

The Dalhousie Gazette.

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No. 3.

TO AN OAK.

[NEAR THE SCENE OF EVANGELINE.]

Here is an aged oak flinging his branches
Far out above our heads. His sturdy trunk,
Strong with the blasts of centuries o'ershades
And withers us to the ground. Here, a twig he stood
When ocean overflowed this vast expanse
Of verdant meadows. When from acorn cup
A little shoot went up, and the green leaves
First flung their banners to the gentle wind
The Micmac wild then roamed the woody shore,
Slew with his arrows keen the elk, and set
His traps for beaver. Next a sapling tall,
He saw strange faces coming up the stream:
Heard white men's voices change the Indian names,
O'ercharged with melody, for ones they coined
From their imagination. Dikes these raised,
And never more did the salt sea's perfume
In balmy evening air cling round its leaves.
Years passed away, and fields and flocks had grown,
And farms and homesteads flecked the landscape wide,
Peaceful and smiling, when one summer's eve,
He heard strange sounds of wailing in the air.
'Twas women sobbing for their pleasant homes,
And children crying for their pretty pets
They had to leave behind. When morning rose,
Lighting the landscape round with ruddy glow,
Red-coated monsters burnt the bending grain,
The mossy barns, and drove the lowing herds
Far off to starve or perish by the cold
Of freezing winter, now at ready hand.
Then came another race with Saxon speech,
Using their language with a nasal twang,
Sturdy old Puritans, from other shores,
New England rocks, to seek for fertile fields.
Since then much time has past, and he has seen
Four generations born and live and die,
And still he stands broad-breasted, full of life,
Like man at prime of life, but at the turn
Which leadeth downward into the deep vale
Of quickly gathering years. Old oak live on!!
Still throw thy gnarled branches to the sky
For aged crows to build their nests upon,
And hatch their noisy brood! Thou seem'st to me
A relic of a by-gone age, still left
From time's unsparing ravages. O may
No sacrilegious woodman blunt his axe,

Or desecrate thy bark with impious hands;
But may'st thou live for many decades more,
So that our children's sons may look on thee,
Memento of an era passed away! R.

FRIGORIFIC.

Unto us the poor students of law,
I pray you your sympathies give.
We'll return them in spring, when we thaw,
If, perchance, through the winter we live.

Our Library's heated with air
Which a venturesome few have called hot.
But those few should be warned to beware
How they treat such grave matters for thought.

Their conclusion, then clearly arose
From those fictions; prevailing in law,
In our rooms where the breath from the nose
Freezeth icicles long, on the jaw.

Where the boss with his overcoat on,
Hat, mittens, and overshoes too,
Knoweth not that the temperature's gone
To the home of the icicle blue.

And heeds not the shivering crowd
Who perch on the registers cold,
While sad visions of coffin and shroud,
Through their sadness and gloom they behold.

Oh, weather keep warm for a time!
Be ye speedy importers of furs;
Ere we seek a far different clime,
And are borne to the same, in a hearse.

Be ye speedy oh holidays bright!
And Christmas, stop not on your round.
We are longing so much for a sight
Of that country where fires are found.

Dear Johnny awake from your dream;
And another kind action perform,
That your efforts may be what they seem,
Do keep the said library warm.

And cur praise then will gratefully flow
To thee, author of comfort and heat!
When we feel that the law we may know,
Without danger of losing our feet.

NOVELS; THEIR USE AND ABUSE.

Every child, so soon as he can understand spoken language, finds a wonderful charm in a story; and that must be a poor story indeed which is not followed by the command, "Tell me that some more." This love of story telling, no less characteristic of the infancy of nations than of individuals, so universal and almost instinctive, cannot surely have been implanted in us only to be rooted out.

Perhaps novels, in the present day, are not looked on with so much disfavour by the stricter section of the religious world as they once were; there are still, however, some to whom a novel is an abomination, and any work of fiction an object of suspicion. Yet even these would probably admit that another sermon on the Mount would hardly compensate for the loss of the story of him, who, while still in the far country, resolved to arise and go to his father.

While novels, as such, are not to be condemned, it is difficult to imagine any thing more worthless than a poor novel, it ought not to amuse, and what else can it do? A good novel should furnish an intelligent recreation: this is its first duty though it may do much more; but if it fail in this, no matter what its literary merits may be, it has not accomplished its mission.

Novel reading should be a recreation not an occupation, and a recreation presupposes something in the nature of work in the past; while then no one need be ashamed of reading a well written novel in the intervals of more serious employments, the constant reading of a succession of works of fiction, requiring as they do no mental effort on the reader's part, cannot but be injurious to the average mind. Macaulay, indeed, could do it with impunity, being an inveterate reader of novels, good, bad and indifferent. His nephew tells how a dull friend of the family, overhearing him discuss with his sister the characters in the different novels they had read, expressed surprise at the number of queer people they had fallen in with.

A direct moral purpose is almost sure to spoil a novel as a work of art, or if it is not spoiled, it

is good in spite of its moral as Charles Read's earlier novels are. There may have been readers of Daniel Deronda who did not inwardly groan whenever the old Jew appeared on the scene, but the report that George Eliot was in no way responsible for that wearisome old man must have given unfeigned satisfaction to thousands of her admirers. What a contrast is Mrs. Poyser, with her keen but unconscious wisdom, ready for use in every domestic emergency.

In the fiction of a bygone age we have an invaluable picture of the social life of the day, as in the pages of Miss Burney and later in Miss Austen's, whose characters are so lifelike that they have all the reality of old friends. Trollope has given us in his earlier and better novels a series of sketches of English men and women and their every day surroundings, which, though they can scarcely be called brilliant, are yet drawn with the firm hand of one who thoroughly knows his subject; and the authoress of "Juits" and "The initials" has made us scarcely less familiar with middle class home life in Germany.

The advantages to be derived from the historical novel are of a very doubtful character. Whether the deeply rooted prejudices, which, with the young at least, are the inevitable results of a course of historical novels, are compensated for by the increased interest in the study of history may well be questioned.

When we speak of the historical novel, Cromwell and Charles instinctively occur to the mind. And it required the combined attack of a Macaulay and a Carlyle, the one tearing to shreds the ideal character of Charles, the other turning the full light of historic truth on Cromwell, to rid the English people of the prejudices which had so long blinded them to the vices of the martyr king, and the stirring qualities of his great opponent. The author of John Inglesant has undertaken the remarkable task of writing an historical novel of the great struggle between King and Commons from the most uncompromising Royalist stand point, and yet painting Charles in the most odious colors. As history is written at the present day do we need the historical novel to awaken our interest in it? Harold excites at least as much interest and sym-

THE ABUSES OF PUBLIC SPEAKING.

If there is anything that peculiarly characterizes this age and its methods of education, it is the prominence that is given to public speaking. It is nothing new to see paragraphs going the rounds of the press advising those having control of the education of boys to teach them to "declaim" as a means of "getting on" in the world, considering the frequency with which they will be, in all probability, called upon to express themselves upon public questions. Debating societies, mechanics institutes, farmers granges, and all kindred organizations emphasize this as a special inducement to their members. There is a sort of reverence entertained for a man who can speak two or three hours on a stretch, and the wonder is sensibly increased if he can do so without making a fool of himself.

Not only in the courts of law, and legislative assemblies, but almost everywhere, we are fairly deluged with words. Some one has said "the Aristotelian theory that nature abhors a vacuum appears to be a universal belief and all are laboring to fill up the realms of space with mouthfuls of spoken wind." Not a railroad can be finished, the corner-stone of a public building laid, an agricultural exhibition opened, etc., etc., but it is seized upon as an occasion for speeches of "learned length and thundering sound." Even young ladies have "pinings" and "aspirations" and "young ambitions" in this direction, having in view, no doubt, increased facility in giving "curtain lectures."

You remember that Cowper has invoked:—

"Ye powers that rule the tongue, if such there are,
And make colloquial happiness your care,
Preserve me from the thing I dread and hate,
A duel in the form of a debate,
Vociferated logic kills me quite,
A noisy man is always in the right."

And that Carlyle says:—"What has been done by rushing after fine speech? I have written down some very fierce things about that, perhaps considerably more emphatic than I could wish them to be now, but they are deeply my conviction. There is a very great necessity indeed of getting a little more silent than we are. It seems to me the finest nations of the world—

pathy in the pages of Freeman as in those of Bulwer, and any comparison of the novelist's account of the great battle with the historian's would be out of the question. If "Westward Ho" is not eclipsed, it is surely rivalled by Froude's History. But when all has been urged against the class, the individual novel will assert itself, and it is hard to see how a boy could better employ himself than in following the adventures of Sir Amyas Teigh, unless indeed he should prefer listening with Ivanhoe to Rebecca as she tells how the fight rages round the castle.

We may gain much morally as well as intellectually from novels which represent life as it is. Following the development of Tito Melima's character, we learn how under a sweet and gentle manner may be hidden possibilities of the most hideous depravity; and as we read the story of Janet's Repentance we realize that a woman who has yielded to the awful temptations of drink is not necessarily a monster separated from all other women by a great gulf of degradation. Both teach the same lesson, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." But at times we need encouragement rather than warning. Then true-hearted Jeannie Weans will teach us how character may reach its highest development without any of those external advantages on which we are all apt to lay too much stress; or Henry Esmond shall show us to what calm heights the pathway of self-denial may lead. If it be true that a merry heart doeth good like a medicine, Dickens must be ranked among the benefactors of the human race. And as to the humor of Cervantes, it is simply irresistible, though Don Quixote's gentle piety and good-heartedness make us at times half ashamed of having ever laughed at his disappointments and mishaps.

It is, no doubt, very easy by dwelling almost exclusively on the use of novels to make out a good case for them, but as Sir Roger de Coverley says: "Much may be said on both sides." Yet no one who has spent a rainy day in a country inn, or can look back on a long convalescence, will feel inclined to speak ill of the bridge which has carried him over.

* * * *

the British and American—are going all away into wind and tongue. Silence is the eternal duty of a man. He won't get to any real understanding of what is complex and pertinent to his interests without maintaining silence.

. . . If a good speaker—an eloquent speaker is not speaking the truth, is there a more horrid kind of object in creation? Of such speech I hear all manner and kind of people say, it is excellent; but I care very little about *how* he said it provided I understand it, and it be true. Excellent speaker! but what if he is telling me things that are untrue—that are not the fact about it—if he has formed a wrong judgment about it—if he has no judgment in his mind to form a right conclusion in regard to the matter. An excellent speaker of that kind is, as it were, saying, 'Ho every one that wants to be persuaded of the thing that is not true, come hither.'" I notice that Dr. Talmage, speaking of the coming sermon, predicts that it will not occupy more than twenty minutes in its delivery, and you know Solomon says, "He that hath knowledge spareth his words."

It must be admitted that the cultivation of the faculty of speech is important, and that men of fine ability often sacrifice power and influence by not learning the art of public speaking, but I contend that the tendency at present is to greatly over-estimate its importance. A very eminent scholar has said "one should never speak on a subject until he has read himself *full* upon it and should never read upon a subject until he has thought himself *hungry* upon it." This craze for fine speaking, this 'running at the mouth' has become a terrible epidemic, and we believe that the health of the body politic demands that it should be checked rather than encouraged. Instead of trying by patient thought to master the subjects upon which there is a demand for knowledge, young men worship and glorify clap-trap and sensational oratory. They utilize their reading merely as pegs on which to hang speeches. The shell is accounted of more value than the kernel, noise is mistaken for eloquence, and thought and expression supplanted by lungs and the dictionary. A man may have a thought or a fact that would settle a question in dispute,

but if he cannot wire-draw it into a two-hour speech, he leaves the discussion of the subject to the man who has the knack of "multiplying words to darken counsel," and who has gained the reputation of an orator by his faculty in making the "worse appear the better reason."

Is fluency of speech—the ability to make long-winded harangues—absolutely essential to success? I think not. Washington seldom spoke in public. In the Convention that framed the Constitution of the United States he made but two speeches of a few words each; but *every word told*, and it is said that but for the thirty words of his first speech the Constitution would have been rejected by the people. Neither Jefferson nor Franklyn were fluent speakers, though the one wrote the Declaration of Independence, and the other "snatched the lightning from the skies and the sceptre from tyrants." Presidents Jackson and Grant were not good speakers. Neither were Napoleon and Wellington. Bismarck is no orator and Von Moltke is said to be silent in eight languages. When the Creator was to choose a man for the greatest work ever delegated to mortal man, it was Moses, "slow of speech." He commissioned Aaron, the "fluent speaker," had to serve in a subordinate office.

Another evil resulting from this passion for saying striking things is—*exaggeration*. This is more especially noticeable in political utterances. Every prominent statesman is either a paragon of political integrity, virtue, unselfishness, and patriotism, or a monster of iniquity, according as he is viewed from Grit or Tory standpoints. Indeed our parliamentary debates and criticisms of political opponents remind one of a traveller's description of Washington territory, "every brook is a river, every pond a lake, every hill a mountain, every rock a gold mine, and every man a liar."

"God give us men; a time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands:
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue,
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who stand above the fog
In public duty and in private thinking."

But this race of wordy imposters, this combination of verbosity and nonsense that lives and flourishes upon the gullibility of the public is a fit subject for restrictive legislation.

LAW SCHOOL NOTES.

THE Law School Students have formed a "Club," with the following organization:

President, Mr. Lyons; *Vice-President*, Mr. McClatchy; *Secretary*, Mr. H. Mellish; *Executive Committee*, Messrs. Smith, Hanright and McCully; *Legislative Committee*, Messrs. E. M. McDonald, Alex. Campbell and Young.

It is expected that the club will hold weekly meetings, having for their object the improvement and development of the oratorical gifts of the members. To this end some subject will be laid before each meeting by the Executive Committee for discussion. The subjects of debate may involve legal questions or otherwise.

As the subjects to be discussed at each several meeting are to be made known to the students some time beforehand, all will have ample opportunity to come prepared at each meeting to exercise and cherish "the gift that is in them."

First Meeting, Saturday, 29th Nov., at 7.30 P. M.

Subject for Discussion: "Resolved that the House of Lords in England has outlived its usefulness."

The following were the speakers on both sides of the question, the leaders having been chosen by the Executive Committee:

<i>Affirmative.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>
E. M. McDonald, <i>Leader</i> .	H. Mellish, <i>Leader</i> .
McCully.	Carter.
McClatchy.	Clancy.
Smith.	Fraser.

The question was discussed with much zest and ability, and the speeches, taken as a whole, were of a high order. The resolution was lost by a two-third vote.

After the debate, some regular business was transacted. As the Legislative Committee had

not yet drawn up the bye-laws, the conduct of the meeting was left in the hands of the President, Mr. Lyons, who fulfilled his duties to the entire satisfaction of all present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

Will you kindly grant me space in your valuable columns to give expression to a few ideas with reference to the proposed Dalhousie lecture course.

In the first place let me state that the efforts of the students in this matter are most laudable and deserving of unqualified success. For this undertaking gives evidence not only of the devotion of the students to the college itself, but also of a desire on their part to do something at once pleasing and beneficial to the citizens of Halifax and the public generally. Allow me as a disinterested citizen to congratulate your students upon their seemingly successful efforts, and above all to congratulate your committee upon the selection of speakers whom, we understand, they have engaged to lecture for us in the Academy of Music during the coming season. For, if I am rightly informed, this selection includes men much admired as public speakers in this city, as well as some known throughout the Maritime Provinces and throughout the Dominion as first-class lecturers.

Permit me to express the hope that while Joseph Cook and Mark Twain will be patronized to the full, the talent which your committee have secured may receive a like share.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

FURBER.

SILENCE never shows itself to so great an advantage as when it is made the reply to calumny and defamation.—*Adison*.

FRANCIS comes out with learned lumber and takes our brains out to make room for it.—*Colton*.

WISDOM we leave him to appropriate a word, we have the power of it within ourselves.—*Colton*.

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HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER 5, 1884.

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N. F. MACKAY, '86. }

CONTENTS.

Poetry—To an Oak	29
“ Frigorific	29
Novels; their use and abuse	30
The abuses of Public Speaking.....	31
Law School Notes	33
Correspondence	33
Editorial.....	34
College News.....	36
Among the Colleges	37
Dallusiensia.....	38
Personals	39
Clippings.....	40
Acknowledgements.....	40

THE average Dalhousie student, whatever his faults, cannot, we think, be justly charged with lacking interest in College work, in so far as that work is connected with his immediate object, the taking of a Degree. Thus far he is entitled to praise, but further we cannot go. For when the subject is one not included in the curriculum, though, perhaps, no less important than many therein contained, he displays no such interest. Take, for example, public speaking. The ability to express our ideas readily and intelligently, by tongue or by pen, is surely worth the time and effort needed for its acquisition; for without this power, though possessed of all knowledge, a man is of no practical use to the world—he must “hide his light under a bushel.” This power it is the main aim of our College Societies to develop. Yet, though the student makes it a point to miss no College lectures, and, consequently, rain or shine, is found in his place in the Class-room, he seldom goes to any inconvenience in order to attend the meeting of these Societies. He deems it a duty to pore for hours every night over Latin and Greek, over Mathematics and Metaphysics; but we doubt whether half an hour was every spent

in the preparation of an address for Sodales. We are aware that this is, in part, due to the shortness of the term, and we see a gleam of hope in its proposed extension in 1887. But is there not a danger, meantime, that the disease may become chronic? Is there not a probability that future students will be guided to a great extent by our example? If so, how important that the example we set in this respect be a good one!

It may be objected that this subject is a trite one. Its importance, however, we consider a sufficient excuse for this article. The aim of our College Societies, as already indicated, is a good one. But in order to its realization, long and patient practice is necessary. As Macaulay remarks, scarcely any person has ever become a good debater “without long practice and many failures. He makes himself master of his art at the expense of his audience.” Hence the importance of beginning this practice in early life. And where can a student better begin than at Sodales, where, surrounded by his fellow-students, he is less likely than anywhere else to meet with adverse criticism which would tend to discourage all future effort? What is true in this respect of Sodales is equally true of the other Societies.

Charles Fox has been characterized as “the most brilliant and powerful debator that ever lived.” His success he, himself, attributed to a resolution which he formed when very young of “speaking, well or ill, at least once every night.” To every student our advice is: “Go thou,” (to the meetings of our College Societies) “and do likewise.”

THE first lecture of the course to be given in the Academy of Music, under the management of the Dalhousie Students, will be delivered on the 19th inst., by Prof. George E. Foster, M.P., of King's Co., New Brunswick. Prof. Foster's reputation as an orator is well-known, and the students respectfully invite a liberal patronage.

THE Editors have to state that, to make room for “Correspondence,” they have been obliged to omit editorial matter of this issue.

WE have hitherto entirely refrained from making any editorial reference to the dissensions that are at present convulsing our sister College at Windsor, but since the Faculty of that institution have attempted to hide from public gaze and public censure their own folly and inconsistency by endeavouring to suppress the *King's College Record*, we can no longer refrain from giving voice to our earnest and unqualified protestations against such a high-handed outrage.

The young men who are at present prosecuting their studies at Kings have without doubt been placed at a serious disadvantage by the spirit of envy, suspicion and tyranny which has actuated more than one member of the Faculty, and thereby not only prevented harmonious intercourse between the professors, but also nullified their usefulness. Such a state of discord was certainly sufficient to awaken and merit the criticism of the students.

But when, in addition to this, insults were heaped upon them individually and collectively, publicly and privately, what wonder if it aroused every spark of manly independence that lay dormant in their breasts! But “they were guilty of a breach of discipline” says one. Did not the state of anarchy and misrule that prevailed among the college officials demand just such extreme measures as were adopted by the students? Could they be expected to preserve discipline when the officials were the first to break it? Could the students be expected to follow out the injunctions of those in authority, when to do so was to disregard every pre-conceived idea of justice and every dictate of conscience? We believe that the day is afar off when any professor in Dalhousie will be so lost to every principle of justice as to treat our students with such unmerited indignity as that to which the students of Kings have been subjected, but should that time come, we sincerely hope that all the students will have more regard for their personal honor than to cringe to tyrannical authority before they have vindicated that honor, and secured the ejection of that professor from Faculty and Staff and Chair.

The manner in which some of our Provincial organs have attempted to curry popular favor by heaping terms of abuse upon the unfortunate students of Kings, evinces on their part either a culpable ignorance of facts, which is scarcely credible, or else a most disgraceful perversion of truth. From no quarter have they received the commendation they deserved, in that they have sacrificed their personal interests rather than longer refrain from performing what they knew to be their duty to themselves and to their Alma Mater. It is only wonderful that the editors of the *Record* have discussed their burning wrongs in so mild, courteous and respectful a tone as they have. And, if on one occasion an objectionable paragraph inadvertently found its way into their columns, yet the editors, who, at the time, did not perceive the application which might be given to it, embraced the first opportunity to make a most humble apology. That was sufficient and more than sufficient. Yet this is followed by the announcement of the suppression of the college paper. Surely such an action is a manifest confession of weakness on the part of the Faculty. In our day such a proceeding will be deemed by the public an high-handed outrage.

We trust that the editors of the *Record* will consider it as such and continue to edit their paper as heretofore; and we feel confident that an enlightened public opinion will support them in such a course of action.

AT the late meeting of the Executive of the Alumni Association important changes in the Constitution were discussed, which would increase the number eligible for membership to about two thousand. This measure cannot fail to be productive of the most beneficial results, and must, we think, be viewed with favour by the friends of our College. Should the proposed changes be adopted at the annual meeting, we may reasonably look for an influx of new members which will awaken enthusiasm and infuse new life into the Society; and the widened influence which the Association will thus acquire will render it a potent agent in “promoting the best interests of the University.”

COLLEGE NEWS.

THE continued unfavorable weather of late has put a damper on foot-ball. A challenge for a return match was sent to Acadia about a fortnight ago; but it was found impossible to accept it.

HARE AND HOUND.—An attempt was made last week to introduce this standard, old sport to our students. But the elements were unpropitious on the day proposed, and the "hunt" had to be postponed.

WE notice that the energetic Librarian of the Law School, Mr. J. T. Bulmer, has been appointed Secretary of the Alumni Association.

THE Lecture Committee have secured the services of the following gentlemen for a course of Lectures to be delivered during the winter in the Academy of Music:—Prof. G. E. Foster, M. P.; Prof. R. E. Wilson, M. A.; Rev. D. Macrae, D. D.; Rev. G. W. Hill, D. C. L.; Rev. A. J. Townend, M. A. The opening Lecture of the course is arranged for the 19th inst.

LITERARY SOCIETY.—This Society met in the Library on Friday Evening, the 29th ult., with a small attendance, owing to the very unfavorable weather. After the transaction of routine business, the subject for the evenings discussion was taken up, viz:—"Novels, their use and abuse." Several interesting papers were read, after which a general discussion took place. The speeches were good, and every one seemed anxious to contribute his share to the success of the club. While some thought that the influence of novels was not for good, the majority were quite ready to argue to the contrary.

SODALES.—This Society held its second meeting on the 21st ult., the President in the chair. The subject for discussion was:—Which affords the better mental discipline the Study of Classics or of Mathematics?

In support of Classics it was contended that by *mental discipline* is meant the development of the higher powers of the mind; that the study of Mathematics is preparatory to that of Classics; and hence the discipline afforded by the latter is of the higher order. Besides, the study of the Classics is calculated to whet the observational powers. MacRae, Gammell, Mellish and Tufts, upheld this side of the question.

The supporters of Mathematics held that there was no comparison between the two as instruments of mental discipline. Classics may be crammed, Mathematics cannot. By the study of the latter our reasoning powers are cultivated,

and we are trained to concentrate our ideas. E. McKay, Nicholson, Calder, Martin and Morrison, took this view.

The decision was in favor of Mathematics by a vote of 13 to 9.

THE prayer meeting of the college is increasing in interest, and the attendance of an increased number testify to the position it holds in the minds of a large number of the students. Professor Forrest has shown his interest in the work by repeated calls, and we can assure the other Professors of as hearty a welcome in this branch of college work. Mr. John S. McLean has kindly favored us with a stirring address regarding the work of Associations in other colleges, and has roused a spirit of enthusiasm, or rather patriotism, among Dalhousie students to co-operate in the work. The Executive Committee have considered the formulating a constitution which will be presented to the consideration of members at an early date, and subjected to their approval. Officers will then be elected and resume duties at once.

The thanks of the meeting are due to both Messrs. McLean and Forrest for the kindly interest shown, and encouragement given. We hope the new society will be patronized by the students.

BOOKS RECEIVED BY LIBRARY IN 1884.

Scientific Results of the Exploring Voyage H. M. S. Challenger, 1873-1876; 7 vols.—John Doull, Esq.

Encyclopædia Britannica; vol. XVI.—R. Sedgewick, Esq.

History Peloponnesian War, by Thucydides; 3 vols.—Rev. W. Murray.

Guthrie on Spencer's Data of Ethics—The Author (M. Guthrie).

Essay on the Contracted Liquid Vein, by R. Steckel—Prof. Macgregor.

Census of Canada, 1880-81, vol. II.; Sessional Papers, 11 nos; Journals House of Commons, 2 vols.; Journals of the Senate; Statutes of Canada, 47 Vic.—Dominion Government.

Catalogue of Canadian Plants, Part I, by John Macoun; Report of Progress for 1880-81-82, with maps—Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada.

Railway Statistics of Canada—Mr. Schrieber.

Proceedings and Transactions Royal Society of Canada, vol. I.—Royal Society, Canada.

Hume's Treatise on Human Nature, 2 vols.; Berkeley's Works, by A. Campbell Fraser, 4 vols.; Gray's Structural Botany, 1 vol.; Lingard's History of England, 10 vols.; Gray's New Manual of Botany; Ranke's History of England,

6 vols.; Gardiner's Duke of Buckingham and Charles I., 2 vols.; Gardiner's Personal Government of Charles I., 2 vols; Carey's Principles of Social Science, 3 vols.; Michand's History of the Crusades, 3 vols.; Sedgwick's Political Economy, 1 vol.; Cairnes' Leading Principles of Political Economy, 1 vol.; Systems of Land Tenures in Various Countries, ed. by J. W. Probyn, 1 vol.; Kolbe's Chemistry, translated by Humpedge, 1 vol.; Gostwick and Harrison's Outlines of German Literature, 1 vol.; Roseher's Political Economy, 2 vols.—Library Fund.

Calendars of the leading Universities and Colleges in America and in Great Britain have been received.

AMONG THE COLLEGES.

FIRTH College, Sheffield, is forming an Engineering School.

UNIVERSITY College, Dundee, is about to add a Professor of Biology to its staff.

SOME \$1,300 have been subscribed to give the poet Gray a memorial in his own university on the River Cam.

THE Merrill Prize (of more than \$800) at Colby, was won this year by a young lady. A triumph for the co-eds.

YALE is to have a course of Lectures by Mr. A. T. Hadley, on the History of the Transportation System of the U. S.

THE University of Heidelberg recently declined a gift of 100,000 marks, because a condition of its acceptance was the admission of women to the university.

RAILROADS have cost perhaps one-tenth as much as the total wealth of the United States. A sound understanding of this vast and complex interest will touch and illustrate every great department of the continent's commerce.

HARVARD Union has taken a new departure. During the present Session two courses of lectures will be delivered on "the trade question." The one course will be from the free-trade, the other from the protection point of view, the former being assigned to Mr. E. L. Godkin, editor of the *New York Nation*, the latter to Prof. R. E. Thompson, editor of the *Philadelphia American*.

Of eight of the principal colleges in the United States, the only one advocating a protective tariff is the University of Pennsylvania. At Williams, the free-trade theory is taught, likewise at Yale, Harvard and Amherst. Princeton is in an undecided state as to which side to uphold. At Columbia, in the school of political science, all instruction has a leaning to free-trade.

THE members of the British Association presented McGill College with the endowment for a gold medal to commemorate their visit to Montreal. The Committee of the Association has determined to present the die.

PROF. SIMON NEWCOMB, I. L. D., Superintendent of the U. S. Nautical Almanac, has been appointed to the chair of Mathematics and Astronomy in the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, the most important Mathematical chair in America. Prof Newcomb is a Nova Scotian.

A PROJECT is on foot for the establishment of a new weekly University organ in Toronto, on the ground that *The Varsity* is not sufficiently representative. An effort will be made to raise the necessary capital by floating a joint-stock company, and sanguine hopes are expressed by the projectors that a journal in all respects worthy of the interests it would advocate could be made a commercial success.—*The Week*.

PROF. JOHN TYNDALL realized thirteen thousand dollars on his lectures in this country in 1872, which he refused to take away. He left the money in the hands of trustees for the benefit of American students who wish to prepare themselves abroad for original research in physics. As there has been a scarcity of suitable candidates, the fund has increased to about thirty thousand dollars.—*The Week*.

THE new Toronto University Journal, *Festi*, made its appearance on Friday. The neat-looking little "organ" is to be "independent," "worthy of the Provincial University," would advocate "the improvement of University College by additional endowment," does not believe in co-education, and will be vigilant in its attendance to all the true interests of the University and its alumni. *Festiva sequatur*.—*The Week*.

JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, Baltimore, has had at the beginning of the session this year a Course of Lectures on "Molecular Dynamics" by Sir Wm. Thomson, of Glasgow University. Sir William returned the compliment, paid him by the University, by propounding and discussing in the lectures a new view of the wave theory of light, which had, he said, been occupying his mind for a long time. A large number of graduates and professors from all parts of the U. S. assembled at Baltimore to attend the Course.

MCGILL UNIVERSITY, Montreal, which has already received fifty thousand dollars from the Hon. Donald A. Smith for its medical department, has received another fifty thousand dollars for the establishment of a women's college in affiliation with the University. This gentleman has since been appointed Treasurer of the University. Twenty-four lady students have already taken advantage of the arrangements which the Faculty of Arts has recently made in connection with this endowment. McGill has the following number of registered students for present year: Arts 124; Applied Science, 33; Medicine, 26; Law, 26.

THE following table, taken from Vashchenko-Zakharchenk's edition of Euclid, shows, with approximate accuracy, the number of editions issued in the most important European languages during the last four centuries :—

PERIOD.	Language										
	Greek and Latin.	English.	German.	French.	Italian.	Dutch.	Spanish.	Swedish.	Russian.	Polish.	Danish.
15th Century.....	2	1	2	4	12	2	2	2	2	2	2
16th ".....	60	1	2	4	12	2	2	2	2	2	2
17th ".....	43	3	9	16	10	7	2	2	2	2	2
18th ".....	31	26	17	18	11	5	3	3	3	3	3
1800-1839.....	9	15	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1840-1879.....	95	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2

These figures show most clearly that Euclid is used as a Text Book in no important European country except Great Britain. France and Italy seem to have thrown the ancient Geometer overboard in the first of the last century. Legendre took his place. Germany remained faithful to Euclid till about the middle of the present century, but in no country is opposition to the old system so universal now.

FOR the amusement of our readers we select a few extracts from the very scholarly criticism to be found in the "Index":—

"HERE is our newly found mash, the *College Stylus*. We scarcely know what to think of it. But then it is a baby, only two months old, and yet it prattles as lively and makes as much noise as a goose around Thanksgiving. Of course we can't expect much from the youngster, and don't get even as much as we expect. For downright, childish ignorance the *Stylus* takes the bakery. How in thunder they could select from one kindergarten four such consummate snobs as edit the *Stylus* is a conundrum, a regular squaring the circle.

"BUT still we see you are cute in some things. It was a wise forethought to announce that all subscriptions must be paid in advance, and the reason we can easily divine, for if any sane man would read one number of the *Stylus*, he'd shoot any one who would dare show him another."

"WE'LL bet a postage stamp that an old maid runs the *Stylus*. If so we beg pardon, for we wouldn't, for the world, hurt the feelings of the ancient maiden."

"THE *Xavier* comes to hand at last, and is as usual "filled with nothing." The sheet looks as if all the editors were laid up with the cholera infantum, and the poor paper left to paddle its own canoe. And a mighty poor attempt it made."

THOSE who live in glass houses should never throw stones.

O YE philosophers! What is mind? No matter. What is matter? Never mind.—*Ex.*

DALHUSIENSIA.

We wish our contemporaries to note that this column is not intended or the public, but belongs exclusively to the students at present attending College, who alone are expected to understand its contents.

SCRIMMAGE in the hall! *First bell!*

PROFESSOR of Classics: "What is a Novus Homo?" Senior: "A man without ancestors?"

THE student who borrowed that note-book found it very difficult to make out the *Hanrighting*.

HEBREW Class-room. Professor: "What is always under *Koph*" (cough.) Student: "A cold, sir."

SENIOR translates "Mater tibi est" thus,— "Does your mother know you're out?"

PROFESSOR to *Lady Student*: "Will you explain that passage." No reply. "Well, sir?" Scene.— Noise under the desks.

PROFESSOR of History: "The great work of Justinian was the *codification* of the Roman law." Surprised Junior.— "What's that mean?"

FRENCH Professor to Junior: "The French people say 'Plait-it Monsieur' when addressing a gentleman, but the English say, 'What d'you say.'" Noise!

A CERTAIN law student has already learned so much that he is about to proceed against a certain manufacturer of a *bogus* moustache-producer.

ON Sabbath evening last, some of the Freshies, Juniors and Seniors, were *mis-(s)-taking* their way to Park St. Church.

PIOUS Senior, seated with other gentlemen behind the ladies of the Bible class, asks his comrade,— "Which part of the class do *you* like best?" Whist! Whist! The ladies are blushing.

"PAT," said Larry to his comrade, as they were viewing some cannon, "How do you suppose they make them things?" Pat: "Och! They just take a long hole and pour some brass or iron around it."

CITY lass: "I just hate these students, they are such an ugly crowd." But you know,— "Girls are such stuff as dreams are made of," and like dreams you must interpret them by contraries.

SCENE in Honor English Class. Student reads from Spenser:

"For all that here on earth we dreadful hold,
Be but as bugs to fearen babes withal."

Professor explains "We have that word *bugs* yet in bug-bear, but (in that sense) we have no *bugs* now." Student: "We have plenty in our house, sir?"

WHEN the Sophs assemble for Logic in the afternoon they amuse themselves by throwing kisses to the inmates of Whitehall, instead of going in to class. Why not go down and get them *fresh* instead of *second hand*!

PROFESSOR: What is the derivation of the word *tort*?

LAW-Student: The word is derived from the Latin *torquere*—'to twist.' For example—If A twists B's neck, B has an action for *tort*.

SAME PROF.: If A's dam overflows and injures B's land has B an action against A?

SAME student: No. Since no injury arises from a dam action. '*Ex damno sine injuria non oritur actio.*'

PROF. of Real Property: What is a *common recovery*?

Student: Don't know. But I know what an *uncommon recovery* is—to get back a lent umbrella. In consideration of his youth the professor spared him.

THE LAW Faculty are using their utmost endeavors to please the Sussex Representative, by arranging his classes in the early morning hours, that he *may cull* their wisest sayings when they are still fresh and vigorous; but they find the member for Antigonish unapproachable, for "he is like a Star and dwells apart."

PERSONALS.

ROBERT E. CHAMBERS, B. A., '77, is studying Civil Engineering in New York.

HOWARD H. HAMILTON, B. A., '77, still continues his business as a successful merchant in Pictou.

GEORGE A. LAIRD, B. A., '77, is farming in the North West.

COLIN PITBLADO, B. A., M. D., was home on a visit last summer, but has returned to Manitoba.

A. W. HERDMAN, B. A., is teaching school in Pictou County.

BURGESS MCKITTRICK, B. A., '77, is still the popular and successful Principal of Sydney Academy.

JOHN MURRAY, B. A., '77, is Inspector of Schools in P. E. I.

G. G. PATTERSON, B. A., '82, is principal of the High School, New Glasgow.

PROF. WILSON, of King's College, has been in town for some time.

ROBT. SEDGEWICK, Q. C., has returned from Ottawa, and resumed his lectures on Equity.

REV. RICHMOND LOGAN, M. A., is the popular pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Harbor Grace, Newfoundland.

REV. WM. MASON, B. A., '77, is working quietly and successfully as a pastor in New London, P. E. Island.

HON. A. G. ARCHIBALD, C. M. G., has been appointed Governor of this College, vice Rev. Dr. Grant, resigned.

REV. F. W. ARCHIBALD, M. A., B. D., of Truro, declined a \$2000 call to Kingston, Ontario, during the past summer.

PROF. KENNEDY of King's College, has resigned unconditionally; Prof. Wilson on condition that the rest of the faculty do so.

IN our list of Dalhousians at Pine Hill in last issue, is accidentally omitted the names of Messrs. J. R. Coffin and H. McLean, both of whom were Generals here last session.

H. CONGDON, General of '82, who is now principal of the Dartmouth High School, teaches a night school, which is attended by seventy young men and twelve girls.

ANGUS McLEOD, a General of '76, resigned last spring the principalship of the New Glasgow High School, and accepted a similar position in Kentville, which he still occupies.

R. LANDELLS, B. A., '82, who holds a good position as teacher in Woodstock, N. B., has had an attack of slow fever, from which we are glad to learn he has entirely recovered.

J. McL. OXLEY, B. A., '74, now a barrister in Ottawa, is on the high-road to literary fame. The next number of *Lippincott's Magazine* will contain an article on Sir John A. McDonald from his pen.

STANLEY T. McCURDY, B. A., '77, has deserted the ranks of the Bachelors. He was married to Miss Kate Underwood of New Glasgow, in September, and had as his "best man" the Rev. F. W. Archibald, a Dalhousie class-mate. The GAZETTE wishes him and the young lady of his choice, long life and prosperity.

DALHOUSIANS have been winning fresh laurels in London. At examinations held last July in University College, H. G. Creelman, B. A., '82 carried off the prize in Mathematics, obtaining second position among the Seniors and the second certificate. At the same examinations, Howard Murray, another brilliant Dalhousian, headed the list of Higher Seniors in Latin. We understand that Mr. Murray has also been successful in taking his B. A. degree from the University of London, at the last University examinations held in October.

CLIPPINGS.

FRESHMAN year 's the year for greenies,
Sophomore year 's the year for pranks ;
Junior year 's the year for plugging,
Senior year 's the year for ranks.

SENIOR.—“Do you know why our college is so full of learning?” Freshman.—“Of course; the Freshmen always bring a little learning here, and, as the Seniors never take any away, it naturally accumulates.”—*Ex.*

PROFESSOR.—“If you attempt to squeeze any solid body, it will always resist pressure.” Class smiles and recites examples of exceptions which prove the rule.—*Liberal.*

LONGFELLOW, said “In the world a man must be either an anvil or a hammer.” He was wrong, however. Lots of men are nothing but bellows.—*Athenæum.*

“Young man,” said the Professor, “you should not allow yourself to be guided altogether by your own opinions. You should defer to the opinion of others. Student: “But the poet says, ‘Tis madness to defer.’” Professor: “True; but the poet was Young when he said that.”—*Ex.*

COLLEGE LIFE.

Dawning hope ;
Downy chin,
Freshman mild
Meanders in.

Next year : scorn ;
Proud disdain ;
Sophomore :
Collar ; cane.

Junior see
Him next year ;
Smoketh pipe ;
Drinketh beer.

Battered cap ;
Gown in rags ;
B. A. to his
Name he tags.

RESUME.

Freshman ; Soph'more ;
Taddle : pluck !
Junior ; Senior ;
Swans-down ; Luck !—*Ex.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

W. B. Taylor, B. A., \$4.30. Dr. Weldon, \$2. Dr. Alexander, Chief Justice MacDonald, Judge James, MacLeod Harvey, D. M. C. D. Clarke, A. D. Gunn, A. W. Lewis, W. Fulton, Geo. E. Robinson, Thos. LePage, Hector McInnis, \$1 each. J. T. Blair, D. Macdonald, 20 cents each, S. W. McLennan, W. Macrae, 10 cents each.

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