

dertaken, at the suggestion of Prof. Elder, by the class of '71. In a communication from A. Cohoon, A.B., of said class (in No. 4, Vol. 1, of the *ATHENÆUM*) it will be found that up to that time (Feb., 1875) \$440.00 had been collected from members of the class for that purpose.

What steps have since been taken in this direction we are not prepared to say at present. It would appear, however, that the amount—now about \$500.00—is still lying at interest. So far the scheme has failed from the fact that a number of pledges have not been forthcoming. The amount on hand at present is only about half what will be required to furnish a suitable instrument, and if we add to this the cost of mounting, the sum required grows to an amount which we fear that that on hand at present will not soon reach.

But our main object in mentioning this at the present time, is to call the attention of those having the matter in hand to the following suggestion, which may be worthy of their consideration.

This we may state briefly as follows: As a number of the class of '71 have not found it convenient—from good reasons, doubtless—to pay in the sums stipulated, it will likely be some time yet until the long-looked-for instrument will appear on the ground. And again, while such an instrument might be useful to amuse occasional visitors, we are of opinion that its practical value would be less than that of many other objects at present. Just now there is wanting much necessary apparatus for our Science department, and it has been suggested to us by some deeply interested, that it might be a good move to appropriate a part of the above-named fund for the purchasing of suitable instruments for this department, to be placed in the new rooms now about to be occupied. By so doing we think that the fund might be laid out to the best advantage.

The appropriation of this fund, however, lies entirely with the class who have the matter in charge; we only ask their consideration of the matter. Come on, gentle-

men of '71, let us have your opinion on the subject.

Two lectures have been delivered before the Athenæum Society since our last publication. The first by Prof. McDonald, of Dalhousie College, was on "The Unknown World," and had been previously delivered in Halifax. The daily press freely commended the lecture, hence it is unnecessary for us to make any lengthened remark, save to express the students' high appreciation of the lecture. After giving a description of the senses, the lecturer went on to point out the three requisites of knowledge, viz., object, organ, and mind, and thence proceeded to enforce this truth, that "all properties are not in the bodies but express the relations of body to us." Thus color is not in the body but is the result of three things—the eye, light and body. Then the lecturer closed with the enforcement of this fact, that the mind brings as much to the gaining of knowledge as matter; he dealt a hard blow to the materialistic schools. The lecture was instructive throughout, and presented in such a pleasing and succinct manner, as to rivet and fasten the truths of science upon the mind of even the tyro in physical research. Nor was there any lack of genial humor and apt illustration. All were highly pleased, even the Professor himself. Some of the students, we believe, called on the lecturer, while he remained, and speak in high terms of the sociable Professor.

The second lecture was delivered by Rev. Dr. Burns, of Halifax. We had listened to the Doctor before, when he delivered his lecture on "The British Poets," and this time we expected a rich treat when "A King Among Men" was announced to be the subject on which the Rev. gentleman would address us; nor were we, by any means, disappointed. The Doctor has a thorough appreciation of all nobleness of character, and we felt, as he proceeded, and portrayed to us the life of energetic action, of unblemished integrity, of heroic self-denial, and of trust in the Mighty