

present stand those who, from fear of transgressing the existing rules, leave off writing at the hour's close, are placed at a manifest disadvantage to those others who continue to write for, perhaps fifteen or twenty minutes longer.

To the Editor of the Journal:

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to see another cry out against the absurdity of sixty-minute examinations. It is one of the evils which ought to be remedied, with the vaunted march of improvement. There are wondrous changes in the new regulations, and many very good moves in the right direction, no doubt, but the reform will not be complete until a man gets all the time he wants to write down what he knows about a subject, at an examination. As long as the test of ability is "what is his knowledge of the subject on hand," and not "how much in an hour can he condense, of so many lectures," the student should have free scope. The two things are quite distinct. We have many men in college, solid, deep, well read, and having a thorough grasp of the matter in hand, but slow to think, and indifferent penmen, who are pitted against sharp, flippant, shallow superficialists, who can cram the lectures like a turkey preparing for a Xmas market, and, having a good memory and nimble digits, rattle off the gist of the month's work before his less showy comrade has well begun. It often happens that a man is so constituted that, as the moment's fly, and his thoughts will not take the shape he would have them do, that he gets so nervous, as to lose his head altogether, and for the last fifteen minutes of the hour he is perfectly useless. Now, is this a fair test of ability? I say no! and Tempus seems to agree with me, and no doubt he is the mouthpiece of a score of students who have suffered from the present method. If the man who writes fast can condense so as to put as much in small compass as his slow or verbose competitor spins out in a long paper, well and good, he will not lose by it. The Professor who examines may be trusted, surely, to judge of a man's knowledge, whether lost in a maze of words or put in a short, pithy way. Of course, the latter method is the best, we all know that, but the examinations are not as a rule to test concise composition, but whether the student does or does not know the branch of study upon which he offers himself to be examined. I hope to see the student of Queen's allowed all the time he wishes for both monthlies and finals.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

A GRADUATE.

WEEKLY HOLIDAY.

To the Editor of the Journal:

DEAR SIR,—I have read with much interest your editorial notes on the subject of the weekly holiday, and I hope that the change you advocate may soon be brought about. One of the chief reasons why the holiday which now falls on Saturday should be kept on

Monday is that at present a large number of students are obliged to remain at home studying on Saturday evening, instead of attending the meetings of the Alma Mater Society, and thereby detract considerably from the life of the meetings and their own pleasure. I need not speak to the habit of studying on Sunday, which is, as every one knows, very prevalent at college. In fact it is always a bad sign when a man comes to classes on Monday morning with his recitations perfectly prepared, while on the other hand, any man who habitually comes unprepared is without doubt studying for the church. Now, if the unscrupulous man could enjoy his day of rest on Sunday, as he ought, and both he and his more conscientious rival could work on Monday, it is evident that a much more satisfactory state of affairs would be brought about than now exists. The only argument that I have heard advanced on behalf of the Saturday holiday is that it is a general holiday, and there is always more fun on it than on any other day of the week. This may be true; but there is no reason why Queen's should not be able to bring about a change, at least as far as the schools in the city are concerned, and at any rate the principal classes in the college are over in time every day to give a large number of the students ample time for an afternoon's enjoyment. I hope, Mr. Editor, that you will not allow this important subject to drop, and that we may see the question thoroughly discussed in the JOURNAL.

Yours, &c.,

MONDAY.

PERSONAL.

ALLEN McROSSIE, ex-'84, has given the good people of Riverside, N.Y., a rest from his Sabbath orations for a short time in order to wish his Kingston friends the compliments of the season.

THE many friends of Matt. W. McKay, B.A., '79, are glad to see his genial face once more among us. He has commenced the study of Medicine at the Royal.

ISAAC NEWLANDS, who belonged to the class of '82, is among the wanderers who have returned. He hopes to graduate in the spring.

THE freshman class has received a new instalment in the persons of J. C. McLeod, of Kincardine, who matriculated last session; W. Kelly, of Dundas, and Allen, of Kingston. The class has received them with open arms, but we wonder at it, after their having borne the heat and burden of the Concurus.

WE hear that Rev. Geo. McArthur, B.A., '81, is shortly to go into partnership with another Manu. Well done, your reverence.

A. W. THOMPSON, ex-'83, who left us for Manitoba College, is showing the boys there the worth of Queen's by topping the list in several of the exams. Walter Hobart, of the same class, appeared unto a few of his friends during the Christmas holidays. He is at Montreal at present.

W. E. D'ARGENT has again returned to the fold, but the fold intends to turn him out shortly as a full-fledged Rev. B.A. The Snow-shoe Club will be livelier than ever now.