

McGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

Saturday, December 15th, 1883.



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UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

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MCGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL, DECEMBER 15TH, 1883.

[No. 4.]

MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

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THE UNIVERSITY GAZETTE is published fortnightly during the College Session.

Rejected Communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the writer must always accompany a communication.

PRIERE.

(Song. Translated from the French.)

Ah, if you knew how I deplore
My solitude continually,
Sometimes before my cottage door
You would pass by.

If you but knew the joy I took
In meeting but your fleeting glance,
Up to my window you would look
As 'twere by chance.

If you but knew what comfort sweet
My heart has known when near you stood,
You could not hesitate to meet—
No sister would.

If you but knew what I could tell—
My love, and if you knew the how,
I almost think perhaps—that—well—
You'd enter now.

GOWAN LEA.

Editorials.

It is not often that we refer in these columns to matters of a political nature, since such must as a rule be considered to be without our province. Still it cannot be supposed that a large body of intelligent men such as a University draws together are entirely without fixed opinions upon questions of public interest, only we must be ever cautious to avoid discussing in a paper like this distinct party questions, since such discussions are apt to arouse an *odium politicum* almost as intense as the bitterest *odium theologicum*. And yet there are subjects of a general nature pertaining to political science which are as important to be known as many of the facts the teaching of which is received with general approbation. Many of these are at the same time abstract and highly practical, and especially necessary to be understood in a democratic country like this. No University ought, in our opinion, to be without a chair of Political Science, and we look forward anxiously to the day when our own College will be in a position to add a course in this subject to the curriculum. The ignorance, which very generally prevails in this department of science, may largely be traced to the idea that a knowledge of politics comes intuitively, without study and without effort. No more mistaken notion was ever entertained. Of course, by a perusal of the daily press ordinary political events may be understood and intelligently judged by most people with the aid of a little common sense, but when any question arises

depending largely for its solution upon general principles the great majority find themselves completely adrift. Now, who can be expected to understand the great political questions of the day if not those who come from our Universities, where they are supposed to have been afforded the highest education which the country has the means of bestowing? And yet we have heard the opinion expressed that men while at a University should altogether refrain from meddling in political matters. Such is certainly not the opinion entertained in England, nor does it seem to us a very sensible one. It is rather absurd to suppose that men, who, during their college life, refrained altogether from enquiring into political matters, can, upon emerging into everyday life, suddenly acquire a sound knowledge of the subject such as they will undoubtedly be expected to possess. To put off commencing to study politics until that time of life at which most men think of relaxing their studies is certainly an unjustifiable infraction of the old command not to put off till to-morrow what can be done to-day. In our University, education in this department is almost entirely left to be given by our literary societies, and if it were for no other reason they ought on this account to be strenuously supported.

The subject upon which we more especially wish to dwell at present is the duty which every citizen owes to himself and to his country to take a fair interest in political and public affairs generally. In this Province no public duty, perhaps, has been more glaringly neglected, and the consequences are becoming more and more apparent every day. We see men going into public life who ought more properly to be going to prison, we see good men indifferent or disgusted, and we see the Government a sink of corruption. This state of affairs is largely due to the indifference long manifested by men of high character and intelligence to affairs of public interest. It is often annoying to us when we hear of indignant protests against those who wish to restrict the franchise in a slight degree to think of the thousands and thousands who possess the right to vote and will not make use of it. They clamour and hurl denunciations at those who oppose them, and at last, when they get what they want, are tired of their possession. This is one of the great causes of the failure of democratic government in the United States. The fact is that the people require an immense deal of educating in this matter, and perhaps those require it most of all who go by the name of the respectable classes. In College we meet with many men who will not take the trouble to interest themselves in anything, but who tolerate everything. These men who merely tolerate are unmitigated nuisances. So in general life, there are respectable men and educated men who won't deign to interest themselves in the election of an alderman or a member of parliament. They don't want to mix themselves up in these kind of things, or perhaps it would cost their lackadaisical majesties too great an expenditure of energy. Others again are too busy, the mammon of unrighteousness occupies all their spare thoughts and moments. Such people forget, or perhaps they never comprehended, that a public responsibility lies upon them and that it is their duty to take part in public life. Of

course, all are not equally suited for taking an active part in politics, some have not the ability for so doing, others could not afford it; but all can spare enough time to do the moderate amount which they are in duty bound to do. We all know how, in ancient Greece, the man who took no part in public affairs, who joined neither one side nor the other, but who tolerated all his countrymen with an indifferent air, was looked down upon with contempt and branded as *idiotes*. To understand in what light they viewed them, we have only to look at that famous passage in the funeral oration of Pericles, as handed down to us by Thucydides, in which he inveighs against these useless citizens. Athens considered no citizen too ignorant to have an opinion on public matters; she allowed none to abstain from public and political duties. The English-speaking people in this Province have hitherto taken matters too easily, they have not bestirred themselves until now it seems almost too late. They were too much occupied to spare any time to see after their rights and these are now slipping rapidly from them. The serious position which we know at present to exist might, perhaps, have been prevented, had the educated portion of the community displayed more energy. Mr. Woolsey, at one time President of Yale College, in his work on Political Science, says: "As the right of voting is greatly prized by those who cast the least intelligent votes, so the reverse is equally true. There are multitudes in countries where suffrage is unrestricted, whose property is injured by misgovernment and who are continually complaining of the state of things around them, who make no efforts by use of their right of suffrage to improve it. Either in despair or in selfish disregard of the public welfare they stand aloof from politics, even when a political duty might not cost them half an hour's time once or twice a year. On the theory that voting is a privilege, it involves for the most part a duty; to enforce it by penalty would not comport with the nature of a privilege; it would be more reasonable to make the continued neglect of exercising it a reason for its forfeiture. The question becomes one of simple duty, and is to be solved, not by the mere preferences of party or personal feeling, but on the highest principle of regard for the general good." It cannot be denied that certain classes of people, such as clergymen and doctors, are prohibited from taking any active part in politics, but they can at least vote. All University men ought to remember this important duty and not only act up to it themselves, but use their influence to make others do the same.

We are glad to be able to announce that the graduates have unanimously elected Mr. Eugene Lafleur as consulting Editor to the *Gazette*. We consider ourselves fortunate in obtaining the services of so able a gentleman, and only regret that the appointment was not made earlier.

It is with much pleasure that we chronicle the election of Mr. J. W. Pedley as Valedictorian to the Arts Class of '84. This appointment was a wise and fitting one in every respect, and the unanimity shown by the members of the class in their choice, was a high, though deserved tribute to the ability and popularity of Mr. Pedley. It is seldom that any election is so entirely devoid, as this was, of those obnoxious features—wire-pulling and a preparatory candidature. We would, indeed, have been sadly disappointed, had the students of the fourth year belied, in this instance, the stand they have ever taken against the degrading and undignified proceedings which have usually characterized class elections in the past.

By the time that our next number will appear, the Christmas holidays will have been a thing of the past. We therefore take this opportunity of wishing our readers all the compliments of the season, and of expressing a hope that the Undergraduates will return to College invigorated in health and full of pleasant memories.

"Glad Christmas comes, and every heart
Makes room to give him welcome now;
E'en want will dry its tears in mirth,
And crown him with a holly bough."

The Literary and Scientific Society of Toronto University and the McGill University Literary Society held their public debates on the same evening, the 14th instant. This coincidence reminds us of a suggestion made some time ago by the *'Varsity*, that literary meetings should be organized jointly by the students in Toronto and McGill, which would give an opportunity to the men in the two Colleges of becoming better acquainted with one another, and do much towards promoting culture in our midst. The suggestion is, in our opinion, a good one, and we will be glad to do anything in our power to further the scheme. If the *'Varsity* will propose some feasible plan we will discuss the matter, and perhaps be able to arrange for some kind of meeting after Christmas.

In its issue of 24th November the *'Varsity* recommends the committees to re-open their correspondence with regard to the proposed Inter-Collegiate sports, in order that everything may be definitely arranged for the meeting in Montreal next fall. We do not know what action our committee is taking in this matter, but we hope that they will not put off making a move until it is too late. If they do not make some arrangements within the next month it is probable that nothing will be done until next year, when we shall, in all likelihood, have a repetition of the bungling which we witnessed this fall. McGill is anxious to have these sports, and we feel sure that the University will do its utmost to give a worthy reception to our Toronto friends, and to make the first gathering a brilliant success.

Last month the Methodist Theological College, in affiliation with McGill, was opened with considerable éclat. The University is now pretty well encircled with theological colleges; on the one side we have the Presbyterian and Congregational colleges, on the other side, near the Medical School, the Methodists have taken up their abode, and we hope it will not be long until the Diocesan College will leave its present quarters, and take up its position among the others. We are glad to see these denominational colleges around us, for it is an evidence to all of the character of McGill University, thoroughly unsectarian and undenominational, but at the same time willing to help all the Christian denominations by affording to their young ministers a liberal secular education. McGill is exceedingly fortunate in possessing this universal character, affording as it does a solution of the difficulty which has been puzzling the authorities of some of the older universities in the United Kingdom. An aspirant for the ministry in any denomination can in Montreal pursue at one and the same time his secular and professional studies with the greatest advantage. As an eminent professor from the Old Country remarked a short time ago, we are to be envied in this respect.

We regret that we cannot find room for Mr. Wigle's letter to the 'Varsity in which he replies to the questions asked in our report of the Inter-University football match. The letter, we feel bound to say, does not afford a very clear explanation of the exact points in dispute, but it suffices at all events to show how far we were justified in publishing the account referred to. As the captain of the Toronto team states that the gentlemen who retired from the play were *bona fide* disabled, it would not be courteous for us to discredit the statement, but we persist in our opinion that the arrangement made between the captains was a most undesirable one. It would also appear that in the matter of the calling of time our estimable friends were in the right. On the other points, however, our complaints have not been answered. Mr. Wigle very cleverly evades the trouble of telling us how Messrs. Boyd and Duggan came to play against our team by showing us how it happened that they played against the 'Varsity team the Saturday before. This was not exactly what we wanted to know. The question in dispute was whether the gentlemen referred to were Undergraduates in any department of the University or no. The other complaint that a fresh man was put on during the game, seems to be acknowledged in the letter, and we, therefore, need not speak further of it. We presume that the discussion will now be dropped, as no more light is likely to be thrown upon the subject, and the facts have been sufficiently laid bare to allow all to judge of the merits of the case. We may add that the 'Varsity is completely wrong when it surmises that our report was not written by one of the players. It was written by one of the players—by one of the best players—and one who thoroughly understands the principles and rules of the game. His opinions, moreover, as expressed in his report, were unanimously endorsed by the team.

ON COLLEGE AMBITION.

"Oh! Ambition hath its hour
Of deep and spirit-stirring power;
Not in the tented field alone,
Nor peer-engaged court and throne;
Nor the intrigues of busy life;
But ardent Boyhood's generous struts,
While yet the enthusiast spirit turns
Where'er the light of Glory ours,
Thinks not how transient is the blaze,
But longs to barter Life for Praise.

Look round the arena, and ye spy
Pallid cheek and faded eye;
Among the bands of rivals, few
Keep their native healthy hue;
Night and thought have stolen away
Their once elastic spirit's play.
A few short hours and all is o'er;
Some shall win one triumph more;
Some from the place of contest go
Again defeated, sad and slow.

What shall reward the conqueror then
For all his toil, for all his pain,
For every midnight throb that stole
So often o'er his fevered soul?
Is it the applauses loud
Or wond'ring gazes of the crowd;
Disappointed envy's shame,
Or hollow voice of fickle Fame?
These may extort the sudden smile,
May swell the heart a little while;
But they leave no joy behind,
Breathe no pure transport o'er the mind,
Nor will the thought of selfish gladness
Expand the brow of secret sadness.
Yet if Ambition hath its hour

Of deep and spirit-stirring power,
Some bright rewards are all its own,
And bless its votaries alone:
The anxious friend's approving eye;
The generous rival's sympathy;
And that best and sweetest prize
Given by silent Beauty's eyes!
These are transports true and strong,
Deeply felt, remembered long;
Time and sorrow passing o'er
Ender their memory but the more."

SIR W. R. HAMILTON.

Contributions.

STUDENT LIFE IN GERMANY.

In presenting to the readers of this paper some articles on German student life, I shall endeavour, to the best of my ability, to lay before them a faithful picture of an existence which, in many aspects, differs greatly from that led by students at English or American institutions. In fact, students in the full sense of the term are to be found only in Germany. There they form a very distinct class in society, having few acquaintances outside the university and still retaining some of the privileges accorded to them in olden times. I must begin by stating that German universities are not constituted in the same way as ours are. Students study specialties always, there being nothing to correspond to our Arts course. The general training which we receive in this course is supposed to have been already acquired by the student at the public school or "Gymnasium," and once at the university all his attention is devoted to some particular subject.

There are always four faculties, viz.:—Law, Medicine, Theology and Philosophy, and to take a degree in either a student must have studied at least six terms at a German university, and must have prepared a thesis. Then he is required to pass an oral examination, which takes but very little time, making up for this latter deficiency in its severity. There are no examinations but this final one, and in point of fact, the thing most looked to is the thesis, which takes usually two whole terms to complete. For instance, suppose the student to be going in for natural science, and that he has selected chemistry as the subject to which he intends to devote most of his time. In order to graduate he must perform some entirely original experiments in the laboratory and hand in a printed account of them. He may set to work to discover and produce some compound hitherto unknown in the annals of chemistry, or he may experiment on the occurrence of some known substance in hitherto unknown or only suspected ways. In any case the work must be entirely original, and approved of by the Professor in charge of the laboratory. Then he must pass an oral examination in three more subjects, one of which must be philosophy, and the other two of which the student selects, usually geology and mineralogy. The day on which the examination is to be held is fixed upon and may be at any time during the term, for there is no such thing as whole bodies of students being examined together, and needless to say there are no competitive examinations. There is only one degree given, that of Doctor. A graduate is always known as "Doctor" afterwards, no matter what he may have graduated in.

It will be seen by the above that simplicity is one of the greatest characteristics of the German university system. Another admirable point is the arrangement between the different universities, which provides that a term passed in one is as good as a term passed in any other. The vast majority of students take advantage of this, and during their period of study, wander from one place to another, spending, however, the two last terms, at least, at one university, in order to get up their theses. Very few succeed in graduating in six terms, and many stay six or seven years instead of only three. Although they are not particular during the early terms as to which university they visit, yet there is a great difference between one university and another as regards graduating. At some they are far more

particular than at others, and some stand high in one faculty and low in the rest. The universities of Berlin and Leipzig stand high all around, while Heidelberg, under Bunsen, is celebrated for its laboratory, and Halle for its medical faculty. Then, again, Jena and Lubingen are sought by those who don't admire hard work, and degress at these and some of the other small ones are not considered equal to those obtained at Berlin, Leipzig or Breslau.

In conclusion, I may remark, that we over here have usually but little idea of the number of students which attend the lectures at the German universities. The largest number at any one is to be found at Berlin, where there are now about four thousand, counting the affiliated schools of mining and agriculture. There are some three thousand at the university proper, Leipzig comes next with very nearly as many, and then Munich. The smallest is Rostock, with under two hundred.

Having now given some idea of the German universities in general, I shall have the honour, next time, to describe more particularly how the students spend their time.

W. T. S., B. Ap. Sc., '80.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

The importance of a thorough University training, as the groundwork for a professional education, is becoming every year more apparent. This may be said in one sense to apply more particularly to those who purpose to enter the Church or go to the Bar, since in both of these cases a more varied and general knowledge is necessary than in some others. From another point of view, however, it applies with equal force to all the professions. Mental powers are in many respects subject to the same rules, and require the same treatment as physical powers, to bring them into the highest state of efficiency. The athlete, who by a long course of systematic training, has cultivated his physical powers and brought them under perfect control, will leave far behind another who is naturally his superior, but whose powers are untrained.

The application of this rule to the case in question will be easily seen. One student begins his professional education after a full University course and with his mind thoroughly trained. Another, whose natural abilities are much superior, enters upon the same course after a hasty preparation, by which his mind, instead of being strengthened and trained, is injured by being overloaded with a heterogeneous mass of dates and events, which are usually forgotten in a very short time after the preliminary examination. The first man has formed habits of study, which enable him to take up his work at once, and to master, with comparative ease, the problems of his technical education; the other, with his mind and faculties all untrained, and ignorant of the way in which he may use them to the best advantage, finds himself excelled by one who is in reality his inferior, but who has learned how to make the best use of what abilities he has.

A very common idea, respecting a University education, is that all the benefit to be derived from it is a certain amount of knowledge of the dead languages, and some other subjects of very little practical use to anyone, except perhaps to an educational man, or a theologian, and that all the benefit that remains to the University graduate after a few years, from such education is the privilege of appending to his name the magic letters B.A.

That this idea is a mistaken one, need scarcely be asserted. It is quite true that a great deal may be and often is forgotten even by those who have stood high in their classes, but the effect of the systematic training through which they have passed will never be lost. Many an eminent barrister or judge, whose skill and ability, in dealing with the most complicated questions, have raised them to the highest place in their profession, owe that skill and ability in a large measure to a severe course of mathematical study, the principles of which they have retained, and perhaps unconsciously apply to the questions given them for solution, although in a great degree they may have forgotten the problems, through which those principles were made known to them.

It is true a course in arts cannot do everything, it cannot supply the place of brains, or give a man powers and faculties which he never possessed, but even the dullest mind cannot fail to be stimulated and strengthened by such a training, in which daily intercourse and friendly rivalry with classmates play a not unimportant part; while the powers of the most brilliant mind, which while untrained, may be compared to a number of knights errant, with, it may be, a common purpose in view, but with no leader and no common or united plan of action, under such a course becomes a disciplined army, all the force of which can at any time be concentrated and applied to the attainment of any required object.

A ROUNDDELAY.

Asmoking, I saw yesterday
Or seemed to see,—I cannot say,—
In the curling smoke a maiden fair,
With dark, sad eyes, and darker hair,
She in some sorrow seemed to be;
Yet as she passed, she smiled on me
Asmoking.

The face, with witching beauty bright,
Grew dim, then faded from my sight.
For Fancy flung her wand away,
And smoke was only smoke that day
Asmoking.

Harvard Advocate.

Correspondence.

OUR IRISH LETTER.

DUBLIN, 20th NOV., 1883.

If one may judge from appearances the number of people in the city this winter is very large. New houses are to be seen going up in all directions, and the plaster is hardly dry before the houses are occupied. Trade is somewhat brisker than last year, although capital is still very scarce. Business in the law courts is unusually dull at present, the barristers having little or nothing to do. Twenty young men were called to the bar this term, all of whom had University degrees, a thing which is usual but not imperatively necessary. The medical profession is overstocked as well as the legal, and the number of young men entering the two professions does not seem to be diminishing. In Dublin alone there are over five thousand medical students, about one-fifth of whom will never practise as doctors. Medical students, it would seem, have particularly good opportunities for studying their profession here, as about one hundred and fifty thousand patients pass through the hospitals annually, out of a total population of three hundred thousand. It must, however, be remembered that a great many come up from the country to be treated in the city hospitals, which partly accounts for this large number. Our National University is in a flourishing condition. The number of freshmen who entered Trinity College this term was two hundred. The Philosophical and Historical Debating Societies have had two most brilliant opening meetings for the session. The former was presided over by Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, and an address was given by Mr. Pim, the Auditor, on Political Science, which was keenly criticised by the speakers who followed. The meeting of the Historical Society was presided over by the Right Hon. Edward Gibson, Member of Parliament for the University, who took his seat as president of the Society for the first time. He succeeds the late Sir Joseph Napier as president. Mr. Studdert, the Auditor, delivered his address on Political Education, and Mr. Justice Murphy followed with an able speech. The meeting closed with a speech from the new President, who was received with loud applause. Forty-three gentlemen have just obtained Moderatorships. The Mathematical Studentship of this year has been awarded to Mr. Lyle. The Classical one was withheld, although Messrs. Bowen and White came out equal, having answered quite as well as the successful candidates of former years. For some inscrutable reason the seven wise men of the board only

awarded them \$750 each, a poor compensation for the student-ship, the value of which is \$500 a year, for seven years. The University football club have this year again succeeded in putting on the field the best team in Ireland, so that prosperity reigns in every department.

YOUR CORRESPONDENT.

Sporting News.

THE receipts of the Harvard Base Ball Club of last season were about \$4,600.

CAMP, the professional coach of the Yale football eleven, was recently severely injured in playing.

THE Queen's College Association Football club have played five matches this year and were not beaten once. The following are the clubs which they played:—University College, Victoria College, Bowmanville, Belleville and Kingston City. The Rugby club has only been beaten once, namely, by Ottawa.

MUCH disappointment is evinced in Harvard at the result of the Princeton game. Better results had been hoped for by the majority of the students, but the outcome was exactly what was expected by the closer observers. Hard work is, however, being put in order to make the best possible showing against Yale on Thanksgiving Day, and the result will probably be somewhat more favorable than the game with Princeton.—*Ex.*

MUCH excitement was caused in Harvard and Yale lately by the action of the Faculty of the former University, in forbidding the football team to play any more games, on account of the brutality of the rules. This resolution was afterwards rescinded to allow the match with Yale, all the arrangements for which had been made, to take place on Thanksgiving Day. In future, however, the Faculty will not permit students to play football unless the game is so modified that it may be played by gentlemen without derogation. Lest our readers should suppose that the game, as played in Canada, is open to the same objections as those which have caused the action of the Harvard Faculty, it may be stated that in the United States the rules admit of a much greater degree of roughness than they do here, and that the students of some colleges there have in the past taken advantage of their superior strength to injure—sometimes seriously—their opponents and so render the superior playing of the latter of less avail.

THE following is the account of the latest amusement of the Harvard students, given by a correspondent of the *New York Herald*:—

A new dissipation has broken out among the students of Harvard College. From the earliest days of the institution its stately halls have rung with the shouts and songs of undergraduates gathered around the flowing punch-bowl. The adornments of the corps de ballet have heretofore been irresistible, and every Boston theatre had its nightly patronage of "Cambridge men." But the student mind is insatiate for fresh excitement. Hence, wrestling matches, fierce glove contests, all-night poker parties, and various other entertainments of a mild nature have long been enrolled on the list of standard amusements, and the casual caller at a college-room may stumble upon one of these any evening. Until very recently, however, it is believed that the cock-fight has not been found flourishing in the classic shades. From time to time, as these interesting and elegant events have taken place in the neighborhood, some few students have been found among the spectators; but a genuine cock-fight, conducted from beginning to end, according to Ed. James, taking place in one of the buildings of Harvard University is, to say the least, a refreshing novelty. A few nights ago your correspondent found himself in a richly furnished room in one of the popular dormitories of Harvard. A dozen or more students were present. Several were padding the walls of the room to prevent any unusual noise from rousing the proctor. As one of the students condescendingly explained, "He wouldn't be disturbed by an ordinary rumpus, don'tcha know—a punch or soiree musicale, don'tcha know, with a little rum flip, but if the demitition birds should squawk, why—er—al—he might

think the Sabines were attacking Rome again, ya know, and that the demitition poultry were cackling to warn him." It might almost be said that all classes of students were represented, for one or two were present who have gained no low position in the rank list. The final touch to the preparations was given, after removing the furniture, by spreading a sheet over the expensive carpet. Then the cocks were brought forth from a dark closet. They were handsome birds, showing their blood and breeding in every motion and every feather. The long, cruel steel spurs having been adjusted, the birds were permitted to peck at each other's heads for a moment to stir their mettle, when they were breast and the fight began. The students were grouped about the room, and for a minute or two nothing was heard but the flap, flap, of the wings and the occasional sharp click of the spurs when they met. Then Tommy T—, the host, cried out, "I'm gambling fifty more on my bird." This bet was taken at once and others were quickly made of sums ranging from \$5 to \$50. Everybody was in a state of intense excitement. The battle had been the subject of much anticipation and speculation. Both birds were known to have fought several times, and had been bought by their respective owners especially for this fight. One, known as Dandy, was owned by a peculiar specimen of mankind, a species rare among students, a man whose every thought and purpose centred upon contests of this nature. He was evidently the ring-leader, and probably the only one present who entered into the sport with genuine, deep enthusiasm. He was nervous and excitable, and took every advantage allowed by the rules to benefit his bird. The host's bird was called Jim, and was at a slight disadvantage in the betting, the proportion being 5 to 4 on Dandy. Meantime the fight was being contested stubbornly and was waxing hotter. Several strokes had taken effect on each combatant, and the white sheet was liberally sprinkled with blood and feathers. Every now and then, as one bird drove the other across the sheet, there was a stampede of students to the window seats and the corners. The fight was evidently against Jim, and Tommy and his friends began to look despairing.

Suddenly a heavy knock sounded on the outer door of the room. Every one, including the *Herald* correspondent, turned pale and trembled. It must be the proctor had heard the racket when they all had to dive and dodge from the furious cocks. Ten frightened young men rushed into their bed-rooms and locked themselves in, while Tommy and Ben coolly but quickly caught up the birds and dumped one in the coal closet and the other in the bottom of a bookcase. Then Ben hastily rolled up the sheet while Tommy went to the door. He opened it deliberately, and upon the ears of all fell the words:

"I've been a knocking at your door, Mr.—, full foive minutes: I jist called for the wash—"

"Oh, bother the wash," growled the host; "call to-morrow morning," and he slammed the door and everybody re-entered the battle ground. The momentary damper upon the evening's pleasure was soon unfelt, as the birds were again breast for the fatal encounter. One of them must surely die, perhaps both, though it seemed almost certain that a few moments more would finish poor Jim. But with Jim's decreasing strength Tommy grew more interested, and finally danced over the carpet fairly wild.

"Go it, you dogond coon! give him one behind his ear," then, as he saw the poor bird's struggles with his own weakness, he added in a tone of contrition, "no, you poor old cuss; you're a game stag; if you're licked it isn't the fault of your pluck."

While Tommy was wrapped in gloomy despair, Ben and his backers were correspondingly exultant. Both birds were fighting magnificently, as an enthusiastic observer afterward expressed it, but the end was drawing near. Tommy and his fellow backers had given Jim up for lost; the birds hesitated a single moment face to face, their feathers erect, their eyes bloodshot, when Jim, dying as he was, all but dead, with one convulsive spring met his opponent and drove his long spurs clean through Dandy's brain. Ben's face fell and his spirits sank a hundred degrees, as he looked ruefully at his fallen and vanquished bird, too

astonished even to curse his luck. Tommy and his friends were so overcome with triumphant emotions that their enthusiasm knew no bounds. They crowded around the victorious Jim eager to address some complimentary words to the plucky hero. Jim understood it, and croaked a brave but ghastly "hoorah" in his peculiar dialect. Tommy had taken him up at first, but he struggled a little and was consequently put down. He hopped his wings feebly, strutted a few paces, and then striking out spitefully once more at his vanquished foe, staggered, keeled over and died. The fight lasted thirty-six minutes, exclusive of the waits. Bets were paid over, the dead fowl divided between the "slaves," and the party separated.

"It was a bloody good fight, though," remarked Ben, trying to console himself, as he walked out with his friends. It was a bloody fight, to say the least, and in a sporting sense, undoubtedly a good one.

It is but just to the generally high character of Harvard students to add that such occurrences as above described are rare, and confined in their participation to a very few—usually new-comers. These events are kept secret, and the public opinion of the students would be strongly opposed and condemnatory to their form of amusement were it known to be gaining any real headway.

College World.

MCGILL.

THE Graduates' Society intend to hold, this winter, re-unions similar to those of last year. We believe, however, that they find considerable difficulty in obtaining a suitable place to hold them in.

On Tuesday, the 27th Nov., Mr. Barnjum gave his opening exhibition for the season in the gymnasium, University Street. We were glad to notice that a large number of McGill men were among those who took part.

THE final students in Arts held a meeting on the 6th inst., for the purpose of electing a Valedictorian. But one nomination was made, and the nominee, Mr. James W. Pedley, was therefore declared elected by acclamation.

And still they come! The Meds have just been invited to send a representative to the first annual dinner of the Western School of Medicine, of London, O. We hope that McGill will be able to send up a representative, as this sign of energy on the part of our little baby sister is deserving of all encouragement.

On Friday, November 3rd, a meeting of the Glee Club was held, Mr. Calder in the chair. Mr. Stewart, the secretary, having been asked to give his impression of last year's work and of the advisability of another venture, said that, considering the poor results from the efforts put forth, he did not think it wise to reorganize the old club, but proposed the compilation of a new book of songs. This, the great need of last year, having been supplied, he thought practices might be held every Friday evening before the meeting of the Literary Society. Mr. Bell then moved that a meeting to consider the proposition be called soon after Christmas. This motion having been seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

MONDAY, 3rd Dec., was a students' night at the Academy, when the Montefiore Club performed Gilbert's comedy in three acts entitled, "Randal's Thumb." The piece was very well put on for an amateur performance, which is not saying very much. The play cannot be said to sparkle with wit, and at times the dialogue was excessively dull. The attendance was large and enthusiastic, especially in the "gods," where the students from Bishop's and Victoria were in force. There were a good many from McGill, but there was by no means the general turn which we expected. The proximity of the Christmas examinations had doubtless something to do with this. The Victoria McGills and Bishop's rendered some of their well-known choruses. The McGill organ was in tune, and partly made up for the absence of most of our best vocalists. Towards the close of the

performance an over zealous guardian of the peace (*sic*) attempted to arrest one of the students for some trifling offence, and a general disturbance was the result, the play having to be suspended for about five minutes. The rescue was successfully effected, and a battle with the police prevented by the interference of the President of the Montefiore Club. The proprietor shows great stupidity in putting policemen in the gallery when it is occupied by students; if they were left to themselves there would be much less fear of a row. The person who writes the local items for the *Daily Gazette*, in an account of this *contratemp*, dubbed the students "young cubs." This was remarkably good taste on his part and exhibited great ability.

UNDERGRADUATES' LITERARY SOCIETY.

On the 30th ult. was held the last meeting for this term. An essay from Mr. F. Pedley, and a reading by Mr. McQuat, preceded a discussion of the problem, whether it would be of advantage to Canada for the government to own the railways. Messrs. A. W. Gerrie, Mahon, and Colquhoun victoriously upheld the affirmative against the assaults of Messrs. Turner, McDougall, and Bell. On reviewing the course of the Society during this term, we are happy to be able to say that it has been a most prosperous one; the meetings have been well attended, and the programmes, in the majority of instances, have been ably carried out. It is to be hoped that an equal measure of success will attend the proceedings of the Society next term.

MCGILL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

At the fifth regular meeting of this Society, Mr. Hutchison read a paper upon some *san sequelae* of Diphtheria, which he had witnessed during the summer. The paper was one of the best we have ever heard given by a student at the Society, being full of interest and carefully prepared. Mr. Darcy gave a reading, and Mr. W. G. Johnston exhibited some specimens of bone and joint disease. We regret to notice that the attendance at the meetings, which has been very full for some time past, is beginning to decline again, and that less interest has been shown lately in reporting cases. This last part of the programme if properly carried out, would render the proceedings far more interesting than even the most carefully prepared papers.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Society held on the 30th November, Mr. C. J. Doherty took the chair. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Mr. L. T. Leet was appointed secretary *pro tem*. The question for discussion was whether it would be advisable for the Government to assume the management of the telegraph system. Mr. Atwater, on being called upon to open the debate, moved an adjournment till the first meeting, for which no programme had already been provided, on account of the coldness of the room and the absence of the leader of the negative. This motion was seconded and carried, but was subsequently reconsidered and rejected. The discussion was then proceeded with. Mr. McConnell took the place of Mr. Archibald, who was ill, as the leader of the negative. Messrs. Duffell and Cameron were the other gentlemen appointed to speak, and these were followed by Messrs. Brooke and Oughtred. The decision was almost unanimous in favour of the affirmative.

On the 7th November, there were about fifteen members and one or two visitors present to hear Mr. Barnard's essay on Divorce. Before the programme was proceeded with, it was arranged that, as no invitations were to be issued for the forthcoming public debate, it should be held in the Society's rooms, Phillips Square, and not in the Windsor as heretofore. In prefacing his remarks on Divorce, Mr. Barnard said that his essay was not quite so complete as he could have wished, the truth being that he had put off writing it until the eleventh hour. He hoped that the critics, whom the Society had lately acquired, would deal gently with any imperfections which the composition might exhibit, as it was nine years since he had last written anything of the kind. The *University Gazette*, he remarked, had, a few weeks ago, almost annihilated him in one line, which made him, of course, feel rather nervous. The

essay, which bore the evident marks of hasty preparation, was listened to with great attention. It referred briefly to the legal difficulties which would arise if divorce were allowed, but treated at more length of the religious and historical aspect of the subject. The Church of Rome, the writer said, had always been consistent in its opposition to divorce, as was evidenced, for example, by its conduct in the case of Henry and Anne Bolyn. In the Eastern States of the Union, the divorce law had resulted in there being one divorce in every eleven marriages, which was a very undesirable state of affairs. Mr. Brooke, in criticising the essay, questioned very much Mr. Barnard's statistics, and in general took an opposite view of the question. He maintained that the Pope practically granted divorces, thus encroaching upon the work of our civil courts, and he laid bare the utterly illogical nature of the system of separation existing in this province. For the highest and noblest purposes of marriage, he thought divorce was a necessity. Mr. Oughtred followed, and in a brief speech defended divorce. He was sorry that the religious question had been touched by the essayist, but on common sense grounds he thought most people would agree that a divorce law was desirable. All, however, might not be agreed as to what should constitute a valid reason, but all were agreed on one cause. The speaker agreed with Mr. Brooke in thinking that Mr. Barnard's definition of marriage as a contract was wrong. Mr. Ritchie was also in favour of divorce. He disagreed with Mr. Barnard on the religious aspect of the case, and would go further than Mr. Oughtred by making incompatibility of temper sufficient cause for divorce. Mr. Kavanagh made some remarks in support of the essayist's views, but his argument had not very much logical bearing on the matter. Mr. Doherty opposed divorce. He said that the Pope did not grant divorces, but sometimes declared that there had been no marriage at all. He corroborated Mr. Barnard's statistics, and remarked, that at the late meeting of the Episcopal Church in the United States, the question was gravely discussed. He considered that divorce put the power of dissolving the marriage into the hands of the less virtuous consort, and to be logical we should either have no divorce or divorce whenever the consorts wished it. Mr. Barnard, in replying, stated that he regretted having touched upon the religious question, and that he had done so merely in an historical way. He defended separation as carried out in this province, and made a good defence of the position he had taken. We may mention that the majority of those present were in favour of a divorce law and the doing away of the present illogical system.

THE MEDICAL DINNER.

Alas! this great college event is now a thing of the past, and we must say with Locker (I think it is):

"Hoo! Boo-hoo!
I can't eat any more!"

It was a grand success, not merely owing to the untiring efforts of the committee, nor to the brilliant and witty speeches and their enthusiastic reception, but chiefly to the spirit of hearty good-fellowship which possessed every one present from the ordinarily awe-inspiring representatives of the Governors and the Faculty, down to the Freshman who has just grasped the delicious idea that the magic word McGill is the "open sesame" to all that is worth having in this life. One and all they seemed to feel that they were fellow-workers in a glorious cause which had for a time relaxed its apparently endless demand upon their energies and time, and that they were all off on a holiday together. Everything, except the elements, conspired to make the occasion a delightful one. The dinner proper left nothing to be desired, save one helping of "cymbeline," while the pretty decorations, the gay music and the appropriate and well-rendered songs carried one to the prandial seventh heaven.

The chairman, Mr. R. F. Ruttan, not only fulfilled his modest claim to being a good listener, but in addition proved himself a humorous speaker. His fanciful "History of Alimentation" called forth much laughter and applause, while he fairly "brought down the house" when, in a happy combi-

nation of nursery rhymes and physiological technicalities, he alluded to the feelings of enthusiasm which he thought must have been kindled in the youthful breast of a certain well-known and deservedly popular physiologist, when, in days gone by, he listened to the clinical history of that mysterious and remarkable case of indigestion recorded of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sprat.

The vice-chairs were occupied by Messrs. Palmer, Elder and Laflair.

The Secretary, Mr. I. D. Ross, read the usual letters of regret from His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Lansdowne, His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Robitaille, Consul-General Stearns, the Hon. J. Church and others, the sister universities of Halifax, Harvard and Western University, and lastly, and with evident difficulty, the cause of which everybody so well understood, that his plaintive request to remember that they were letters "from Doctors" was hardly needed.

The usual opening toasts were proposed and honoured as only loyal Canadian Medics can honour them, but at old "Alma Mater," though disguised under a novel and uncanon title, the walls rang again. After an original song had been sung by Mr. C. Wilson, '86, responses were made by the Hon. Justice Mackay in behalf of the Governors, and Professor Johnson in behalf of the Faculties. Dr. Grant, of Ottawa, in replying for the Graduates, made a most eloquent address, and the loud applause which rattled forth at certain parts of it referring to Dr. Howard showed that the Medics can appreciate well-deserved compliments applied to a favourite professor.

Dr. Howard, in proposing the novel toast of "Our Benefactors," showed most clearly that those golden individuals have hearts as open and generous as their pockets, and proved what we had suspected before, that even the hardest worked and most dignified of professors can at the right time become as light-hearted and jolly as the youngest freshman amongst us.

Mr. Thomas Workman, in replying to this toast, led us to infer that the only pleasure in life comparable to that arising from a generous gift to McGill was the privilege of listening to college songs outside your door at 10.30 p.m. Such a doubly unselfish man well typified the remarks made by the Glee Club, to fortissimo accompaniment on the piano, that they, (Our Benefactors) were "Jolly Good Fellows." We should be very loth to deny so patent a fact, after the overwhelming evidence adduced by Dr. Howard in proposing the toast. In view of the munificent donations of the Hon. Donald Smith, Mr. G. Stephen and others, and the great personal comfort and happiness which those and other gentlemen have (according to Mr. Workman, and we quite believe him), experienced, we do not doubt that that *millionnium*, which he so enthusiastically foreshadowed, will soon be a reality.

Mr. G. F. Palmer, in graceful terms and with that rare fidelity to be expected in one having so intimate an acquaintance with the subject, proposed "The Hospital."

Mr. Andrew Robertson, in replying in behalf of that patient, long-suffering institution, whose heart can never be estranged from her (occasionally naughty) children, showed that her zeal in their interest was as unflagging as ever, and announced that at last they were in a position to fulfil their mature and long-cherished schemes of improvement.

"Sister Universities," proposed by Mr. Elder, with an amount of feeling and sympathy only to be obtained from one who has personally felt the heavy hand of the oppressor, "that relentless and cruel foe of medical students the world over, the policeman!"

Mr. Spence, of Toronto University, in replying, stated that he felt as soon as he arrived that he had fallen among friends, and we know that his feelings on this point were exactly those of our representatives this year, wherever they went. Mr. Fierheller, of Trinity Medical School, in a comically gallant speech demonstrated with mathematical precision that successful efforts to secure one of the two students of the Toronto "Ladies' Medical College" as a *bona fide* delegate are at present a technical impossibility, but the grief caused by his conclusions was more than allayed by his very soothing manner of stating them. Mr. Cumberland, of the "Royal" Medical College, Kingston, taking up the same strain, said that the Kingston lady Meds

hardly appreciated the fact that they owed their present comfortable surroundings to the exertions of their brother Meds, exercised *indirectly* in their behalf last year, and sang a "Laugh Song" of a dangerously infectious nature.

Mr. Blackmer, in replying in behalf of "Bishop's," gracefully alluded to the consanguinity of the two schools, and Mr. Vallin representing Laval, stoutly upheld the respectability of Meds in general, and McGill Meds in particular, and we wish that the high functionaries of our city could have listened to his eloquent speech and had their doubts for ever removed.

The Victoria representative, though searched for by the Committee, high and low, here, there and everywhere, could not be found, and as, owing to the great length of the programme, the Committee had been prevented from calling upon the representatives of those institutions so nearly connected with ourselves, that a definite line of demarcation would be hard to establish, viz., the Vets or the Theologues (of whatever ilk), as well as those sister faculties, with whom we are so diffused as to be almost absolutely homogeneous, this toast, the great feature of the evening, met with no more responses.

With us, "absence made the heart grow fonder," and the toast of Dr. Dawson, feelingly proposed by Dr. Howard, and replied to on his behalf by Prof. Johnson, as acting-Principal, was enthusiastically honoured.

Class '84, proposed in terms of deepest sympathy and condolence by Mr. Lafleur, a freshman, who, in view of the rapidly approaching "Ides of March," of which he entreated them to beware, in an ungarbled moment compared that presumably unfortunate but august body with that of Cesar on a certain awkward occasion, while he insinuated that the Final Professors were akin to Brutus and his friends. Doomed man! in an instant Dr. Osler was upon his feet and, in proposing the toast of "Freshmen," assuming presumably the character of Metellus Cimber, for there was "no voice made more worthy than his own to sound moresweetly in great Cesar's ear," proceeded, in the most genially withering sarcasm to which we have ever had the good luck to listen to demonstrate the presumed "fulness of his adversaries' ignorance" and defended his fellow conspirators with the able but brittle justification that in such an improbable case as the molecular, or in the almost impossible event of the molar death of Cesar, the autopsy would certainly reveal this, that the cause of the sad result was not that Brutus loved Cesar less, but that he loved Rome more. (Loud applause.)

However, until he reports that interesting autopsy at the funeral in the Molson Hall, on the 31st of March, 1884, which friends and acquaintances will be respectfully invited to attend, we can only express a hope that our Mark Anthony, whoever he may be, will charitably suspend his judgment and let the proof of the pudding await the eating.

Mr. McNerny replied for the graduating class in a very amusing speech.

Mr. Wilkinson, in replying to the toast of the Freshmen, only stated, we are sure, the views of the more moderate of the Freshmen class, when he praised the general urbanity and forbearance of the Senior classes, in which McGill presents a pleasing exception to the majority of American colleges.

The "Ladies," last but not least on the programme, was proposed by the Chair in all the wide light of a vile, atrocious pun, of which, happily, no single man saw the point, and was replied to by Mr. Wyatt Johnston, who unblushingly and in the "fulness of his ignorance" (Osler), posed himself as the champion of the sex, although we have since heard from an eminent authority on the subject that this pretentious attitude was but a specious disguise to a cowardly and sarcastic cynicism, which not only suggested what it pretended to conceal but took advantage of a position on the toast list, which prevented a reply from the injured benedicts in esse and in posse who, as all know, can alone truly appreciate the ladies.

After Dr. Rodgers had, in a manner which did equal credit to his head and heart, proposed the health of the Chairman, and after a well-earned vote of thanks had been tendered to the Committee, and "God Save the Queen" had been sung, the guests reluctantly departed, after many little chat reminiscences of bygone dinners.

HELIOGABALUS.

OBITUARY.

With sorrow we chronicle the death of Arthur Howie of St. Thomas, O., late of class '86. He died at the hospital, of typhoid fever, on November 29th. The funeral took place from the hospital the same evening, and the Medicals attended in a body, and after a short, but impressive ceremony, followed the hearse to Bonaventure station. Mr. Howie was respected both by his teachers and fellow-students as a man thoroughly well up in his work, and was without an enemy in the whole College.

GENERAL.

YALE COLLEGE has nearly \$2,000,000 under investment.

THE average yearly expenses of a Princeton student are \$325.—*Ex.*

PRESIDENT McCOSH of Princeton College, lectured before the Yale students lately.

THERE are about one hundred and ninety College papers in the United States.—*Ex.*

AN agitation is on foot to erect a new and commodious college building at Dalhousie.

A DAUGHTER of President Nelles has been enrolled as a student of Cobourg College.

AMHERST COLLEGE has 321 students—81 seniors, 86 juniors, 83 sophomores and 71 freshmen.

PROFESSOR JAMES BRYCE is now giving his course of lectures on Roman jurisprudence at Johns Hopkins.

"THE JOE BROWN UNIVERSITY" is to be the name of a Georgia College, with Senator Brown as patron.

MR. ARMISTEAD, M. P., has resolved to present £2,000 to Dundee University to found one or more scholarships.

The late Samuel Fitz bequeathed two-thirds of his residuary estate to Harvard College for the use of the Medical School.

SINCE 1825, out of 38,054 Alumni from 58 Colleges, 3,577 are recorded as physicians, 9,991 Clergymen, and 6,105 Lawyers.

THE catalogue of Middlebury (Vt.) College shows 42 students—8 seniors, 8 juniors, 7 sophomores, 13 freshmen and 6 specials.

WE were glad to receive the November number of our little friend, the *Droghedian*. We hope that it will continue to pay us regular visits.

GIRLS in bad health are not admitted to Wellesley College. All applicants are submitted to a medical examination, to exclude weaklings.—*Ex.*

A PROJECT is on foot to establish an Irish College of Veterinary Science and Medicine with independent powers of examining and conferring degrees.

THERE is a wise movement in Oakland, Cal., toward the establishment of a school of industrial arts, a gift of \$150,000 having been made for that purpose.

THE Annual Dinner of the Faculty of Medicine of Bishop's College was held at the Windsor on Wednesday evening last, and was, we believe, a grand success.

PROFESSOR GILDENSLIEVE has declined the appointment to be director of the American school at Athens, which was made by the committee without previously consulting him.

THE Alma Mater Society of Queen's College, Kingston, is arranging with the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage to give a lecture before the society, and the friends of the College.

TRINITY COLLEGE will erect a suitable building for the astronomical instruments given it last year by Dr. S. B. St. John of Hartford. Among the instruments is an elaborate six-inch equatorial telescope.

A BILL recently passed the New Hampshire legislature granting \$5,000 a year to Dartmouth for the aid of indigent students. It is the first time in a hundred years that the College has received money from the State.

THE Class of '84 at Harvard, elected the following officers:—Secretary, First Marshal, Second Marshal, Third Marshal, Orator, Poet, Odist, Joy Orator, Chorister, Class Day Committee and Class Committee.

The *Dalhousie Gazette* is the oldest College paper in Canada. It began its sixteenth volume in November. The principal feature in the first number is Dr. Weldon's address at the opening of the new Law School.

THERE have been two pitched battles lately, between the senior and junior students at Jefferson Medical College. The cause of the quarrel was a disagreement as to which students should have the front seats at the hospital lectures.

THE reported circulation of some leading American College journals is as follows:—The *Dartmouth* 1030, the *Tuftsian* 1000, *Yale Courant* 850, *Amherst Student* 625, *Princetonian* 725, *Harvard Advocate* 450, *Athenaeum* 600, the *Lampoon* 700.

AT a meeting of the Council of University College of South Wales, at Cardiff, last month, the Dean of Llandaff, presiding, it was announced that the Senate of the University of London has appointed Cardiff as a centre for Matriculation examination in 1884.

IN the German University at Prague, 1,307 students have entered this term; in the Zeech University, 1,379. The Austrian Government have objected to the appointment of Prof. Rooling in the German University on account of his anti-Semitic writings.

THE *Hamilton* (Ky.), *College Monthly* for October, contained a large number of contributions including two poems. In its own words the *Monthly* contains "the honest efforts of school girls," and the articles are of the kind which this fact would lead us to expect.

MR. PAUL TULANE'S most recent gift to Tulane University of New Orleans, is stocks and bonds of a face value of \$269,000, but whose market value is much greater. They will yield an income of \$19,600 a year. His total gifts to Louisiana are worth more than \$1,000,000.

MRS. ELDER, widow of the late Mr. John Elder, the well-known shipbuilder, has given to the Senate of Glasgow University the sum of £12,500 for the purpose of founding a professorship of naval architecture, to be called "The John Elder Chair of Naval Architecture."—*Star*.

THE *Argosy* exchange Editor says that the *Portfolio*, of Hamilton, though quite a nice paper, has declined in worth since last year, and that it is hardly up to the average. The *Presbyterian College Journal* is glad to receive the *Portfolio*, and hopes that it may continue to improve as fast as it has done since September.

PROFESSOR SUMNER of Yale will institute the plan of having a "loan library for political economy" this year for his optional class. A book containing 350 questions relative to political economic subjects will be the text book used, and the optional study will consist of looking up the references bearing upon these questions.

THE College of the City of New York has a new course of study called the course of workshop practice, which has for its aim "to make the student acquainted with the tools used in working woods and metals, the properties of these materials and the methods of forming and combining them for useful instruction."—*Ex*.

THE old historical buildings of the Shrewsbury Royal School having been vacated by removal to a new and larger site, it has been decided by the townspeople to purchase the buildings for the purpose of a county museum and free library. A subscription list was recently inaugurated by Alderman Jenkins with \$1,250, and since then nearly the whole sum—viz., \$20,000—has been subscribed.

"THE BIRDS," of Aristophanes was performed in Greek at Cambridge, England, on Nov. 27th and 30th, and Dec. 1st. The arrangements were more elaborate than were those of the "Ajax" last year, and Mr. Hubert Parry has set the choruses, and written incidental music. The ladies of Girton are to perform the "Electra" of Sophocles this week. None but ladies are to be admitted.

MUCH of the matter in the *University Monthly* for November is of a oral character, and uninteresting to outsiders. There

are two or three short articles, however, which repay perusal. The account of the University at Hefwyl, is very interesting, while the articles on Hallowe'en, and the lyrical poetry of the Elizabethan Period are pleasantly written, if they do not contain much.

THE moot-courts which formerly flourished in the Law School at Harvard are being revived. They have not been in vogue during the last five or six years, and their place has been occupied largely by the numerous law clubs. These have hardly filled the place of the moot-courts and consequently they have been re-established, largely through the efforts of certain men in the second year.

THE Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College has suffered a severe loss in the death of Prof. Norton, who was the senior professor of the school. Prof. Norton was called to the Sheffield School to organize the civil engineering department in 1852. This professorship has been held ever since. The *Yale News* says: "He has been considered one of the foremost authorities in his department of investigation."—*Ex*.

THE Duke of Abercorn, on Thursday week, attended the ceremony of conferring degrees in the Royal University in Dublin, and, addressing the students, said that all the hopes entertained of the success of the University have been fully realized. Mr. Trevelyan, who also spoke, expressed a hope that a large number of Irishmen would by means of the culture now open to them be forthcoming for public service.

THE managing committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens will publish once a year, about December 1, a volume of papers of the school, made up from the works of the director and students. The publications will be issued at a price to be fixed by the publication committee. Copies will be sent free to the libraries of co-operating colleges and put on sale with leading booksellers. The first edition will be issued in December.—*Ex*.

THE duel in which the law student Moschel was killed at Wurzburg by the Philadelphia student, who escaped to Switzerland, it is hoped, will cause some alteration in the practice of duelling at Wurzburg at least, if not at other Universities. The father of Moschel has sent a circular-letter to parents and others who have relations at the University complaining bitterly of the party spirit and gross heedlessness of the students. In Munich former students have called a meeting to consult on what ought to be done.—*Ex*.

THE oldest University student in Berlin, and probably in the world, is sixty-nine years of age. After passing his examination in theology in his youth he went to South Africa as a missionary, and there he married the daughter of a rich Dutch farmer, who inherited her father's property. Having lost his wife and children several years ago, he returned to Germany, and is now about to graduate in medicine from the University of Berlin. As soon as he has secured his diploma he will return to the Transvaal.—*Ex*.

ALTHOUGH Cambridge University is generally regarded as second to Oxford in the classical curriculum, she has educated the principal English poets. Chaucer is generally believed to have been a Cambridge man; Milton was a Master of Arts at Christ College, and Dryden went from Westminster to Trinity College, Cambridge. Of the poets of this century, Wordsworth was a Johnian, and Coleridge an undergraduate of Jesus, Cambridge. Lord Byron is one of the glories of Trinity, and Alfred Tennyson was of the same College.—*Ex*.

SIR FARRER HERSCHELL, Solicitor-General, addressing the students of Durham Science School last month, said "that if he had to live his life over again he should endeavor, before the practical work of life began, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with some branch of natural science." Dwelling upon the advantages to be gained by study of modern sciences, and especially that of electricity, he advised students to thoroughly master one branch before taking up another, and to limit their studies to a complete mastery of subjects taught.

MR. RUSKIN has joined the ranks of the teachers at Oxford who are asking the University to give them new buildings.

He noticed recently, as characteristic of the scientific tendencies of the present day, that, while the University will spend £100,000 or even £150,000 in decorating in a style as incorrect as it is un-English rooms for the torture of her students, she gives her art-workers nothing better than a cellar to draw in, and her art professor no other place for the storage of his models than a corner of his private office in the gallery.—*Ex.*

THE Trustees of Columbia College have arranged a four years course of study for women, for which a strict preparatory examination will be required, and no girl under seventeen will be admitted. Those who pass the examination may study where and how they please, and will be examined by the College teacher as often as may be necessary. Upon satisfactory examination at the end of four years, or upon the completion of any prescribed course, the student will receive a certificate which will be substantially the equivalent of a diploma granted to a graduate of the College.—*Ex.*

THE *Knox College Monthly* commenced its second volume in December. It is not a students' paper but a theological journal, and interesting mainly to Presbyterian college students. The December number may be said to consist of a paper by Prof. MacLaren, D. D. on "Calvinism in its Relations to other Theistic Systems." The article is instructive and well worth reading, however widely one may differ from the doctrines held by the writer. The *Monthly* is considerably ahead of the *Presbyterian College Journal*, which it more closely resembles in tone than any of our other exchanges.

THE report of the treasurer of Yale College for the year ending July, 1883, shows that the aggregate of the invested funds in all the departments is \$1,924,328, an increase since the last report of \$77,698. The expenses of the various departments for the year were \$332,827. The funds are incommensurate with the growing needs of the University, and rigid economy will be necessary, but the gradually increasing year's fund will be divided as follows:—University, \$464,890; academical, \$544,116; theological, \$330,356; Sheffield, \$144,193; medical, \$30,995; law, \$11,600, and art department, \$19,179.—*Ex.*

THE authorities of the University of Trinity College, Toronto, have issued a circular which will no doubt be read with interest by all who are interested in the cause of education. It has been thought advisable to call for a supplementary endowment fund in order that the College may be placed in a more satisfactory state with regard to teaching facilities. The amount asked is \$200,000, and already very liberal contributions have been made. Great inducements are made to possible contributors by promises of the right of appointing to free tuition in the College one or more students for a longer or shorter time.—*Ex.*

MR. JOHN BRIGHT has given his opinion of the study of the classics in the following words:—"I regard what I call classics—that is, the ancient languages of Greece and Rome—as luxuries rather than anything else. It is a great luxury to know anything that is good and innocent. It is a great luxury to know a great deal of the past, not that it makes you more powerful to do much, but it is a great pleasure to the person who know; but I do not believe myself that there is anything in the way of wisdom which is to be obtained in any of the books of the old languages which at this moment may not be equally attained in the books of our own literature."

LORD COLERIDGE, in speaking to the students of Haverford College, Pennsylvania, said:—"A poet whom I admired very much in College, and have always admired as a poet, though there was much in the life of the man and some things in his writings which are by no means to be commended, was Shelley. Then the poet on whom the best subsequent poetry has been built, the true master of Tennyson, a man of the richest fancy and most exquisite diction,—John Keats. I beg you to learn by hear this 'Hyperion,' his 'Ode on a Grecian Urn,' and 'Ode to a Nightingale.' You may be surprised at the name I shall select from your American poets, when I tell you to learn Bryant. I do not say Longfellow, because, although he is a sweet and noble and delightful poet, he is not an American—I

mean that his poetry might just as well have been written in England or Italy or Germany or France as in America; but Mr. Bryant's poetry is full of the characteristics of his own country, as well as noble, natural and invigorating."

PROFESSOR YOUNG says that the study of dead languages has been the one pre-eminent and historic failure of the so-called liberal education. There is more hatred of it than of any other kind of study—mathematics not excepted. He regards its failure as so notorious that he cannot attribute it to any defect in the methods of teaching it. He denies that any possible reform in the modes of studying the dead languages can alter their relations to modern thought. We have to regard their educational failure as a result of the progress of the human mind, and therefore as "a normal and inevitable thing." They hold their position against the advancing knowledge of the age "through the power of tradition, through the blind veneration of things ancient, because they represent a conventional culture, and are conserved by old and wealthy institutions." There is, besides, the professor adds, a good deal of money in the classics, which is not to be overlooked when we wish to account for the tenacity with which they are maintained.

THERE was a meeting in Boston lately, of the presidents of the leading colleges of the country, including Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Williams, Amherst, Wesleyan, Tufts and Trinity; and also a professor from each of the colleges. The meeting was called nominally to consider the subject of "Modern Languages in Colleges," yet the discussion took a wide range and involved the ancient languages also. Mr. Adams was criticised, but he was not lacking in friends to champion his views; and while there were none who could endorse his sweeping propositions in their entirety, a number were evidently prepared to slide gracefully into position with him, and advocated the devotion of more time to modern and less to ancient languages. President Porter, of Yale, was the champion of the ancients, and put great stress upon the advantages to be derived from careful and persistent study of the classics, giving many good reasons for the faith that was in him. On the other hand, President Eliot, of Harvard, was perhaps the most pronounced in advocating a breaking away from old dogmas and accepting new light. During the discussion the earnest words of Lord Coleridge to the Yale students a few weeks ago, in favour of classics, were quoted by those who sympathized with his views.—*Ex.*

THE report of President Angell, of the University of Michigan, states that the total number of students at the University last year was 1440. Compared with the previous year, this was an increase in the number of students in the literary department, but a decrease in all the other departments. This decrease (which was anticipated) was due in a large part to the increase made in fees. The number of resident graduates was nearly doubled. Michigan furnished nearly or quite forty-seven per cent. of all the students.—Several gifts to the University have been made during the last year by its friends. One gentleman gives several thousand dollars to the institution to be expended in the purchase of historical works. Thus far, some fourteen hundred volumes have been bought with a portion of this money. Mr. E. C. Hegeler of La Salle, Ill., Mr. J. J. Hagerman of Milwaukee, and President White of Cornell University, have also presented a peal of five bells, which have been placed in one of the towers of the new library building. Hon. James McMillan of Detroit, has presented a magnificent Shakespearean library to the University, while the generosity of a few gentlemen in Detroit has placed the University in the list of institutions which are supporting the American school of Classical studies at Athens. By the contribution of about \$2,000 by these gentlemen, graduates of Michigan University can now be admitted to the school.

THE *Atlantis*, published at Central University, Richmond, Kentucky, in appearance is not extremely prepossessing. It is up to the average of our American exchanges, however, and is very strong in the advertisement department. A large part of the space in the November number is occupied with matters of local interest, but at the same time solid reading matter is not

absent. "The Function of the Dede" is the subject of the leading editorial, and is a philosophical defence of that creature. The article on Modern Thought is full of inaccuracies and words incorrectly spelt. Such attempts at criticism are worse than foolish. Let us quote one or two sentences. "Plato, who made the immortality of the soul the cardinal point of his philosophy, was almost as intelligent as Mr. Spencer; Aristotle, who believed in necessary truths, was not inferior in natural gifts, to Mr. Mill who denies them. And if we come to Christian sages, St. Augustine had a loftier intellect than Mr. Tyndall; Butler more profound than Mr. Bain; Dr. Newman more sagacious than Mr. Huxley; and President Porter more clear-sighted and subtle than Mr. Arnold." Who can have the temerity to believe in modern philosophers after this! A much better article in the same number is "The Origin of the Physical Sciences."

The annual report of the Society for Collegiate Instruction, the so-called "Harvard Annex," says—The society closes its fourth year with every token that it is accomplishing the ends for which it was begun. It has given women who have graduated from the colleges open to them opportunities for carrying their studies forward; it has afforded teachers means of adding to their teaching power by coming in contact with the trained minds of the university professors; it has given the graduates of our high schools another opportunity to pass through the usual undergraduate course, and receive a certificate to that effect; it has established for schools for girls a standard which all may not attempt to reach, but will tend to elevate the grade of teaching in such institutions, and, in some degree, do away with the aspersions of "superficiality" and "incompleteness" that have so long been the threaddare topics of the animadversion in discussing them; it has added its quota to the effort to give woman the means for preparing herself for professions that will enable her better to compete with men for position and pay; and, finally, it has given those women who wish to study for the mere pleasure to be derived from a full mind and a higher cultivation an opportunity to satisfy their desires, and thus prepare themselves to accomplish much more than they otherwise could for the social union. Forty-one names appear on the lists of students for the year. The ladies of the executive committee have raised \$67,000 towards an endowment fund.—*Ex.*

At a late meeting of the Senate of Toronto University, Dr. Wilson announced that Mr. Joseline Bagot had presented to the University a portrait of Sir Chas. Bagot, by whom the foundation stone of King's College was laid in 1842. There was also received from Col. R. B. Denison a copy of the original programme of the ceremony of the laying of the foundation stone of King's College, the original of the University of Toronto and University College. Mr. Houston gave notice that at the next meeting of the Senate he would introduce a statute repealing the regulations which debar honour students who degrade into lower years from competing at the next ensuing examination for medals, scholarships, or relative standing, except by special permission of the Senate. Mr. Houston's statute to abolish the regulation which enacts that in junior matriculation no scholarship will be awarded to any candidate who at the time of commencement of the examination is more than 23 years of age, was read a first time. Upon motion of Mr. MacMurchy, seconded by Mr. Falconbridge, the Committee in extending the text for examinations to 1890 was requested to present at an early day a partial report in texts for junior and senior matriculation for the years 1886-7. Professor Galbraith's statute to create the degree of C. E. was referred to a committee. Mr. Houston's motion that a return be asked from University College of names of ladies who had applied for admission was carried. Prof. Wright's statute, which proposes to allow a fourth year man in the honour department of natural sciences to graduate in either chemistry, or biology, or mineralogy, or geology, was referred to the Board of Art Studies, the Senate not committing itself to the principle of the statute.—*Toronto Mail.*

The report of the Committee of the Council of the University of Glasgow recommends that a "doctorate or higher degree

in arts and science should be established in this University, similar to that which exists in Edinburgh." The Committee further recommends "that the degree of Doctor of Laws in this University, besides being conferred *honoris causa* as at present, should be conferred after examination on certain legal subjects or otherwise as in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London, Dublin, and the Queen's University, Ireland." The ground on which the committee were led to advise this is the anomaly which at present exists "of refusing the highest law degree to lawyers as such. The number of law students has been quadrupled during this period, and the Law Faculty is now the third in point of numbers. The committee do not wish to interfere with the special regulations which may be adopted for the examinations in law, but they would suggest that the standard to be aimed at should be that of London University. It would be extremely inadvisable to make the degree so easy of attainment as it is in Cambridge and Dublin, where it is usually taken by clergymen, as this would involve a considerable lowering of the value of the present degree of LL.B. But if the doctorate in the Faculty of Law is put on the same footing as in the Faculty of Divinity in Glasgow, the result will, no doubt, be to give a considerable impetus to the scientific study of law. If it is thought desirable to distinguish honorary from ordinary graduates, this may be done by designating the former Hon. LL.D. If the honorary graduates are sufficiently eminent to entitle them to the degree, there can be no confusion. Even though the University created a hundred ordinary Doctors of Laws every year, it might still be a very high honour to receive the degree as an honorary distinction."

On the subject of extramural teaching in arts and science, the committee state that "they are certainly not at present prepared to recommend the throwing open of the graduation in arts and science to extramural teaching, which might, in their view, tend to alter entirely the whole character of the University, and ultimately to assimilate it, to an extent of which they are unable to approve, to the character of the London University, as simply an institution for the conferring of degrees."

CLAREMONT COLLEGE, opened in 1882, "is designed some day to be to the South what Wellesley is to the North." That is what its president said (before he had heard of Smith). The College building, or rather the south wing, since that only is finished, is occupied by teachers and pupils this year for the first time, although the educational work was carried on last year in the unfinished building. It is built of unfaiced brick, is three stories high, with mansard roof and tower, the only one in this part of the State, and dear to the hear's of Hickory. The College is finished in native woods, pine and hickory, and plastered, an innovation which has the charm of novelty; for the people generally prefer to stick to the good old way and ceil their houses in wood, although it is more expensive. The chapel on the lower floor and the handsome parlors above are hard finished. The College has plenty of arched windows, with wide window seats, lofty rooms and spacious halls, resounding with the groans of tortured pianos and vocalizations, which cease not night or day. Truly, the operatic "tone" is only acquired by practice. I nearly forgot to mention that Claremont College has a cellar. But it is a fact of no slight importance; for cellars are the exception, and when they exist at all are built like ours, after the house is finished. We are surrounded by a grove of oaks and hickories, twenty-five acres in extent; fallen trees, timber, "trash" of all sorts mar its beauty, but Time, which conquers all things, appears to be slowly bringing confusion out of chaos. There is a mineral spring within five minutes' walk; its waters are supposed to possess remarkable healing properties. The taste is marvellous, at any rate, something like poor soda water and weak kerosene. The water here is generally excellent, and is more or less impregnated with iron and sulphur. The town proper is about a quarter of a mile away and consists of three or four streets rambling off into the country, leaving the railroad station, two hotels, and a long row of stores and shops for a centre. Hickory has fifteen hundred inhabitants, seven churches, the Highlands, a classical school for boys; St. Joseph's, a school

for girls, and at last, but not least, Claremont. The Catawba River is only three miles away, and on its banks the girls go hunting chinquapins, a sport that takes the place of chestnut-walks. Much rain has fallen of late, but this last week the weather has been like that of our Northern June. The sun is hot, indeed, but the air is always tempered by the mountain breezes into a softness that seems to have crept into the tongues of the people and tangled them to slow music. The soil is white clay, with a sub-stratum of a glaring brick red, that is forever staring you in the face, and making your eyes ache for New England rocks. This subsoil is almost impervious to rain, and when it is thoroughly wet forms a doughy mud that a mule has been known to decline with thanks. Speaking of mules, one of the striking features of street scenes here is the frequent mule, "all saddled, all bridled," and tied to the limb of a tree. On Saturday these ridiculous animals ornament the scattered hitching posts adown the business street, and are grouped on the tree-shadowed square, or more properly triangle, at its head. There are no sidewalks, correctly speaking, though people generally walk on the edges of the highways, and you step directly from the street into the store or shop. Once inside, however, you will forget all discomforts. The courtesy and attention bestowed so lavishly and impartially in one half-hour here would supply a Northern clerk with good manners for a week. And courtesy is not confined to the clerk or merchant, who might be supposed to cultivate politeness for the sake of his pocket, not by any means. A gentleman *doffs* his hat; he does not give it a hasty twitch sideways, nor an indifferent double-jam over the eyes. He takes off his hat and bows with an easy elegance as impossible to imitate as it is to describe. Hickory is a summer resort, a kind of half-way house between the mountains and the low country, and candor compels me to add that visitors would come oftener and stay longer if the accommodations were better. A good hotel with an enterprising proprietor would be a great advantage to the place, which would give a pleasant home and generous patronage in return. Hickory lies on a plateau, and from the College windows on the tower you look away over broken stretches of forest to the far, blue horizon line, where the mountains sleep in eternal repose, curtained with pale mists, and bathed in the warm splendor of the Southern sun. There have been no frosts yet, and the woods wear the lively of June; only here and there a leaf, flushed crimson with the sun's hot kisses, flaunts autumn's colors in the summer air. The Blue Ridge is visible, forty miles away, Mt. Mitchell, and nearer, Baker's Mountain, Blowing Rock and Grandfather, lying on his back, with upturned face, another Prometheus chained to his mountain top.—*Correspondence of the Transcript.*

The sophomores of the University of Pennsylvania held their cremation of Ahn's "German Grammar" and Arnold's "Greek Prose Composition" last night, and made a grand success of their undertaking. Before eight o'clock the vicinity of the Mint was thronged with an eager crowd of '86 men, eagerly watched by their upper-classmen friends, the juniors and seniors, and the inevitable contingent of street urchins and other curiosity-seeking spectators. The freshmen, with their torches, assembled near Spruce and Juniper streets, and between their rendezvous and the gathering place of the sophomore braves there every now and then marched in battalion style a gang of small boys, each bearing a white painted picket which he had stolen from some fence in the suburban districts, and lustily yelling a clever imitation of the University cry: "Hoorah—Hoorah—Hoorah—Pe-n-syl-van-i-a—Eighty—Six." The college men laughed at the mimicry of the gamins, and replied with "Bingo" and "Here's to '86, drink it down." Soon the hearse was seen. The boys began to light their torches, the line was formed, the band began to play and the line of march wakened up. First came a platoon of Mayor King's stalwarts, then a division of sophomores, each bearing a torch and clad in the regular University mortar-board cap and the classic, time-honoured gown. The Great Western band followed, playing in good style a mournful dirge, and leading the way for the catafalque, which was improvised for the occasion out of a large lumber wagon,

with a high framework covered with a black tarpaulin, on top of which were placed the two coffins of the departed Ahn and Arnold. Then came another division of sophomores preceded by a bearer of a transparency, on which was painted a picture of a noble Greek, clad in the simple chiton, standing on academic steps and handing down to an humble freshman the standard manual of Greek prose composition. Policemen followed the sophomore procession, and then came the freshmen, 140 strong, a band playing lively airs in front, and a wagon with a powerful calcium light in the rear. They carried torches and wore high hats of the fashion of two decades ago. The procession passed down Broad to Chestnut, to Seventeenth, to Spruce, to Twenty-first, to Walnut, to Twentieth, to Chestnut and thence to the campus. Crowds stood on the sidewalks and apparently enjoyed the spectacle hugely. Some did not know what it meant. "It's the Salvation Army," exclaimed an innocent-looking lady, while others imagined it was a big scheme to advertise some new medicine or fresh book when they read the freshmen transparencies, "Chew Jackson's Best" and "Read Jokes Made Easy," by J. G. R. McElroy; "Little, but Oh, My!" And the gamins laughed gleefully as they shouted, "Look at the dudes! Shoot the hats." When Provost Pepper's house, on Spruce street, was reached a loud cheer was given, and the same honour was paid Professor McElroy on Twentieth street, and the many ladies' seminaries along the route. Red fire glowed all along the streets, the crowd of "medics," and dentists, and juniors and seniors on the sidewalk sang and cheered and jostled about in rough rushes, and the two lower classes trudged along in the mud. At last the campus of the University was reached. Thousands of people were already there, and the windows of the buildings were filled with ladies. The two classes gathered around the pyre, which, when lighted, illuminated the college grounds in a strangely weird fashion. While the two coffins on the pyre were being slowly consumed the exercises went on.

H. A. Robb, as president, made a brief and witty speech, followed by W. C. Posey, who delivered the "Laudatio Arnoldi" in a dolefully humorous style. A hymn to the air of "Last Cigar" was sung; E. Thompson recited a poem, another hymn followed to the air of "Ladueger Honatius" and then the last address, the "Laudatio Ahni" was given by G. A. E. Kohler. The "Doxologia" was then rendered to the air of "Bingo," the class yell was given and replied to by the freshmen with their cry. Then came a din of tin horns with bass and treble notes, groans for the faculty, and yells of derision by both "sophs" and "fresh" against each other. The crowd seemed loth to disperse, but the song "Down to Otto's we will go; let the lager freely flow," rose from the hoarse throats of the mob of collegians, and a break was then made for Darby Road. But "Otto's" was closed, and the rumor spread, "the faculty hired him to close." The street was packed. Men in gowns, and men without, jostled against each other, and in turn were elbowed about by the crowds of medical students from the University and Jefferson. Then began a row. Who began it was a question, but soon every one was in it. The place was on Darby Road, opposite the University buildings. A rush was made by a gang of "Medics" upon the Freshmen, who made a good stand in solid phalanx, with their lighted torches thrust right before the checks of their assailants. Several faces were burned. A score of men were trampled to the ground, and lamp sticks and tin cans and clubs were thrown about in a very promiscuous and highly dangerous manner. Still the rush kept on, and the surging mass of excited striants rolled in one body, now up and now down the street. But a squad of bluecoats with clubs uplifted soon appeared, and, dashing upon the crowd, succeeded in scattering the opposing forces. Threatened with arrest the boys ceased their rough encounter, but not before one of their number was severely hurt on the head by a blow from a club and two others captured by the police and taken to the Twenty-first District Station House, on Woodland Avenue. The injured man was Douglas Hall, of the Freshman class. He was taken to Monaghan's saloon nearby, and then given medical treatment, after which he was taken home. For a long while he was stunned by the blow, and it was feared that his skull

might have been dangerously cut. Howard Peters and A. D. Shisler, both students, and both living at 3419 Walnut Street, were the lads unfortunate enough to be caught by the officers. Their follow-students said that they were no more to blame than any others in the crowd.—*Philadelphia Press*, Nov. 28.

The following is the *New York Tribune's* report of a lecture delivered by Matthew Arnold in the Brooklyn Academy of Music:—Practical people talk with a smile of Plato and his obsolete ideas, and it is impossible to deny that his ideas do often seem impracticable, especially when placed in contrast with a great working population, like that of these United States. He regards such trade and mechanical work with disdain, but what becomes of the life of a great working community if you take the trade life out of it? Trade, says Plato, brings about a fatal decay of nobler growth in a man, and as he has his body marred by grimy labor so his soul within him becomes broken and decrepit. Nor do the working professions fare any better at his hands. He speaks of the bondage of the lawyer whose toll makes him so small and crooked of soul, that, not possessing the courage to stand by honesty and truth, he becomes without any soundness in him whatever. We cannot but admire the artist who draws these pictures, and though they belong to an age so widely differing from our own, they yet command the respect of minds. They descend from a period when the warrior and the philosopher were held most in honor, the lower classes being principally slaves whose work consisted of trade and business. They were handed on from Roman to feudal times, when, also, the warrior and the priest were mostly honored, and the majority of the people were next to slaves. Yet education is still mainly governed by ideas of men like Plato. We are apt to consider such an education as his fitted only for leisure and unsuited to the practical and matter-of-fact issues of life. Especially unsuited to the masses who are bound to industrial pursuits, and whom this kind of education makes dissatisfied with those pursuits. Yet Plato's views are in reality sound enough, for he says that man should prize those studies which result in his soul's attaining to soberness, righteousness and wisdom. Men will not complain of such an ideal of education as this. It is solidly good, whether our future destination be a hereditary seat in the English House of Lords, or the pork trade in Chicago. Plato had no idea of such a community as the United States, which shapes its education to the standard of its requirements, and if one kind is discovered to be unsuited, very speedily adopts another. The question now is much raised, whether to meet the needs of our age we ought not to substitute the cultivation of belles-lettres for science. Nowhere is this question so eagerly and ardently discussed as here. It aims at abasing literary attainment in favor of scientific, which is said to be more adapted to modern requirements. The present question which I shall discuss, is whether belles-lettres ought to be excluded from education, and whether the present onslaught made upon them will prevail. I anticipate the objection that may be made to myself, whose education has been almost wholly confined to belles-lettres, discussing scientific questions, and I shall make my remarks with becoming caution. My small attainment in science will, however, be visible, and no one will be taken in. You may remember a remark of mine that we ought to know the best that has been taught and said. Professor Huxley, quoting this remark and emphasizing it, says the civilized world may be regarded as one great federation, working for a common result, and having for its outfit a knowledge of Greek, Roman and Egyptian antiquity, and of one another. I assert that literature contains that which will enable us to know ourselves and the world. But, says Professor Huxley, "this knowledge will not conduce to culture, neither will a nation, nor an individual attain to this without knowledge of science." It is very necessary to have a plain comprehension of the precise meaning of terms. Professor Huxley thinks that the study of belles-lettres is elegant and ornamental, but not useful. Renan speaks, too, with contempt of "a superficial humanism," which is taught in our schools, as if we all intended being poets and orators and teachers. Now when I

speak of Greek and Roman antiquities, I mean all that we can know of the Greeks and Romans, their life, their morals, their politics. All teaching is thus scientific when followed up to its source. All learning is scientific which is systematically laid out. To know the Greeks and Romans means more than so much vocabulary, or grammar, or extracts from authors. It is the same as knowing our own, or other nations, by which we arrive at a knowledge of ourselves. The distinctive characteristic of our times, lies in the part played by physical science. It commands more of popular sympathy than the study of literature. I have said that we ought to know the best that has been taught and said in literature. Literature is a large word. It may mean all that has been comprised in books. By literature Prof. Huxley means belles-lettres, and considers that this is no sufficient equipment for a criticism of modern life. As by knowing Greek, I mean the understanding of Grecian art, the habits and life of a people from whom we derived physics and mathematics, so to know the best that modern nations have taught and said is to follow the processes by which these results have been attained, and that is found in their literature. There is something, then, to be said on behalf of those who have been somewhat scornfully called the Levites of humane studies, in opposition to those who may be called their Nebuchadnezzar. The results have their visible bearing on human life. All knowledge is interesting to all men. The habit of dealing with facts is an excellent mental discipline. We do not accept a theory merely because it is said to be so and so, but are made to see that it really happens. For the purpose of attaining real culture, instruction in science is as necessary as instruction in literature. In natural science, the habit of dealing with facts is an excellent and valuable discipline. But when it is proposed to make the training in natural science the chief part in education, those who would do this leave out of their calculation the necessities of human nature. It would be hard to deny that when we come to commemorate the chief things that go to build up human life, as beauty and conduct and the powers of society, literature takes a greater and wider place. We need all these, none are isolated. In the generality of men there is a tendency to relate pieces of knowledge. As we acquire one piece of knowledge after another we try to connect them, and therein lies the hold which letters have upon us. We feel a need to relate these pieces of knowledge to our sense of beauty and conduct. The Sybil told Socrates that man had the desire that good should ever be present with him. Love is but the expression of his desire. Now there are some kinds of knowledge which cannot be related. I once ventured to assert in the Senate House at Cambridge that a little mathematics might be made to go a very long way. It is the same with certain things in natural science. Education lays hold upon us by relating our knowledge. The great medieval universities came into existence because of the general desire in man that good should ever be present with him. We find that humane letters have the power to engage human emotions. Has poetry and its quence this power? They have. How, I cannot explain. If they have this effect on the universe, how are they to be used? The great philosopher Spinoza said that felicity consisted in a man's being able to define his own essence. But how different is the effect of this from the sentence: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose himself?" Let us avoid comparisons between humane letters and natural science. I have shown that there is an underlying depth in human nature, which requires that knowledge should connect itself with our sense of beauty and conduct. The study of the humane letters does this. This many, nay most, will admit, but why should it be Greek literature? Have not the English-speaking race enough of great minds in their own literature? I answer that the study of Greek, against which the present outcry seems most strongly directed, affords symmetry of thought and idea. I think the lovers of Greek literature have nothing to fear; the time is coming when women will know Greek as did Lady Jane Grey, and when your girls will be studying it in your schools of learning in the far West. It should be remembered that the glorious beauty of the Parthenon at Athens was not

made up of a statue here or a portico there. It was a grand symmetrical whole, perfect in every detail. I know not how it is in America, but in England, the one thing lacking in our architecture is symmetry. We have grand things in detail, and isolated, but the whole is inharmonious. The time may come when the cultivation of Greek literature may impart some symmetry to our ideas as will make us ashamed of such a street as the Strand. Here our friend Mr. Ruskin steps to our side, and we may safely leave the matter in such excellent hands.

We acknowledge with thanks the following exchanges:—*Acaalia Athenaeum, Acta Victoriana, Astrum Alberti, The Blackburnian, Dalhousie Gazette, The Dartmouth, The Droghedian, Hamilton (Ky.) College Monthly, Harcourt Advocate, King's College Record, The Portfolio, Queen's College Journal, Richmond Literary Miscellany, Rouge et Noir, The Sunbeam, The University Cynic, The Varsity, Knox College Monthly.*

Between the Lectures.

OCTOPUS.

BY ALGERNON CHARLES SIN-BURN.

Strange beauty, eight-limbed and eight-handed,
Whence camest to dazzle our eyes?
With thy bosom humped and banded
With the hues of the seas and the skies;
Is thy home European or Asian,
Oh mystical monster marine?
Part molluscous and partly crustacean,
Betwixt and between.
Wast thou 'born to the sound of sea trumpets?
Hast thou eaten and drunk to excess
Of the springs—thy muffins and dumptots,
Of seaweed—thy mustard and cross?
Wast thou nurtured in caverns of coral,
Remote from reproof or restraint?
Art thou innocent, art thou immoral,
Sinburnian or Saint?
Lithe limbs, curling free, as a creeper
That creeps in a desolate place,
To enfold and envelop the sleeper
In a silent and stealthy embrace;
Cru I besak craving forward to bite us,
Our juices to drain and to drink,
O: to whom us in waves of Coctus,
Indelible ink!
Oh breast, that t'wixt rapture to writhe on!
Oh arms 'twere delicious to feel
Clinging close with the crush of the Python,
When she maketh her murderous meal!
In thy eight-fold embraces enfolden,
Let our empty existence escape;
Give us death that is glorious and golden,
Crushed all out of shape!
Ah thy red lips, lascivious and luscious,
With death in their amorous kiss!
Cling round us, and clasp us, and crush us,
With bitings of agonized bliss;
We are sick with the poison of pleasure,
Dispense us the potion of pain;
Ope thy mouth to its uttermost measure,
And bite us again!

THE LIGHT GREEN.

"Is lager beer a tonic?" asks an invalid; and the German doctor answers: "It ish a tonic—it ish, in fact, a Ten-tonic!"—*Ex.*

"No, pa, I do not wish to marry yet. What I want is a man who does not drink, smoke, snuff, chew, go out at night, gamble, bet, over-eat, etc.; in short, a man of no vices, and one who is always good." "My daughter," said Mr. Duesberry, "you are but a stranger here, heaven is your home."—*Ex.*

An Irish lawyer having addressed the Court as "gentlemen" instead of "yer honors," after he had concluded, a brother of the bar reminded him of his error. He immediately rose and apologized thus: "May it please the Coort, in the hate of debate I called yer honors gentlemen. I made a mistake yer honors."

SCIENCE.

Sarcastic T. Tor—"So that's a spherical segment, eh? Then I must confess I don't understand your diagram."
Cheerly Freshman—"Don't you? Well, just come around after the hour and I'll explain it to you." (Sensation.)

LOGIC.

Professor—"What's the universal negative?"
Freshman, (taken by surprise)—"Not prepared." (Temporary suspension of hostilities.)—*Scriber.*

HALF-DASHES FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD.—A well-known spirit medium, having just recovered from a trance, says that while in it he saw several ardent spirits entering a certain boarding-house attended by a banshee who had just returned from a bier with a goblin. He saw later, as one in a dream, a spirit being exorcised and a devil cast out by the landlady and an ass, the High Priest, and that one of these, a dark and forbidding harbinger of evil, has flown to a gloomy cavern, in whose awful recesses he defies pursuit. The other, a graceful sprite, fair to look upon, once more expelled from his temporary resting-place by the shrieks of the banshee, has returned to the ark, bearing not even a palm or olive branch.

A MEDLEY.

I'm a Jimmy McGill young man,
An "admire my legs" young man,
A knickery-ickery, ockery-bockery
Oscar Wilde young man.

On Thursday last, sad to relate,
Down at the C. P. R.,
A medico near met his fate,
While standing on a car.

On the back platform he did stand
To cool his noble brow;
But e'er he'd time to lift his hand,
"De Bull" had tossed "De Cow."—*Tableau.*

THE proprietor of a religiously conducted paper of this city was invited to a wedding the other day. Of course, he had to present the pair, whose marriage he was to witness, (no pun intended,) with a gift. As electro-plate is too closely allied to lucre, he resolved to seek the indispensable in a crockery store. On entering he was struck with horror to see an array of wine-glasses, which, as is well-known, he never will advertise in his paper lest the weak be thereby led into error. Recovering himself with difficulty from this shock, his glance, roving about the shop, was caught by the appearance of a rich, cut-glass bowl. As he was in a great hurry to escape from the contaminating neighbourhood of the wine-glasses, he purchased this bowl, directed it to be sent to the house of the bride expectant, and quickly made his exit from the place of abomination. When the gift arrived at its destination, the bride and her friends, who, like the donor, were of the elect, speculated long and anxiously as to the purpose for which the bowl was intended. At last they resolved to seek the aid of an ungodly and, it must be confessed, wine-drinking neighbour, who was thereupon called in, examined the gift, and—gods that such a thing should exist!—pronounced it a PUNCH BOWL. Charitable and uncharitable people will draw their own inferences from this story.

IRVING AND BEECHER DINE.

The great preacher, Beecher, gave a dinner yesterday to the great actor, Irving, at which the immediate members of the Beecher family entertained Mr. Irving, Miss Terry and Major Pond. The courtesy grew out of a visit paid by the Rev. Mr. Beecher and his wife to the Star Theatre on Saturday afternoon, where they occupied a box and witnessed Shylock Irving and Portia Terry in "The Merchant of Venice." The pastor and his wife were so charmed by the fine acting that they expressed a desire to Major Pond, Mr. Beecher's lecture agent, to have the foreign artists dine with them on Sunday. The recipients of the invitation gladly consented to cross the Beecher threshold. So yesterday they attended Plymouth Church and listened with reciprocal admiration to Mr. Beecher's

sermon. The clergyman was at his best, and his parishioners congratulated each other at the doors upon dismissal that the old fire had returned in their beloved shepherd. Mr. Beecher came out of his pulpit, shook hands with the actor and actress heartily, introduced them to several pillars of the church, told them how much pleasure they had afforded him on the previous day, and came to the point by saying that his folks in Connecticut had sent him a big goose, which he would share with them.

Mr. Irving made a little informal speech in reply and accepted the invitation in behalf of Miss Terry and himself. The party then paired off—Mr. Beecher taking charge of Miss Terry and requesting Major Pond to take Mr. Irving's arm and go on ahead. In this order the party reached the house, at Hicks and Clark streets. Mrs. Beecher, from an upper window, saw them coming and watched them until they reached the door. She then rushed down stairs to turn over the goose while her husband opened the door with his night-key. The party rested in the parlor until the dinner was ready. The conversation was of an everyday nature and did not enter deeply either into theatricals or religion. Mr. Beecher said that he was almost ignorant as regards Mr. Irving's profession. The play that he remembered best was "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in which a live bloodhound took his part very naturally by biting Legree.

On the other hand Mr. Irving expressed sorrow at being forced to say so, but he has not read the revised edition of the New Testament through yet. Mr. Beecher put the actor at ease by confessing that he had not either. A good-natured laugh followed and the conversation became general. Miss Terry described a love of a bonnet that she saw last week, and Mrs. Beecher, who had joined the party, dilated upon the medicinal merits of boneset tea. The smell of onion-stuffing permeated the atmosphere and put a keen edge on already sharp appetites. Just as the great actor was about to feign a dead faint from hunger, a sharp voice from the kitchen called:

"Mrs. Beecher!"

The summoned lady ran down stairs two steps at a time and soon reached the side of the dismayed cook:

"What is the matter, Polly?"

"We've forgot the sage!"

"Oh, Polly! Polly!"

Nothing could be done but to say nothing and send the goose up stairs in the hope that the missing link would not be noticed. "Dinner's all ready," announced Mrs. Beecher with an assumed smile.

The party filed into the dining-room, Mr. Beecher behind, turning his cuffs end-for-end as he walked. In this room was a palatable show. A big fat goose intrenched in gravy and flanked by all kinds of vegetables slept the final sleep in the centre of the table. Everything necessary accompanied the star of the feast.

"Dark meat, Miss Terry?" asked the reverend gentleman, as he grasped the carver.

"If you please, with plenty of stuffing," returned the little lady.

All were helped from the generous goose, and Mr. Beecher sat down to enjoy his reward. He is very fond of onion-stuffing, and had taken care that it was not all gone before his turn came. "This goose," began Mr. Beecher, the bird's biographer, "has a history. She is the seventh goose of a seventh!"

Just what the reverend gentleman was going to attribute to the goose will not be known, as just then he tasted the stuffing. A stern look came over his face and he was on the point of saying something when he caught the warning glance from his wife's eye and kept quiet. Nothing was heard for ten minutes besides the tineful play of knives, forks and dishes. The dinner was topped off with mince and pumpkin pies, in whose favour the guests could not say too much.

After dinner a quiet, enjoyable talk was indulged in. Mr. Beecher neglected his Sunday-school to entertain the English artists. He highly complimented Mr. Irving by telling him that he was a born preacher.

"If I was not pastor of Plymouth Church, I would be Henry Irving," said Mr. Beecher.

"You are a born actor," said Mr. Irving. "As for myself, there is no one I feel more inclined to envy than the pastor of Plymouth Church."

Miss Terry was not slighted in Mr. Beecher's meed of praise. The topics of the discussion momentarily changed from America to England and back again, both of the leading gentlemen having well-stored minds that released them from "talking shop." At 4 o'clock the visitors departed, carrying and leaving delightful impressions.—*New York Herald, 19th November.*

"I'd be a medical, gay body-snatcher,
Digging up graves, the world all abed,
And invent a little pill
That would never fail to kill,"
Thus to himself the gay Theolog said.

"I'd be a Theolog, gay devil-dodger,
With a prayer on my lips I'd be flirting with sin;
With parson and rector," thus said the dissector,
" 'Tis money they're after, the motive's too thin."

"I'd be a Science man," the Law student murmured,
"Building up bridges and laying down rails;
The scheme may be trumpery,
Then form a company,
The Scientist prospers, the company fails."

"I'd be a lawyer," thus shouted an Arts man,
"I'm for the Law, it suiteth me well;
Hence pills, Science, and cloister,
I'll take the oyster
And hand to the clients the beautiful shell."

"But who'd be an Arts man?"
Theology, Medicine,
Science and Law in unison say,
"Dudes, mashers and daisies,
In different phases,
They demolish the cake while
Their governors pay."

Personals.

McCulloch, '84 Med., is laid up with typhoid fever at the hospital.

Warnford, '86 Med. is slowly becoming convalescent at the hospital, after a severe attack of diphtheria.

Mr. Geo. Rogers, fourth year Arts, was glad to see, is able to be about again. He has just recovered from an attack of typhoid fever.

T. D. Green, B. A. Sc., '82, was in town last week. He has just returned from the North-West where he has been engaged on the staff of a surveying party. Roughing it must agree with him, if we are to judge from his hearty looks and tanned face.

MOVEMENTS OF PRINCIPAL DAWSON IN ENGLAND.—As our readers are aware Dr. Dawson reached England in time for the meeting of the British Association at Southport. He took part in the discussions in general committee on the meeting in Canada in 1884, and in the public proceedings at the close, and also read in the Geological section a paper in further illustration of *Excozon Canadense*. At the close of the meeting he visited Chester, Manchester, Leeds and Bradford, informing himself as to the new scientific and technical schools in these cities. At Leeds he lectured before the Philosophical Society, and at Manchester before the Students' Natural History Society. He took part in the public exercises at the opening of the new medical laboratories of Owens College, and in the annual conversation of the Chester Society of Natural History. In pursuit of information as to the methods now employed in England in the higher education of women, he visited the Colleges of Gt. rton and Newnham at Cambridge, and also the Ladies' College at Cheltenham; and has collected reports and other evidence respecting the Ladies' Colleges at Oxford, Bristol and London, some of which he hopes to visit at a later date. While in London, Dr. Dawson has been renewing acquaintances with scientific friends, attending the meetings of the Royal and Geological Societies, and discussing points of geological interest, as well as collecting material for the University Museum. Before this time he has, no doubt, left London for Paris, Rome, Naples and Egypt.

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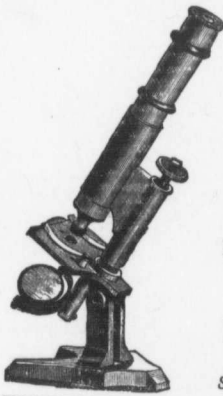
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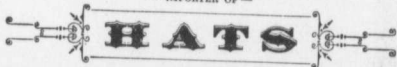
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