## April, $187 \%$.

Vol. III. No. 6.

# Cif Araidia Dethenamu. 



##  <br> (Foundcd 1S38.)

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# THE ACADIA ATHEN $A E M M$. 

You. 3. Yolfyile , N. S., April, 187J. No 6.

## [Original Forty.]

Gradatim.
There is no point to mark progression's limit, Since high as we may climb,
We find on reaching what we deemed the summit Heights tor'ring more sublime.

Life holds for all its heights, its hills elysian, Unseen by grosser eyes,
Yet to the soul's unhampered, Softy vision, Dim and far-off they rise.
Clear be the sky, or dull and low, and leaden, 'Gainst which they stand defined, Faint bo the outline; still they point to heaven, And pierce tho mists of time.
No fair, alluring way of sudden transit, No easy-conquered spoil, We find before us, for we gain the summit, Through years of patient toil.

Who in ignoble ease would reach the nome Unknown to pain's keen touch, Must stand on holy hills, no white-ringed psyche, But mortal-stained with dust.

Better to mount the ladder with decision, And reach the purer air,
Knowing each hard-ron step extends the vision, And leaves the soul more fair.

We cannot reach our life's full fair fruition, At one gigantic bound,
Bat only through the single, free condition, Of climbing, round by round.

## A. Fragment on Homer.

1 Ax important characteristic of Homer's poems Find one which has probably helped to render hem so enduring and popular, is the air of froth they wear, truth to character and to nature. It is here, perhaps, that Homer's poetic genius appears in tho most masterly effect. This is the great secret of his power over our hearts.

Take, for instance, the account of the dialogue between the unfortunate Helen and the aged

Priam, in the 3 rd book of the Head. A truce has been agreed upon; Paris and Menelaus are to decide the weary contest by a personal combat. Iris sent from Olympus comes to Helen, whom she finds writing leer history in a golden tapestry, and warns her of the contest, in the issue of which she has, of course, great interest, urging her to be present. Priam and the Elders of the city are "sitting in the gate,"-like the Old Testament Kings. Helen approaches. Homer has as yet made no mention of her wonderful beauty, but here in a fer masterly touches introduced in the simplest and most natural manner, he does more than describe it, when he tells of its effects. The old men break off their talk-charmed with her beauty, and with gentle courtesy Priam receives her. He does not look upon her in that light in which later moralists mould be apt to view her, although his sons were falling in protracted war for hor sake. Priam himself explains :
"Not the o I blame,
But to the gods I ore this woeful rar."-(3. 164.-6.)
But Helen herself feels her position with bitter keenness, and in the conversation which follows in which she points out to Priam the Leaders of Greeks, she touches upon her orr mournful fate. She says of Agamemnon :

> "In Ing husband's name,
> Lost, ns I ain, I called him brother once."
and when she zanily tries to descry among the lost, her two brothers, who had finished their mortal warfare fears before, notice the poets natural stroke of genius:
> "My own two brother, and my mother's sons, Castor and Pollux; Castor horseman bold, Pollux unmatched in pugilistic skill;
> In Lacedsomon have they stayed behind?
> Or can it be, in ocean going ships
> That they have come indeed, but shame to join
> The fight of warriors, fearful of the sham ${ }^{-1}$
> And deep disgrace that on my name attend !"-
(03. 286-242)

The whole episode is one of the $x$ iost benutiful in the Iliad, and, says Collins: "as a natural and life-like, but lighly wrought picture in what we might call social drama, it stands almost without equal or parallel in classical literature.

Homer's picture of Andromache is a master. piece, and the pathetic incident of the parting of her and her brave husband, before Hector goes to the fight in which he is fated to die, has won the admiration of readers in every age. For true and unaffected pathos, delicate touches of nature, and knowledge of the human heart, it has never been surpassed; and do we wonder that Portia, the wife of Brutus, in the last days of the Republic, when the Roman ladies were not much given to sentiment, was moved to tears, when looking upon a picture of this parting scene?

All through the poet's immortai wrik, we feel that reality of coloring and description, that truth to nature and life, which makes our heart responsive to the strains struck by the merrytoned yet coucordant strings of his lyre.

It is impossible to notice all the beauties with which Homer has adorned his poems, for we cannot count the stars scattered in endless profusion through the pathless fields of space. The careful and loving student of the Greek bard in his original hesameters, guided by a judicious and appreciative annotator, would fiud these beauties growing upon him as he proceeded, and sparkling in eternal freshness. He would be struck with the variety yet harmony of the characters, the number of the incidents that diversify the poem without the least coufusion, and the distinctness and grandeur of the images. At times he would be hurried through a book by the warlike ardor of the poet, and again he mould involuntarily linger on some tender passage or pathetic incident.

His curiosity or fancy would be sometines excited as, by the description of Hire's toilet (llaid 14. 169-186), or that of the shield of Achilles (18. 475-606), - ono of the most remarkable, and we may add, valuable delineations in ancient literature. And amain, there would be representations the most grand and magnificient, as that of the descent of Poscidon (1liad 18. 18-22), and "battle-pieces" of the highest grandeur and sublimity.

Homer is the master of all the graces of poetry " the magician of unnumbered beauties," whose poems still retain their charm over our affections. He is the only one of the ancient bards, through whose divine influence, two English statesmen have been drawn from the multifarious cares of State to his study, and to whom he is indebted -so to speak-for the two best translations of his works into English-those by Gladstone and Earl Derby.
Homer is the great representation of his age, in him we see all that was great, noble, and poctic in the men or minstrels of his time. In the beautiful language of Felton: He concentraies in himself the qualities, attributes, powers, and poctic ideas of many individual men, with such addition as fiction and imagination may throw around him. As in receding from a city; at night, the lights of its thousand habitations gradually blend into a single luminous point,as in gazing into the heavens, we behold in the twinkling of a single star, the intermingled rays of a whole system of shining worlds,-so, when we turn the mental eye toward the deep darkness of the past, we behold the concentrated brilliancy of a thousand lesser luminaries in the star of Homer, which glows triumphant on the brow of the night of antiquity.

Virtutes Cernuntur in Agendo.
In all ages it has been natural to man to judge his fellow-man by actions. The old proverb: "Actions speak louder than words" is a verg general principle, and in a large majority of instances, is a safe hypothesis. Unconsciously perhaps, each individual is continually underyo ing a close scrutiny; 'uis actions are being corsidered and valued, and from the conclusions dramn, as data, a certain estimato is made of his character.
In the first plase, it may be well to enquire, What right has any one to judge character bf actions? It may be said in answer to this, the there are three ways in which we may judge the character of an individual : by his personal appearance, by his words, and by his notious. of these three ways, the latter is the best, inasmuch
as actions are the most correct index of the mind and heart; they are thoughts crystallized.
Action is the result of matured thought, or of impulse. We are told that every motion of the body proceeds from the brain; that every thing that we do is anticipated by it, and action takes place there, and may or may not have a corresponding outward motion, according as the will is exerted in reference to that action. And, since action is a motion of the mind, permitted by the the will to assume an outward form after more or less consideration, impulsive action, or that which takes place with the least forethought, is the most correct inder of the original motion of the mind.
If a man should see his fellow in a river drorrning, and hasten to render all the assistance in his power, in order to rescue him an observer rould think of the one who rendered the assistance às being a noble-hearted man-one who had a sympathizing nature, and ready to help the distressed; and the inference would be a reasonable one; for the action was the result of impulse. The man had not time to consider whether or not it would be profitable to endanger his own life for the sake of saving that of another; it wis enough for him to know that the life of his fellow was in danger, and that his hely was needed.
On the other hand, action as the result of forethought does not give a true picture of the author's character. It presents a picture similar to that representing the highest iden the artist lad of the object represented; there is mole gold and sunshine made to appear than really evists in the original.
A generaliy prevailing idea among men at the present day is, that virtue and integrity can bé manifested only in great actions. But this is an erroncous notion, since great deeds, so called, are gencrally performed after much preparation and forethought, and therefore cannot deuote the true character of the doer; but it is rather in the performance of the small things of lifethings that are done almost unconsciously, that virtuc and iutegrity are, if at $a^{\prime}$ manifested. A man occupying a high position in the state, to whom an important civil or financial trust has been committed, mas cxemplify virtue and integ.
rity by acting honorably and honestly in reference to that trust ; but another man occupying a lowly pcsition, on whom the great world is not iooking, can exercise the same innate principle of virtue and integrity as the other, with probably a purer motive.

Very many persons seem not to be aware of this fact, or they seem to have forgotton it altogether. They have an iliea that if they occupied the position that some one else occupies, they could do much more good than they now do ; their sphere of influence would be more extended, and if they practised virtue, it would be more widely recognized and more generally imitated. It was this desire to do-more than the ordinary duties of life demand of one, or than was thought could be done in connection with life's common duties, combined with the same error, that instigated the so called christians of Europe, during some of the past centuries, to break the ties that bound them to society, and to go on pilgrimages, or to shut themselves in from the contaminating influences of their fellow men.

We exercise sufficient latitude in ous opinions to believe that there rere instances of virtue among those who thms buried themselves for life in convents and monasteries; and some probably had praiseworthy motives, but it is quite evident that they too, as the results show, were in error. It is impossible for us to say what would have been the result if those persons had retained their position and influence in the world, but if the monks aud nuns had any religion, it was removed from among men and with them was buried in the tombs of the living; and as a result, we see the people left without instructors; the little knowiedge of truth possessed by them, instead of being nourished and increased by intercourse with those who were supposed to possess it, allowed to languish, or to be fed at the beak of chance, and if we take a glance over Europe soon after the establishment of the Monkish order, we will see darkness hovering over and frustrating the minds and hearts of men. Men in intercourse with each other are infuenced, one by the other; thero the monks in severing their connection rith the rorld, forsook the contest with error and evil, leaving the field in the power of the enemy, as far as human
agency was concerned, volunts rijy gixing up their 'horror, and so exaggerated the aive and terror porer to influence the people to the practice of $;$ within us at the mention of its appraach, that virtue. Is it any wonder that gross darkness christinns thongh we are, we look forward to its existed thronghout the $l$ ength and breadlh of certain coming with consternation rather than Europe? Surely not. It was similar inhuences/with joy, at the thought of a soul passing from also that caused Symeon Stylites to make his life as miserable as possible, loy taking up his abode on the lofty pillars erected for his use, and remaining ther2 exposed to the fury of the elements; and in as uncomfortable positions as could be thought of. Of course there is no one now who would not suile at such fauaticism, and teim it outrageots; and Symeon's name will be spoken ass a by-word for ages to come; yet his spirit is not dead; it lives; we all possess a portion of it and call it by another name, and cherish it as a noble inborn desire for a more glorious field of action than the performance of life's common cluties fumished.

We do not recognize him as the futher of it, bitu so much of it seemed to have been possessed by him that he was cuabled to break artay from the world, and to act in life according to his lighest ideal of the existence of man.

Let us practise virtue for its orn sake, in Whatever sphere we may move, be it never so lumble, and not that men may see it; for surely it is its omin remard.

## Denth is Mone.

Deatr has always been conisidered the "lking of terrors," and the finale of life is characterized as the " last struggle," while in reality witn it all struggle ceases. Said a man of iufluence and wealth a fer days ago: "Only one thing troubles me, mud that is death." How many cansay "amen" to that? Everybody seems to have a cinilly dread of death.
It seems quite time that this pale ghostly monarch who has for ages struck terror to tite bravest hearts, and made corrards of us all, should be discrowned; at least that we mary look upon him with kess horror, and leam to meet what is inevitable with the composure of a philosopher; and pernaps at last me may look upon him rather as an angel of mercy than a tyramical conqueror.
Superstition has veiled this personage (death) of which we are so ignorant, in mysterions
denth unto life.
This is all wrong, and though it be urged that those are matural feelings, and relate merely to an inherent repugnance to having our bodies pass into the original dust, and to lose cugnizance of the materinl world, jet why shonid we grieve that instead of seeing things damly, we shall behold all things clearly! Instead of knowing a part, we siall know the whole. The grave can never be totally dark since Christ lay there, for through all the darkuess of that "boume from which no traveller c'er returns," comes back a ray of light, isnoming us that IIe has coaquered-and we shall also conquer hy his power. And though life is sweet and it is positive delight to feel the healthy palsations of the life blood, to be conscious oi thought and power of w:il, though God be very good to us here, and showers rici blessings upon us, even fills for us the measure of bliss; still such is the hope in ceath that the christian when the beatings of the leart grow faint, and the claminy sweat gathers on the brom, and the grim monster is clasping him in lis embrace, may say: "P'ut out the lights, there is nothing now lut he:ven."
Jesus has taken the sting out of death, and stripped the grave of its victory, The balo of light which he shed over the grave as be arose from it, still brightens that othermise glooms ahode. Combining this thought with the lar. guare of the 48 I'salm, 14 verse: "For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death." What is there to fear? In place of grieving our lives amar becanse death is staring us in the face, let us rejoice-in the midst of the present state of thing $s$-that there is a divincly appointed way of thanging them, onal that way is death. Ah, but, says onc, death is the hardest of ".11 ways for changing life. But in contradiction to this is the language of scrip ture: "He giveth his beloved slecp." A rest from the cares, toils and disappointments of life What a hope brightens before the christian ss
his eye dims in deeth. For years he has been clinbing the rugged, thorny steeps of life, sometimes his hopes of success were strong; sometimes the heart beat high with antieipation; the hand was streatched forth to grasp the golden prize ; the foot was raisel to step upon the highest pedestal of prosperity and fame, when alas! misfortune like a whirlwind seatters and drives evergthing before it, and hope is crushed forever. Such is the hope in life. Not so the hope in denth. Not only does it infinitely transeend all earthly hopes, bat it differs from them in being absolutely certain of realization. All the grandeur and glory which streaches out before the believer in the hour of death slall be realized. All the purity and soline ;s, harmony and love, which reigns in hearea, shall be his to enjoy forever nud ever.
Why? Because Ife is faithful who has promised.

## Fresh Trouts :

concluived.
What, ye trouts and countlesstribes we said indiguantly-where is your patriotism, where is the spirit that animated your compatriots jesterday when twice fifty rushed to meet the invaders and poured out their blood upon the ruthless steel? Their hearts have ceasel to beat (i. e. gillsceased to flap) but does not their heroic spinit live? Will jou see your swect waters poisoned by a worm, a reptile, a half-breed, and will you not rush to its demolition? But the trout heard not our harangue-or understand it not, for we have forgotten che idioms se were wont .. enploy when we belonged to that low order of vertebrates. And the tishes shaic. So also did we-by the holes; so also did the buit-on the hook.
Talt of torture! talk of heing hung uy over a slor fire aud roasted scientifically so as to be done withont burning ! talk of being pitc!ed into bed with a rattlesmake for a bedfellow! Why, these are exquisite joys compared with the calamity of trouting all day rithout so wuch as laving your worm touched by a single snout! Do you wonder that we cried

> "Oh for a lodge in some rast wilderness !
> Soute boundless contiguity of shade!"

Yct wo were not wholly discouraged. Our party captured four fins trouts nud cane offirom the encounter soind in wind and limb. There mas something exceediugls touching in the
decease of those trouts. Ah, what monster can look upon the dealh bed even of an enemy without a companctions pang. There was sucha patient resigncel kook abont their comentenancesit recalled one's thoughts to the prison seene of Socrates. Having failed to destroy the dirty pr "ater of their ceystals shrines they disdained longer to inhabit them amd dark death took hold upon them as their tails wiggled mournfully far away from their des r native oxygen aud hydrogen. We wrote a simple inseription. "Died ia the arms of glory, Billy; Johmy and Freddy Trout, Feb. 26th. 77. Suilly wo departeddividing the spoils that one might not have too heary a load.

But though our game was scarce our fun was not. The magical effect of silent nature was not lost upon us, silent only in the absence of human craft, for we were out of the sound of the axe. We drank in the nectarous odors oi spruce and pine, of moss and fern. We felt it all-the mighty-spell of wiaurd nature and almost envied the sons of the forest even though they have such close fellorsship; with dirt.

But alas, we had to leave for College. The forest hoary and still-with ouly an indistinct murmur as coming from its secret, mighty heart; the pleasant little lake with its crystalline covering and its bosom of soft virgin whiteness and purity; lissed by the amorous rays of the sun into blushes of red and white, and ofiering to the deep clear blue of the brooding sly, innumerable flakes of light, scintillaut glories, which, if only permanent would beggar all the jewels of central earth; the tufts of moss that herz and there found the light, uprearing heads through the snow -moss unpretentious but abiding-lap for the wearied head and aching brow on which mother earth hashes us to slumber; these with other seenes comnected with them we must leare behind. strengthened, invigorated-there is the juicy current of life in our veins from the embrace of our grand old mother. Gc to the woods-the mountains you pale faced boy or girl-no matter about the sex-weak eyed and flabby-fieshed from midnight rigils and no exercise! go to the woods and get strong-cren if you do'nt catch many troutr, for mark our mords,
> "There is a pleneure in the pathless woods, There is a rapture on the lonely shore, There is sucticty where none intrude
> By the decp sea, and music in its roar, cte:"

Ste Byroa's Childe Huruld's Pil,
Yours sincerely in the name of
Isaak Walton,
J. G. B. W.

Fishers.

# *eadia 前thenæum. 

Wolfuile, र. S., April, $187 J$.

## EDITORS.

$\left.\begin{array}{ll}\text { J. Goodwin, } & { }^{77} \\ \text { B. P. SHAFNER, } & \text { '77 }\end{array}\right\}$ Chief Editors.
B. W. Locknimt, '78

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The Aoadia Athenæum is sent to Subscribers at the oxceedingly low price of Fifty Cents por year, IN ADVANCE, postage pro-paid.

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## That \$100,000.

We hope ere thus that the additional endowment so heartily voted by the Convention last August is felt by every Baptist in these Lower Provinces, to be essential to the future prosperity of Acadia College. In these days of progress, to stand still is to be left behind. We must advance. We must have increased facilities, year by year, for training our young men. What we have done well in the past we must do better in the future. This progress however is dependent uponan enlargement of the College income, and if that is increased by the addition of $\$ 100,000$ to the endorment fund, a bright future is before Acadia College. We camnot persuade ourselves that the Baptists of these Provinces will ever allow their cherished institution to languish for lack of financial support. They would be recreant to their principles and unworthy of their honored ancestors, could they for a moment entortain the thought. Let them iont contribute of tholy means as did the friends of the College in the past, and the sum is secured.

In 1850 the College needed $\$ 8000$; it mas raisel within 3 months. In 1852, 848,000 was pledged in less than a jear. Of this sum, one agent secured over $\$ 16,000$ in four weeks. During the quarter of a century that has since elapsed the Baptists have made rapid advances in numbers and wealth. Let them honor the Lord vith their substance by contributing to an institution which has enjoyed so many evidences of God's favor. The praiseworthy sacrifices, made by the denomination in the past, instead of being an argument for present inaction, should rather be an incentive to renewed effort. We subjoin the following extract from a speech, delivered by the late Judge Jolmston, as some of its utternnces are quite appropriate to to the present emergency :-
"Let the denomination look to. What it has done in the causo of Education. Great and noble have been their efforts and without parallel in the province. Oh , let these achievements not be the cause of deeper degratation by any failure now. But if these institutions are to be destroyed, let not the unhallowed work be wrought by enemies without. Let Bapiists do it; let them dilinerately plan and fearlessly fulfil the work of destruction. And while they apply the torch, and the flames fly up as a swift witness to. heaven, let them remember that the foundations of these walls were laid in the counsels and the prayers of the fathers of the denominationsome of them now in heaven-and it mignt be, if such should be permitted, looking down with grief and pity on the reckless deed. Let them remember chat these walls were raised by the energies, labors and exertions of Baptist Mrinisters; and have been sustained by the free contributions of their brethren in one common faith, those sympathies and affections halloyed their pecuniary gifts-and let them remember that there have the manifestations of divine favor been unsparingly rouchsafed-nor, as they turn from the smouldering ruins, let them forget that they leave them the grave of hopes, which had entwined themselves aromed those institutions, as the instruments of the intellectual and moral improvement of the community; long cherished by many who, bound by the strongest tics of affecticn and brotherhood to the denomination, isought its welfare ard elevation as the highest olject of their ambition and desire."

## Correspoisilenco.

Tris following is an interesting extract taken from a private letter:

* Mrantime let me fulfil a promise made ial my last to give you some daily accomnt of life in Oxford. Of course in many respects life -is the same the civilized world over. Everybody as $n$ rulo rises in the morning, goes to bed at night; eats more or less frequently during the day, works, if he cen't afford to live without it and seldom if he can, scolds if things are adverse and in cases of extreme provocation cren swears, marries if they can (i. e. he or she) if that is impossible, yields like a man or woman to his fate (her fate).

First the city itself has a remarkable history and its fame is morld wide. It is variously called the University City, the City of Pimmacles and Groves, \&c. In fact it is impossible to describe it. A German Professor who visited it many years ago has made a good attempt to do sollowever. He speaks of it in the folloming lauguage: "In the midst of the city rises a mass of mighty biuildings, the general character of which varies between ionvent, jnlace, and castle. The principal massey consist of the Colleges, the University buildings and the city clurrehes; and by the side of them the city itself is lost in distant view. Each of the larger and more ancient colleges looks a separate whole; -an eutire town whose walls and monuments prochim the growth of many centuries. II fact every college is in itself, a sort of chronicle of art in England, and more expressly of architecture.
IIe who can be proof against the strong emotions which the whole aspect and genius of the place tends to inspire must be dull, thoughtless, uneducated, or of very perverted views."
Dean Stanley says: "Oxford is a mass of towers, pinmacles and spires rising in the bosom of a valley; dark and ancient edifices clustered togrtleer, in forms full of richness and beauty."
I Tourist says of it: "So grand and yet so raried are the mumerous groups of towers, turiets and spires, that the beholder becomes mrapt in admiration."
And so one might give you many testimonics of the same chamacter. Just think of twenty-one

Colleges and four Inalls. Tou may say terentyfive Colleges in $n$ not large city, no two of which are more than half a mile apart, and sometimes tro or three close together. "Corpus Christi," "Oricl," and "Merton" Colleges are quite near each other; " University" and "Queen's" Colleges also; "Iesus" and "Exeter" Colleges also ; "Ballic "" and "Trinity" as well. All the Colleges-except one, "Keble" College, Intely built and of brick-are built of stone. Some of them have been standing nearly two centuries. They all form quadrangles, and you must stand inside of these to get the full imprcision which the wholle gives. The "Great Quadrangle of "Christ Cinure" College, the finest and largest in Oxford, is $\& 4$ feet by 261. "Chuist Church" contains what is called the "Iom 'Tower"-so called because it holds a great bell by name "'Tom," very old, but recast in 1680 -it (the bell) weighs $17,000 \mathrm{lbs}$., double the weight of the great bell in St. Paul's Cathedral. Every night five minutes past nine, great "'Com" tolls 101 strokes as a signal for the closing of the College gates. (Singularly chough just as I was penuing the above, "Tom commenced to toll his 101 strokes. I hear him winding amay.

To give you tren a faint conception of what is contained withn these venerable seats of learning would be impossible in one short letter. In fact it would be regarded as too tedious by the ordinary letter reader to give a description of much that would be very interesting to the visitor. But the fanous " IBodleian Library" cannot be entirely passed over,

Where in dusky rows,
The volumed wonders of the past repose."
Its fame is world-wide. No place ce - boast of so large, and valuable a collection of books. When you enter it, you are at a loss where to begin or where to end in your examinations, so vast and valusble are the treasures spread out before you. There are in this great library, at the present time, about four hundred thousand volumes. There are also twenty-six thousand manuscripts in it. It is thonght that at the close of this century there will be at least five hundred chousand volumes in this wonderful library. There are thousands of other things of interest which ecnnot be mentioned here. I may just
say in passing that the exercise rooks ont of which Edward VI. and Elizabeth learned Latin can be seen here. Also the first book printed in the Euglish language: "History of Troy," printed by Caxton $1: 1+172$; also the Gospels written, in Latin in the cleventh century, sad namberless other things.

## Marold - A Tragedy.

A. TENAISON.

Granes is more than an effect of either social or material canses. No science has ever yet revealed the process by which one mind in a century is created, reared high above all others -a crowned hing. The great king-maker in the spiriual realin is Goct, who enkindles on whatsoever altar He will the divine fire, which camot be bought by silver or gold, nor made hereditary in any family. Great truly is Genius. Great likewise is the age most fecmad of Genius. From the needs of its deep heart, from its yearnings aud aspirations, from its social, spiritual, and political necessities, spring those influenees which mould and develope master-minds, and those tidal-mares of tendency which bear them into their appropriate chamels. The sum mhich gives light and heat to the Universe is kept in his position by its invisible forces. Somernat similar is the relationship between Geains and an Age. Just how far the age makes the man, and the man the age, me cunnot say; but we know that there is an interchange of power and a constant reciprocity of products. The roots state and society generally, are spread through all the ramifications of momals and its hidden fibres enter into the whole mysterions fabric or mental beiug. Great men bave either been the exponents of regnant principles of their age, ir of the age itself. Every century or epoch has its bright pharos shining peremially with that light whose tints were taken from the elements which kiudled and supplied the flame. Here is a Charlemagne, and there a Iildebrand; one system developes a 13 ayand, and mother a Yoltrire; one uation produces an Iischylus, mother a Virgil, and another a Milton in the sense of dinecting and developing their infinite intellectual possibilities.

The diama had its reign. Every student of literature knows that prodigious culmination of the dumatic genius in the 16 th century; how this great vortex absorbed almost every current of literature and how the kingdom of thonght was appropmiated. The dramatic fervor nas of no mashroom growth and was kept alive not by intellectual wantomess or caprice but rather ly the necessities of the people, by tire craving of miversal mind for food. The avemue of the stage was opened when almost every other was slant. In the history of the Sason this has not happened twice. From the womb of the social and spiritual desires of a great untion issucd the fair progeny which have become so renowned and cosmopolitan. Otheilo is ubignitous; Aisacbeth is coaversant in a hundred tongues and Julius Caesar has relinquished the proud distinction of a Roman citizen to become a citizen of the world and of time. Upon the powerful mind of Shakespere were brought to bear more inpedious forees to incline it to the drama, than were ever before cxerted in any age or in any clime-not even excepting the age of the Grecian three Sophocles Guripiles and Eschylus. Thrown into life at an early age, his intuitive knorledge of humanity became decpened, quiekened and justified; by his social habits; he was sharpened by contact with minds inferior indeed in nature, but superior in culture and was stimulated by the rivalry of scores of competitors. Possessing doubtless the most many-sided and subtile genius ever vouchsafed to man be fell uyon an age most eminentry adapted to develope and nourish its peculiar powers. The age has passed amay leaving behind it an cternal gramdeur of light unseen before. One mind has enriched the world. It would seem as though the Creative geluius of the drema had done its work; that it had sann into the highest realm and touched the summit of its greatness; that it had oared over tice sea of imagination an aryosy of richest gens from the Ultiun Thule of the universe of Thought. All the tragedies which have appeanel since have had their litule day and are sirtualls dend.

Nor, if re grant that genius is lartless, that it is in its province to make an age, to create a morld, to transeend all cause, then, but not till
then, can we grout that the Ninetecnth Century com kinde at dame in the dramatic heaven whose light is strong enough to illumine cring time alongsite of the central sun. Fain is a Yenus or a Mercury; for though they hold a place thes dwell in obscurity, darkened by excessive brightness of the superior orb. licamont and Fletcher, Massinger and Ford and Dryden, are rarely read-yet their genins wris unquestisuably great. But who can imagine the works of Shakespere ever being confined to a namow circle of literary antiquarians?

Alfred Temyson, poet haureate of Englam, standing first among contemporary pocts has written tro dramas; the last of which is called "Harold," from the great Saron ling who is the hero of the play. That the suthor of "In Memoinm" liss not surely written a play devoid of the fire of his former genius need not be offrmed here; nay more, that there is a rugged aid imposing structure in outhine, which perhaps z:o other hand could erect, is admitted.

But the traces of his gemius in the drama are lite the fossil remains of a remote age reminding us of greatuess now decajed. Everybody reads Ifaroh and Mary; because Mr. Temisson wrote them, but comparatively few read them the second time unless it be to assure themselves whether it was their own stupidity or the author's inanity that rendere? them so unsatisfactory. Ilarold is both better and morse than. Mrary. Tine theme and age is infinitely better for the portmyal of all deep heroic passion and virtue. The subject is intensely interesting in itself. So far Ilarold is superior to Mary. In its treatment little more power is displayed. The difference is that in the one the author did little with a poor subject, and in the other he has done the same with a good one.

TVe hare only one stmulard by which our julgment of dramatice excellence cin be guided -i standard higher than the loniest ideal of the pre-Flizabethian era, amd which compels a mord's wonder that it conldever have been made taugible and real. Shakespeare has embodied all our abstractions of execllence in the tragedy, and liavold must be compared with his great historic plays. True enonghl it is that the comparison is unfair to the inferior; a house may look very well in a back sotilement, which woukd be reanakably intignificant lesside the Tuileries. Hence it is that the author must be very cmimently adaptedto thener laborheh:s undertaken or he masifail-hemust patially fail in sure case.
The most ples anat feature in the execution of 'Iisrold' is the parity of its style of composition. Its Saxon is unalulterated rith any forcign adomixture, inuocent of muy Latinity. Whether this is an umixed good is a question rith us.

As before remarked the characters and time chosen in the drama of Harold are remarkably fine. The historic incidents follow each other with vehement and startling rapidity. It is an age of heroism; the passions and emotions of : strong people are free and fetterless in their exercise. Harold and Willism tioc Norman are the two greatest men of their time and ocenpy the summit of power. The latter thled with all the fiecee, strong passions which beset the laman sonl, with glory and monarehy before him shining through the dim, murky aimesphere of ward and intrigues, scomged by ambition amdrendered stuccessful by the most massive powers in the most haughty and unscrupulous of souls. The liing of the English-of the stern poetical, religious Saxon, himself their mental and yhysical type is lurave, pattiotic, virtuous, strong-souled, tender amd abiting in love, every inch a monarch and the darlinge of chivalry. IIe is pursued by incrorable Fate; warred against by the very powers of hearen who spoke in omens mysteriously revealed to the superstitions soul; his dark career shows only in more intense gloom smit throngh by the lightning and bloody fire of Stamford Bridge. These are the histotical characters, and seldom if ever has Genius entered a spiritual liingdom vicher in unsoughe trophies and more gorgeous in mugathered wealth.

## What's in our Exchanges.

Colmege editors are sometimes inclined to look upon the exchange column as county editors regand the sea-serpent, as a kind of stand-by for hard times, when articles are tight, and locals, the current coin of College literature, are at a premium. Of course tre do not include ourselves in this mourafal category, oh! no! We set a muqli higher value on our Exchange column. It is a green spot, and so mi, youknow, and we are naturally attracted to it.

The Dalhowsic Gazelle, which liy the way we accidentally omitted to motice before, has been ןparsuing the cren tenor of its way, all rinter. While the alrgosy mad oursclues were indulging in a fer jpleasantries over the "Nerr Liniversity" the Gazille stood of at :a safe distance and cujoyed itself. Thus its path, like that of virtue, became one of peace. We have read with interest the different numbers as they appeared regularly on our table. The last irsuc contains among other things an article on the superstitions
of old Seotland which have been transplanted to this new Scotia of ours, quite a lenglhy accome of a trip) to Philadelphia, from which we rose up with a smile, because it told not of that everlasting Centennial, and a communication from Miss Mruflet praying that Dalhousic open her arms to women. Why don't sume strong-minded girl ask us to open our arms?

It has been remarked by some body that a son answer will onen go farther than a smooth-ing-iron. So it is with a fine title. The name of a paper is ofen its best foot formost. Like a white dickey or a pretty face it of en introduces its owner to positions not otherwise attainable. Some names, again, are like bashfulness itself and introdnce their wearers with the least pretensions. Of the latter class is the title of a college sheet which eame to us last month for the first time, the Colby Echo. We feel morally satisfied, after looking over the first two numbers, that it is neither so empty nor so moniginal as the name might imply: We suppose it is meant to be the echo of Colby thought and feeling. It compares favorably with our other exchanges. We are pleased to add it to our list.

Tue Olucrlin Revicw for March 28 is on hand. Some of our exchanges excel in locals, some in literary articles. but, to our mind, where the Review shines, $s$ in its editorial columns. The editors write short articles and seem to possess the happy faculty of pieking up new and generally interesting topics.

The Oberlinians seem to have some grierances from which we are frec. We append an extract from the last Revicu to illustrate.
"The writer refers to the modus operandi of some of the young ladies ( (?) at the liall.
For instance, a young gentleman has a slight regard for a young lady; boarling at the llall. Ife consequently feels a very matural and innocent satisfaction in her society, and calls to see her once a week, or perhaps otencr. He has not done this more than trice before he makes the discovery that it. reguires an amount of mental, moral and phrsical courage that would do credit to lion's whole book of Martyrs. Hie is vbliged to " run the gauntlet" of a double rom of silly, giggling girls who entirely justify the popular classification of women with idiots. When he enters the reception room they nudge c. th other, indulge in sundry giggles and uner uplimentary remarks in stage whispers, such zs, 'There he is again,' 'that's the second time he has called this week' * " l'uclla."
$N$. S. girls are brought up better than that.

## Things nbout Home.

Por go the measles.
Prof.-"How could the Turlss be said to get a footing in the heel of Italy?"
"Spmisa, spring, beautiful spring."
Thex say that that Freshman has been wonderfully improved by the measles or else he has rashed his face.

Two of the Sophs. are out of wood. The question which now agitates us is: "How do they keep wam?"

The seaiors are wrinkling their brows over Baine's Moral Scicnce. 'They say that it is the $\mathrm{Ba}(\mathrm{i})$ ne of their cxistence.

That fist ro,in is around again. We have it on the word of a Freshman, that it gave its first lonely chirp on the 4th instant, four days later than last jear. Now feel sentimental and get up poetry:

Semion, reading account of Bodleran Library : " 400,000 volumes! just think of it; and we have'nt 100,000 even!"

A Somi. lately made a bet that he ronld mrite a letter to a certain young ladj; with whom he mas not on the best of terms, and mould get a letter back. Sure enough, the letter came back - lis own re mean, unopened.

Tire Freshman who heard the sophrano voice chanting: "Sprig, sprig, horrible sprig," as he sanntered past the open mindor, dressed up in a fancy canc, a stand-up collar and a plug-hat, need not be offended. The singer was only enjojing one of the season colds.

As Acadia Student of former days, who now swings the ferule, says that a jittle urchin who had staycel away from school for some time rith a sore cye, came in one morning, and the folloring dialoguc ensued:

Master.-"Well, Jimmy, howis your eye this morning? - Can you use it yct?"

Urchin,-"Please, sir, mother says I can see out of it a little, sir."

We are begiuming to sprain our aukles, bruise our fingers, tear our clothes, and have a gooh time generally: once more. Foot-ball, basebali and cricket, are again among the enjogments of the solemn present. As we write there comes up from the pleasant campus the click of bat and the clap of victory: The long minter over
our books may have bleached our cheeks a little, but it will be our own fulult now if we are not pictures of health. We would suggest a little less profanity on the part of two or three of the students, who evidently "have'nt enough sense to last them over Sunday."

Trie past month has been a melancholy one for some of the students. The measles have been sojourning among us for a season, and proving too sociable even for our social dispositions. Quinsy, and other species of sore throat, infamed cyes, colds, ctc., added gloom to the occasion. Mumps were suggested, chicken-pox darkly hinted at, and the influenza was said to be on the war path. "Did you ever have the mumps, and, if so, how many?" mas the momentous question. These rumors, howerer, proved fictitious. All hands are now either recovered or convalescent, aud with flying colors we step into the spring months.

President Dart, of Kings College mas to be our lecturer for March. The evening of the 23 nd was the appointed time, "The Days of Er. Jolmson" the appointed subject. When the day came a great storm of rain came with it. The mud was unutterable, and it mas half-decided to postpone the lecture. But the "nays had it" and we wired on to Pres. Dart to come. At the usual hour, 7.30 , a number began to gather in the Hall, but while all were wondering why the train did'nt put in an appearance, word came along the line that the road mas impossible on account of a freshet. Then slowly and sadly we sought the wet riuds and nuddy mads. But let all he on haud for a good time on Friday; the 13th inst., when the President will be at the desk. Friends at a distance, take notice.

Ture album ferer has not raged so fearfully this year as last, rict a moderate mumber of autographeries have been noticed noating around. Now such an album should be, in some sense, sacred, and not a repository of all kinds of tomfoolery. We have no right to put anything in one over our orm name which tre think will displease the owner, whether that owner belong to the Collicge, Seminary, or what not. Much less hare we any right to write any such thing or any different thing over any one elso's name. Suppose, for example, that a young lady, say of the Sem., seuds her album by some friend for the names of her gentleman acquaintances in the College. The gentlemen insert their rames, dither with an appropriate line or without, and unsuspectingly pass it on. Then somebody with plenty of idie time-and back work, perbapson his hands, gets hold of it and amuses himself
with writing whatever seems right in his own cyes orer these names, copying the handwriting in cach case as nearly as possible. It is a vers fine joke, no donbt but isn't it a lind of forgery in a small way, and neither gentlemanly in regard to the victim of the little pleasantry, or the owner of the album.

Simpar to the enormity above mentioned is that of writing letters, filled with all hinds of nonsense probably, say, for carample, into the Sem., , ud attaching others' mames to them. It is to be hoped that the practice doesn't exist, but it has been hinted at. If there is any sin too black for pardon, we bet a cent this is the one. We rould like to see the perpetrator of such a crius gently phaced in juxtaposition with the pumy for a few hours. Hard-shell or not we would rise and cheerfilly cast in our vote for this species of effusion. We would step up and take our turn at the handle with our prettiest smile. "For the blood of this miscreant," tenfold more than for the blood of him rhom "Graduate" mentions, goes up one long, umsatisfied, uncarthly whoop.

Interesting to the participant, if not to the general public ard those incidents of student life, examinations. Toward them point the energies of the terms. They are the gates which lend from one path of progress to another. The March examination of the Academy took place the other day and gave geneml satisfaction. 1 large number of Collers; students and other friends were present, and watched the proceedings with much interest. Sereral creditable essays varied the exercises. At the close of the examination Rev. E. M. Saunders addressed the students on the endowment question. Other gentlemen present also offered remarks, commending the progress which the Acaderyy had made.

Tue latest thing out is the catalogic of the Library. The need of something of the kind has been long feit. "Where's the Catalogne?" las been the axatious query of many a student as he has paused in a halfehour search through the shelves; for some particular tome; and in melancholy accents has come back from the librarian the mournful celo, "where!" But now the memory of such moes will be ganned aray by the tooth of time. A few moments over the Catalogue will sunice to let any one know mhether the book he secks is in the library, and if so, just where to lay his hand on it. We find that the usable part of the library consists of 3,000 volumes, and it is said that arraigements will soon be made for the appropriation of $\$ 200$ or $\$ 300$ a year to increase the number.

## Acrilia Atheuxum.

The onicers of this Society for the current term, are:
E. P. Coldwelt, President.
F. F. Fonues, Dice-President.
A. W. Armstrong, Critic.
MI. R. Turtie, Recordiny Sec'y.
B. F. Simpsos, Corresponding Sec'y.
G. J. C. Wmite, Treasurcr.

We would suggest a somewhat more regular attendance on the meetings of the Societs:

## Personal Touches.

Jons Wallace, a graduate of Acadia, has entered the legal profession, and is now preaching at Wolfville. We mish him success.
W. H. Romnson; A. B., 1876, is practising at Causo. Guysborough Co.-
D. II. Smpson, A. B., 1876, is preaching at Montague lrialge, P. E. I.

## Acknowledgments.

Levi Eaton, Sl ; Rev. J. Neily, a. M., S1; W. D. Chark, SI; W. Eaton, James W. Margeson, A.J. Randolph, Esq., Si ; Miss Mraggic Thomas, Stewart Bums, $\$ 1$; James Rand, Job. Seaman, Esq.; L. J. Wralker, Esq.; Wm. Faulkner, Esq. ; Rev. J. F. Goucher, J. B. Calkin, A. Mr; Seymour Gourley, A.b., S1.50; Wm. Archibald, N. J. Layton, Matther Archibald, W. G. Gates, SI; John Woodrorth, W. G. Parsons, A. B.; Jolm A. Ford, Alex. Scott, James DesBrisay; Esq. ; Wm. Chipman, Esq., S1; T. H. B. Witter, (adrertisement), 55 ; Freeman Coldrell, Rev. J. D. Skimer, Noah $\Omega$. Dimock, Rev. A. Cohoon, J. J. Erans, 50.70 ; Amasa F. Fisk, A. 1., S1; A. N. Layton, Rev. C. H. Cores, M. 1 . ; Miss Ada Eaton, W. T. Piers, (adrertisement), S4; Miss Sadic W. Mills, Sl; Rer. Js.es MLeadoms, Hon. D. MeN. Parker, M. D. ; Isr. 11 T. Dana, ar. d., \$1; Miss Catherine AKiller, i. C. Clark, John Huntingdon, S1; Rev. A. S. Hunt, M. ג., S1; A. C. Chipman. \$1; Edmard Greenmood, Esq. ; M. A. Davidson, Geore. Fielding, Sl ; Rev. E. XI. Saunders, 3. A., John Whitman, W. II. Knowles, S1; Rev. C. 13 . Welton, $\$ 1$; Miss Julia M. Elderkin.

## Mosiacs.

"Man, thou shalt never dic!" Celestial voices Hymn it into our couls; according larps
By angel fingers touched, when the mild stars Of morning sang together, sound forth still
The song of our great immortality.-Dana.
I feel my jommortality $o^{\prime}$ er sweep All pains, all tears, all time, all fears, and peal Into my cars this truth, "thou lirest forerer.'
-Byron.
Mun is a fallen god, who carries about with him memories of Menven.-Lamarline.

Prosfenity is the blessing of the Old Testament. Adversity is the blessing of the $N a w$, which carricth tho grenter benediction, nod the clearer roselntion of God's faror.-Bacon.

Resianos containg infinite sadness. If so are to lore God ho must be help-neding.- Novalis.

0 Mresto! thou who bringest the receding fares of eternity rearer to tho weary heart of man as ho stands upon the shore and longs to cross over, art thou the crening breeze of this life, or the morning air of the future one?-Richter.

Aur these passings to and fro of fruitful shover and grateful shade, and all those visions of silver palaces built about tho horizon, and roices of moaning wind and threatening thunders, and glories of colored robe and cloren ras are but to deepen in our hearts the acceptance nud dis tinctness and dearncss of the simple ronds, "Our Fatber which art in Hearen."-Rushin.

EvEs-3LANDED justico commends the ingredicats of our poisoned chalica to our own lips.-Shahspeare.

Tuere are poinis from which re can commond our life; When the soul sweeps tho fature liko a blass, And coming things full freightod with our fato Put out dark on the oming of the mind.-Bailey.

Fortove is lik. plaxy; that is to say, a colloction of certain anscen nad unmeless codowments.-Bacon.

Trirzes mako perfection and perfection itsolf is no tribe. - Mr. Angelo.

Mreero is the modiator betrecen the spiritual and the sensual life Although the Epirit be not master of that which it creates through music, yet it is biessed in this creation rhich, like erery creation of art, is greater thas the artist.-Bec'Soden

God made himself a glorions roes of Dakn.-Tennyron.
Ths golden beams of glory tho summor sky that fock, Sline ricro dead stars nro sleeping in their arure mantlad gravo. Father Ryan

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