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Any information concerning Graduates or Alumni, or articles on topics of current interest, thankfully received.

* Matter for publication should be addressed to the Managing Editor; Business Letters to H. M. MOWAT, P.O. Drawer 482, Kingston, Ont.

THE Registrar of the University Council desires us to say that he has sent voting papers to all graduates and alumni entitled to vote at the coming election of Chancellor and members of Council. Any one not having received voting papers will please address the Registrar on the subject.

SINCE the death of Professor Mackerras the classes in Greek have been taken by Samuel Woods, Esq., M.A., for so many years Rector of the Collegiate Institute here. Mr. Woods' scholarship and teaching ability are so well known to many of the graduates of Queen's (a large proportion of whom were so fortunate as to have been his pupils) that it is scarcely necessary to say that the appointment has proved extremely acceptable to all the students of Greek. On our editing staff are six of his old pupils, who took their first taste of Greek from him, and we have no hesitation in predicting that the

remainder of the session will prove as satisfactory to the students as the period during which he has already filled the chair.

IN some of our classes, after the monthly examinations, it has not been an unusual thing for the Professor, after correcting the examination papers, to either hand them back to the students examined, that they may see wherein they have failed, or else to go over the questions with the examined class, giving the correct answers and commenting on the incorrect and incomplete ones. Whenever this has been done it has proved very satisfactory to the examined, not only giving them a more correct idea of the examination paper and the general drift of the questions, but also preventing all chance of accusing the Professor, who is also the examiner, of unfairness, an accusation which is the more likely to be made in examinations like these which are purely competitive.

Either of these plans, or better, a combination of them, has such very decided advantages that we would like to see them adopted in all our College and University examinations, and the fact that sometimes a long vacation would intervene would not, we think, prevent a beneficial effect. We do not think that it is necessary for us to point out the obvious benefits that would accrue to the students by such a course, and indeed to the examiners, by improving their relations with the students. So much has been done of late years to increase our advantages that we are tempted to believe this also may come to be the custom. It,

doubtless, would never be made a rule by the University, but depends entirely on the individual Professors. To them we recommend it and can assure them that the change would be greatly appreciated by the students.

THERE is a question that has often been asked students: Why has Queen's no College colors? which has been almost invariably answered: Because it hasn't. Now while the subject is not one of the greatest importance, we still think that the adoption of some colors would be agreeably entertained by all the students. When our number was small it was perhaps judicious not to wear any distinguishing mark, as that would have showed that paucity but too plainly. Now, however, that the undergraduates have so increased that the old buildings are no longer able to hold them, why should we not have some mark by which we should know each other and the citizens generally know us! There are particular occasions, however, when college colors are extremely convenient. How our foot ball club has existed so long without some badge we hardly know. Had it been an aquatic club there is no doubt that distinctive colors would have been soon chosen: and it surely is as much of a convenience to a foot ball club, rather more—for in a foot ball match the players become so inextricably mingled, that without distinctive colors it is impossible at times for the onlookers to distinguish friends from foes, while in a rowing match those acquainted with either of the opposing parties could always distinguish them. Then also were our Athletic Association at all a live institution, distinctive colors would be desired, and in case the newly formed Snow Shoe Club decides to have any kind of uniform, the requisite colors would be the first things chosen. We might suggest to the officers of the

Snow Shoe and Foot Ball Clubs in case they determine to select colors, to meet and decide on the same, that the colors may not represent the clubs so much as the College; the form of wearing will be sufficient to distinguish the clubs.

“WHAT the editor of a Journal does not know is scarcely worth knowing.” We know that at the last meeting of the University Council a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of re-establishing a Law Faculty in connection with our Alma Mater. What that committee has done we do not know, but then “what the editor of a Journal, &c.” We think that it is high time that the gentlemen on this committee bestirred themselves. The necessity for Law Schools seems to be growing more and more felt. A writer in the last number of the *Canadian Monthly* graphically portrays the miseries of a poor student-at-law grappling with “those subtle distinctions, those mysteries and intricacies, those difficulties of the path, those boulders of the law, that have existed, do exist and will continue to exist,” disconsolate and alone, with no friendly hand to help, no warning voice to guide. We have looked inside a lawyer's office occasionally and seen the poor clerks plodding away drawing conveyances like so many cart-horses, and have wondered how these poor mortals ever learned enough to pass out of their embryo state into the perfect legal gentleman. No proper instruction is ever given to would-be Cokes and Blackstones, what they learn they pick up by themselves the best way they can. We want to help these poor youths and also to elevate the profession. Let the committee aforesaid get to work. The opening of our new buildings would be a splendid time for launching the Faculty of Law. The Bar of Kingston has ever stood high in the ranks of the profession, and if

they only will, can make the new departure a success as far as the teaching staff is concerned. We understand that the Law Society are considering a resolution to the effect that any one taking the degree of Bachelor of Laws in any Provincial University will thereby save one year of the five that otherwise he would have to spend in purely professional studies, and this whether the degree is taken before or during the currency of the period of his legal studies. Let a curriculum be prepared; the barristers of Kingston can easily provide the professional teaching needed, while the Professors of Classics, History and Logic can be made available for instilling into the minds of the undergraduates in Law the masterpieces of the forensic eloquence of the ancients, the history of the constitution, and the science and art of reasoning. Every University of any standing in the United States has a department of Law, in the Dominion there is a flourishing school in connection with McGill, let Queen's lead the way in Ontario. We will return to this subject again even though it may prove distasteful to our friend, the *White and Blue*.

MUCH has been said and written of late in certain circles about the establishment of an institution, termed by its promoters the "Presbyterian University of Canada." It was proposed at the last General Assembly that, in the interest of theological education, and to do justice to certain theological schools, an Act of Parliament should be applied for which would empower a committee of clergymen and elders chosen from the Assembly to grant academic degrees in theology. This extraordinary proposal, or rather motion, was rejected. But the matter did not rest here, it being agreed to refer it to the Presbyteries to report on. The scheme is now being discussed by those bodies, and most of those which have met

have resolved not to sanction it. Still they give it as their opinion that there should be some means by which students in theological colleges without university powers might receive the *imprimatur* of excellence in theological learning in the authorized way, though they disapprove of the plan proposed in the Assembly. And what respecer of sound learning would not? There would be no teaching body in connection with this paper University, and the degree would be granted on the result of one examination. Now who will say that this would be a fair test of a man's fitness to attach B.D. after his name till the end of his days? In Queen's the degree is granted only after a man has obtained high marks on all the lectures of three sessions, besides the other subjects required. The consequence is, this degree is extremely difficult to obtain, and we would not like to see the standard lowered, which, if we are to judge from the letters of avowed supporters of this scheme which have appeared in a Toronto exchange, is likely to be the case. But above all, there is a danger of the Degree-granting Board being unconsciously influenced in favor of certain candidates. If, as we fancy, would be the case, the degree would not denote so much scholarship as it does now, how very unjust it would be to those who have succeeded in obtaining the degree of Queen's! But, even if the proposed University was in no way objectionable, there is no real need for it, for its object can be served in another way. We can quite understand why the friends of some of the other colleges think it hardly fair that Queen's has advantages which they have not, but when in order to remedy this the authorities of Queen's University proposed that representatives from the other colleges should be taken on its Senate, the proposal was scouted. Why? Surely it must have been only a sort of foolish pride that induced refusal of this generous offer. Neverthe-

less, we believe this is the only way in which an equal footing for all the colleges can be realized, for it is certain no Government would sanction the establishment of such a University as that proposed. But we desire that all theological students should have the same advantages, and if a Board were formed of representatives of the different colleges, which would form a proper curriculum of study and grant degrees under the charter of Queen's University, would not all students have an equal chance for the degree? By this means all the colleges would have the same relation to Queen's University as Queen's Theological Hall has now. And it must not be supposed that they would lose their identity with their Alma Mater, for it might easily be arranged that there should be attached to the degree some distinguishing mark of the college at which the Bachelor received his education. Want of space prevents us saying more on this subject at present. But we hope that a scheme will no longer be agitated which will make the Presbyterian Church a laughing-stock to all University men and to all other denominations in Canada.

A WRITER in the *Canada School Journal* referring to the fact that University College will soon be desiring additional funds, wherewith to increase its efficiency, makes a suggestion that is applicable to all the Universities and Colleges in our Province, this is the cutting off of the present first year altogether, and devoting the funds and time gained thereby to increase the efficiency of the advanced classes.

Now in Queen's such a proposal would have to be made in a modified form. Ever since the important change, five years ago, in the *modus operandi* of classwork, the distinction of years has been necessarily abolished, nevertheless there are elementary classes, as elementary as formerly, and in-

deed, since the plan has been adopted of giving non-matriculants just as high privileges as matriculants, they have occasionally become a great deal more so. The work gone over in these elementary classes could be just as well done in our High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, and what is more, this work ought to be done there and the majority of outsiders believe that it is done there. Why should the time the Professor ought to give to the advanced classes be spent in initiating the school-boy (whose only title to the name of undergraduate is seen in the gown on his back) in the mysteries of the declension of $\tau\upsilon\pi\tau\omega$, or interpreting to him the ins and outs of the second or third books of Euclid, when only a few squares away is an institution where he could be instructed in such learning without in any way hindering his more advanced classmates, and without causing his teacher to lessen the already too much abridged time devoted to the contemplation of that higher knowledge which is supposed to be hid under the title of B.A.?

It is no answer to the above to say that the matriculation examination is now much more difficult than ever, nor to suggest that there is now a senior matriculation which, if the student be able to pass it, will shorten his course to three years. We are speaking more in reference to the funds of the College and the time of the Professors. No one connected with the College needs to be informed of our want of funds, when the necessities of our work are considered. Why then should these funds be wasted in teaching High School work? Why not place the lowest of our classes a grade above the ordinary upper class in our High Schools? Did we do this the effect would be soon felt, and though the teaching staff would not be increased, so much more time would be given to certain members of it, that our course would immediately become

broader and higher. In one class in Queen's this step seems to have been taken, and this class is that of Modern Languages. Recognizing the fact that an elementary instruction in French and German is now given in all our well-equipped High Schools, a matriculation examination in these classes is now compulsory, and the effect will be that the work in that class will immediately take a higher range than ever before. Why should not the experiment be tried in other classes? Why should there not be a moderately high matriculation examination in Rhetoric, English Literature and History, and thus ensure to the student a glimpse at any rate of higher instruction in these important branches? What need is there to have in a College the study of the subjects gone over during the first term of Junior Mathematics, or for that matter during the whole session? What need for a preparatory class in Classics? Were the work in our High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, only rightly recognized and appreciated by College authorities generally, we think, with the funds now at their disposal, they would be able to do far more than has ever been done in the past.

WE have much pleasure in announcing that our next portrait will be that of Dr. Yates, of the Royal College, from a recent photograph, with a short sketch of his career.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

What has become of the concluding part of that paper on "Ladies' Colleges?"—ANGELINA.

We will try to explain. The writer of that article having received several missives subsequent to its publication suddenly became sick and was unable to finish it. We then sent one of our staff to work on the matter he had collected, but after a few days of bewildering lunacy he became out and out insane, and is now sojourning at Rockwood. For a few days the room where these notes were collected became absolutely useless, but at last we engaged a boy who could not read and sent him in with a

rake and thus succeeded in collecting this dangerous matter. We then had this put into a waste paper basket and placed in an otherwise empty closet and labelled the door "Responsible Editor," referring there all callers who looked dangerous. The system works like a charm, none shown in there can help looking over the papers, and they are thus reduced to a state of helpless and harmless idiocy at once. It works so well that we doubt if we will ever permit the original writer to have the materials again even if he desires it.

FRESHMAN'S SOLILOQUY ON THE FINAL.

TO try, or not to try?—that is the question:—
 Whether 'tis nobler, in the mind, to suffer
 The jeers and taunts of the successful students:
 Or take a pen against a sea of questions,
 And, there by writing, end them?—To go?—to write—
 No more;—and, by writing, say we end
 The anxiety, and thousand problems
 That finals bring:—'tis a consummation
 Devoutly to be wished! To go—to write—
 To write? perchance be plucked:—ay, there's the rub:
 For after writing what result may come,
 When we have scribbled off those tiresome papers,
 Must give us pause!—There's the disgrace
 That makes failure a thing to be avoided;
 For who would bear the thoughts of being plucked,
 The professor's words, the passmen's contumely,
 The pangs of work in vain, anxiety and care,
 When he himself might from them all be free
 By turning sick?—Yet who that would not try,
 And strive that he might pass his finals well,
 But that the thought of failing after all,—
 That dread uncertainty,—the thoughts of which
 None unprepared can flee,—puzzles the will
 And makes us rather bear those ills we have,
 Than fly to others that we know not of!
 Thus the dread of failure frights the unprepared,
 And thus the native hue of resolution
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of fear;
 And examinations of importance,
 With this regard, are often never tried,
 And thus is all the chance of passing lost.

A. S.

To whom it may concern, and especially to our exchanges, greeting:—"Harvard and Princeton Colleges will only grant the degree of M.A. to those who take a special post-graduate course."

A STUDENT who was invited by a young lady to write something in her autograph album, made a quotation from Deut., chap. xlix.—*Richmond College Messenger.*

We confess we couldn't see the joke in the above until we turned it up: we advise all our readers to do likewise, as they will be amply repaid for their trouble.

REV. JOHN B. MOWAT, M.A.

THE Rev. Professor Mowat, who occupies the chair of Oriental Languages, Biblical Criticism and Church History, and is likewise Registrar of Queen's University, is not only, like Principal Grant, a Canadian, but a Kingstonian also. He was born in the Limestone City in 1825, and received his education chiefly at Queen's University, in which he graduated in 1845. He went to Scotland in 1846 and was a student at the University of Edinburgh during the sessions of 1846-7 and 1847-8.

Returning to Canada a licentiate for the Ministry, he acted as assistant to the Rev. Dr. Machar, in St. Andrew's Church, from the year 1848 to 1850, when he was ordained minister of St. Andrew's Church at Niagara, and continued to labour there with much acceptance, until, to the great regret of his congregation, he was appointed to his present chair in Queen's University, which it is hoped he may long continue to adorn, not only by his professional ability and his accurate scholarship, but also by the manifold graces of his Christian character.

All who know Professor Mowat know that he is—what all true scholars and teachers must be—an indefatigable worker. In the steady pursuit of knowledge,—that he may communicate it to others,—he knows no “rest and be thankful.” His own studies are pursued with unremitting assiduity, that his prelections may be more interesting and useful to his students; and he does not think the labour of a lifetime too much to give to the great subjects which it is his privilege to teach. But in Christian work also, no less than in scholarship, Professor Mowat is an indefatigable worker. His ordinary allowance of Sabbath work is 3 services. His voice as a preacher is a familiar one in most of the pulpits of Kingston, for his valuable services are freely given, wherever needed, without any reference to denominational lines or boundaries. His catholic spirit and the respect universally accorded to his Christian character make him one of the uniting forces in the community.

But while first and pre-eminently “a lover of good men,” by whatever name they may be called, Professor Mowat is also an attached member of his own branch of

the Christian Church. Two of the Presbyterian congregations of this city have, more particularly, been laid under deep obligations to him for his acceptable pastoral ministrations during vacancies, or while the pastor was laid aside by illness; and these services, while frequently entailing no small self-denial on himself, have always been rendered with an ungrudging cheerfulness which greatly enhanced their value.

It seems hardly necessary to add that Professor Mowat is a most loyal son of his *Alma Mater*. His profound interest in all that concerns her, and his unwearied devotion to her interests are animating forces in all his College work, both as Professor and Registrar, and afford fresh proof, if fresh proof were needed, of the importance of educating Canadian young men for positions in Canadian Universities, and of selecting—where that is practicable—the graduates of a University, to fill and adorn her professional chairs.

While it would be offensive to the good taste and modesty of Professor Mowat, who was perhaps never more fittingly characterized than by his beloved friend and colleague, Prof. Mackerras, as “A man of rare humility,” to indulge here in any freedom of personal eulogy, we are sure that the presentation of his portrait in these pages will be gratifying, not only to his old pupils, but to all *alumni* who have attended Queen's University during his professorship.



It is proposed by nine New England colleges to modify the ordinary method of examining candidates for entrance, so that instead of each college holding its own examination without reference to any other institution, a uniform examination on the same day for all the colleges may be arranged.

DARTMOUTH still continues to receive into the Freshman class young men, without examination, who bring satisfactory certificates from the Principals of preparatory schools as to their qualifications. They, however, are on probation for three months.

If an actress cannot act she can sit for her photograph. —*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

CONTRIBUTED.

The Study of English.

THAT a thorough course of study in English Language and Literature is essential to every student who wishes to make his mark in the world as a writer or speaker is now pretty generally conceded. The time when men of learning were satisfied with "spelling the small words and skipping the large ones" is now, we trust, forever past. We look back with a feeling of horror at the gross ignorance that must have prevailed in those early times. Yet, coming nearer home, have we in modern times—yes even our boasted 19th century with its vast improvements and wonderful inventions—made the advance in the study of our English Language that we should have done. To this question, when we consider facts, we are forced to answer *No*. Many of our greatest scholars and best thinkers have been ransacking the libraries of the world and the archives of antiquity to ferret out musty old manuscripts of Greek, Latin and Sanskrit while they have left their noble mother tongue to pine and languish at home. If the English Language has not received the attention it deserves, what is the cause of this neglect? What is the reason that so little desire has been manifested by people generally to acquire even a fair knowledge of this noble speech? The old adage says, "Familiarity breeds contempt," and perhaps this may in a measure account for the indifference shown about getting a thorough English education. It is not worth their while spending time on that with which (they think) they are quite familiar when other more important fields of knowledge lie beyond to be explored. This, however, is but a comparatively insignificant reason. Undoubtedly the root of the evil is to be found in the system of teaching, and many of our pretended English teachers must be prepared to bear the blame for the lack of interest shown in the study of this important subject. What has been—and in some places is still—the method pursued?—A child goes to school and as soon as he is able to read the language an English Grammar is placed in his hand, a rod (or its equivalent) suspended, so to speak, over his back, and a bundle of abstruse rules and definitions are required to be committed to memory within a given time. Many an aspiring youth has had his eager desire to acquire a knowledge of his mother tongue dampened by this inhuman process. How often have we seen the teacher stand before his class, book in hand, and with his finger pointing to the line, lest perchance he should lose the place, and going through the mechanical drudgery of requiring his pupils to answer word for word these—to them—meaningless rules and definitions. We may confidently say that a teacher who cannot take his eye off the text book does not himself know the subject he is teaching, and is therefore not fit to teach it—it matters not whether he be the domine in a backwoods school or a dignified professor on the rostrum. Much has been done within the last few years to improve this state of affairs, but much yet remains to be done. We need more time

and talent devoted to this subject. We want the best scholars of our land to come forward and raise from the slough of indifference that language in which Chaucer, Spenser, Milton, Shakespeare, Scott, Dickens and scores of others have crystallized their noble thoughts. However earnestly Dr. Blackie and others may urge the necessity of a more thorough knowledge of ancient classics, the crying want of the present age both in Britain and in this country is a more thorough knowledge of our *simple, manly English tongue*. Hear the opinion of the talented Lord Stanley on this subject: "No word will fall from me in disparagement of classical literature; I know its value full well; but it seems strange that, in a country where so many students are familiar with every dialect of Greek and every variety of classical style, there should be so few who have made themselves really acquainted with the origin, history and gradual development into its present form of that mother tongue which is already spoken over half the world, and embodies many of the noblest thoughts that have issued from the brain of man. It is the plain Saxon phrase far more than any term borrowed from Greek or Latin literature that, whether in speech or writing, goes straightest and strongest to men's heads and hearts." Such testimony from such a man is certainly of great weight. We can point with a feeling of pride and admiration to a few men who are devoting all their energies toward raising the study of English to a science by bringing the light of modern Philology to bear upon it. The study of Anglo-Saxon—the parent of Modern English—has engaged the attention of such worthy men as Drs. Bosworth and Joseph, of Oxford, Benjamin Thorpe, Prof. Stephens and others, and we hope the world is awakening to the fact that there is something in our language worth seeking for after all. Let our Professors have more time and better appliances for an independent study of this subject; let them thoroughly qualify themselves before they attempt to teach others; let them throw more life and interest into the work, and ere long we may expect to be proud of the position occupied by our "Noble English Language."

LETTERS

OF THE LATE PROF. MACKERRAS.

(CONTINUED.)

PENSION SUEDOISE, MENTONE, France.

January 16, 1875.

* * * * *

You ask for a comparative statement of prices. This is a place of dear living, and the same may be said of the whole Riviere. Such of the country as is not occupied by mountain and rock is given up to the cultivation of the olive, orange, lemon, fig and vine. Hence the necessaries of life have to be imported. Even the hay comes long distances by rail. Meat (the best) is about two francs (forty cents) per lb.; potatoes are sometimes as dear as oranges; everything for the table, in fact, commands a much higher price than with us. Human flesh (as I was remarking to Maggie the other evening) is a very expensive item here. Every pound we add

to our bones costs us at least \$100 or \$200. House rent is excessive. A well-sized, comfortable villa, with good garden attached (by garden they understand a fruit, shrub and flower garden), costs for the six months' season from \$500 to \$1,500.

The other day we took train at 11 a.m., and went eastward six miles to see Monaco and Monte Carlo. Monaco is a separate principality, having a government quite distinct from either France or Italy. Its extent is very limited, comprising only a few square miles. Its ruler, the Prince of Monaco, is married to a daughter of the Duke of Hamilton. The palace is situated on an elevated plateau, crowning a headland which projects into the Mediterranean. To this height we ascended by a steep, but well constructed road, and found ourselves on the area in front of the palace. To this we could not gain admittance, as the family are at present in residence and Thursday was not a day on which it is open to the public. The soldiers were going through their drill. This sovereign has the weakness for standing armies peculiar to other continental rulers. His consists of 30 or 40 men, but they seemed smart, tidy, well-built, soldierly fellows. We sauntered along the principal street, situated on the ramparts which skirt the sea-face of the cliff, and forming a grand promenade. The solid construction of the streets—the beauty of the grounds—the tidiness which reigns through the town—the whole aspect of the place bore testimony to the efficient administration of the Board of Works of this Baby Empire. Along a road, lined in one place by symmetrically formed pepper trees, in another place by tall oleanders alternating with the caronba trees, we strolled for a mile until we came to Monte Carlo, the height on which is built the Casino, the great gambling establishment of the world. The proprietor formerly owned as well the sister establishment at Baden-Baden. The one was his summer harvest—the other his winter harvest. But since the Emperor William annexed that principality and abolished gambling, the owner has concentrated on this one all his infernal machinery and plant. The building is a palatial one, open to the public. The grounds realize the pictures in the Arabian Nights. The trees and shrubs and flowers of every tropical country are laid under contribution for the means of gracing the lawns in front thereof. Palm trees, aloes of the flowering species, &c., constitute it an earthly paradise. There all who choose may roam and drink in enjoyment. These are as open and free as the meadow to the bee in pursuit of honey. Enter the grand establishment—pass into a magnificent music hall. There 80 performers are discoursing the most exquisite music. Selections from Beethoven, Mozart, &c., falling upon your ear, after you have just emerged from the outside paradise of beauty, suggest ideas of heaven. And all this is as free as the air to all who come. No charge whatever is asked, expected or taken. But open those easily-swinging doors, and it is a step from your fancied heaven to a real hell. There are the grandly-furnished, splendidly-equipped gambling saloons, one for gold, the other for either gold or silver down to 5 franc pieces, as suits the whim or pocket of the player. It was one of the most melancholy spectacles I have ever beheld. Such eagerness of look—and intensity of anxiety—such staring eyes I hope not to see again. And the stillness—the silence was painful. Nothing could be heard but the click of the marble revolving around the rim of the wheel of fortune and dropping into the numbered hole—the sharp, shrill but low tone of the presiding officer announcing the number (some one between 0 and 36) and then the dull, hollow sound of the croupier's rake gathering in the napoleons to swell his golden heap. There at the four tables was a crowd of players, quite oblivious to all around. There were old men of 70, old ladies of 60, comely matrons of 30; young, pretty girls not much over

20, all well dressed, all apparently respectable members of society. One young man, of about 25, stood (he was too nervous to sit) with a large pile of bank notes before him. Each of these was for 1,000 francs (\$200). These he would put on in threes and fours at a time, with gold superadded to weight them, only to be swept away in a moment from his gaze, save now and again in isolated instances. Imagine the human misery there wrought, when it is said that the profits of the proprietor last year were 12,000,000 francs. He pays to the Prince of Monaco a tax of about £20,000 or £25,000. The enormity of his revenues (I mean of the Casino) may be inferred from the sumptuous manner in which he has equipped and maintains his establishment—from the lavish manner in which he has expended money on the outward surroundings. Well has he baited his hook. Cunningly has he devised adornments for attracting the lovers of the artistic, of the beautiful into the spider's parlour. There were hundreds at the concert the day we were there; and these concerts are given at least twice a week, probably every day to a greater or less extent, and are open to those who desire to enter. Of course they calculate that of those who come, a large percentage will be drawn into the toils of the gambler. But it is drawing to a late time and I must conclude.

I enclose our address at Rome. As we hope to leave here on the 22nd February (D.V.) it would be well to send thither any letters forwarded by the mail of the 13th Feb., and subsequent steamers.

PENSIN SUEDOISE, MENTONE, FRANCE.

January 30th. 1875.

MY DEAR SISTER:—Since I wrote you a fortnight ago, we have continued to enjoy a period of uninterruptedly fine weather. It rained a good deal one night after dark, but, with that exception, we have had a very dry and dusty time. On some occasions the heat has been very great. A few days ago the Clarkes and we walked over to the Caves, immediately beyond the Italian frontier, and we found it as warm as on an August day in Canada. The thermometer has been up to 80°. You may be sure that the invitation conveyed by the brilliant sunshine to us to walk around has been thankfully accepted and acted on. We have sauntered a good deal, lounged a good deal more and sunned ourselves still more. It appears to us so great a novelty to see blossoms bursting and fruit ripening in January. One day we set out for the whole day (which means the hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., without returning to the house for *dejeuner*) for the purpose of seeing Rocca-bruna. This is a very old town, distant nearly half way between this and Monte Carlo. It is reached by two roads; the one by the Cornish, the other by a steep but romantic path through a succession of olive plantations. We went by the latter and returned by the former. We took our time in climbing the ascent to the elevated incline on which the place is built, resting every ten minutes. We had much to admire. Every now and again we obtained charming glimpses of Mentone and its environs through vistas opening in the olives. And the olives themselves furnished abundant ground of contemplation. Nowhere in this neighbourhood are better specimens of this valuable tree to be found. Like the Skye terrier, their ugliness constitutes their beauty. Such gnarled, twisted, honey-combed, deformed productions I had never seen. The stem so old and the branches ever changing. The former is retained. Some of these old stocks are a thousand years old, according to local tradition; and a glance at them verifies the report. While the upper portions are frequently renewed by the process of grafting. And what a quaint looking town in Rocca-bruna!

It looks so antediluvian, as if the deluge had swept it off the top of the mountain towering over head and the houses had been arrested halfway down the incline. I doubt whether a house has been built within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. The juveniles of the place are the most pestiferous little beggars who ever dogged a tourist's heels! The sturdiest shouted: "donnez moi un sou." ("Give me a sou.") while from the throats of all burst the prolonged chorus: "Un sou --un sou."

The next day also we camped out. The scene of our improvised pic-nic was on the slope of Cape Martin, looking towards Monaco and Monte Carlo. The time-honoured plaid beneath us and the blue sky above us, while immediately below us was the Mediterranean mirroring the colours of the sky and mountains. What enjoyment we had! I had my Italian Grammar, Maggie had her embroidery; but oft our thoughts and talk wandered away beyond the Atlantic, as we vainly wished that we had you and other loved ones beside us to share in our rapt admiration of Nature as she here delights to clothe herself.

SCIENTIFIC JOTTINGS.

DR. WALLACE, gas examiner for the city of Glasgow, has been making experiments upon the heating powers of different samples of gas. He says: "The extensive employment of coal gas for heating purposes, and especially for cooking, gives an interest to the question whether the heating power varies like the illuminating power, and if so, to what extent, in the gas used in different towns? As regards illuminating power, we know that it varies exceedingly. In Aberdeen and Edinburgh it is 30 candles for 5 cubic feet per hour; in Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock, about 20 or 27 candles; in Liverpool, Manchester, and Carlisle about 20; in London and Dublin, 16; in Birmingham and many other English towns, 14; and in some as low as 12 candles. But as regards heating power we have no definite information, although there is a general belief that a rich gas has a greater calorific effect than one of poorer photogenic quality."

He then goes on to describe the apparatus employed. He determined the relative heating power of each gas by measuring the volume of gas consumed in order to raise one gallon of water from 60 degrees to 100, of Fahrenheit's thermometer, in thirty minutes.

The following table gives his results for three different gases:

The first column gives the illuminating power of the gas in standard candles; the second, the comparative value of the gas for lighting purposes; and the last its comparative value for heating purposes--

33.07	- -	48	10d	- -	48	5d
26.24	- -	3	10	- -	3	10
14.75	- -	2	2	- -	2	11½

From those results he very naturally concludes that "while the heating power rises and falls with the lighting power, the amount of difference is by no means so great in the former as in the latter," i.e. the difference between the heating powers of two samples of gas is not as great as the difference between their illuminating powers.

He next raises the question as to the comparative cost of heating by gas and by coal; and by an easy calculation arrives at the conclusion that gas costs for heating purposes about 11½ times as much as the equivalent quantity of coal, or "in round numbers, a pennyworth of coal gives as much heat as a shilling's worth of gas."

E. Cherreul has been studying the physical functions of the leaves of plants. His conclusions are:--That the

transpiration by both surfaces of the leaf is greater in the sunshine than in the shade. With the exception of the oleander and the maize plant, which exhibit in this respect an anomaly, it appears that in the numerous species experimented upon if the transpiration of the upper side of the leaf be represented by unity, that of the reverse equals 4.3. In the shade, however, the proportions are as 1:2.4. The leaves of the maize, the chestnut, and the periwinkle transpire equally on both surfaces.

It has been already demonstrated that plants absorb solutions of salts necessary for their growth, not merely by the leaves, but even by the petals of their flowers.

COLLEGE WORLD.

THE Governor-General has presented to the Wesleyan Female College, Hamilton, Ont., a medal for the most proficient student in English Literature.

THERE is a cat attending College at present.--*Whitby College Sunbeam.* The cat-o'-nine-tails, we presume; if not, it should be.

THE following is the method by which the young ladies of Ashland, Va., get rid of their student lovers of Randolph Macon College, when they stay too late. A youthful brother goes out in the back yard, at the old gentleman's command, and there keeps up an incessant crowing till the young gents are impressed that their call is too protracted, and to the joy of the girls bid them good night.

JAMES DEMILLE, Professor of Rhetoric and History in Dalhousie College, is dead.

AN Iowa young lady has won the distinction of being one of the first ladies admitted to the University of Leipzig.--*Ex.* So much honor for Iowa, but would it not be sad if the young lady had to lie-up-sick there, so far from home and friends? --*Ex.*

THE Sophomores of Columbia College presented with a baby cup Mr. John Spencer, the father of '82's first baby boy.

RUSSIA has only nine Colleges.

MRS. SCOTT SIDDONS offended the faculty of Asbury University by reading with a low-necked dress on, and she was not a little startled to hear a prayer for her conversion called for in the prayer-meeting the next day. The Asbury folks deserve credit for the rebuke, and would have deserved still more by preventing the reading. If it be impolite for gentlemen to appear in the presence of ladies in their shirt-sleeves, or with their coats off, is it not much more improper, if not shockingly immodest, for ladies to appear in the presence of gentlemen scantily clad? The rebuke given Mrs. Siddons is going the rounds of the papers, and will, it is to be hoped, have a beneficial effect on ladies possessed of more brass than modesty.--*Ex.*

THERE are 1,256 students at the Toronto night schools.

AN Association for the study of the Natural Sciences has been formed in connection with University College, Toronto. Graduates and under-graduates who are taking the honor course in Natural Science are eligible for membership.

THE *White and Blue* suggests to the out-going class that they arrange for a re-union 10 year's hence. The idea is a very happy one.

THIS is how they do it: A Yale student bought up 270 tickets for the Glee Club concert on spec.

THERE is a good plan in vogue in some colleges of handing back to the student at the beginning of a session the

examination papers of the previous one, so that the writers can see their mistakes and the corrections made. It ensures the correction of wrong ideas, and inculcates a better feeling between the professor and students.

A YALE senior is in doubt as to whether to become a dentist or a butcher.

THE word "university" is thus defined: Academies in winter of scholarship, and in summer of sculler-ship.

EXCHANGES.

WHILE reading the January number of the *Hamilton Literary Monthly*, we almost forgot we were the exchange editor, and that it was therefore our duty, did we wish to read our other cotem's, not to spend too much time over it. The first article presents Andrew Jackson to us in rather a more favorable light than we had before contemplated him. Perhaps the gist of the article is contained in a sentence following the description of his victory at New Orleans, when the writer says: "It was not great generalship, perhaps, but it was fertility of resource, personal magnetism inspiring courage, invincible will, vitalized by pure patriotism." The article throughout is well written and in a most spirited style. When we consider the amount of literature, consisting of criticisms on Shakespeare which now exist, it would perhaps be too much to say that the author of "Shakespeare, the Poet of Conscience," has brought out a new phase of his character. But though he has not done this he has expressed well that peculiar feature of the great dramatist. The other articles of this number are also good, that on the Imagery of Longfellow and Tennyson, striking us as particularly so, perhaps because in our case it "oft was thought, but ne'er so well expressed." The nearest approach to a similar comparison we heard one moonlight evening last summer, when trying to define the difference between the soft loveliness of the Thousand Islands seen by moonlight, and the same beautiful scenery, viewed by daylight, it was suggested that they differed as did Longfellow and Tennyson.

THE concluding paper on "College Cheers" in *Acta Columbiana* is as interesting as those preceding it, and the series contain much interesting and well put information. The "Land Cruise" is well written and amusing, and like much of the other writing in the *Acta* is of a free and easy tone that is very attractive. We notice in this number the first of a series of papers on "The practical workings of co-education," the writer purporting to be an undergraduate in a University where co-education has flourished. While not advocating co-education where it can be helped, we think such papers as the one published are not worthy a place in the columns of the *Acta*. That must be a curious state of society in any college where the male and female students could be divided each into two such sets as he describes. We have no doubt all such could be found, but we would not care to believe except on much higher authority than that of the writer, that there are not many others of both sexes. Before saying more, however, we will wait further developments. A well written account of an interesting ceremony—the presentation of a baby cup, to a member of the Sophomore class who had produced the necessary qualification—concludes a most interesting number.

A HURRIED glance through the *Yale Courant* gave us the impression that there must be somewhere near by enticing attractions suggested by the rustling of ladies' dresses, the gentle sound of the light fantastic, and the mellifluous strains of some string band; and on a further investigation, we found that it was a case of infection and the reason for our hallucination was found in the fact that

the eds. of the *Courant* had been to the Junior Promenade, had had a good time and had not yet got over the intoxication of pleasure thereat. Well! we would not have minded being there ourselves. The small part of this number that does not refer to these festivities, is of that sensible nature which has made the *Courant* take so deservedly such a high place among College newspapers.

THE first article in the *Pennsylvania College Monthly* is one on the much vexed question, "Should our Colleges be open to both sexes?" The writer deciding that they should. In commenting editorially upon it, the *Monthly* does not commit itself, but invites discussion, saying rightly enough that the opposition hitherto is expressed rather by "spiteful flings and curt expressions of mere sentiment instead of calm argument." A Philosophical Essay entitled "Id ego sum quod cogite," and an article, "Jes' so," portraying humorously the prospects of the next few weeks to most students, fill out the literary part of this number, which devotes quite an amount of space to collegiate news.

DE NOBIS NOBILIBUS.

A COPY of a recent publication, the *Gazetteer*, lies on our table, published by Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, the typography and general appearance of which is very creditable. The book is valuable as a work of reference, an indispensable addition to every library. It contains in alphabetical order a very complete list of the cities, towns, etc. of every country in the world, giving, beside the correct pronunciation of the word itself, a concise description of the place. The volume has been prepared with much care from the latest and best authorities. Besides, it contains thirty-two maps of the countries of the earth, making in all a desirable possession, especially for the student and public speaker.

A GYMNASIUM was first called a "gym" through laziness, but now it is called a "James." Such is the origin of slang! And while we are at it, we might reiterate a former statement of the JOURNAL, just as a reminder, that we feel the need of this "James" very much.

AFTER our last issue came out, we struck these lines, which almost made us wish we had been bald, so strong was our inclination to pull our hair: A Dresden man owned an old she goat that was lately caught butting its head against the bucket, as it swung over the well. This act was referred to once by a poet, who wrote:

"The old doe can buck it,
That hung in the well."

JUNIOR—What made that mark on your cheek, dear?
LADY—It's that horrid breast-pin of yours. I wish you'd lose it.

ALMA MATER.—At the Alma Mater meeting on Saturday evening, 7th inst., Mr. H. Fowler argued that there should be more optional subjects in the Arts course, on the ground that as a student has not time, as things are now, to pay particular attention to any one subject, the result was that he had a partial knowledge of a good many subjects, but could not go deep enough to know anything thoroughly. Whereas, if enabled to follow up one branch of learning, he could master that at any rate, and have some chance of distinguishing himself. He deprecated compulsion in study, and thought a student should be allowed to prosecute those subjects alone, for which he had a taste. Messrs. O'Reilly, Davis and Smith also contended for more options. The negative side, led by Mr. Joseph Anderson, on the other hand, held that what a man needed in Canada was the foundation of a general education. If

a student were allowed a choice, he would neglect that for which he fancied he had no taste, and there was thus a tendency that Queen's would turn out one-sided scholars. More was expected from a University man than to be conversant with only a few subjects. It was also pointed out that it was a mistake to build up the strong parts of the intellect at the expense of the weak, which would inevitably be the case if a student had his choice of what to learn and what not to learn. A man should have the all-round education of a gentleman. Mr. Shortt, Chairman, gave his decision in favor of the negative, considering that this side had evidently the weight of argument in its favor. Among the business was the giving in of the report of the Auditors appointed to examine the ex-Treasurer's books. These they reported were correct in every particular, and showed a balance of \$37.

THE Local Reporter received the following :

SIR:—I humbly beg to submit that the following is the latest. It is sure to be all right, as a Sophomore looked it over for me :

Yours, &c., '83.

- Buttercupula nominor cara Buttercupula.
- Quamvis quam brem nunquam dicerem ;
- Verum Buttercupula nominor, bella Buttercupula.
- Cara Buttercupula, ego."

EVER since the decree of the Senatus went forth that no meeting was to be held in the College Buildings without permission of the Registrar, for fear it might be metamorphosized into a "Concursus Iniquitatis," "John," our worthy janitor, has been particularly spry in seeing the order carried out. But the other day the Y.M.C.A. forgot to get the requisite permission and assembled in the Classical Room. Not having been authorized to let the room, John was convinced that a court was to be held. But he could not oust the members bodily, nor had he the Riot Act handy, so he assumed the pathetic and implored them not to have a court. "Aw! don't have a court; please don't have a court, gentlemen." But, having been informed by the President that there would be nothing seditious in the character of the meeting, he was induced to retire.

SNOW BALLS.—It has often been remarked by newcomers to Queen's what intense gratification it affords the average Kingston boy to throw snow balls at students. By long practice these little wretches become remarkably proficient in marksmanship, and many is the felt hat that has been suddenly detached from the cranium of the long-suffering collegian and sent flying ahead of him. We venture the opinion that at no time will the evil part of a man's nature be so advantageously displayed as when he receives a hard snow ball on the back of the head. At such a time a Freshman generally feels disposed to follow up the donor and ask him what he meant. The chances are twenty to one he will not get a satisfactory answer, and if he proceed to remonstrate corporally, as it were, with the archer, that individual will yell and attract the attention of the whole street. The student will, of course, be considered a tyrant and the boy a hero. The men will ask him "if he couldn't take anything in fun;" the women will cry, "for shame!" and the children will hoot at him. These things combine to induce a state of mind bordering on insanity. It is impossible to be dignified on such an occasion, and pinaforically speaking he "hardly ever" felt so dissatisfied with himself before. Now a Senior will never think of taking such a course of action as this; he will take things philosophically. He knows by experience that no satisfaction can be got out of a small boy, and so wisely refrains from seeking any. He is right, and our advice to new comers is—don't try to obviate an evil which is necessary as long as there are boys and snow.

EVERY body was delighted with the glees sung by the students in the "gods" before the curtain was raised at Neilson's performance on Thursday, the 5th.

- How doth the little busy Prof.
- Improve each Latin hour.
- And get translations bit by bit
- From every Sophomore."

ON Ash Wednesday, on account of the furnace being in disrepair with a severe attack of indigestion (of smoke,) we enjoyed a holiday. Not much heat was furnished by the invalid on Tuesday, and when the Professor of Metaphysics came into his class, he remarked significantly that it was very cold. Very! echoed the class, shutting notebooks and preparing for an adjournment. "Oh, well, it will make us all the hardier," says the Professor, and begins his lecture to a badly sold and intensely disgusted class.

SENIOR to Soph., while passing St. Andrew's Church, "That edifice would be vastly improved by the addition of a steeple." Soph.—"Yes, but the congregation are in debt and so don't *aspire* to that sort of thing at present. I am sure some of them would *rebel* if—." Senior, who detests puns, raises his cane threateningly. Soph, blushes and *rues* the time he contracted the obnoxious habit.

AT a recent Alma Mater meeting, a wily leader of debate, perceiving the Chairman to be getting rather weary, thought to get a decision favorable to his side, by remarking that his speech would be *short*, when a voice whispered audibly, "Beware of the snare of the *owler*." The decision was against him.

SCORE one for the morality of the Kingston students. Statistics of the city show that only one student was up before the Police Court during the past year.

A NUMBER of Seniors objected going to the recent lecture on the Jews in the City Hall, since a Freshman was to deliver it.

THE new Arts Building has been finished externally about two months. Convocation Hall is almost finished and is really very handsome. The walls are composed of red and white brick formed into design. The rafters are stained and beautifully carved. In fact all the wood work is very pretty and a credit to the carpenters. There is a handsome little gallery at the further end which is approached by a stair-case leading from the hall. This will doubtless be for the accommodation of the students, and as seating accommodation for about one hundred and fifty. The cut which has been printed on the back of this paper does not give a good idea of the size or appearance of the building; it is really much larger and finer than the architect's drawing (from which the cut is taken) represents it. The Museum and Library are semi-circular in form and large enough to admit of any increase in their contents that is likely to be made. The Library has accommodation for 30,000 volumes, while at present there are only about 12,000. It is expected that next Convocation will take place in the new hall.

'Twas in the class of Metaphysics on Friday. He was a Junior, and it was an essay on "ideal states." Instead of describing the ideal states of Plato, and such like philosophers, as was intended by the professor, he proceeded to frame one of his own. The chief advantage of which was that it would absolutely do away with all partyism. How think you? Nothing easier. All property was to be apportioned to citizens, on the result of—*written examinations*, who will say that this is not a solution of a long-vexed question? Could a man amass a fortune at the expense of others? No. Because no man would have a whit more than was granted to him on the

—written examinations. Could a man make his son indolent by leaving him his property? Certainly not. For at the age of 70 he would be beyond *written examinations*, and so all his property would revert to the state, to be divided up again among the younger citizens. On the result, of course, of *written examinations*. Could a man's attention to the welfare of the state be distracted by selfish concerns? Not unless he was cramming up for the *written examinations*. Would there be any of the sickening sentimentality connected with the tender passion, as manifested in present times? How could there, when a man could not look at a woman unless she was apportioned to him on the result of the *written examinations*. Would there be any debasing selfishness in such a state? There certainly would not according to Plato, if a man had only such personal rights as these. And even these would be forfeited if he was plucked at the *written examinations*. The advantages of this perfect state might be described *ad infinitum*. And we feel convinced that had the immortal Plato heard this marvellously inspired theory, he would have turned in his hortulan sepulchre and murmured, "Had I the wonderful genius of that young man, Greece had not now crumbled into dust." We may add that when the gentleman was making known his theory to the class they were at times, as might be expected, deeply moved at the surpassing grandeur of some of its conceptions. The Professor himself was much affected.

THE other day just before the lecture in Metaphysics commenced, an audacious theologian popped his head in the door. He was, of course, met with a volley of groans, but above the din was heard a voice, "Shut the door and keep the secular element out."

ON a soft day the walk from the street to the College is, to say the least of it, disagreeable. We respectfully recommend that a gutter be built on each side of the board-walk to carry off the water. We like wading when it is the gushing waters of a babbling brook that dance about our ankles; there's something poetical in it. But when you have your best boots on, and the water is at 4° C., the amusement loses its charm.

A MEDICAL and Arts were passing that pork-packing establishment on Johnston Street, with the usual sign of a fat porcine over the door:

Arts—I know nothing that resembles your nature so much as that animal up there, delineated in pigment.

Med.—(After reflection.) Well that is a *poor* kind of pun.

Arts—*Aw* give us a rest!

Med.—Have done sir. I never *saw* such total depravity as—

Arts—In yourself. No. Well! when a man imbibes *wine* as freely as you do, he is apt to be depraved.

And Med resigns.

THE following is an extract from a letter recently published in the Hamilton *Spectator*: "All hail! to Queen's University for opening its halls for separate classes for women. That it has been first to respond to a popular educational want speaks well for the astuteness of its faculty. Verily, Queen's will be illustrious in modern history, for preans will be sung in its praise for all time. We cannot but read the signs of the times. The great wave of reform as regards woman's education is breaking on every shore. The most stolid cannot but perceive that public opinion has grown to believe in the equal education of the sexes."

"The boy stood on the burning deck.

Whence all but him had fled:

"Because, if I should now sit down,
I'd burn my pants!" he said."

PERSONAL.

REV. JOHN FERGUSON, M.A., B.D., '79, who lately settled in Chesley, is getting on very well. There is quite a religious awakening in the congregation.

ALEX. MCLEOD, of the class of '82, is playing the part of domine in a school in Iroquois.

J. P. GILDERSLEEVE, LL.B., '63, has been acting Police Magistrate of Kingston for some time.

J. J. BELL, M.A., '77, is editor of the *Picton Times*, a vigorous weekly, devoted principally to Prince Edward affairs.

MANY will be surprised to learn that John Bonner, the New York speculator and publisher, is an M.A. of '45. He was one of the first students of the College.

REV. ROBERT CHAMBERS, B.A., '66, and Rev. W. N. Chambers, who was of the class of '75, and afterwards went to Princeton, have gone as Missionaries to Erzroum, Central Turkey.

GEO. GILLIES, B.A., '75, was in town the other day. He is one of the largest manufacturers in the Birmingham of Canada—Gananoque.

IT WILL be remembered that last summer a deputation of influential and intelligent farmers was sent out from Britain to report on the advantages of this country as a field of emigration. We see that at a meeting held at Canonbie, Scotland, when one of the delegates was delivering an address on this subject, Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, ex-Principal of Queen's, presided. This was appropriate because having lived here so long, and having travelled the length and breadth of the land in the interest of the endowment fund, no one knows better the advantages of the country than the learned Doctor.

CLIPPINGS.

IS it not reasonable to suppose that Cicero's teacher, Scævola, the auger, was a bore?

HE who Mrs. to take a kiss,

Has Mr. thing he should not Miss.

Freshman—What is the relation between bread and hash?

Senior—"Bread is a necessity, hash is an invention—necessity is the mother of invention."

Freshman—"Gosh!"

WASTED ELOQUENCE.—"I know I'm losing ground, sir," tearfully murmured the pale faced Freshman, "but it is not my fault, sir. If I were to study on Sunday, as the others do, I could keep up with my class, sir,—indeed I could; but I promised my mother ne-ne-ver—" and as his emotions overpowered him, he pulled out his handkerchief with such vigor that he brought out with it a small flask, three faro chips and a euchre-deck, and some how or other the Prof. took no more stock in that Freshman's eloquence than if he had been a graven image.

WE are liable to err; but the man who mistakes his neighbor's slippers for a pair of arctics, pays no small tribute to his understanding.

OWED TO ANTHON'S VIRGIL.

Anthon has a little horse,

Well clad in sheep-skin coats.

Its name is Virgil, very fat,

He keeps him stuffed with (n) oats.

EVERYONE agrees that we ought not to strike a man when he's down; but it is wrong to stroke a moustache under similar circumstances?