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MAINE'S ANCIENT LAW.

The shades of night were falling fast,
As slyly up the street there passed
A youth, who bore, 'mid snow and ice,
A treatise with the plain device,
Maine's Ancient Law.

His brow was sad; his eye peeped round,
Whene'er he heard the slightest sound;
And 'neath his coat he cutely stowed
That good but stolen little load,
Maine's Ancient Law.

In happy homes he saw the light
Of students' fires gleam warm and bright;
And still beneath his coat he took
The Law School Library's well-known book,
Maine's Ancient Law.

"Restore the book!" McCully said;
"Dark lowers the tempest overhead,
Old Hughes, my boy, is on the scent!"
But on the breeze one answer went,
Maine's Ancient Law.

"Oh hasten," Francis said, "and tramp
Back with the book, you little scamp!"
A tear stood in his dark brown eye,
And still he answered with a sigh,
Maine's Ancient Law.

"Beware old Hughes's angry scowl!
Beware our Hanwright's dismal growl!"
This was the Junior's last good-night;
And Albert said in dismal fright,
Maine's Ancient Law.

The following day the students search;
The book has flown its wonted perch;
Unscriptural words now fill the air,
And far away is lisp'd the prayer,
Maine's Ancient Law.

Another search; and he was found
Behind that treatise terror-bound,
Grasping in his hand of ice
The book that bore this plain device,
Maine's Ancient Law.

"The game is up; what brought you here?"
He spoke again in rage and fear,—
"It's bad; it is a fearful sell:
But ne'er again; I'd see in —
Maine's Ancient Law."

J. A. C.

THE TENDENCIES OF THE AGE IN PHILOSOPHICAL AND RELIGIOUS THOUGHT.

The following address was delivered by C. H. Cahan, President of Dalhousie Literary Club, at an interesting session of that Society last Friday evening: "In attempting to speak on a subject which presents aspects so numerous and apparently so diverse, it seems difficult to decide upon the trend of thought that will prove most pleasant and profitable for our discussion this evening. This nineteenth century now drawing near its close, has witnessed most marvellous progressions in every domain of knowledge or science. The soul of man seems to have aroused from the lethargy of centuries and burst asunder the bonds which had hitherto circumscribed and annulled its activities, and has asserted as its peculiar prerogative, the right of penetrating in every direction the mysterious regions of the unknown; and it has not only compelled the whole universe of nature to surrender her secrets, but it has made these subservient to the highest interests of man. The discovery of the hitherto almost unknown natural forces of steam and electricity, the invention and perfection of multifarious kinds of tools and machinery, and the application of these to satisfy the ever varying and ever increasing wants of mankind, have changed the whole face of nature, have brought the most distant parts of the earth into intimate connection, and by affording vastly improved modes of travel and intercourse have proved an important factor in that unification of interests which makes possible a British or German empire, a United States of America or even a

Dominion of Canada; while on the other hand, they have tended to engender in the heart of mankind a cosmopolitan spirit that deems every man brother, regardless of his nationality or the moral or physical circumstances of his environment,—a spirit that awakened the missionary and charitable enterprises of Christianity, changed and moulded anew the character of its dogmatic teaching, developed an improved code of international laws and mitigated the barbarity and inhumanity of warfare, thereby presaging the return of that golden age when war-drums beat no longer and battle flags are furled. The enlightened application of sounder principles of political economy, involving a more thorough system of common school, industrial, technical and collegiate education, and the advance of medical science which is staying the ravages and repelling the attacks of disease, and mitigating all sorrow and suffering, a portion of their birth-right which mortals will only too gladly repudiate,—all of these tendencies, which must ultimately merge in a complete community of class interests, I must leave to others of this club who have been considering this subject from the standpoint of social or political economists.

The increased attention which has been given to the development of the physical sciences, and which facilitated the domination of a materialistic philosophy has already necessitated more careful reflection upon the assumed underlying notions and premises with which those sciences start out—reflection which has been given and is being by the self-confessed metaphysician or by the physicist, oftentimes unwittingly and unwillingly metamorphosed into a metaphysician. In fact, so mutually indispensable have these sciences become, that the interests of the one are inseparably bound up with those of the other; and any advance or development in the one cannot be made without and must ever correspond with the relative advancement of the other. The physicist who stands in the front rank of his profession will rely more and more upon the effective work of the metaphysician, while the metaphysician, on the other hand, will no longer remain in the privacy of his study and project useless and inane theories of cognition; his first question will *not* be, 'How do I know?' but what do I know? and as one whose sublime prerogative it is to reflect closely upon those notions and conceptions which form the substratum and support of all natural science, he must thoroughly acquaint himself with the latest results of all scientific investigation. But, as I think that I have already hinted, if increased and assiduous attention be given to the study of

metaphysics, it must necessarily result in the decline of all purely materialistic philosophy,—a philosophy which finds its coarsest expression in the saying of Vogt, that "thought stands in same relation to the brain, as bile to the liver or urine to the kidneys," while at the same time the rapidly increasing data made manifest by psychological research seem to tend toward a synthesis or unification of the materialistic and spiritualistic theories regarding the mind or soul of man. For it is apparent that in this present life, "the physical state of corporeal elements constitutes the conditions upon which our mental state necessarily depends" (Lotze); and the additional fact, that intellection and feeling are concurrent with, or the concomitants of vibrations or motions in the filaments of nerve and brain, opens up a new field of inquiry into the action and interaction, the reciprocal relations and conditions of both,—a *tertium quid* the investigation of which must throw a new and intense light upon the darkness which renders metaphysical and psychological investigations necessarily tedious and slow.

Psychology is a field of enquiry that receives marked attention at this day, and will doubtless receive more in the near future. The "*cogito ergo sum*" promulgated by Descartes is in this day construed into the proposition that *I* have thoughts, emotions and feelings, and in virtue of this fact I must necessarily postulate the existence of this unity of consciousness as an entity, a reality, a mind, a soul. Laying aside all preconceived notions of design,—as it were, depolarizing our minds in this regard,—a careful and prolonged study of the capacities and activities of the soul cannot but result in the premising of certain hypotheses, which inevitably incomplete and, in an absolute sense, fictitious, may nevertheless prove as satisfactory for the attainment of practical results as any other hypotheses in domain of physics or chemistry. Moreover, if I may employ a crude illustration, as the size, form and appearance of some huge Leviathan of a pre-historic age may be readily determined from an inspection of its fossil remains, so from a knowledge of the capacities of the soul, and consequently from a knowledge of the conditions to which the unknown must be submitted in order to become known, there may be acquired a knowledge of that which may satisfy these conditions. In this wise we gain a two-fold view of all matters of metaphysical, ethical and theological interest, by viewing them in a two-fold aspect, as apart from ourselves and as satisfying certain conditions in order to become known by us. I presume that ethics and more especially religious beliefs will be affected by

psychological studies. Religious dogmas have hitherto gained more or less credence and sanction from the consideration that they originated in and were promulgated by the arbitrary authority of a Supreme Divinity. The theologian was apparently satisfied when he could prove to the satisfaction of a numerical majority of some council or synod that a certain limited number of books, combined in the old and new testament, were given by divine inspiration. In consequence, innumerable works on christian evidences and the like have attempted to evince this fact by the contemplation of so-called evidences, external and internal, efforts that have not been altogether in vain, for any theory or hypothesis or belief that is presented for the acceptance of mankind must at least be consistent with itself; but more than this TO BE ACCEPTED, it must carry with itself and for itself the full and irresistible assurance of its own inherent worth and truth. What is a reason? what a reason for a reason? but an appeal in the ultimate instance to a recognized fact,—recognized and accepted as such because it irresistibly constrains us to give it credence in virtue of an innate compatibility between it and the constitution of, or the necessary forms of thought of the human soul. Religious beliefs, I affirm, will be accepted, if accepted, from the fact that they bear a relation to our necessary forms of thought, precisely similar to that which the axioms of mathematics bear to the same, and ON THE SAME GROUND WILL BOTH BE ACCEPTED. Moreover, I may be allowed to presume that every thought whenever and by whomsoever uttered will be accepted as veracious as an inspiration, if it but harmonize with these laws of thought and be perfectly adapted to our capacities for belief; and on no other ground can any inspiration whatsoever be accepted.

From these considerations I assume that in the present and future, even more than in the past, the work of the poet and seer will be more highly and more intelligently appreciated, for it will be his own divine mission to discover and to indicate to his fellowmen ultimate truths hitherto unrecognized and unknown, and to vindicate these by a direct appeal to the consciousness of mankind. On such grounds must such momentous questions as the immortality of the soul and the like be ultimately settled, and by no misleading and unwarranted processes of chop-logic. "For nothing worthy proving can be proven, nor yet disproven."

Before closing I would like to call your attention for a moment to the opposition that is supposed to exist between the teachings of the Christian church and that of the scientific schools

of our day. The fault lies on both sides. The mathematician and scientist are so accustomed to deal with undisputed facts, and reach conclusions by processes of deduction indisputably logical that they inevitably become dogmatic, and sometimes even insolently obtrusive, forgetting that other truths may be reached without the aid of logic, themselves as axiomatic in their nature as the fundamental premises and principles of the sciences. But in a more marked degree is this supposed contradiction or contrariety due to the culpable ignorance of lamentable imbecility of many who pose as pulpit preachers and by their theologic-ethico-metaphysico-scientific harangues endeavour to annihilate the most authentic results of scientific investigation, apparently unaware that they have no business to criticise in such matters unless, being possessed of the essential natural qualifications, they have, by years of careful preparatory study, rendered themselves competent to do so, and then probably the inclination will be wanting. In what conceivable way can it infringe on the prerogatives of the preacher or teacher of practical righteousness, if one teach as well that this world has been evolved from chaos by successive progressions extending over aeons of time, or that man, the lord of creation, has developed from the archetypal ape through successive and imperfect gradations by the survival and transmission of each superior quality? Certainly it is sufficient for his purpose that the world *is*, and man is constituted as he finds them, while at the same time his soul should be filled with an infinitude of thankfulness that his lot has been cast in this matured stage of development, in which he may be actually, not merely potentially, a man,—a human being and not a monkey.

I am convinced that it is one of the noteworthy tendencies of this age, that all thoughtful minds are recognizing the fact that there can be no disparity or opposition between the teachings of those sciences which penetrate the domains of external nature, those which investigate the complex constitution of the soul of man,—which by making apparent what should be, enable us to determine what is and will be,—and on the other hand the pure and unadulterated forms of any religious teaching that effectively influences the inmost springs of the soul's action, bringing it into the most loving and reverential sympathy and communion with the supreme and divine All-Father."

Arras 1877, Latin will be an optional subject at Harvard.

TWO WEEKS IN CAPE BRETON.

It was toward the end of June, 1885, that we set out on our long-desired trip through a portion of the island of Cape Breton. Proceeding by steamer from Pictou to Port Hood, we landed about dusk on the scene of our future blisters.

On the following morning we made our first campaign. Arrayed in our regalia we trudged off, objects of wonder and amazement to many. A few steps along our way we passed a brick church, whose sides were giving way. It would appear that even in Cape Breton splits occur in churches. As a natural result of walking during a hot day, we soon became very thirsty. Accordingly we asked for buttermilk at a small farm house, which was kindly given us. This distance brought us about a mile beyond Mabou bridge (i. e., in Glendyer). Here we spent our first Sabbath in Cape Breton under the roof of a hospitable friend of my companion.

The country from Port Hood to Mabou is almost wholly uninteresting; but from the latter place on for some miles the scenery is worthy of more than a passing notice. Glendyer, situated in a very charming little valley, has been favoured by nature not only with this admirable, picturesque scenery, but also with some considerable fertility.

Early in the week we again set out—this time in the direction of Broad Cove and Lake Ainslie. Not very far from the former place my companion very gallantly assumed the duties of footman by opening a gate for a gentleman in his carriage. But, contrary to expectation, thanks were offered instead of a seat in the carriage. At Broad Cove we called upon a Pine Hill student of theology, who was at that time ministering to the spiritual welfare of the people in that region. Here again we were the recipients of no little kindness. Greatly refreshed we continued our journey. It was with comfort in my mind and agony in my bones that I at last saw Lake Ainslie coming into view.

While at the Lake we were under great obligations to a Presbyterian minister for his hospitality.

The first portion of this last tramp possesses,

as I have said before, a good view. But the latter portion is not worth mentioning.

The next morning saw us wending our way over the mountain toward Middle River. As mud was abundant we were at times obliged to try our skill at jumping. The width of one pool, however, proved just twice the distance of my jump. After a time we came upon two other travellers, a man and a boy, who by turns made use of a somewhat ancient horse. Evidently the man was anxious to show his abilities as a pedestrian, as he in vain walked faster and faster in order to get ahead of us. But all in vain. In spite of a most alarming conflict with a tremendous bull dog we arrived safe and sound at the Upper Settlement of Middle River early in the afternoon.

Instead of remaining at Middle River for the night we kept on toward Ross' River, Margaree. This portion of the journey, I understand, is one of the finest portions of Cape Breton. And it certainly is magnificent. About midway from Upper Settlement of Middle River to Ross' River, Margaree, the road takes a sudden bend and you come in view of a chain of lakes of small size. The scene presented by these lakes, with mountains coming down to the water's edge clothed with a mixed forest, is certainly well worth witnessing. Leaving these lakes behind us we soon came to Ross' River where we put up for the night.

We retraced our steps to Middle River on the following morning. Again we had the pleasure of partaking of Cape Breton's renowned hospitality. Our first fishing on our tramp was at this place. But our fortune in this line will elicit no applause.

From here the next advance was toward Baddeck and on to St. Ann's and English town. As this day's tramp promised to be a long one we did not hesitate about accepting a drive that was offered us. Time did not permit us to remain long in Baddeck, and, consequently, we kept on, bearing an invitation to spend the following Sabbath in that place on our return. Baddeck Bay looked too tempting to pass it without having a swim. Our enjoyment, however, was suddenly terminated by the threatening

aspect of the clouds. With the reflection that it was easier to put on clothes when dry than when wet, we quickly dressed ourselves and resumed our journey. Nor were we in any way disappointed in our expectation of a storm, for we had gone but a little distance when rain came down with all the force possible. Our condition can be more easily imagined than described. This state of things, happily for us, did not last long, and we soon became quite comfortable again. After a kind welcome at the hands of St. Ann's we made our way toward English town. Having reached this latter place in good season we made ready for the night.

Unfortunately our intended exploration around St. Ann's Bay at English town was prevented by a storm. Under these vexatious circumstances, and with only one night's experience of this town, we, after expressions of gratitude for kindness, took our leave. Our friends in St. Ann's very kindly drove us a good portion of the way back to Baddeck. As we parted we were all considerably amused by the strange antics of a horse, whose master, firmly seated on the saddle, was in vain trying to urge him on. The animal for some time would do anything but go ahead, so anxious did he seem of making an exhibition of himself.

Our stay this time in Baddeck although short was exceedingly pleasant. A few very pleasant weeks indeed might be spent in summer at this town, presenting as it does a varied source of amusement.

In order to get to Whycomagh we had to take a longer route than is usually taken, as the Baddeck bridge was, at that time, down. As we came to the Lower Middle River bridge we found it was down also; but an apology for a ferry had been established. Its poor character was plainly proved by an attempt to convey a horse across, which attempt almost ended in an accident. A few miles from Whycomagh, while I was in vain striving to overtake my companion, a friendly native came to my assistance with his horse and carriage. After he had ascertained, by a series of questions, who we were, he made the discovery that he was well acquainted with my companion. "Ah," said he,

"if I had known before who your companion was I would not have taken you up."

Here at Whycomagh is to be seen without doubt the second best scenery on our trip, namely that from Salt Mountain. While going up this, one feels as though only some extraordinary reward could repay him for the toil. On its summit we had a bird's eye view of our whole tramp from Baddeck, and I might almost say of our whole tramp in Cape Breton.

Our fishing excursion from this town to Lake Ainslie proved a lamentable failure as a fishing excursion. My reputation would be at stake should I proceed to give a minute account of my display of skill. My trout were few and far between. One at a distance would have thought that my success was grand; but on coming closer it could have been easily seen that instead of taking a trout I was taking a tree off my hook. It was not so with my companion who at times caught trout faster, I was going to say than he took them off his hook. Such was our second fishing expedition.

At a pace that was more suitable to our horse than ourselves we returned to Whycomagh. On arriving there I found, much to my disappointment, that the steamer by which I had intended to return to Baddeck had come and gone during our absence. Having been thus served by this irregular boat, I was compelled, in order to fulfil my plans, to take stage to the Strait of Canso.

Leaving my companion in good hands I mounted the coach. About this experience (that in the coach) I can say little of pleasantness. Imagine the comfort in being compelled to hold on with both hands and brace one's self with both feet in order to prevent being bounced out. Notwithstanding this the coach landed me all complete in Port Hastings some time after dark.

Next morning I crossed the Strait, after exactly two weeks' stay in Cape Breton.

In closing I express, in behalf of my companion and myself, very great gratitude to those who showed so much kindness to us on our journey.

FREDERICK.

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EDITORS:

A. W. MACRAE, '86. J. W. MACKENZIE, '88.
V. COFFIN, '87. A. E. MILLIKEN, Law, '86.
J. C. SHAW, '87. W. A. LYONS, Law, '87.
J. E. CREIGHTON, '87. } *Financial Editors.*
J. W. FRASER, Law, '87. }

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THE Law Students seem to be attracting about as much, if not more attention now than young aspirants to any profession generally receive, and we do not think it out of the way to say they not only receive but merit it as well.

It does not require a man with a hoary head to look back to the time when the system of education, if indeed it could be called a system at all, was as unsatisfactory to the students themselves as it was to the barristers. They simply spent four or five years in a lawyer's office reading in a desultory way whatever books might strike their fancy or suit their convenience and patiently waiting for the ending of their apprenticeship. Nor were the students to blame in this matter.

No course was presented to them and they had in a great measure to trust to luck for their success. The written papers submitted to them contained more or less questions gleaned at hap-hazard from text-books, and they realized

that chance must necessarily have much to do with the question of their being able to give correct answers. But a marked change has taken place even since the Law School has been established in Halifax for the Maritime Provinces. The students cannot now complain that they have to drag out a miserable long time in an office containing nothing but wrinkled old briefs, writs and dusty law book—that they don't know what to read if they were so inclined—nor that they don't know how to read even if they were told what books would best meet their requirements.

In New Brunswick, not very long ago, a committee from the Barristers' Society drafted the following course for the students in that Province:—

FIRST YEAR.

Blackstone's Commentaries, vols. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
Contracts—Text-books Addison, Chitty, Story.
In connexion with the work on Contracts are to be read the following statutes: Frauds and Perjuries, Limitation of Personal Actions.
Bills and Notes—Text-books Chitty, Story, Byles.
Torts—Text-books Addison, Hiliard.

SECOND YEAR.

Real Property—Text-book Washburn, to be read with statutes relating to limitation of real actions; registry of deeds, landlord and tenant, and property of married women.
Pleading—Text-books Chitty, vol. 1, Stephens.
Statutes—Relating to Supreme and County Courts, to be read in connexion with Harrison's Common Law Procedure Act and notes; Earle's Common Law, Rules and Notes to Bullen & Leake, with references when necessary to Archibald's or Tidd's Practice.
Smith's Mercantile Law.
Benjamin on Sales.

THIRD YEAR.

Broom's Legal Maxims.
Wills and Executors—Text-books Redfield, Williams on Executors; Jarman and Theobald on Wills. These are to be read with Statutes relating to Probate Court, Wills and Intestate Estates.
Equity Jurisprudence—Story, to be read in connection with Equity Acts, and Earle's Equity Rules.
Shipping—McLaughlin or Abbott.

FOURTH YEAR.

Marine Insurance—Arnold.
Evidence—Text-books Greenleaf, Taylor. To be read with statutes relating to evidence.
Smith's Leading Cases.
Story on Equity Pleading.
Practice in obtaining the following writs—Quo Warranto, Certiorari, Mandamus and Prohibition.
Statutes relating to Justices' Parish Courts, Absconding and Absent Debtors, Summary Convictions and Indictable Offences. In addition to the Statutes referred to particularly, the Statutes of this Province and Dominion, of a general character, are to be read.

When more than one text-book is prescribed, the books to be used are optional with the barrister with whom the student is studying. Graduates of recognized universities, whose course is a three years' one, will also be expected to pass an examination in the subjects prescribed above.

In conclusion the report says:—"This course is a comparatively full one and will doubtless give satisfaction." As to the first part of the sentence we fully agree, it is full and no mistake, but that it will give satisfaction we are a little inclined to question. Time or space will not permit of any extended criticism just here, but one significant fact appears to us, and that is, why is it this course differs so much as regards the text-books prescribed from the course laid down and followed in the prominent Law Schools in this country and in England? We think we might condemn some of the books with good grace on the ground of being superfluous, and others because no student, unless he be something extraordinary, could understand or comprehend books of their character.

That the Law School is the best judge of the course to be taken and the books to be used is obvious from the recognition these institutions are receiving as places for legal instruction; and that our Law School is not behind in being made the subject of high praise in this direction, the following reference from the *Quarterly Review*, London, will conclusively show:—

"We have received the Calendar of the Law School of Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S., for the current academical year and are glad to notice this rule: 'Moot Courts will be held frequently, and will be presided over by a member of the faculty or by some practising barrister. Every candidate for a degree will be required to take part.' Truly Nova Scotia is in advance of the mother country in this matter. When will the good example now set by Gray's Inn be taken up by the Inns of Court as a whole, and the Moot Court revived as an integral part of our Law School."

In this country (Canada and the United States) the great demand for more thorough education in the law is evidenced by the fact since 1850 thirty-five new law schools have been established,—an average of one law school a year for the past thirty-five years; the whole number previously existing having been but nine. In England for the past ten years the discussions both in and out of Parliament have well nigh exhausted the question of legal education, so far as it relates to the English bar; and, did the limits of this paper permit, it would be interesting to give a detailed account of these controversies. The exclusive character of the legal profession has given rise to much comment. Certainly there is much to be said in favor of restricting the practice of the law to men who have shown

themselves qualified to be lawyers and who have therefore been admitted to a degree or status which is a sign that they understand their profession.

One of the greatest safeguards to the profession is the requirement of a definite number of years' study of the law before allowing the student to present himself for examination. At the very start this requirement prevents all persons from choosing the law as a vocation who have not the necessary time to devote to proper study of its principles and proper preparation for its practice. As a rule when young men begin the study of the law, especially where they enter some good law school, or study under a private tutor, they are full of enthusiasm. College graduates who never before have shown any particular fondness for study take hold of the law in sober earnest, and make long and rapid strides in it; and since the publication of the present excellent law-books especially written for beginners, it is surprising what a large field can be covered by a student of fair ability in a single year's hard study.

No one who has had experience in the law will deny that the best education for the profession is accomplished in the first place by the instruction afforded, the discipline enforced, the the knowledge of life and character acquired in that little world by itself, a university.

In England the great value of higher education in preparing men for the practice of the law is admitted by making a deduction in the solicitor's examination of nearly half the whole term of study in favor of college graduates. In several of the leading law schools, such as Harvard and Columbia, a strict preliminary examination is required of all who have not a college degree. In Germany, the law student who wishes to be admitted to practice must study law at a university and not till he graduates from the gymnasium. In France, the candidate must have obtained the degree of Bachelor of Letters after passing an examination in French, Latin, and Greek composition, as well as in literature, history and philosophy.

The advantages afforded by law schools for acquiring a comprehensive knowledge of the law

are now very generally appreciated by the profession and the public. There is no better preparation for the bar, in our opinion, than that afforded by a two or three years course at a good law school, supplemented by a year or more in an office of a practising lawyer. That the course in school should come before that in office we fully believe, for the great use of seeing actual practice is to realize what the rules of law really mean when applied to actual facts, and gain the power of readily applying them one's self. Now a person who does not know the rules of law can gain little or nothing from seeing them applied, but after he has completed his preliminary studies he is eager to see the business side of his profession, and will be able to observe with intelligence and with the interest of one who is about to reduce his observations to practice. This practical knowledge being in its nature local, ought to be acquired in the place where the student is to practice.

Given a good board of examiners, a proper selection of subjects for examination, and a high standard of knowledge, and it will certainly follow that the students will seek suitable instruction. It would hardly be practicable to require a law school diploma of every applicant for the public examination for the bar, but if the rules were so framed as to demonstrate to the students themselves the necessity of a thorough law school training, comparatively satisfactory results would be attained.

AN invaluable idea for a student is, that success in one shape or another is open to us all, and that he by no means consults his own interests who strives to ensure his own success by destroying the prospects of those around him. We are part and parcel of our environments and associations. From the influence of these not even the genius of Carlyle could divorce itself. Let despondency and diffidence rule the minds of the commercial class by day, and fluctuations foreboding disaster haunt them by night, and can anyone of that class be wholly free from uncomfortable thoughts? Let intellectual deadness become the characteristic of all our daily associates and our own intellect shall soon be a

corpse. Of every great man it may truly be said, "Full gladly would he learn, and quite as gladly teach." And if it is to our advantage to have intellects keen around us when we would excel by means of the extent and depth of our mental possessions, so when we wish to attain a measure of success in anything else, it is not in our interest that all around us should be destitute of what we aim at. Broadness of views and generosity of soul should be cultivated by the student for a great variety of reasons which can be summarised into "They pay."

COLLEGE NEWS.

GENERAL STUDENTS' MEETING.—Friday evening, 15th inst., the meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Stewart. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and recorded. The P. O. Committee being incapable of handing in a report, were heavily censured by the President at the expressed desire of the meeting. The entertainment committee reported that they had made the Xmas. entertainment a financial success. Messrs. Cahan and Macrae were appointed a committee to interview Dr. Schurman and ascertain whether there was any prospect of inducing him to deliver a lecture under the auspices of the students. The meeting then discussed that topic of burning interest, the Munro sleigh drive. One or two students proposed to celebrate the day by a dinner in town. After an exciting debate this proposal was voted down by a strong majority. The following committee were then appointed to manage the drive, as in past years:—The President, C. H. Cahan, W. G. Putnam, W. Brown and J. K. Henry. As there was no other business to come before the students, the chairman adjourned the meeting *sine die*.

DALHOUSIE LITERARY CLUB.—Friday evening, January 22nd, a large number of students assembled in the College Library to discuss the "Age and its Tendencies." The meeting was by far the most enthusiastic which has been held this session. Papers were read which displayed wide research, acute judgment and profound thought. As if inspired with the glowing rhetoric of the essayists, more than a dozen members took part in the subsequent discussion with a zest and energy which, we must say, but rarely characterize our college meetings. Mr. Creighton opened the question by reading a short but excellent digest of his views on our "Tendencies." Mr. Cahan followed with an exhaustive

treatise on the subject from a philosophic standpoint. Then followed a succession of speeches which showed that the students had a proper appreciation of the importance of the matter under consideration, and had decided to give full utterance to their views. E. McKay spoke well, being followed by A. W. Macrae. The next speaker was Mr. N. F. McKay, who delighted his audience with a truly witty and original speech, specially exciting mirth by his sharp criticism of a statement made by the preceding speaker. Among the other speakers were Messrs. M. G. Allison, W. Brown, J. C. Shaw, Hewitt, Matheson, &c. The meeting then considered the formation of a Glee Club. Messrs. Cahan, E. McKay and W. R. Campbell were, on motion of A. W. Macrae, appointed a committee to sound the students and consult with the gentleman who has so kindly volunteered his services as an instructor. The chairman then announced that the subject chosen by the committee for next night of meeting was "Our debt to Shakespeare." The meeting then adjourned, all feeling that they had spent a pleasant and profitable evening.

Y. M. C. A.—The annual meeting of the College Y. M. C. A. was held in No. 2 Class Room on Saturday evening, January 16th. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Nicholson. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Satisfactory reports were given by the sick visiting committee, the executive and the devotional committee. The Treasurer reported a balance on hand and the Corresponding Secretary gave a detailed account of his work. The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The result of the ballot was that the following were elected:—*President*, D. McD. Clark; *Vice-President*, W. J. McKenzie; *Corresponding Secretary*, Geo. McLeod; *Recording Secretary*, W. S. Calkin, and *Treasurer*, A. W. McLeod. The Society is to be congratulated on the wisdom which it displayed in securing as office-bearers the gentlemen chosen. They have a staff of officers, every one of whom has already shown that it is his earnest desire to render the Y. M. C. A. a power in our midst. The regular Saturday evening prayer meeting will be continued as heretofore, and it is to be hoped that the interest manifested in its success will be heightened. All students of the University will be heartily welcomed by the members at any and all of their meetings.

MONDAY evening, Jan. 11th. Dr. Alexander lectured in St. John on "Browning." We clip the following account of the lecture from a St. John exchange:—

"To the admirers of Robert Browning, as well as to the student seeking enlightenment in the mysterious passages of the works of that famous English poet, the lecture delivered last night by Professor Alexander, of Dalhousie College, Halifax, must have proved a pleasure. His subject was "Robert Browning; a Study in Poetry." The lecturer sketched briefly the epoch of Greek Sculpture, and detailed the limit within which that sculpture could influence; painting, which reached its highest capabilities with Raphael, was next reviewed, and then the drama which, so far as England was concerned, reached the highest development of which it was capable in Shakespeare. It was formerly asserted, said the lecturer, that it took a long time for the world to find its greatest men, but now railways and telegraphs carry news and opinions so rapidly that men, not yet old, have seen revolutions in thought that were not possible a century ago in two generations. In such a state of society as this might not a man of supreme genius attain supremacy in his own life time? In literary life Robert Browning was an example of this. His words were discussed by circles formed similar to those in which the works of Chaucer and Shakespeare were analysed. Browning could be only understood when studied in connection with the age in which he lived. The lecturer sustained this argument by pointing out that the surroundings were as much a controlling feature in a man's works as his natural endowments. In almost all that had gone before—sculpture, painting, the drama, man in action, the outlined form, the conflict of individual with individual was portrayed. In the works of Browning we see the expression of the inner-man, the revelation of heart, of the soul, the psychological reflections and feelings and influences portrayed or expressed. After dealing with Browning as a whole, the lecturer proceeded to consider his work as a poet, showing his greatness as well as his weakness as a writer. He analyzed some of his works, and said that the poet himself seemed to struggle with inability to express his great thoughts and feelings. It was this which made him at times harsh, unsmooth and grotesque. Professor Alexander read several selections from the poet with excellent taste, in order to illustrate both his method of composition and his form of expression, and he dwelt for a few moments on Browning's lyrical poems, explaining why these are defective. Prof. Alexander concluded by advising a study of the poet. He quoted at the outset Canon Farrer's remarks that the study of Browning had done him more good than all the sermons he had ever read; and he concluded by pointing out that if there was much in Browning difficult to be understood, the very effort to master the difficulty would be an intellectual exercise of great benefit. If Prof. Alexander did not deal with a popular theme he certainly gave a rich intellectual treat. His opening exposition was an excellent one, and his discriminating bits of criticism throughout showed him to be a man of clear and calm intellectual judgment."

Under the auspices of the Pine Hill Theological Students, the above lecture was delivered

before an appreciative audience in the Y. M. C. A. Hall January 14th.

MOOT COURT.—The last Moot Court before vacation was held on Friday, December 18th, and was presided over by F. J. Tremaine, Esq. The case of *Holden v. Steele*, an appeal to the Court *en banc*, was argued. This was an action for damages for injuries to the crops of plaintiff caused by the overflow of water in a slough situated partly on plaintiff's and partly on defendant's land. Plaintiff claimed that the overflow was due to the diversion of the surface water, which naturally ran into the slough from the land of defendant, by means of a covered drain constructed for some purpose not disclosed on the land of defendant. Defendant said that he had a natural easement for the discharge of his surface-water on plaintiff's land, and that the drain, as constructed by him, was in the ordinary course of tillage, and not an addition to the right which he naturally possessed over the land of the plaintiff. Judgment was for the plaintiff in the Court below, and the appeal was argued by Messrs. D. A. McKinnon and H. F. McLatchy for appellant, and Messrs. H. W. Rogers and E. M. Macdonald for respondent.

Mr. McKinnon contended that by the construction of the drain the mode of discharge had not been altered. That if it had been the drain was built in the course of agricultural improvement, and therefore allowable. He contended that the facts did not disclose an *injuria*. His argument also went to show that the defendant had such an easement on the land of plaintiff as would permit his using the water on his own land in the manner he did, and cited several causes in support of this proposition.

Mr. Rogers followed and contended that the maxim "*sic utere tuo ut alienum laedas*" applied. He showed that the mode of the discharge had been altered so as to cause damage, and in an able and exhaustive argument indicated that by his act defendant had lost any easement he might have possessed on the land of the plaintiff. He cited numerous cases in support of his position, and contended that no grounds had been disclosed for setting aside the verdict.

Mr. Macdonald argued that defendant had no such right over the land of plaintiff as would permit him to dispose of his surface-water as he did. He contended that whatever rights defendant might possess to drain, as he did into a water-course, he could possess no such right where a slough, as in this case, was the only receptacle for the water. He showed that an artificial water-course, such as was built, caused

the easement to be lost, and that, consequently, defendant was liable for causing a nuisance.

Mr. McLatchy ably reviewed the arguments advanced by the counsel for the respondents and entered into a discussion as to the nature of the place described as a slough, contending that from its position and character no damage resulted. He showed that the drain, as constructed by defendant, flowed into the slough on his own land, and proceeded to argue that if injury had resulted it was not due to any act of defendant which he was not legally permitted to do.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, stated that in his present opinion, the appeal should be dismissed, and the judgment confirmed, but before deciding finally, would look into and consider the causes and arguments which had been presented.

Considerable interest was manifested in the case, as all the arguments were very lengthy and exhibited great care in their preparation.

LAW FACETIÆ.

Nolle prosequi.

EXCHANGES.

THE *Varsity's* Xmas. number is the success we anticipated, and is certainly a credit to college journalism. Another holiday issue, the *Tuftonian* presents quite an elegant appearance. We notice among its contents two articles on Canadian subjects, "To Halifax and Return," and "A Canadian Sketch." Neither article, however, contain anything remarkable, unless it be the reference in the former to the Prince Edward Island type of girl as "black hair, long black eye-lashes, and muscular."

THE *McGill University Gazette* devotes a good deal of space to the subject of reforms considered necessary in the Law School. This department of the University appears to be in a somewhat languishing condition. We gather from the *Gazette's* account that the Bar in Montreal is not taking the interest in the training of its future members that the most prominent members of the profession in this city have shown, so much to their own credit and to the advancement of our Law School. The lack of funds also appears to be felt even more strongly at McGill than among ourselves. We notice with interest that McGill students are taking active steps to organize a University Volunteer Corps. Toronto, as everybody knows, has for some time possessed a similar organization, and but a short time since was thus enabled to take

an active part in the shaping of the history of our country. The leading colleges of the United States have long had such companies in their midst, and at the present time in Cornell at least, military drill is, we understand, compulsory. We mention these facts for the purpose of calling the attention of our students to the subject. We believe that the establishment of a prominent militia corps in connection with the University would be productive of no small benefit to college life. In no other way, we conceive, would that *esprit* which is so painfully lacking amongst us have a better chance of culture. Apart from physical benefits, we believe that such an institution would exert no small influence in the development of those principles of patriotism and public responsibility which we conceive to be essential to the ideal man as a member of a state. We throw out the suggestion in the hope that some among us may see their way clear towards practical steps in the matter.

WE are pleased to notice the receipt of the January number of the *Home and School Supplement*, an illustrated magazine published by a company in Toronto. It is about the only school journal we have seen much above the level of the dullest mediocrity, and seems to be meeting with the success it deserves. The articles are well-written and the illustrations good, while at the same time its declared *raison d'être* is sustained by matter which must be really of value to the teaching profession.

We have also received the following:—*Queen's College Journal, Brunonian, Adelpian, Knox College Monthly, Oberlin Review, Niagara Index, Beacon.*

PERSONALS.

BELOW is a list of those students who, having at one time or another attended Dalhousie, are now pursuing their studies at Edinburgh University.

L. M. Silver, general student of last session, is studying the secrets of the healing art at Edinburgh.

Mr. E. J. Jennings, B. A., a general of the session 80-81, and a former student at the Halifax Medical College, is studying medicine in Edinburgh.

J. J. Miller, B. Sc. '85, who last year studied at McGill and who was one of the Dalhousians who volunteered for active service during the North-West rebellion, is studying medicine at Edinburgh University.

W. Aiton, B. A. '85, who graduated with first-class honours in classics, is, we are given to understand, devoting himself to philosophic studies. Mr. Aiton was an earnest student, succeeding in winning during his Arts course \$700 in scholarships and the Governor-General's gold medal.

A. Thomson, who was a general student at Dalhousie for two sessions, is studying medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

A. Morrow, who for several sessions was a general student in Dalhousie, and who was for some time a student at the Halifax Medical College, is spending this session in Edinburgh as a "faithful son of the Father of Medicine."

Messrs. Fuller, Wade, &c., the gentlemen who are mentioned in the following letter, were last year students in Dalhousie College.

To the Editor of the Herald:

SIR,—Messrs. Fuller, Wade, McDonald and Cox, Nova Scotia medical students, who are attending Bellevue hospital medical college, hearing of the arrival of Sir John A. Macdonald, per S. S. Oregon from England, called upon and were most courteously received by him at the Windsor hotel, N. Y. He stated that he was in most excellent health, and that his passage across the Atlantic was a most agreeable one, being, as he said, a "regular summer passage." Sir John is 70 years old, and judging from his general appearance, we think that we will have the benefit of his statesmanship for some years to come. When asked about English affairs, he said "the English government is in a most unhappy position. Both parties are weak, and tho' the Marquis of Salisbury is in a minority the chances are about even that he will for the present carry on the government of the country, although it requires a strong party, no matter how bad, (he said, laughingly) to do so successfully. My opinion is that there will not be an early dissolution there, for they have just had a hard fight and do not want to be thrown into a general election again very soon." Other less interesting topics were briefly discussed, when fearing an intrusion on his time, we bade Sir John good bye, receiving his "blessing" in the following words: "I am always pleased to meet the people from the maritime provinces; many happy days I have spent in Halifax; I hope you will become eminently successful in your profession and honourably wear the mantle that was worn before you by Paget and Sir Ashley Cooper. Good bye."

F. W. C.

Bellevue hospital medical college, N. Y.

"COLLEGE SONGS"

In everything that enters into the make up of acceptable College Song books, those published by Oliver Ditson & Co. are unquestionably superior to all others. "Cambridge Collegiana" (\$1.00) an elegant volume, containing a complete collection of American and Foreign Students songs, at once took its place as the song book *par excellence* years ago. After twenty or more editions, as the result of frequent and careful revisions, (as remarked by the *Springfield Republican*) it remains the standard book of its kind and will probably so continue for years to come. Not long ago, to meet the demand for a cheaper edition, the house issued "Student Life in Song" (\$0.50) with a charming introduction by Charles Dudley Warner and containing choice selections from the larger book including all the foreign student and miscellaneous songs.

To these favorite books has been added a third, the

popularity of which is attested by the fact that every edition has been exhausted as fast as printed. This book, "College Songs" (mailed free for fifty cents) is unquestionably the best as well as the cheapest of its kind. It contains not only a selection of the best "old songs," but a splendid collection of new songs recently introduced into College circles, most of which are copyrighted and can be found in no other collection. Among them are such capital ones as "Funiculi," "Paddy Duffy's Cart," "Darling Clementine," "In the Morning by the Bright Light," "Irish Christening," "Emmet's Lullaby," "McSorley's Twins," "Spanish Cavalier," "Solomon Levi," "Carve dat Possum," "To the Bravest," (quartette) "Rosalie," "Good bye, my Lover, Good bye," "What Beams so Bright," and many more choice gems.

One of the best features of this, and the books first mentioned, is that all of the soles have piano accompaniments.

That these books should excel others of their kind in value, is not surprising in view of the fact that their editor has had at his disposal the copyright material and other facilities of the largest music publishing house in the world. Those who desire the best College song books should see to it that they have the imprint of Oliver Ditson &

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