

the marvellous and disagreeable quality of affecting prejudicially the moral disposition of those who breathe it for any length of time. A singular and almost universal irascibility of temper is marked among its results. Any peculiar infirmity of soul or intellect is intensified in this baleful air, and the eyes especially are so singularly affected that the individual sees with preternatural clearness and magnified vision, the imperfections of his neighbor, while his own remain hidden from him.

Formerly a fierce feud existed between the northern and southern quarters of the town; and many of the finest glass erections suffered severely from the assaults of the rabble population of each section. Somewhere in these turbulent times that old saw originated, to the effect, that "those who live in glass houses should'n't throw stones." I have taken up my quarters in what is known as the Crystal Palace, situated in the most bustling part of the town, and my window in the third flat overlooks the public square, where the citizens frequently congregate.

From this serene altitude, I am enabled to look down upon my neighbors, and have chanced to overhear several conversations and observe many little scenes, which peculiarly illustrate some of the characteristics of this people. A large class, I find, may be embraced under the terms, assentive and appellant, or in simpler phrase, those who indolently take all things for granted, and such as challenge every opinion that is presented to them. Let me describe to you one of the former class—a queer little fellow—my eye rests on him now as he stands talking with one of the opposite type. His voice is very low and mild, his syllables honeyed and soft. Now and then he raises a feeble protest against some assertion of his neighbor, but he is evidently being swept away by the torrent of the others' eager spirit, and his attitude is mainly one of assent. His appearance is that of one who seems to be ready to offer an apology for his very existence in the world. He has rarely, if ever, been known to give utterance to a single independent thought on any subject whatever. A stout assertion in an author or falling hot from living lips, is sufficient to reduce him to a state of abject quiescence. Indolent and fearful, he questions nothing. He seems to be entirely wanting in the element of independent self-assertion. As others think, so thinks he, for he has no thoughts of his own. He is of the assentive type, and from his frequent use of that weak monosyllable "*yes*" which indeed is typical of him, I have concluded to style him the "*incarnate affirmative*." Often in such natures there is found an element of deceit and slyness, and characters of this mild stamp, I learn, have wrought much mischief in Gassville.

His neighbor on the other hand, affords as strong a contrast to his meek-faced auditor as it is well possible to imagine. He is very apt to be an extremist in his views. At present he is urging most vehemently a project for a railroad to the moon, and his arguments rattle forth as hail. He is the victim of strong prejudices, forms most inexplicably deep dislikes, and equally inexplicable attachments. He is generally as stubborn as a mule, a notion seizes upon him, or he seizes upon a notion, or a reciprocal action occurs, and it would prove easier to turn a river from its course than to change his mind, as to any point which he has adopted, though the absurdity of his position is proven unmistakably. He is a bigot and clings with the grip of death to his creed, pronouncing dire anathemas upon all who differ from him. The thought that he can be in any possibility otherwise than infallible, does not occur, and some dire raps are needed to beat it into his head. These are some of the characteristics of the appellant stamp, wholesomely developed such natures become the strong ones of the earth, but nourished in this atmosphere, they become the most notorious mischief-brewers and dangerously bad members of the community. But I must pause here for the present.

OBERSINIUS BRITTLE.

## Personals.

REV. E. C. SPINNEY, of the class of '68, has accepted a call to the Pleasant Street Church, Concord, N. H.

J. F. MORTON, of the class of '66, is Classical Professor in the New London (N. H.) Literary and Scientific Institution.

REV. C. H. CAREY, of the class of '58, President of the Richmond Institute, has forwarded to us a copy of the Historical Sketch of the Institute, which he has prepared at the request of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, to be placed among the Centennial documents.

PROF. CHARLES FRED HARTT, of the class of '60, who is at present engaged in a geological survey of Brazil, recently delivered a lecture on his work before the Emperor and the most distinguished of his subjects. At the close the Emperor took occasion to compliment the Professor on the ability and enthusiasm manifested in his subject.

REV. DR. CRAMP, has presented to the college a *fac-simile* copy of the first edition of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. It is an interesting volume as it reproduces all the peculiarities of the first edition. Dr. Cramp has also given to the College Library a copy of the Memoir

of Madame Feller, of the Grand Ligne Mission, which was compiled by himself.

Mention may also be made of the fact that not long since Hon. Judge McCully, placed in the Library a valuable collection of bound volumes of the Journals of the House of Assembly.

## Items.

THE laboring classes—Freshmen and Sophomores and Juniors.

SUDDENLY.—On the afternoon of the 25th ult., prior to visiting the Sem, a respected member of the Sophomore Class died—*his moustache*.

REFLECTING chemist: "I thought that that phosphorous was to light when you put it in the water."

Observing Fresh. "So it did. I saw it light—light on the bottom."

It is said, probably without foundation, that a certain Soph. is so proper that when he arrives at Prof. Olney's favorite cuss-word, "*Bi-quadratic*," he actually blushes.

AN acute Fresh. remarks that the only difference between ancient Curtius and Clanjvin is: that when a deep place came in Rome the former leapt in on his war-steed, and when a deep place comes in Latin the latter jumps in with his "*pony*."

ANOTHER worthy has passed away.—Our lamented cattergrub is no longer among us, but considerably shorter. And so he has gone, another martyr to excess of apple-juice. One fine evening, as the sun was pulling down the curtains of the twilight, he forsook the pleasures of the world, gathered up his 16 feet and departed to the happy cabbage-garden.

"YOUNG ladies have the privilege of saying anything they please during leap-year," said Miss Tooty, eyeing Mr. X—out of the corner of her eyes, with a sweet look. His heart gave a bound, while he wondered if she was going to ask the question which he so long desired but feared to do. "Y-e-a-s." "And the young men must not refuse," said she. "No, no; how could they," sighed he. "Well then," said she, "will you—" He fell on his knees and said "Anything you ask, Tooty!" "Wait till I get through," said she, "will you take a walk on Saturday afternoons, and not hang around the Sem. so much?" and he walked.

## Clippings.

A COMPULSORY education bill in Maine, U.S., provides both for clothing and educating destitute children.

THERE are enrolled in the public schools