flattered ourselves were forever consigned to the oblivion they deserve. When in reading the White and Blue one meets with extracts from Pinafore and jokes about a man's cranium 'emerging through the hair, he is irresistibly reminded of Falstaff's description of Justice Shallow's youthful days when he too was 'flourishing and jolly, and naughty and nice. 'He came ever in the rearward of fashion and sung those tunes to the over-scutched huswives that he heard the carmen whistle and sware they were his fancies.'

Many, no doubt, would consider his disjointed style as a blemish, for although a marvel of mosaic it certainly is not in the manner of the best English prose writers. As an assistance towards eliminating this defect, we would suggest a carefnl study of the prose writings of Mr. Matthew Arnold. And, indeed, he could get many valuable hints from Abbott and Seeley's remarks on patchwork, which he will find on page 106 of their little took entitled 'English lessons for English people.' In fact, he seems entirely unable to distinguish between a style suitable to conversation and one suitable to the White and Blue. This is particularly noticeable in his puns, many of which would be passable and some even good if 'secreted' impromptu in ordinary conversation. But when given us in print as finished jokes, they are to say the least a failure, Here is one taken at random. It may not be known to our classical tutor that an Imperious Caesar lives amongst us, yet such is the bail-ful fact. Is the sheriff aught else ?' We have heard worse puns than this,-but not much worse. There is nothing so pitiful as to see a man trying to be funny.

But the most objectionable feature of all is his intense personality. He is continually obtruding himself and his friends, and appears to think that we are all acquainted with their nick names, their peculiarities and their little jokes, and can recognize them by the most obscure allusion. In fart,
he and his friends are like the nobility, known by all men. Of course we ordinary mortals have an intense curiosity to learn something of the doings of these great men. And from sheer kindness of heart our author condescends to give us a few episodes from their lives. He tells us that 'Our Alfred still frequents Coleman's, that 'Our Willie,' ' Our John' and 'A. B.' are lately married, that 'W. N.' still thinks life worth living, and has only once disgraced himself. Apparently we owe this last very interesting bit of information less to the writer's good nature than to the fact that it affords him an opportunity of getting off one of his wretched Pinafore jokes: ' what never ! well, only once. Even Justice Shallow would have blushed at this. And to conclude, although this most extraordinary writer signs himself $P$, he gives us many clues to his personality. Apparently thinking, it is worth one while to puzzle a little over the author of so good a thing-yet, all the time intending that our trouble shall not be in vain, for when he has immortalized his friends why should he not do as much for himself? Consequently he lets us catch frequent glimpses of his real person, as honest Bottom says, ' Nay, and half his face must be seen through the lion's neck.' He tells us that he graduated lately, that he studied at Upper Canada College : by his phraseology, points out law as his profession ; by his quotations and French phrases, hints at modern languages as his honor department, and besides gives us the nick names of his personal friends. In fact, it is as though he should say ' I Pyramus ain not Pyramus, but Bottom the Weaver.'
B.B.

To the Editor.-It would be a pity, I think, to have so young a periodical as your paper committed to such a degrading heresy as materialism. I therefore beg to call your attention to the doctrine implicitly held by the writer of a recent ambitious production on nick names (whoought to have known better than to use bons hommes as he did), and creeping out in the expression 'intellectual secretions. This, of course, is rank Cabanism, and the public ought not to be permitted to imagine that it is taught in University College.

Francais.

## THE COLLEGE WORLD.

Yale and Columbia have bycycle clubs.
Op the three thousand seven hundred professors employed in the United States, 1,200 are from Wesleyan university, Conn.

The university of Michigan has placed journalism among its subjects of instruction, and lectures in that profession will shortly be instituted at Ann Arbor by Prof. Tyler.
Queen's College has sustained a vere loss in the death of Professor McKeris He will be especially missed by the students, in whose interests and organizations he always took great interest.

The prospect of several games of Rugby next spring is good. Racine and Toronto both expect return matches. Of these the former will probably take place on our own campus as the association has no more money to spend on games in Detroit. Besides these an effort will be made to secure a trial with Cornell. Princeton and Yale have indirectly expressed their willingness to meet us at Buffalo, but they never practice in the spring hence we cannot hope to try them until next fall. Chronicle (Ann Arbor)

In respect to throwing the ball, eight colleges have made the following records in feet and inches ; Trinity, 360 ; Bowdoin, 332.3 : Yale, $326.7 \frac{1}{1}$ : Michigan University, 324.10; Dartmouth, 318.11, Marietta, 315 ; Virginia. 313.11 ; Syracuse, 300.
The Cornell University farm, including campus, consists of 264 acres ; the total endowment fund is 81,263.999; salaries of 54 instructors (to all ranks) amount to $\$ 73,283$; annual expenditures, about 8110,000 : number of graduates, 621 ; of undergraduates, 435 .
There are 425 colleges in the United States, or one to every 100,000 inhabitants. New York has one to 320,000: Massachusetts one to 230,000|: Connecticut one to 200,000 ; Rhode Island one to 160,000: Pennsylvania one to 135,000 ; Illinois one to 100,000; Tennessee one to 95,000 ; Maryland and Missourione to 90,000 ; Ohio one to 80,000 ; lowa one to 70,000 .

I know I'm losing ground, sir; tearfully murmured the pale-faced freshman, 'but it is not my fault, sir. If I were to study on Sunday, as the others do, I could keep up with my class, sirindeed, I could; but I promised mother ne-ne-never to work on the Sabbath, and I can't sir, ne-never,' and as his emotions overpowered him, he pulled out his handkerchief with such vigor that he brought out with it a small flask, three faro chips and a euchre deck, and somehow or other the professor took no more stock in that freshman's eloquence than if he had been a graven image.-Acta Columbiana.

The pertinacity with which an erroneous paragraph connected with some well-known name will continue to float in the newspapers, in spite of all contradictions and denials, has long been remarked upon as one of the curious characteristics of journalism. An especially amusing instance of this, however, has been supplied by the currency of a string of vulgarly-expressed commonplaces whereof the 'annual orator before a so-called graduating class in a 'business and commercial college' relieved his alleged mind more than eight years ago. As the inauguration of Professor Porter into the presidency of Yale, which had happened at about that time, brought his name prominently into the public prints, some shameless wag of the press decided to confer newspaper immortality upon the commercial common places by accrediting them to the distinguished metaphysician of Yale. The result must have surpassed his fondest hopes, for though successive editors of all the undergraduate journals of that college have exposed the fraud time and again, the paragraph has steadily refused to be surpressed for more than a few months at most. One Yale writer tried to kill it by declaring that President Porter's real words were: 'Don't get drunk in church. Don't kick your father down stairs. Don't spit tobacco-juice on the parlor carpet. Don't murder your mother-in-law. Be decent. Take a bath occasionally, Read the Missionary Herald. Ad vertise in the Yale Lit:' Regardless of satire and denunciation, however, the lying paragraph of 1871 has skipped gayly along from scissors to scissors, and at last comes up smiling as follows in the Oberlin Reviete of January 8, 1880 : The following very excellent advice of President Porter, of Yale, to his students and young men in general, we clip from an exchange: 'Young men, you are architects of your own fortunes. Rely on your own strength of body and soul. Take for your star self-reliance. Inscribe on your banner, 'luck is a fool; pluck is a hero. Don't take too much advice: keep at the helm and steer your own ship, and remember that the art of commanding is to take a fair share of the work. Think well for yourself. Strike out. Assume your own position. Put potatoes in a cart, go over a road, and the small ones go to the bottom. Fire above the mark you intend to hit. Energy, invincible determination, with the right motive, are the levers that move the world. Don't swear. Don't deceive. Don't read novels Doa't marry until you can support a wife. He earnest. Be generous. Be civil. Read the papers. Advertise your business.

