

# THE SPECTATOR.

Parva Magni Nominis Umbra.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY DURING THE SESSION.

VOL. III.

ST. LAURENT COLLEGE, MONTREAL, JANUARY 18, 1882.

No. V.

## NEW YEAR'S SALUTATORY.

(TO REV. PRESIDENT L. GEOFFRION, C.S.C.)

Composed and read by D. E. M.

To-day has dawned upon a dying year;  
To-morrow 'twill be dead, the new one here.  
'Tis ever thus, the present seeks the past,  
And sinks into oblivion's gulf at last.

And now we look upon the lingering old;  
Yet no sigh's heard, no bell is sadly tolled;  
Why mourn we not the year that passes by?—  
The Future seems to bring a golden sky.

One paints that sky to suit his fancy best,  
And sees there naught but pleasure, peace and rest.  
'Tis thus with man, through gloom for light we grope,  
And though none's found we still yet cherish hope.

Beloved Father, entering on the new,  
And casting o'er the old oblivion's dew,  
We pause awhile, and heartfelt thanks bestow  
On thee to whom our gratitude we owe.

Long hast thou toiled and taken special care  
To smoothen learning's path, and to prepare  
An easy journey for us to the land  
Where knowledge, virtue, peace, go hand in hand.

Our future welfare thou dost keep at heart,  
And ward'st away from us each poisoned dart.  
Would that our minds had always such a shield,  
For then to evil they would never yield.

To thee is due an ever-growing debt  
Of gratitude our hearts can ne'er forget;  
And now, assembled in this hall to-day,  
For heavenly gifts for thee to God we pray.

May ever o'er thy path His brightness glow,  
And 'round thy soul His choicest graces flow,  
And may He bless and guard thy mortal life,  
And arm thee for the good and glorious strife;

And when thy fight is bravely, nobly fought,  
Then may a crown of brightest gems be wrought  
And placed upon thy brow; for merits well  
He who for Christ has fought and bleeding fell.

These feeble words are but the shadows faint  
Of fonder hopes that they can never paint.  
Accept the wishes, then, our hearts outpour,  
And store them in thy mind for evermore,

But yet upon this joyous, gladsome eve,  
Permit we ask a favor ere we leave:  
Grant us thy benediction, Father dear,  
Give us thy blessing for the coming year.

## THE CHARACTER OF MARY TUDOR.

E. J. M.

As a Queen, Mary Tudor has undergone, with incomparable patience, all the reverses of fortune, from being the acknowledged heiress of one of the mightiest thrones of Christendom, to grovelling under a load of paternal reproach, and suffering the nations of the earth to derogate from her virtue. Dishonored and debased by a tyrannical and lustful father, disinherited and proclaimed of illegitimate birth by the unanimous voice of a parliament that should have laid their heads on the block to protect her from the chill blasts of adversity, Mary submitted calmly to the decrees of fortune; clung, while the reigning despot allowed her, to her much-wronged mother; and only left her when a mercenary and heartless soldiery dragged her from her dear and virtuous parent's side.

Born to rule, Mary could but ill rebuff the vicissitudes of fate were she not supported by something greater than the mind of man can comprehend. While all England humbly bowed to the iron will of her cruel father in matters of faith, she alone of all the nobility of her country proved herself the noblest by firmly resisting all overtures that would imperil her holy faith. When the dark conniving Northumberland ruled England under the sanction of her imbecile half-brother, Mary could not be compelled to relinquish her religious tenets; but when Edward's religious persecution of her assumed its sternest attitude, she showed herself a profound diplomat by appealing to the protection of her cousin Charles V., Emperor of Germany. The condition of the English and French affairs was at that time mutually antagonistic, and required the interference of the Emperor, whose favor Mary clearly saw that Edward's government courted.

Edward having died, traitorous hands were raised to debar the progress of their rightful sovereign to the throne of her father; and when subtle subterfuges were instituted to withhold the knowledge of the king's death from Mary, then was shown the deep penetration and

heroic constancy of a lady worthy to rule more loyal subjects. Hastily collecting the hereditary retainers of her family, and those of the populace who espoused her cause, she led them to combat the ambitious Duke of Northumberland. A glance at the huge array and a report of the beautiful and determined countenance of the advancing queen served to dissolve the traitor's army, and convert himself to a veritable coward.

Mary was not ambitious, avaricious, or cruel. When she assumed the reins of power, she arrogated no prerogative of a conqueror; but, on the contrary, relinquished all the distinctions appropriated by her father and brother. She further relinquished the subsidies lately voted to the crown; restored to their former possessors all the lands and holdings of the crown, confiscated from the monastic orders; and, lastly, from her maternal patrimony she distributed a dole to all poor householders in the city of London. She greatly benefited her people by restoring the depreciated value of the currency, thus awakening them to new commercial advantages. When she found herself firmly seated on the throne, she proclaimed a general amnesty to all concerned in the late treasonable insurrection. Of the thousands of political malcontents who had forfeited their lives to the state, only seven were amenable to the tender mercies of the state-court after the Queen's merciful proclamation. However, for only three of those seven could Mary be persuaded to sign a death-warrant. Later on, when the parliament attempted to coerce the Queen to a marriage objectionable to herself, she showed a most determined will in informing them of her fitness to transact all personal affairs without their intervention.

Mary determined to marry Philip of Spain, and as soon as her determination was published, Lady Jane Grey, who had formerly attempted to usurp the throne, was again announced as a competitor; but her party being subdued, she suffered the penalty of her twofold treason. Mary's clemency on the previous occasion had been severely decried by her subjects and advisers, and for a second offence a pardon would be detrimental to the sanctity of the royal person. As an instance of wonderful clemency on her part we might cite the almost constant oversight of the well-known plots of her hypocritical sister Elizabeth. All the prayers and demands of her parliament, her people, her advisers, and even her affianced husband were vain when extended against the life of her unworthy sister. In 1557 and 1558 the persecutions which have dimmed the lustre of Mary's name were sanctioned by the crown. It is not our intention to defend persecution in any shape, but the circumstances in this case offer something in palliation of their cruelty. It must be remembered that Mary lived in an age of religious intolerance. The inquisition was in vogue in Spain; Huguenots were persecuted

in France; Catholics were cruelly tormented by the reformed Duke of Brandenburg; a little before, Henry in England invited non-conformists to leave their heads on Tybourn's bloody block; and, a little later Elizabeth would dye the same ground with the blood of Catholics and Dissenters.

When the Queen re-established the Roman Catholic religion, she made no law to prohibit the exercise of any other; but the reformed preachers, greatly disappointed at the new turn of affairs, and aggravated at the apparent subversion of the first-born of their own "private interpretation" doctrines, openly heaped abuse and ridicule on the royal person, her bishops, priests and their religion. From this we see that they were guilty of uttering treasonable discourses; and, as their religion was a strange medley of prayers and anathemas for the Queen, it was necessary to proscribe it for the peace of the reign, moreover, many historians of other persuasions than the Roman Catholic have grievously exaggerated the number of victims of this persecution. Miss Agnes Strickland fails to find 250 executions recorded in the five years of Mary's reign. Mary's whole life was one long term of suffering and patient endurance, but, whether ignored by a perjured father, persecuted by the minions of a weak and imbecile brother, outraged by rebellious subjects, or slighted by a brutal husband, her character proclaims itself free from all the corruption of her age. A true patriot, Mary strove to defend her country's honor, and, when she failed, her noble heart ceased to beat. The fall of Calais, a dependency of her crown for more than two centuries, made such an impression on her sensitive faculties that her feeble life breathed itself out of its mortal tenement in unison with the sorrow of her people for the loss of their last foothold on French soil. Such is a faint portrait of the character of the illustrious subject of this essay. As a woman, a lady, a heroine, and a queen Mary deserves a favorable regard from all impartial students of English history. Many descendant on the merits of great men, and such noble female subjects as Mary Queen of Scots, and expend their energies to rescue such glorious characters from oblivion and reproach; but what astounds us is that so few attempt to relieve the memory of Mary Tudor from the shafts of unthinking and unreasonable bigots. Were Mary a Protestant, and did she wield the sword ten times more fiercely against Catholics than she did against Protestants, she would, without a doubt, possess a far more agreeable cognomen than the one she now bears. Dr. Lingard has beautifully defended the actions of Mary in the following words: "It is, however, fair to recollect that the extirpation of erroneous doctrines was inculcated as a duty by the leaders of every religious party. Mary only practised what *they* taught. It was her misfortune, rather than her fault, that she was not more enlightened than the wisest of her contemporaries."

## MAN'S INHERITANCE.

BY R. W.

A great writer once said, "that man is the jewel of God, who has created the material world wherein to keep his treasure." Man, having fallen from his high estate, forfeited many of his privileges, and was condemned by the divine decree to toil, to labor. Hence, none are exempt from this universal law. But that curse of old has become a blessing; for earthly happiness and eternal welfare depend upon the proper employment of the time at man's disposal. If wasted in idleness and indolence, unhappiness and misery will inevitably be the consequence; but, if employed in useful labor, man will fulfil his mission. Habits of industry should be practiced in youth, for at this time the motives to it are stronger, from ambition, duty and all the bright prospects which the beginning of life presents. All men have an ideal of some sort, base or lofty, which, to a greater or less extent, moulds their characters, and shapes their destiny. If man desires that this lofty ideal should become a reality, he must labor.

Life is, from first to close, a span of cares and duties. There is work for each one to perform, in whatever sphere of life it has pleased an all-wise Providence to place him. All must be zealous, industrious, energetic, if they wish to acquire anything of importance. Success in every art, and in every station of life—whatever may be the talent of the individual—is always the reward of industry. It is the man of decision of character, of unwearied toil, the man of perseverance, who is successful in this world. It is not the man of weak mind and vacillating power that gains his crown of glory. A laborious life is by no means a short one, no matter how few are its years. The poet says:—

"The shortest life is longest if it's best,

'Tis our's to work, to God belongs the rest;

Our lives are measured by the deeds we do,

The thoughts we think, the objects we pursue."

Toil is the heritage of man. Labor is the law and condition of all progress, God's true wonder, worker and beautifier of the earth. Labor is a necessity; the germs of mighty thought must have their silent undergrowth, must underground be wrought. Labor is essential for the body as well as the mind. The intelligence of a nation may be said to be the security of a nation, and industry is the security of this intelligence.

"The riches of a commonwealth are free strong minds and hearts of health;

And more to her than gold or grain is the cunning hand and cultured brain."

The success of the individual, the prosperity and progress of nations, depend upon labor; for, where indolence is, there is her sister vice, and vice, like a hideous canker, will eat out the heart of any nation.

"Labor conquers all things." Industry smooths all obstacles, makes all things easy. Labor and skill have accomplished wonders. By means of

electricity it has joined continents together, annihilating distance. The forests, where the wild beast roamed unmolested, have been changed into flourishing cities. The rivers, which wended their silent course to the great ocean, have been dotted with ships, bearing along with them wealth and prosperity to the people. The grand structure which almost dazzles us by its magnificence, has been reared, stone upon stone, by the hands of labor. The painting which claims our attention and rivets our admiration has cost the artist months of patient, almost ceaseless, toil. The block of marble is transformed by the sculptor's hand into an image so lifelike that we imagine it needs but a soul to enable it to speak.

Great men have ever been great workers, steadfast in purpose, and true to their calling; keeping with single aim their end in view; giving their youthful days and manhood's prime to ceaseless toil. Matin and midnight chimes often found them at their willing tasks. They toiled when others slept or occupied their time in the pursuit of pleasure. Such earnest natures are the fiery pith, the compact nucleus, around which systems grow. Genius can never make one great. Genius, unexercised, is like the poor moth that flutters around a candle until it scorches itself to death. There must be industry to second skill. Observation and experience alike teach us that many who possess talent of a high order, were distanced in life's race by others possessing only mediocre talent, yet who had a boundless confidence in themselves, and a genius for hard, patient toil. A distinguished man who had attained a position of eminence, was once asked the secret of his success. "I have no secret," he replied, "but hard work." The men, in every age, who climbed fame's rugged steep, and carved their names in enduring characters on the pages of History constantly, unremittingly, labored.

Man should love labor as a gift from Heaven. He should prefer diligence to idleness, unless he esteems rust more than brightness. Labor is life. Inactivity is far more dangerous and injurious than overwork. 'Tis the still water becomes stagnant. Flowers droop and die in the stillness of noon, but, when fanned by gentle breezes, they grow and flourish. Nothing is more detrimental to true pleasure and enjoyment of life than that of passing one's precious time in a state of indolence. What happier picture could be presented than the contented husbandman, the hardy son of toil, who sees around him smiling fields laden with grain, awaiting the hand of the reaper to gather the golden harvest. Labor possesses a dignity which we are forced to acknowledge. The honest son of toil, whose rough palm is hardened by manual labor, is far more worthy of respect than the dainty, perfumed satellite of fashion.

Work, then, is the will of Heaven, and peace the reward. In whatever station of life man may be placed, let him always labor for the

good cause of truth, justice and freedom. We can not but admire those who exert their energies in a noble cause; for, "if we work upon marble it will perish, if we work upon brass time will efface it; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God and love of their fellowmen, we engrave on those tablets something which will last forever." All should labor while life is given; like a tide our work should rise, each later wave the best, until at length they break on the shores of eternity.

#### EXCHANGES.

—The *Occident*, a weekly College journal from Berkeley, Cal., visits us regularly. On its first page is a neat and well written poem, by Thos. L. Morris; also a romance, evidently from the hand of some amateur novelist. We must say that we would prefer seeing in a college paper more substantial literature than the description of "One of the Aborigines." The editorials, however, are very good. Our occidental visitor pleases us, and meets with our kind greetings.

—We are gratified to notice the regular arrival at our desk of the *Catholic Mirror*, a weekly newspaper, devoted chiefly to the interests of American Catholics at large, and those of the primatial see in particular. The reading matter is instructive and interesting, and of a kind requisite to the wants of its readers. From our acquaintance with the *Mirror*, we feel justified in styling it a faithful sentinel on the outposts of Catholicity in the United States. We are pleased with our Baltimore exchange, and wish it the success it deserves.

—The *College Journal*, a small 8 page paper from Milton, Wis., is at hand. We like the appearance of this monthly publication, but we think that any college should be able to publish a paper with more reading matter than the *Journal* affords. Our own effort at journalism is poor, we must admit, but we publish three times the matter of the *Journal* with exactly the same number of advertisements. As for the quality of the matter; we are pleased to admit its worth and propriety in a college paper. Would the editors of the *Journal* be satisfied with one half the advertisements and supply their place with readable matter, we would not hesitate to reckon their publication among the best of our exchanges.

—The *Oracle*, a small journal from the Connecticut Episcopal Academy, Cheshire, Conn., is at hand. The general tone of this paper is all that we could expect. Though emanating from a sectarian institution, it is free from all sectarian tendencies when it leaves the academic premises. Its editors have succeeded in presenting to the public a readable and sensible paper, and in redeeming it from all taints of the vulgarity and effeminacy that adheres to many

of our exchanges. We extend to the *Oracle* our good wishes, and hope to receive it regularly.

—The *Catholic Shield*, a monthly chronicle and general review published in Ottawa, and devoted to the discussion and advancement of educational topics, demands our attention. Its expressive motto, "Scuto circumdabit te veritas ejus," is suggestive of the object to which it is devoted. Gathering from truth's sacred treasury its happy contents, with kindly, yet fearlessly, expressed sentiments, it presents them to the public. Its editorials, in particular, are deserving of notice; for in them the student finds models of journalistic conciseness and perspicuity. The literary and historical articles are scarcely inferior to the editorials in their own particular merit, and the educational notes are interesting to all concerned in the cause of education. The *Shield* will please consider itself a welcome visitor to our table.

The *Ave Maria*, a very neatly arranged Magazine published at Notre Dame, Ind., is a noble factor in the dissemination of the love of our Virgin Mother. Its pages are replete with instructive and interesting matter of a deeply religious character, while here and there lighter reading relieves the monotony of the more serious articles. We joyfully hail the advent of the *Ave Maria*, and most sincerely hope that its future may be as bright as has been its past. Its object is, indeed, a noble one, and merits the hearty co-operation of the pious public in propagating a tender and affectionate devotion to the Mother of God. All the articles evince, on the part of the authors, a fine literary taste and excellent judgment. To the Editor, the task must be one of love, and right well does he perform it. We are greatly pleased to learn the *Ave Maria's* subscribers number nearly twenty thousand.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following exchanges:—*Canadian Spectator*, *Scholastic*, *Connecticut Catholic*, *Catholic Mirror*, *K. M. I. News*, *Varsity*, *Wyoming Monthly*, *Harp*, *Donohoe's Magazine*, *Ave Maria*, *Les Annales Teresiennes*, *Oracle*, *Catholic Shield*, *College Message*, *College Journal*, *Sunbeam*, *Haverfordian*, *Treasury*, *Student*, *Cabinet*, *Archangel*, *Oxford* and *Cambridge Undergraduates' Journal*, *Occident*.

#### DIVERSA.

—Paris is soon to have an elevated railroad.

—Bats always shear off the wings of flies before eating them.

—Buffon said that a pair of herrings, if undisturbed, would produce, in twenty years, a bulk of herrings the size of the globe.

—An important patent has been taken out by a Russian of the name of Dittmar for solidifying petroleum into a substance like wax. It is contended that the dangers and difficulties of the transport of petroleum will thus be overcome.

—The Emperor William grows feeble. Although his condition is not considered serious, the continuous failing of his digestive powers has nevertheless enfeebled him considerably. His physicians have ordered a quiet difficult to enforce.

—It is a singular fact that the three fires most destructive of human life during the last quarter of a century—those in Santiago, Brooklyn and Vienna—all occurred in the month of December; not only that, but the Santiago Cathedral and the Ring Theatre were burned on Dec. 8 at the same hour, and the Brooklyn Theatre was burned only three days earlier in the month.

—Grave fears are entertained in Greece for the future of Chios. The island is said to be continually sinking, and there are reasons to believe that in time its entire surface may disappear from human sight. Small earthquakes are of constant occurrence, and the frequency of these is increasing. Moreover, hot springs have appeared in many places until there is hardly a locality which does not possess one or more.

—There are 18,000 Chinamen on the Sandwich Islands working as sugar coolies. They are fed on Chinese rice, which is admitted into Hawii for a nominal duty. The thrifty Sandwich-Island planter saves all his home-produced rice for exportation to the United States, where it is admitted duty free and brings a high price.

—Peat is imperfect mineral coal, or half carbonized vegetable matter, formed in swampy places by the continued growth of certain spongy mosses of the genera sphagnum and hypnum. These mosses have the property of dying at the extremities of the roots, as they increase above. Thus they may gradually form a bed of great thickness. The composition of ordinary peat is as follows:—Carbon, 60 per cent.; hydrogen, 55; oxygen, 33; nitrogen, 1.5.

—To say that the science of geology is antagonistic to revealed religion, and the facts it teaches are opposed or contrary to divine teaching, is a stupid and egregious error. Nothing, indeed, is farther from the truth than such an assertion; instead of contradicting the plain teaching of the Holy Scriptures, geology confirms it at every step.

—It is impossible to determine exactly at this stage of meteorological science what is the coldest place in the earth. Many geographers suppose that it is at, or in the vicinity of, the south pole; but, as far as we positively know, by direct and exact observations, the coldest place is at Verkhoviansk, in north eastern Siberia, a small town situated on the northern slope of the mountains of the same name, and on the river Yana. Its mean temperature in winter is  $55\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ .

—There are about twenty epic poems known to exist: three in Greek: "Iliad" and "Odyssey," of Homer, and "Argonautics," of Apollonius, three in Latin: "Æneid" of Virgil, "Pharsalia,"

of Lucan, and "Punic wars," of Silius Italicus; one in Italian: "Jerusalem Delivered," of Tasso; two in German: "Messiad," of Klopstock and "Niebelungen Lied"; three in French: "Télémaque," of Fenelon, "Henriade," of Voltaire, and "Martyrs of Chateaubriand"; two in English: "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained," of Milton; one in Spanish: "Cid"; one in Portuguese: "Lusiad," of Camocus; one in Scotch: "Ossian"; two in Sanscrit: "Ramayana" and "Mahabharata"; one in Parsee: "Chah-Nameh."

—Spain is having built in England several iron ships for her naval fleet. The company which built for her some time ago an iron cruiser has recently launched a second after the same design. The length of these ships is 210 feet, and their tons burden, 1,030; the armament being three 6-inch 4-ton breach-loading Armstrong guns. They belong to a type of fast, unarmored cruisers, now largely used in the European navies, which are employed on distant stations in times of peace, and in times of war are well adapted to the protection of mercantile marines. At the royal dock-yards in Spain other vessels of similar design are being built.

—It is time that the anti-vaccinationists were awake in India, for the operation has steadily grown in favor with the dense millions of that country. During the year 1879 to 1880 about 500,000 more persons were treated in Bengal than during the previous year, while in Burmah the natives are so ready to accept vaccination that it is found only necessary to supply them with competent operatives and a regular quantity of good lymph. It is believed that, by the exercise of the right patience and judgment, the greater part of the Indian native population can be brought to see the value of submitting to treatment. In districts where opposition exists it is not difficult to overcome it.

—HABITS OF ESQUIMAUX DOGS.—Some interesting details concerning the habits of Esquimaux dogs are given by Dr. Bessel. The instant a halt is called by the driver the dogs throw themselves to the ground with their snouts between their forepaws; they rise again to stretch, and then lie down at once. Two Newfoundland dogs which belonged to the Polaris pack, gradually assumed similar habits, but before lying down they always turned round and round in their resting place, like all dogs except the Esquimaux breed, for the author never saw an Esquimaux dog do this. Mr. Darwin, as will be remembered, has explained the habit of turning round before lying down, invariably to be observed in domestic dogs, as a survival of the instinct of the wild ancestor, which leads him to form a bed in the grass by this means. Every one has heard of the extraordinary voracity of the Esquimaux dogs; they will sometimes snap a piece off their master's flesh if exposed carelessly.

## The Spectator.

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ST. LAURENT COLLEGE, near Montreal, January 18, 1892.  
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Published semi-monthly during the session, contains select Poetry, Essays, Biographical Sketches; also short articles on Periodicals, New Publications, Art, Science, Literature, Editorials on the current topics of the day, Notes of the local items of the College, also Personals relative to the whereabouts and business of the Alumni. Students, parents and graduates are earnestly requested to contribute to the financial support of THE SPECTATOR.

Terms per annum, \$1.00 in advance. Postage prepaid.

All communications must be addressed to THE SPECTATOR, St. Laurent College, Montreal.

(Subscribers who do not receive their papers regularly will please notify THE SPECTATOR.)

Examination is drawing near, and in one week, at most, will be ushered in the much dreaded hour. Yet, in those few days it is surprising what progress may be made in preparation for the *coming trial*. Urged on by fear to a certain extent, and by a praiseworthy emulation, the student concentrating all his energy accomplishes more in those few remaining days than he would otherwise do in months. That this review is extremely advantageous is a fact undoubted; but it is certainly, much more profitable to some than to others. There are many, many more than there should be, who fail, even in this last opportunity, to apply themselves cheerfully to study. These not only do themselves injustice, but they likewise do their parents and the college a wrong. Let then all, and particularly these, use the few remaining moments well; for those who have spent hours idly may regain, in a measure, their lost time, while the others who have always worked conscientiously will be better pleased with themselves. Let every one, then, work earnestly, that, after the examination is past, he may be able to felicitate himself on his success.

How few there are who think of the great advantages of early rising, of the influence which it exerts over our lives, of the health and strength that it gives us, and of the pleasure which it affords to every lover of nature. To rise in the early light of the dawn and see the blushing aurora usher in the new-born day surrounded by all the gorgeous tints of a thousand rainbows, to behold the flowers

opening their dewy petals under the nourishing influence of the sun's warm rays, and to breathe the fresh, perfume-laden air in sweet tranquillity,—what great happiness for us, poor children of Eve? The mental stimulus and bodily vigor which this practice imparts to men cannot be too highly appreciated. The mind freshly roused from repose is unoccupied, and can be devoted, with the greatest readiness, to almost any task. Those only who have accustomed themselves to this useful habit are aware of the vast amount of labor that can be accomplished before the rest of the world has awakened from its slumber. Many of the greatest personages in the world's history have been early risers, and as an instance of the high estimate that was formed of them we have only to quote the words of Voltaire when asked why he did not make much headway against the Jesuits: "What can I do," said he, "against men who get up at four in the morning?" Poor Richard has a maxim that runs,

"Early to bed, early to rise,  
Makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

Health which once in jeopardy leaves you at the tender mercies of the physician, wealth for which men toil on year after year, and wisdom, the gift of the Omnipotent, are blessings of inestimable value. Yet all these can be obtained by strict adherence to a simple and useful practice which will act for you the part of a never-failing beacon light that will guide you onward over the pathway of life, if not brilliantly, at least successfully, so that in after days, when perhaps advanced in years, you can look back at an active and industrious career well spent in the service of your Maker and your fellow-men.

Of the immense number of professional men now practicing in America a great many, and, we may say, the greater portion, have never devoted their attention to philosophical studies; and have commenced their careers, deficient in the sound principles of *that* noblest and grandest part of laical learning. To this, in a great measure, must be attributed the fact that there are so many men ill-adapted to fulfil well and faithfully the duties incumbent upon their spheres of life, and wofully ignorant of their own incapacity to labor successfully. A few brief years spent in acquiring a superficial knowledge of Latin and Greek, a still shorter time passed in gathering together a learned yet confused mass of technical terms, and our confident and voluble American student is prepared to receive the admiration of this world. This is not as it should be;

because a few years devoted to laying a solid foundation for our future life are not long in passing, and every day given to the study of philosophy is an unyielding link in the chain which binds our minds to sound reason, honor and morality. Space does not here allow a copious review of the benefits accruing from this study; but a few words may bring to light advantages which may induce well-intentioned students to make a solid, a thorough, a *complete* course.

Man owes his elevation over inferior animals to reason perfected by the cognition of truth: and philosophy, the grandest, most enduring oak in the immense forest of profane knowledge, has the power of satisfying our desire of learning not alone by considering the world and its creatures, but also by penetrating the mysteries of their creation, their existence, and their end; not alone by contemplating the works of an omniscient and omnipotent God, but also by spanning the chasm between the finite and the infinite, and by elevating our minds with humble and respectful mien to the proud consideration of their great Author. When we consider all this, it seems something unreal, fanciful, and delusive; but no, it is true, for philosophy stands to-day the proud, imperial queen of reason, and, as often in the times now almost concealed from view beneath the mould and dust of ages, she still guides our minds through the gathering clouds of sophistry and error, the same inimitable mistress, the same unconquered, unconquerable self. How strange it seems to fathom the ocean of our existence! Yet philosophy dives to the very bottom; and pearls,—rich, rare, and priceless pearls,—are discovered to her searching scrutiny. She brings them to the surface, and bares them to our gaze in order that we may feast our eyes upon those jewels, more precious than ever graced the crown of prince or king, more radiant than ever gleamed on the diamond plains of sunny, distant climes, more costly than ever multiplied the fabled wealth of Eastern shores. How wonderful seem the works of Creation, and with what a mingling of love and veneration do we pronounce the sacred name of their Author! Yet philosophy, with a magic touch upon the human mind, leads its slowly but surely from the inferior to the superior, from the transient to the eternal, until man—man in all his pomp, and pride and glory—seems but a mere speck in the great universe of beings, a grain of sand on the shore of eternity, a thought in the perishable book of life. And, though humanity has fallen from its created and pristine state of happiness, this noble and ennobling study raises it higher and higher, till hope-engendering knowledge stamps upon our souls the promises of a just and loving God. Learning is a noble perfection; but how much nobler is philosophy, whose aim is the advancement of *perfection*, which struggles with untiring energy to lay the stable foundations of erudition, which

seeks the most pleasing draughts to slake the thirst of the soul.

Nor can it be said that philosophy is not necessary to all. It is necessary to man as man, because it perfects his nature, cultivates his mind, teaches him his duty towards God and his fellow-man, and furnishes him with contemplations on the works and wonders of God. "The fairest gift of the gods," we sacrifice it in the temple of our minds, and the smoke of our holocaust ascends to Heaven as a verification of our love and reverence towards the Creator. It is requisite to man as a citizen; for through philosophy the stability of states is assured, and that which tends to the conservation of the whole cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence on the parts. This fact was asserted by Socrates when he said that "the duty of philosophy is to know divine things and to govern human affairs"; and so well is it authenticated by the experience of all ages and nations that a reasonable doubt cannot exist to the contrary. It is necessary to man as a faithful child of Christ, for without it he cannot penetrate the fallacies and sophisms of those who would subvert the true faith and rear instead the banners of heresy and infidelity; and without it he cannot dispel the lowering clouds between the sensible and the intelligible, creatures and the Creator. Moreover, theology is essential to the preservation of religion, but in philosophy consists the very strength and might of theology, and therefore philosophy is necessary to faith and to the faithful.

Why, then, should a study which embraces such a wide range of beneficial influences, be ignored by students who desire to be good men, useful citizens, and benefactors of the human family? It is an evil which cries out for instant remedy; and the schools and colleges springing up on every side furnish an instance of its growing want and spreading recognition. Let us hope that in the near future a new era will blossom forth in professional circles; and that upon the standards of state and society will be inscribed *philosophy*,—the grand old veteran which has withstood the storms and sieges of centuries.

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#### PERSONALS.

—Rev. Alfred Roy, C.S.C., '71, is Vice-President of St. Joseph's College, Memramcook, N.B.

—Rev. P. Robert, C.S.C., '73, is the much-beloved prefect of French studies at St. Laurent College.

—Jules Rivet, '74, has a thriving grocery business at Montreal.

—George Gernon, M.D., '74, has a large and lucrative practice at St. Benoit, P.Q. May he receive the full recognition of his talents.

—Robert Wilson, '72, is book-keeping in New York city. We are pleased to learn that he is doing well and hope to hear from him shortly.

—Maurice Barsalou, '72, has a large wholesale grocery business at Montreal, and is making rapid strides on the road to prosperity.

—Daniel Donegan, '72, is now a coal merchant in New York City. His many friends and old class-mates will no doubt be pleased to learn that he is very successful.

—Ed. Delany, '72, is in business with his father at Plattsburgh, N.Y., where he is making hosts of friends by his affability as well as by his zealous devotions to his duty.

—Edward Aymé, '75, is studying Pharmacy in New York City. His friends at St. Laurent wish him every success in the sphere of life which he has marked out for himself.

—Rev. Patrick Coyle, '77, has been elevated to the sacred dignity of the priesthood since the Christmas ordination. He may rest assured that he will ever have our prayers for a long and happy life, and a joyous consummation of his sacerdotal duties.

#### MULTA, NON MULTUM.

- Figs!
- Boxes!
- Hot drops!
- "Eskelsis."
- "Cerebellum."
- "It's too bad."
- "Dalmatic spices."
- All hands around!
- Silk handkerchiefs!
- "Where's the point?"
- Get thee gone, villain!
- Good bye, Willie dear!
- "Pass the smelling salts."
- Georgie is on the staff!!
- D. M. has a fine new desk.
- Green Island or Montreal, which is it?
- Almost all the boys have returned.
- Grand promenade—to study-hall!
- "Then burst his mighty"—Whew!!!
- Who is that who walks around with Eau de Cologne?
- Still they come—four new students since Christmas!
- Why not try the treasurer of the Minstrels for embezzlement?
- The tailless dog was seen in recreation during the holidays.
- Oh! that inimitable ice-cream story—plausible, indeed!!!
- Dancing was indulged in—as also the precious contents of boxes!
- Will we have an entertainment on George Washington's Birthday?
- There is no doubt but that the students enjoyed the New Year's vacations.
- For sale, an electric brush as good as new; terms easy; Apply at No. 3, 5th Ave.
- The doctors on the second table almost quarrelled the other day!
- Thanks to the gentlemen who furnished the music during the holidays.

—Plenty of snow—fine weather! Snow-shoe promenades now in order.

—Brutus was an honorable man, he never disturbed the slumbers of his friends.

—How peacefully our orator strokes his monstacho when about to speak!

—The votaries of skating should endeavor to keep the rinks in good order.

—The holidays have unmanned many of our stalwart literary friends.

—Under its new management, we trust the Local column will be a success.

—Drilling exercises may soon supersede hand ball, skating, billiards, &c., &c.

—Professors Stein, Hurley, Lyons, and Mr. E. Somers have the thanks of the students.

—Turning down wicks in order to avoid class is by no means an honorable action.

—Alas! times are sadly changed when our friend says, "Only for the bit I ate, I'd die."

—Why is our College so highly favored by the clerk of the weather? Because Somers with us ten months in the year.

—Those who received Christmas boxes generously shared with those who did not. May they live long and be often boxed.

—Once more King Cole walks among his loyal subjects; and we may at any moment be inflicted with the same thing over again.

—Billiard players should constantly bear in mind that the billiard tables are not exactly the proper places for a nap.

—Our friend John, having received a box labelled in Chinese characters, took it to the dormitory, and after relieving it of its contents, invited his friends to feed on the box.

—The members of the senior table are deeply indebted to the kind Sisters for the substantial token of their remembrance on New Year's day.

—During the New Year's holidays the gentlemanly and very edifying conduct of the students was a subject of frequent remark, and elicited the admiration of the prefects.

—Dame Rumor has it that next spring the College will be considerably enlarged by the erection of a new wing. We hope to be able in a short time to present our readers with a wood-cut of the new St. Laurent.

—"Lift him up tenderly, fashioned so slenderly,"

Bear him away to the land of the Inn—

List to him awfully talking so lawfully

On Greek, Homoeopathy, Grammar, and Sin.

—"Let the dead" past bury its dead, appears to be a universally adopted motto; and, as if no vacations had taken place, books now again seem to occupy everybody's undivided attention, for he knows the examination takes place on the 23rd instant.

—The Rev. President was never so kind to the boys as during the past few weeks. He scarcely ever refused a request, and was delighted to see the students amusing themselves so well. Cordial thanks are due to him for his kindness, and the increased ardor for study fully testifies that the boys appreciate and will endeavor to merit his kind favors.



—Young men with weak backs should guard against having the spinal column in any other than the upright position. If they find this a difficulty not easily overcome, they should follow the example of one of our number, and procure braces in order to insure uprightness of carriage.

—St. Patrick's L. A. has appointed a committee to make arrangements for the celebration of their Patronal Feast. We feel confident that these gentlemen will make the best possible arrangements; and we, consequently, expect to see some very pleasing features in the exercise of the day.

—Arrangements are being made for the erection of the new St. Laurent College. The interior of the present buildings will be entirely remodelled and furnished with all modern improvements. The new wing, 120 feet long by 70 feet wide, will contain all the class rooms, senior refectory and dormitory; while the old one will be devoted to the study-hall, recreation, and gymnasium. The main building will furnish dormitories for the juniors and apartments for the Faculty and Religious. Thus will ample room be made for the rapidly increasing numbers who annually flock within the precincts of St. Laurent. The number of students at present is about 250; 110 of whom are Americans.

—In addition to what was said in the previous number of the SPECTATOR concerning the religious ceremonies of Christmas, as solemnized at St. Laurent, we will state that the mass of the day was celebrated with the same solemnity as the midnight mass. The celebrant was the Rev. Joseph C. Carrier, C.S.C., assisted by the Revs. Edouard Desfossés and William McKinnon, C.S.C., as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. After the communion, the Rev. celebrant turned to the people and delivered a most impressive and instructive sermon upon the occasion, taking for his text the words of the *Introit* of the 3rd Mass: "A son is born unto us, and a child is given us." The students listened most attentively to the Rev. gentleman's discourse, and eagerly drank in its various beauties. The vesper and benediction services ended the beautiful religious festivities of the day.

—The St. Patrick's Literary Society held their first regular meeting after the Christmas holidays on Sunday evening, Jan. 8. The evening's entertainment included songs, declamations and essays. It is needless to say that all acquitted themselves creditably in their respective roles. D. Lowney and M. Cary sang a duet in fine style. T. O'Connor read a finely written essay on "War." M. Sheridan read a carefully prepared one on "Wintry Reflections." J. Daley reflected credit upon himself by a finely composed essay on "Cromwell." The declaimers were Messrs. Hopwood, D. Lowney and J. J. Lenahan, who evinced marked ability. A song exquisitely rendered by T. A. Nealon in his usual felicitous style concluded the exercises of the evening.

## SCHEDULE OF HONOR.

[In this list are arranged, in alphabetical order, the names of those students who have, by their exemplary conduct, given entire satisfaction.]

## SENIORS.

A. Brossard, J. Broderick, A. Caron, A. Champagne, J. B. Choinière, J. Coffey, M. Carey, J. Cochrane, D. Donovan, T. J. Daley, F. J. Clifford, J. Deslauriers, J. Finn, J. Finon, H. Gernon, W. T. Grace, H. J. Geraghty, T. J. Gears, L. Girouard, J. Hennessy, J. M. Kennedy, E. Kelly, W. J. Kelly, H. Langlois, J. Legault, D. Lowney, W. T. Lalonde, R. Leahy, Z. Migneron, J. McKinnon, D. Mullins, J. Mullins, D. O'Connor, J. O'Donnell, O. Rice, C. Renaud, P. Renault, G. St. Julien, A. Tourangeau, A. Théoret, R. Walsh.

## JUNIORS.

O. Bertrand, J. Baxter, J. Beaudet, W. Barron, C. Brodeur, E. Cardinal, R. Charbonneau, V. Deslauriers, A. Hudon, E. Larin, H. Larivée, A. Lefebvre, O. Lafleur, E. Murphy, A. Pinet, H. Plouffe, H. Perrault, W. Polan, M. Pilon, J. St. John, P. St. Jean, F. X. Smith, L. Trembley.

## MINIMS.

H. Barbeau, G. Chagnon, R. Clerk, J. B. Clement, A. Chapleau, A. Charlebois, M. Gahan, F. Galarneau, O. Gauthier, E. Lavigne, Alf. Lachance, E. Lesperance, R. Marcotte, S. Moison, P. Martin, S. Ostell, L. Prince, A. Raymond, Armand Raymond, C. Starnes, P. Trudel, L. Tellier.

## LIST OF EXCELLENCE.

[In this are placed the names of those who excel in class.]

## CLASSICAL DEPARTMENT.

*Senior Class.*—A. Crevier, W. J. Kelly, W. Lalonde, J. Brossard.

*Junior Class.*—D. E. Murphy, E. J. Murphy, D. Mullins, T. A. Nealon, R. Walsh.

*Belles Lettres.*—G. W. Brown, J. Coffey, T. Daley, J. Finon, C. Kelley, D. M. Lowney, J. J. Lenahan, E. F. Somers.

*Prosody.*—J. Conway, J. B. Choinière, J. Daly, L. Girouard, L. Guertin, J. Hopwood, J. Kennedy, F. Murray, Z. Migneron, F. O'Connor.

*Syntax.*—J. Cochrane, M. Carey, P. H. Carey, A. Champagne, A. Guertin, F. H. Gerry, F. Jasmin, E. Kelly, P. Laframboise, J. Mullins, J. McKinnon, D. O'Connor, M. Sheridan, A. Tourangeau.

*Introductory.*—J. Armstrong, H. Geraghty, Wm. Grace, Geo. Harrison, H. P. Moynagh, E. Valiere.

## COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

*Senior.*—(Business Class).—D. J. Donovan, F. Fogarty, J. Hennessy, F. Heffernan, D. G. Lamoureux, J. Linden, J. O'Donnell, G. St. Julien.

*Fourth Year.*—A. Bocquet, H. Drouin, H. Langlois, A. Pinet, J. Smith, N. Vime.

*Third Year.*—H. Burrige, R. Charbonneau, J. Fee, J. Gohier, A. Hudon, R. Keating, Wm. Lantlum, E. Murphy, J. O'Brien, J. O'Reilly, C. O'Shaughnessy, E. St. Cyr, A. Valade, H. Wall.

*Second Year.*—H. Beaudoin, J. Beaudet, O. Bertrand, J. Baxter, J. Broderick, W. Coleman, J. Finn, D. Fingleton, A. Harwood, O. Lafleur, P. Laronde, A. Lefebvre, A. McGinness, J. Mullins, J. Polan, H. Plouff, F. Rose, J. St. John, O. Tourangeau, D. Tobin.

*First Year.*—B. Curran, V. Deslauriers, D. Dalton, J. Deslauriers, J. Delorme, D. Hilly, W. Kelly, A. Laronde, P. St. Jean, G. St. Jean.

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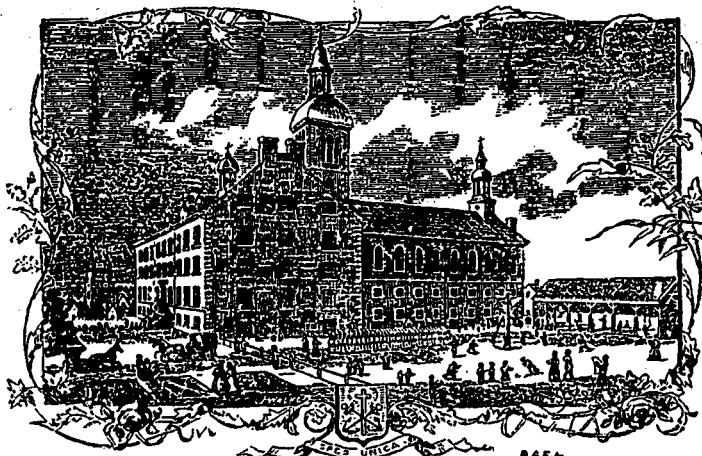
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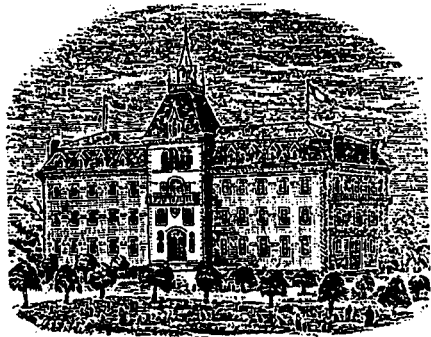
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