

invites it to its circles of mirth; and without it the warrior's sword would fall harmless at his side, even in the face of him from whom he seeks revenge. Its power is undeniable, irresistible,

"Therefore the poet did fain
That Orpheus drew trees, stones and floods;
Since nought so stockish, hard, and full of rage,
But music for the time doth change its nature.
The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not moved by concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils."

Chatterton.

THOMAS CHATTERTON was treated harshly by Walpole, but whoever attributes Thomas Chatterton's fate even in the indirectest manner conceivable to Walpole? Thomas Chatterton in intellect was a prodigy of precocity,—in morals a monstrosity. Till the age of six years he could not learn anything. Then suddenly his mind awoke into marvellous power and brilliancy. Circumstances were not very kind to him, but not half so unkind as he was to himself. With a limited education, and that through charity, he was placed, at the age of sixteen, in a store as clerk. Poverty and uncongeniality surrounded him; how much they warped his gloomy soul into its hideous and unnatural shape, it is hard to say. While here he attempted his great literary forgery and failed. He plunged into the whirlpool of London politics, and sold his genius as a partisan to the highest bidder. With Wilkes, he was zealous against the Government, but did not hesitate, for gain, to strike a blow at his own friends, at the bidding of an enemy. Young, inexperienced, entirely destitute of moral control, unrestrained from basest acts by shame or conscience, haughty of soul as unscrupulous in action, he subordinated every consideration to that of fame and fortune. His openly avowed determination in case of failure was suicide; and a ghastly jest was added, in case he did not succeed as a Methodist parson. Failure was the result.

The stipend for which he had prostituted his genius was withheld fraudulently, ruin stared him in the face, and he executed his threat of self-destruction. He bought poison and drank it, wrapt himself in his shroud, and faced death alone and at night.

He proudly declared, "I am not a Christian." He scoffed at piety and God, not from

reckless passion, but from principle—yet he loved his mother. Such strange extremes may exist in the soul.

He had a wild, grotesque, yet powerful mind, which worked lawless, so far as moral laws are concerned; a being in which conscience was dethroned or annihilated, and overshadowed by an impenetrable cloud of agony, misfortune and despair. Imagine an intellect bereaved of soul, a being divested of humanity, impelled by the pride and remorselessness of a demon, and you have Chatterton—perhaps, let us say, in charity, a little overdrawn.

We give below a copy of a letter received from Secretary of Alumni:—

SIR,—

I am directed to inform you that the prize of £20 stg., offered last year by S. Vaughan, Esq., for the best Essay on "Acadia College, its inception and history to the present time, and the influence exerted by its students (as far as ascertainable), religiously, commercially and politically on the world, and especially on the Dominion of Canada, and its future prospects and capabilities," and for which competition was open till May 1st, 1877, was not awarded, only one Essay having been presented. This prize is therefore again offered for competition by members of the Associated Alumni, and under the auspices of the College, and it is hoped that there will be a large number of competitors. The Essays to be forwarded to the Secretary, not later than the *first day of May next*.

Mr. Vaughan's chief object in offering the prize is to secure such an Essay as will give the history of the College in an attractive and readable form, and be a means of swelling the Endowment Fund.

The following is a copy of a sketch furnished by Mr. Vaughan, showing the principle points which the Essay should embrace:—

"Sketch briefly the state of Education in the Province, and especially among the Baptists previous to the opening of the College; the causes contributing to its formation; by whom first conceived, etc.; the continuous, earnest and prayerful efforts made by its founders, succeeding at last in arousing sufficient interest among the Baptists and others to commence operations; the early Professors