



CHRISTMAS 1893.



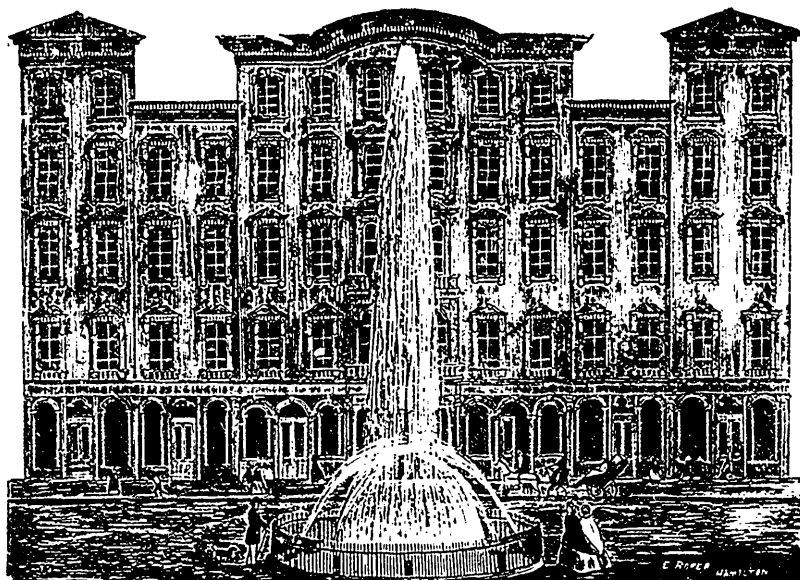
THE  
**P**ORTFOLIO



December, 1893.

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### Notes.

"Christmas;" What a world of meaning is contained in that magic word, for the college girl away from home! Long ago, with tear stained face and homesick heart, she was counting the months, the long and dreary months, that must elapse before that longed for time should come.

Then months gave place to weeks, and then as time sped on, she counted o'er and o'er the number of days, comforting herself with the thought, that, like all that had gone before them, they too would soon have passed. And now as the time approaches nearer and nearer, scarce can she contain herself as with wild joy she applies her mathematics to the problem of finding out the number of hours and minutes still remaining. There is another place where Christmas is looked forward to with perhaps as much eagerness and that is the home of our college maiden, where father and mother, brothers and sisters are, with joyful expectation, looking forward to her return. To all such homesick maidens we would join in wishing a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year."

### Debate.

*Resolved, that Literature has been more beneficial to Society than Science*

#### LEADER OF AFFIRMATIVE.

The wonderfully beneficial effects of literature upon mankind may be seen by even the most casual observer. Perhaps the first effect presented to his mind would be that of giving to the people of all classes a general information. It is said that one half of the world does not know how the other half lives, but how much more emphatically true would this be, were it not for the general dissemination of literature. Without its aid how could we have any intercourse with the great world of human beings outside our own little circle, how indeed could we have any knowledge at all, beside that

Note well Reading Matter at foot of Pages.

which had been handed down to us by the traditions of our fathers, or that which we had acquired by our own meagre experience? Almost from our babyhood we have felt the refining effects of literature. What a charm that wonderful story "Jack the Giant Killer" and that charming little poem "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" had for our childish minds. And as we grew older and began to drink in with eagerness the grand and elevating thoughts of the world's literary masters, how our whole nature became to a certain extent molded by them, and with Longfellow, we felt that,

"Lives of great men all remind us,  
We may make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us  
Footprints, on the sands of time."

How the study of literature broadens our views, teaching us that it is not necessary that all should think and feel as we do on many subjects which we, in our short sightedness, might deem essential. How it leads us to extend our sympathies to the great throbbing world of humanity around us. Who can read Shakespeare or Milton, Carlyle or Macaulay, without being lifted out of himself into a world of which he had never even dreamed.

Were it for this fact alone,—that we have the Bible with the wonderfully elevating and ennobling effect its teachings have produced on mankind, we must conclude that literature has had a far more beneficial effect on society than has science. How could the important lessons of Old Testament history, the story of the life and teachings of Christ and his Apostles, have been handed down to us, had it not been for the Bible? Were it not for the existence of this wonderful book we might still be dwelling in moral darkness. Which has had the better effect on the heathen world, the teachings of the Bible or the teachings of science? Of course we would all answer in favor of the former. It is a notorious fact that where our so-called Christian Civilization

is extended to the heathen without the teachings of the Gospel, that they are even in a worse condition than before. The very fact that the Bible has been translated into so many languages shows the marvelous effect it has had upon society. Christianity has paved the way for our modern science. Wherever the true Christian religion has been accepted, science has received an impetus, such as it never does, and never could receive, in heathen lands.

Our whole civilization is an outgrowth of the principles of the Bible. It has been said that the two tables recorded in the writings of Mozes contain in general form the vital principles of all modern legal science, judicial, national and international. Dr. Peabody in his work on Roman law says: That actual reformers of the Roman law were all of them nominally Christians. Constantine called himself one, and his improved legislation was under the guidance, and I might say under the direction of the Bishops whom he regarded as endowed with divine wisdom and authority. Justinian, the greatest legislator of all time, was a jealous Christian. Of the series of Christian emperors there was hardly one whose decrees did not bear the impress of his faith, and aid in vindicating the rights of long depressed humanity."

We have spoken of sacred literature, let us now look at profane literature.—What a loss we should sustain were we to be without our historical works. In studying the history of the Ancient kingdoms,—Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Greece, and Rome, we see how these nations have waxed strong and mighty, and how, at last, their glory has waned, it may be through unrighteous government, it may be through the unrestrained licentiousness of the people. The history of England, of the growth of her constitution, of the gradually increasing literature of her people, of the mistakes of both governors

and governed, should teach us to avoid the mistakes, and also to copy the good qualities of past government. Were there no historical records, a nation must make but little, if any, progress.

The history of individuals also is of great benefit to us. We see how wrongdoing has been punished, how virtue has been rewarded, how true happiness has been the result of righteousness, and thus we are supplied with an additional motive to virtue.

Note, if you will, the effect of literature on social, political and religious reforms. One of the most potent factors of our civilization is the press. Reforms come slowly as it is, but how much more slowly would they be brought about were it not for the newspapers in which the voice of the nation makes itself heard, and demands the attention of statesmen. It is a well-known fact that the writings of Mr. Stead in the Pall Mall Gazette, had a powerful influence in the formation of British cabinets, and in compelling the English government to pass laws of moral and social reform, which might never otherwise have been placed on the statute books. 'Tis true that we could not enjoy our newspapers and periodicals, if it were not for the printing press, that wonderful production of science. But was it not literature that created the demand for this? Certainly, literature existed long before the printing press came into existence. What use would be a thrashing machine if there were no grain to thrash, what use would be a sewing machine if there were no cloth to sew, and what use would be a printing press if there were no literature to print?

Look for a moment at the Protestant Reformation. Could Luther and his fellow workers so successfully have propagated the grand principles of the Reformation, had it not been for the aid of the literature which was scattered broadcast over the country? In the temperance re-

form, which is now being so vigorously agitated, literature is essentially necessary to supply the people with information on the subject. True, science shows us the injurious effects of alcohol on the system, but it does not require a chemist or a physiologist to see that intemperance is an unmitigated evil.

Another mighty factor in reforms is public speaking. The sentiment of the people is educated, and reforms are in a great measure brought about by public speakers. Now a man requires to be conversant with literature that he may be supplied with suitable language, also with facts and illustrations that may produce the desired effect on his hearers. The man who has devoted himself to science alone, would, to say the least, not be very effective in such work as this.

Science teaches us to admire, to marvel at the wonderful works of the Creator, to see a little of his infinite power. But in studying literature we are really studying man, the motives that prompt him to action, thoughts, the utterance of which has moved society to its very foundations,—in short, we are studying human nature in all its different phases, and inasmuch as man is a spirit, is he not a nobler, a greater work of God, than the material universe?

The study of languages has been an essential factor of education. Had foreign languages not been studied, past ages would have been unilluminated, unknown, but languages are the key which open wide the door. Ancient History, the Bible itself, would remain forever sealed to us had we no knowledge of Greek, Latin, Hebrew, etc. The language of Science, that is its technical terms is taken almost entirely from Greek and Latin.

Let us turn our attention to Science as applied to war. As Science progresses, the instruments of warfare become more and more terrible and appalling, producing fear-

ful destruction of life, and desolation of property wherever their force is felt. Were the Indians of this continent any better off when fire arms were put into their hands? We think not.

Literature tends to create a fellow feeling between men of different nationalities. They feel that they possess a common heritage in the literary productions of the world's great writers. It is said that foreigners appreciate our Shakespeare more than English people do themselves.

How could Science procure a foothold at all were it not for literature? How could we receive benefit from the discoveries of Galileo, or Kepler, or Tycho Brahe; how could the scientific researches of Bacon or Newton be of any use to us had not the results of their work been preserved, by literature? We might have some meagre knowledge derived from mere hearsay, but Science requires something more definite than this. Each generation would be forced to make the same experiments, to work out same conclusions, at which their fathers and grandfathers had worked before them. Science must make but slow progress; if indeed it were not completely at a standstill, without the essential aid of literature.

#### LEADER OF NEGATIVE.

Science may be divided into two great classes, namely: Practical Science and Theoretical Science, and it is on the latter we are to speak for a short time this afternoon

To begin with, What is Science? It is truth attained by a source of methodical study, a knowledge of laws, principles and relations. Davies says, "The basis of all Science is the immutability of the laws of nature and events."

And what is the relation of Literature to Science? I think we may truly say, that Literature is largely dependent on Science; that Science lends inspiration as well as information to Literature.

Science, by placing facts in due mutual relation, forms the only sure foundation on which we can build our knowledge. By fixing the mind on facts, and proofs, it

gives it firmness, clearness and solid principles, and renders it less liable to be misled, and by filling the mind with absolute knowledge, forms the starting point to truth. Can this be said of Literature? It is true that some classes of Literature may promote inquiry and faith, and tends to the spiritualization of the mind, but just think how this good influence is counteracted by the shoals of vile, pernicious Literature, which poisons the mind and morals, and thus renders the subject incapable of performing his duty to himself or to society. I would have you note this fact,—that while Science always tends towards improvement, Literature may have, and most certainly often has had, a demoralizing effect.

Let us now consider briefly the benefits to individuals and to society from some of the particular Theoretical Sciences. Take first mathematics. Aside from what mathematics does for the individual, in filling the mind with absolute knowledge, they have led to the discovery of mechanical, mineral and other material forces, which mere speculation would never have found out. Then when we think of the different branches of mathematics, Arithmetic for example, of the incalculable aid it has rendered to commerce, etc. What awkward ways and means of computation were used previous to the introduction of Science. This reminds us too of the trade system of those times, namely, by barter. This system was practised simply for want of some suitable medium of exchange. Compare the system with that of the present day. Mineralogy, not Literature, lent its aid, and experience has proved that gold and silver are the best mediums of exchange. To Science is due the great improvements in trade relations.

Our opponents enlarge very much on the improvements wrought by Literature. Literature is the written thoughts and imaginations of men of all ages, but how many would have access to these thoughts without the aid of Science? Look at the influence exerted by Literature before the invention of the Printing Press, and compare it with the age of Science and we will have some conception of how much more Science has done for civilization, and up-building of Nations than Literature.

The world, prior to the time of Printing, was sunk into the grossest mental and moral darkness, one can well conceive on this side barbarism. The simplest rudiments of Education were unknown to the common people, and even the nobles; the monks and priests monopolized learning. Men were plunged in superstition and led like slaves by their spiritual masters. Was there no Literature to wield its powerful influence over the nations? Literature there was, but even the Bible was a sealed book to the masses, until the development of Science gave the Printing Press, and later, the application of Steam. I need not recount to you the wonderful revolutions that took place, in abolishing slavery of every sort, bodily, mental and intellectual, and establishing personal freedom, and then the great out growth of these reforms influencing the whole of the then known world.

Again I would have you consider the influence of Science on the minds of the Literary men of that, and every age. The question whether Wm. Shakespeare of history, wrote Shakespeare's plays has been a subject of lengthy controversy, and why? The greatest critics tell us that whoever wrote Shakespeare's Plays, must have been conversant with almost every known Science, and as history does not acquaint us with much regarding the Education of Wm. Shakespeare, it has been thought that he did not write them. This fact however, goes to prove the great part played by Science in the production of that Literature, and it is so down to the present time.

References was made, a few moments ago, to the application of Steam Power. Let us consider, not simply the part it had in the dissemination of truth, but the vast improvements it has wrought in numberless other directions. Take its effect on Commerce. Before its application a voyage from America to England would occupy at least a month, and think of the danger consequent on such a lengthy voyage. Now a few days suffice. Nations are thus brought closer together. Trade relations are thus stimulated. In the event of any great commercial crisis, how quickly relief may be extended. Take for example the recent famine in Russia. What part did

Literature perform in relieving the sufferers? And look too, at what protection steam power affords to nations. Where would England be without her Navy? Notice also what pleasure we derive from travel, and not only pleasure but profit. Let me quote from Lord Lyttleton.

"Me other cares in other climes engage,  
Cares that become my birth, and suit my age,  
In various knowledge to instruct my youth,  
And conquer prejudice, worst foe to truth,  
By foreign art, domestic faults to mend,  
Enlarge my notions and my views extend  
The *useful Science* of the world to know,  
Which *books* can never teach nor pedants show."

Surely that which takes us to the sources of knowledge must be more beneficial to us than the mere second hand record of knowledge. Which is the wiser man, he who knows from actual observation or he who knows from reading? You will all readily agree that the former is, and just observe, that it is to Science we are indebted for the ease and cheapness of trade, and consequently all the benefits conferred on Society thereby.

I would ask you to notice too, the influence of Science on the moral nature of man. The study of Science, as before stated, is the study of nature, and by the light of nature we discover much moral truth. Milton says:

"In contemplation of created things,  
By steps we may ascend to God."

And we see that the knowledge of God derived from the study of nature is adapted to add greatly to the impulsive power of conscience.

"Nature is man's best Teacher, she unfolds  
Her treasures to his search, unseals his eye,  
Illumes his mind, and purifies his heart."

#### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE.

What an effect has Literature on the mind! By means of it our imaginative powers are more fully developed, and independence of thought is given to us. It does not leave us poor dependent creatures, but gives us food for thought. Science has done more to harm the effects of the teachings of the Christian Religion, than anything else.

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Great materialists are lead to think more of nature, than of nature's God. They try to prove everything by natural means, Here may be classed Darwin, Huxley and others.

The Literary man is not so likely to be lead into the errors of materialism, as is a Scientific man.

The Greeks knew nothing of what we call Modern Science. Look at them in all their grandure! Who would not be proud to be called a Greek? Art, Literature and Poetry were more to them, than Science can possibly be to our opponents.

The Roman Conqueror knew nothing of our modern modes of warfare, nor of the weapons Science has given us. Who will say, Rome was not successful in subduing her enemies, and adding Kingdoms to her mighty Empires? The means they adopted in warfare, were not so cruel as those of to-day.

The Scientist works in nature, and inflicts untold miseries on poor, harmless creatures, by vivisecting them.

"Let Nature be your teacher,  
Sweet is the love that Nature brings;  
Our meddling intellect  
Misshapes the beauteous forms of things.

We murder to dissect,  
Enough of Science and of Art;  
Close up those barren leaves,  
Come forth and bring with you  
A heart, that watches and receives."

Under reforms, a more special view may be taken.

Hum-bug was unveiled by Thackery in Vanity Fair. Uncle Tom's Cabin, was instrumental in the abolition of the Slave Trade. Let the voices of the negro race, rise in blessing upon that piece of Literature.

That little poem, "The Watch on the Rhine" was the means of consolidating the German States. Dickens' Novels, wrought a wonderful change in the work-houses of England, and Oh, how much it was needed! By means of these novels, how much human suffering and wrong was ameliorated. The horrors depicted by Dickens, of the life of the poor in the great Metropolis, is enough to move any people to shame.

Take the works of our late poets, in all their simplicity and beauty; many hearts have been stirred, and touched by the study of them.

The bulk of mankind, cannot appreciate the works of Science. From the time they can read and write, they begin to have ideas of Literature.

Man as a rule, leads too busy a life, to form ideas for himself, but he can appropriate ready-made ideas. Literature will help him in this respect. Let his soul come in contact with that of our standard authors, and then, note the effect on his whole being.

Adopting the great and grand ideas of a Caryl, Ruskin or Emerson, we discover realms of truth, never dreamed of before. Read "Compensation," and then judge of its ennobling effect. If the reading of a book, makes you more amiable, more sympathetic, or a greater admirer of the beautiful, or more determined to follow what is most elevating in life, who will say, that piece of Literature has proved a failure? Literature is inspiring.

"It is twice blessed,  
It blesseth him that gives,  
And him that takes."

Science is very beneficial to Society. It is conducive to fast living; this shortens life, and thus Society is rid of, what is oft-times contaminating.

Go into the chamber of a dying man, The death dew is upon his brow. No ray of hope is there to brighten his last moments on earth. Tell him the blood circulates, explain the laws of gravitation,—in fact explain all the laws of Science, and then note the effect. Then try the teachings of the Bible. What a change! But they will say, the Bible is inspired. If all Literature were inspired, what a change would be wrought in the social world, even Science would have to marvel.

#### SECOND NEGATIVE.

Since my worthy Colleague has explained what is meant by Science, I will begin by showing its relation to art.

Science is closely allied to Art, in fact we might say if it were not for Science, there would be no Art, for as Dr. Campbell says, "all art is founded on Science, and the Science is of little value, which does not serve as a foundation to some beneficial Art."

Perhaps our referees may not fully comprehend this sweeping statement. I said, without Science, there would be no Art, for Art is but the fulfilling of the laws of Science. Take for instance some of the fine Arts, such as poetry, music, painting, sculpture, architecture, etc. Painting, to begin with, is indirectly founded on Science. We know that all great artists have studied the Science of Anatomy, and the curves of beauty in all their forms, before they have attained that greatness, and we, as girls, know what are College, and world in general, would be without the refining influence of poetry or music, both of which come from Science.

But the work of Science does more for the carrying out of nature's plans than anything else. We may take for example, Electricity. This great power was ever present in nature, and was at last, through the knowledge of Science brought into use. Electricity, is but one of the great discoveries of Science, and yet we wonder now, how we managed without it. Take it in its application to the Telephone. Our cities would not be the cities they are if it were not for the Telephone, which is installed in nearly every other house, for convenience sake. Then again, look what it has done for locomotion in the way of the Electric Street Car. A person wishing to go to a certain place, need not start a day or two beforehand in order to get there, as he used to, but can reach his destination in a comparatively few minutes from the time he starts. The Science of Electricity has also enabled us to protect our fine buildings by guarding off the lightning.

Of this wonderful branch of Science, I can take time to say but little, compared with what is known about it.

Those of us who have visited the "World's Fair," can estimate for ourselves the great achievements, that Science has wrought in this line. I would like to ask just here,

what Literature did for the "World's Fair."

Then again, Science has taught us correct methods of investigation and thought. It broadens the mind. Take the noted men of our nation, and then ask how they attain to their greatness. I think you will find that their diligent study of Sciences, from youth upwards, has broadened the intellect, and fitted them for their calling in life. How would this great universe, advance in improvements, if it had not the results, that our ancestors diligently sought for, and have given to us in Science?

Again, it has taught us to value truth, whereas Literature feeds the imagination in all conceivable forms.

To Science we owe the discovery of steam in its various ramifications. Look at the ennumerable kinds of machines that are run by their power. The binding together of the two world's, by the Atlantic Cable, was at first the result of steam, and afterwards electricity. This perhaps, has done more to promote civilization, and advance the idea of a universal brotherhood, than any book that ever was written by human means.

The art of healing is essentially a modern art, and entirely due to the investigation of Science. The Scientist Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood.

The cleanliness of cities and persons is insisted upon by Science, and so has almost abolished plagues, which as late as the year 1665 devastated all Europe. The Cholera, that swept over the continent a year ago, originated, in one of the worse places for uncleanness, to be found, and the harm wrought by it, would have been very great, had it not been for protection by scientific means.

Then Science has taught us how to guard against all kinds of diseases, by proving infectious, what were formally thought to be harmless. Scientists are working day and night to ameliorate the sufferings of humanity, by finding out remedies for diseases, supposed to be incurable. Prof. Coke, of Berlin, has spent years in trying to find a cure for Consumption, and if he does (which he has to a certain extent,) will

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not this be more than Literature has done or even could do for humanity?

Then again, think of the wonderful developments of the Science of Astronomy. It is true the ancients, had a knowledge of Science, but how unreliable it was. We read that the Chinese put to death their chief Astronomer, for failing to announce a Solar Eclipse. With what accuracy Science enables Astronomers to make calculations and unmeasurable are the benefits they confer on navigation. Now the sailor can determine his exact bearings when out at sea; he can find either his latitude or his longitude, and thus pursue his course in any direction he wills.

The Science of Astronomy, has perfected the way of telling the correct time, by finding out what is called "Sederal Time." This is kept by the Astronomical Clock, and is said not to differ more than one-eighth of an inch in two million, four thousand years, whereas before that time, in the year 1816, it is said that the confusion in the time was so great, that the town clocks would differ thirty minutes in striking the same hour. Perhaps I may conclude, with regard to Astronomy, that in the study of it, above all other subjects, the tenderest sentiments of the heart are aroused. A feeling of awe and reverence, of softened melancholy, mingled with a thought of God, comes over us and awakens the better nature within us. Archdeacon Paley, says "The Science of Astronomy shows beyond all others, the magnificence of his creatures."

*Decided in favor of the Negative.*

### A Christmas Story.

It was a truly wintry day, as our young friend Edith sat by the window, gazing with a dreamy wistful look in her brown eyes, at the snow flakes as they came floating down, robing everything in white and covering all that might mar the beauty of the scene.

Edith was a College girl, and now that the holidays were so near, she was thinking

of the joy she would feel when home was reached, and she was again among the loved ones who were longing for her return.

As she sat pondering, her roommate came in with a joyful exclamation of "Oh Edith, we have permission to leave this afternoon if we wish, and I am going to commence at once and finish packing. Could you not possibly leave by the same train, for you know dear, we go the same direction?"

"I will try my best to arrange it, and Oh Irene, what a lovely time we will have together!"

A time table was soon procured, and the result was that Edith resolved to accompany Irene, and give the friends at home a pleasant surprise, as they did not expect her until Christmas Day. She said to herself "I will now arrive Christmas Eve, and be home before Frank, who is to return from school to-morrow morning."

The two happy girls were soon standing on the platform at the depot, impatiently awaiting the arrival of the train, which presently came into view. At last they were seated together and the train steamed out, leaving the busy city behind and speeding along among snow clad hills and dales.

How pure and bright nature looked, robed in her white mantle which sparkled in the clear rays of the sun! Who would not love nature in all her moods? We rejoice in the Spring when we see the flowers lifting their tiny faces from among the dead leaves; we love the Summer when nature's heart is warmest, and her face brightest; we gaze in admiration at the beauty of Autumn, clothed in golden and red, and we welcome Winter, heralded by his keen winds, blustering storms and merry sleigh-bells.

Unfortunately, the girls had soon to part and with a tender good-bye and promises to write, Irene hastened out of the car, and Edith was left alone. Looking out of the window to wave a good-bye, she saw her friend in the midst of group of happy faces—her own, one of the brightest among them. Edith, feeling somewhat lonely (for the two girls were much attach-

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ed to each other) took up a book and tried to read. Her mind was not with her book,—she was thinking of home and friends.

At one of the junctions, there were quite a number boarded the train, but Edith, still absorbed in her thoughts, heeded them not, until startled by "Oh Edie!" Looking up she saw her brother Frank bending over her, and at the same instant received a boyish kiss.

"Oh Frank! what a surprlse," How did you get away to 'ay too?"

"Some of the boy's *did* want me to stay for an oyster supper to-night. But what is an oyster supper to going home, eh Edie?"

The brother and sister had so much to tell each other, that the time flew, and they were near their destination before they realized it. When the brakeman called out the familiar name, they did not delay, but were soon on the platform.

After Frank had made all arrangements regarding the baggage, he said to his sister, "Now, Edie, shall we drive or walk home?" and Edith at once replied, "Oh, let us walk home, for it is such a glorious evening," so off they started, Edith taking her brother's arm, and both feeling very happy.

It was a beautiful, clear moonlight night. The stars were bright, and the pale light of the moon, shone on the snow and on the trees, fringed with their silvery drapery, making a weird but lovely picture.

As they neared home, they could see the light shining forth with welcoming ray, from the cosy library. They came nearer, and before entering, peeped in upon the family circle.

There sat father and mother, the latter sewing, while the former was near, with little brother Harry on his knee. Apparently their father had been telling him a story, and he was asking questions, for the parents were both smiling.

The two conspirators outside could wait no longer, but entered as quietly as possible. Frank opened the library door, and ushering in his sister, said:—"I have brought you a Christmas Box which you did not expect until to-morrow." The mother

sprang forward, and embracing them both replied:—"I think, my dears, you have brought me *two* very precious Christmas Boxes." The father kissed his two children tenderly, saying that his Christmas joy would now be complete with all his family around him. Little Harry ran to them saying,—“Did 'oo bing me a Cismas box too?” How bright the home looked, with its evergreen, its bright fire-place, and its pretty Christmas tree.

It was quite late before they retired, but all arose early the following morning. Old Santa Clause had not forgotten to pay his annual visit, and even Harry's little pet kitten was remembered, and received a pretty ribbon for her neck. But amid all her happiness,—the protecting care of kind parents, the comforts of a luxurious home, and the pleasure of companionship of dear friends, Edith did not forget those in a different sphere of life, deprived of these blessings.

Christmas Day saw many hearts gladdened by the tokens of kindness from the hands of this sweet girl, who might have been the recipient of Cowper's verse, when he said.

"Graceful and useful all she does,  
Blessing and blest where'er she goes.  
Pure-blossomed as that watery glass,  
And heaven reflected in her face."

How often in our Christmas joys we forget the many around us, who are less favored than we! Let us try and follow our sweet friend's example, and we will feel more joyous in helping to make others happy.

### Society Notes.

The fact that examinations will soon be here and that the length of time for preparing for them is rapidly decreasing does not seem to dampen the enthusiasm of the members of our Society, as the meetings are always opened with no vacant seats.

It was intended by the Society to hold an open meeting before adjourning for the

holidays, but it has been thought advisable to postpone the event till after we return from our vacation, as the young ladies are all so busy preparing for examinations and the concert. It is to be hoped that the old adage, "Delays are dangerous" will not hold in this case, but that, by reason of the delay the participants will have more time to prepare for it, and thus render a much more enjoyable programme.

Two weeks ago (Dec. 1st), the debate we have been anticipating for some time took place, and the subject presented a splendid opportunity for those taking part to make use of those subjects in the study of which they are at present engaged.

The subject,—“Resolved, That Literature has been more beneficial to Society than Science,” was such a weighty one that it required that three out of the four debaters should be Seniors, the fourth place being filled very successfully by a Junior.

Some excellent points were brought forward by both sides and showed that the young ladies had spared neither time nor trouble in bringing forth every attainable thought on the subject.

At the close of the debate each of the leaders was allowed five minutes to respond and the number of witty retorts indulged in, was very entertaining.

It was a difficult thing for the referees—three Seniors—to decide to which party the victor's laurel should be given, but after some consultation, those three wise maidens decided that victory would perch more gracefully on the banner borne by the “Scientific Cohort.”

(It is to be hoped that those who defended Science so nobly against the attacks of the enemy, and also who judged Science to be the conqueror, will hereafter maintain their reputation in that branch of study.)

The interest in the Choral Class is steadily increasing, and it will form one of the attractions at our meeting.

The first meeting of the Society in the New Year will be for the transaction of important business, and we make this announcement through the columns of our paper, in order that there may be a full attendance.

**SILKS, SATINS and VELVETS, LARGEST STOCK—McILWRAITH & TREGENZA**

### Christmas Bells.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day,  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet,  
The words repeat,  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!  
And thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom,  
Had rolled along,  
The unbroken song,  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!  
Till, ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day,  
A voice, a chime,  
A chant sublime,  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!  
Then from each black, accursed mouth,  
The cannon thundered in the South,  
And with the sound  
The carols drowned  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!  
It was as if an earthquake rent  
The hearthstones of a continent,  
And made forlorn  
The households born  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!  
And in despair I bowed my head;  
“There is no peace on earth” I said;  
“For hate is strong,  
And mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!”  
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep,  
“God is not dead! nor doth he sleep!  
The wrong shall fail,  
The right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good-will to men!”

—Longfellow.

### Here's Merry Christmas Come Again.

Here's merry Christmas come again,  
With all it ever used to bring;  
The mistletoe and carol strain,  
The holly in the window-pane,  
And all the bloom from hill and plain  
That winter's chilly hand can fling.  
It must be welcomed with a song,  
Though nothing new may fill the ditty;  
Old fashioned feelings may be wrong,  
But prejudice is very strong,  
And dear, old Christmas wooed so long,  
Shall find us faithful, if not witty.  
It comes with music in the hall,  
That stirs the old man in his chair;  
And when the midnight measures fall,

He'll lead the blithest dance of all,  
Spurning alike the chimney wall,  
And seventy years of wear and tear.

Here's merry Christmas come again,  
Cling heart to heart and hand to hand,  
'Love one another' was the strain  
Of Him who never taught in vain;  
And let it sound o'er hill and plain,  
And rule the feast in every land.

*Eliza Cook.*

### \* Personals.

Miss Chapelle, one of our former students paid a flying visit to the College during the Thanksgiving Holidays.

Mrs. Martin Murphy has been laid up with an attack of Influenza, but we are pleased to hear that she has recovered and is now able to resume her duties.

Miss Louise Hardistry, of Stonewall, Manitoba, gave us a pleasant surprise last Saturday, by arriving in our midst once more.

Miss Hord spent Sunday in the City, with one of her classmates, Miss McColl.

The Misses. Bessie Brown, McFarland, Higginson, Birge, Awrey and Taylor, spent Thanksgiving at their various homes.

Mr. Hord of Mitchell, paid a short visit to his daughter, Miss Gertrude Hord, recently.

A very pleasant social gathering was held Friday evening, through the kindness of Miss Hicks our Language Teacher, who did her utmost towards the enjoyment of the girls, and succeeded so well that they were reluctant to leave when the sound of the bell was heard, warning them to depart.

Miss McFarland was pleasantly surprised last week, by a call from her friend Miss Jaffie McKnight of Owen Sound.

### Locals.

"Vanish!"

H. P. C. O.

"Cultivate repose."

"Snake Charmer."

Lolla—Wild-a-go.

"I'll tell you that."

"Excuse me, I must go."

"Come, go! Come, go!"

Graduated with the degree of Mrs.

"Come at four and tickle the piano."

"Mark you, I mean that for a point."

"I am but a shadow of my former self."

Query—Who sets the examination papers?

"Two funny for any use—as the boys say"

The latest fad—singing by the Solar system.

"I'm surprised—I'm more than surprised, I'm grieved."

"When was the Battle of Waterloo fought?" 1516.

Playing on combs, seems to be the latest musical invention.

"Ladies, always remember you are yourselves and nobody else."

Query number two—Who threw the stick of wood down the hall?

There are somethings yet to learn. "Why was M—late for the party?"

"Please may I go home now?" "Yes, after you have made your bow."

We have all heard the song of the "Three Crows," what about the three J's?

A person must be ready for the Refractory Ward, when she will sit up until twelve o'clock talking to herself."

Miss G. (sweetly) "Oh, Miss H—We did not think that you could hear us."

We wonder for whom the sweet notes were intended.

Our language teacher must think that it takes a surgical operation to see a French pun, but we recently learned in Logic, that he who perpetrates a pun should be punished.

One evening in early Spring, the Beebe and Snyder Band proposed holding a concert in Andrew's Hall. Being unable to decide upon the evening, they referred to the Callender, and immediately the difficulty was solved. The Carter transferred their instruments to the Hall, and many a beautiful Strain of music was heard issuing from the concert room.

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### Exchanges.

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We think an Exchange column might be an improvement to some of our contemporaries.

\* \*

We extend the hand of fellowship and welcome to several new exchanges which have arrived this month.—Shake!

\* \*

Our California friend the "Sequoia," inserts an anonymous poem "A College Idyl," the sentiments of which we poor students echo with a sepulchral groan.

We are glad to see the familiar faces of many of our old exchanges, some we are pleased to note are much beautified without, and well stored with wit and wisdom within.

\* \*

Several pages of the "Notre Dame Scholastic" are devoted to tributes to the memory of the Very Rev. Father Sorin, C. S. C., founder of Notre Dame, Indiana. The "Portfolio" extends its hearty sympathy to the "Scholastic."

\* \*

The 'Argosy' gives a good editorial on the treatment of the young ladies of the Middleton Wesleyan College by the gentlemen (?) of the same. It is surprising that students who have enough brains to be admitted to any College, would show so little of either sense or courtesy, and take so much trouble to make their fellow students of the gentler sex so uncomfortable. If the "Quails" "in the Quail Roost" (which elegant titles the said gentlemen (?) have given the ladies and their dormitory) would stoop to their level, we humbly suggest the "Frog Pond" as an appropriate appellation for the gentleman's dormitory, until they cease their ominous croaking.

\* \*

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