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SOME OLD CONVOCATIONS.

As convocation day draws nigh with "all its pomp, pride, and circumstance," some students and graduates might wish to have some account of convocations in the olden time. To gratify this desire I have searched old newspapers and obtained their descriptions of the three first convocations. These are here given. During the brief period that Dalhousie College was first in operation (1838-'43) as far as I can gather both from oral and written testimony, there was only one formal opening. This took place on January 31st, 1843, and the ceremonies performed and addresses given are thus described and reported in the *Day Star* of the next day:

"Pursuant to notice, the session of this Institution was opened yesterday at two o'clock, when the hall of the Institution (the present lecture room in Chemistry) was filled by an anxious and attentive audience. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, and Lady Falkland, were there—as also the Members of the Councils, the Speaker and Members of the Assembly, His Worship the Mayor, several of the Aldermen and other members of the corporate body, and though last, not least, many of the fair daughters of Acadia.

"The Rev. Dr. McCulloch, Principal of the College, delivered the opening address, in which he entered largely into the vast advantages and benefits which education was calculated to impart, and the high destiny to which man, through the cultivation and extension of the faculties opened was capacitated to attain."

He maintained that the time had passed when men considered that rank and wealth entitled them to a monopoly of intelligence, and that it was sufficient for the lower orders to read their Bible, obey their superiors, and discharge the duties of their several avocations in life—when they were considered by the wealthy and the powerful as merely links in the chain of creation between them and the lowest order of animated nature—when the great and the rich thought, like those who reared the pyramids of Egypt,

to raise a monument of fame, built on the degradation of their fellow-men.

"The Rev. Professor McIntosh next addressed the audience, taking a summary view of the vast accession to human knowledge, comfort, and wealth, which the cultivation of natural and experimental philosophy, and the sciences based thereon, had given to the world, alluding particularly to the practical results which had followed the application of such studies, in the adaptation of steam to so many of the most important purposes of life,—preparing and putting together the requisite material, and then ploughing with them the ocean by its own power—grinding for man his corn, performing his various employments, and leaving him little more than a spectator of its wondrous powers. The Rev. gentleman further alluded to the influence of literature in refining the mind and softening the asperities of life; and concluded with a prophetic hope that some of those who shall matriculate within those walls may hereafter have their names recorded by the golden pen of Fame on the imperishable pages of history.

"His Excellency Lord Falkland then arose, and in a neat and appropriate speech conveyed to Rev. Dr. McCulloch and his co-adjutor, on behalf of himself and the other governors of the Institution, the high sense of the gratification they had derived from the addresses delivered by them on this occasion. His Excellency also added that he embraced the present opportunity of expressing the warm interest he took in the welfare of the College, and his earnest and anxious desire for its success; and that any suggestions which the Rev. Principal should make, that might tend to the improvement of the Institution, would always receive the attention of his Lordship, and his active co-operation in carrying out such views as would be likely to advance the interests of the College and the Province, to the fullest extent in his power.

"In reply to these remarks from His Excellency, the Rev. Dr. McCulloch stated that he should endeavor to merit support by acting, as he had hitherto done, in the capacity of a *Father* as well as a *Teacher* of the pupils committed to his care for instruction."

In 1856 when Goreham College was united with the High School, then being carried on by

the Governors of Dalhousie, an effort was made to raise the status of the School to that of a college. The arrangement that was made was singularly unpopular, was condemned in no uncertain terms by sacred and secular press, and because of this we presume very short and imperfect accounts of the formal opening are given. The longest is that of the *Morning Chronicle* for October 21st, 1856, and it I quote.

"The opening of Dalhousie College under the new arrangement which secures the services of five Professors, took place yesterday in the Hall of the Mechanic's Institute. The Hon. Attorney General (now Sir Wm. Young) presided, and Hugo Reid, Esq., the Principal, delivered a very interesting address, which we suppose will find its way to the Press in some shape.

"The new course of instruction was formally declared open by the Attorney General."

I may say that this inaugural address of Mr. Reid's was afterwards published in full in the *Morning Chronicle* in its issues of October 23rd and 25th. If Mr. Reid's claim to celebrity was based on this address alone, I hazard the assertion that he would not be regarded as either a very clever or a very learned man. The College as a college only continued in operation for one season. In consequence there was only the one Convocation; and until 1867 there never was any formal closing.

Since 1863 when a new order of things began every session has been formally opened. The best description of the proceedings at the convocation in the fall of that year is given in the *Nova Scotian* of November 16th, 1863, but that account is too long for citation here. We consequently quote from the *Sun* of Nov. 11th:

"If we could augur from the proceedings of yesterday, we certainly say that the opening prospects of Dalhousie College were remarkably good. There were gathered in the lecture room of the Institution, a large number of our most respectable and intelligent citizens. His Honor the Administrator of the Government presided. He was accompanied by his staff, and surrounded on the platform by a large army of our prominent men. His Honor the Chief-Justice, as Chairman of the Governors, made the pleasing announcement to the audience that His Excellency Major-General Doyle had consented to preside on the occasion.

"His Excellency then opened the proceedings as follows: 'I have been requested by the members of the Government and the Governors of Dalhousie

College, to preside at this meeting to-day, and it has afforded me great pleasure to comply with their wishes, because I am informed that this College will in no respect be hostile to the other educational establishments in the Province. I am also desirous thus to testify, so long as I am entrusted with the Government of this Province, my anxiety to do all in my power to forward its interests, and I know of no better means of improving the general condition of any people than by affording them every facility for receiving a good education. * * * I look with great interest to the future prosperity of this College. I am aware that for several reasons it has hitherto failed to obtain the patronage of the public; but I sincerely hope that the steps now taken to obtain Professors of high repute, and the exertions which have been made to remove the causes which have led to previous failures, may meet with success in all future efforts; and I trust it may turn out that the retrograde movements which have occurred have been simply the *reculer pour mieux sauter*. Let *aucto splendore* be its motto henceforth; and wishing it every success, I shall now leave the Honorable Chief Justice, one of the Governors of the College, to enter more into detail in reference to the method with which it is proposed to bring to perfection this valuable institution—and the Principal will also favor us with the inaugural address.'

"His Honor the Chief Justice, as chairman of the Governors of the College, then delivered a brief but eloquent address, in which he reviewed the past history of the institution since its foundation, referring to its varied difficulties, and dwelling on the pleasing prospect of future usefulness.

"He was followed by Professor Ross, the Principal of the College, who in a clear fine tone read a most interesting and instructive address."

The reader of these descriptions will not fail to notice the entire omission of any reference to the students or their behaviour. From this one would infer that the gatherings must have been eminently proper and pious, such as the Convocation of last spring was. Let us be glad that the students now have no mean part on the programme, and that it is by their efforts that variety and excitement befitting such occasions are supplied.

GEO. PATTERSON, JR.

THERE are nearly 4,000 students at Edinburgh University this year. 2,000 are Medicals, the remainder are Arts, Law and Divinity students.

THE Edinburgh University students are erecting at a cost of \$75,000 a *Students' Union*, after the plan of the *Unions* at the English Universities. It is to contain a Library, Gymnasium, Reading, Dining and Club rooms.

A CRITIQUE.

HAVING received a large volume of poetry from the Laureate of Potatoville, and having been requested to criticize the same I now remove my coat and proceed to comply with the author's civil request. He begins with an invitation to the world to read his modest work. I quote the opening verse:—

"Come saints and sinners—sinners mostly—
All who dwell upon the earth;
Come all ye everlasting grinners
Read my book and learn its worth."

I hesitate to criticise sharply yet this is decidedly unpromising. It would have suited the public taste much better if the last two words of the first line had been omitted. The introduction of an element heretofore unknown in poetry, viz., truth, is calculated to call forth sharp criticism.

Again it would have been better to have said Buy my book instead of "Read my book" in the last line. Poetical works, when fashionably bound, are considered as nice ornaments; they are seldom read. That the author is endowed with more than an ordinary share of descriptive power is apparent from the following:—

"Like some peak tremendous towering
O'er a little cot beneath,
Stood John L., his eyebrows lowering
As he gazed at Billy Keith.

Then of sudden cannon-ball like
Right on little Billy's nose,
Thud! a mashing monstrous man-strike
Lit, and Billy's feet arose."

Attention may also be called to the striking simile in the above and the very fine Alliteration in the following:—

"Wayward, winding, winsome water,
Babbling, bubbling, boiling brook,
Thoughtless to the brink I totter
Tumble in—then stop to look."

There is something terribly pathetic in the foregoing; to learn of an old gentleman so enamoured of the beauties of nature that he will stumble into a brook and remain seated on the bottom gazing at the "speckled beauties" swimming around him, causes the hearts of all lovers of nature to pulsate more rapidly and

makes them yearn to grasp him by the hand and swear eternal friendship.

Follow again the subtle reasoning in "*The Fifteen Puzzle*." The last eight lines will serve for the purpose of illustration:—

"His brain expands; his head grows large,
He grasps the squares with frantic haste
His desk seems rolling like a barge
On troubled seas: but he would taste
The victor's joy. I've got it! Ah!
Thirteen, fifteen, fourteen, No!
And now he's singing Tra la la
In an asylum near Lepreaux."

The last line clearly evinces the fact that the author is a poet born. Note the easy sacrifice of truth for the sake of poetry; none of our "made poets" would dare to assert that there is an asylum near Lepreaux, their idea of poetical license is to scatter a few ungrammatical sentences and uninvited words indiscriminately through the mixture which they are pleased to call poetry; at the same time they strictly adhere to the rigid rules regulating measure, often dishing up discriptions of the most uncouth objects in clear cut measured syllables, causing the matter treated of to appear as much misplaced as would a chimney sweep driving home in an elegant carriage from a professional engagement. Adhere to rhythm whatever such adherence may compel you to sacrifice is my advice to a young poet, and above all clothe your subject in such language as is befitting thereto. I quote the following as complying with the above rule:—

"THE COUNTRY J. P."

"I sit in state at my home-made table
With paper, and pens, and a bottle of ink,
I examine witnesses well as I'm able
And copy as evidence—what I think.
I treat both alike the accused and accuser
If either asks favor I answer them nay,
At the close I assume the large airs of a bruiser
And judgment for plaintiff is all I say."

And the following:—

"CONDENSATION."

"They came 'neath my window night by night,
Near midnight they would their songs commence
And keep them up till the morning light;
Though I kindly bade them please condense.

It may be they know not what condense meant,
For they stayed still longer at each offence.
Then I bought a gun with malicious intent
And the double choke bore made the shot condense.

That night I stealthily crept around
And reached the end of the low board fence;
When I left, nine cats lay dead on the ground,
In the frosty air they were left to condense."

Had the author taken the advice the cats neglected, some few deluded mortals might have read his book. Not even critics care to wade

through three or four hundred pages of verse in search of subject matter for a critique, and rest assured I have not done so. Having received the request I viewed it in much the same light as I used to view a challenge to fight when at school, I always accepted and if my antagonist proved too large for me I called "enough" before I was much hurt. I have examined about fifty pages of this admirable work and I now say enough.

And now a few words of advice. Should there be a demand for a second edition of your book—and this depends largely upon the binding—it would be well to re-arrange the order of the pieces, put as many of them as possible in dark corners of the book where their privacy will not be intruded upon, and above all have the leaves left uncut. It is just possible that no one may take the trouble to cut them and you will thus escape criticism.

When you write another book it would be well to remember that old age should be respected; do not attempt to ridicule that respectable symbol of age—a bald head. You may be married yourself some time—that is if there should happen to be a universal war or plague affecting the male population only—and if such a miracle should happen you would soon become the butt of your own ridicule.

A man once wrote:—

"So long it seems to pause on thy bald awful head."

I forgot the author's name and the circumstances under which he wrote: but if I mistake not he referred to a fly on some patriarchal noddle. Do not I implore you, follow such bad examples.

Do not rise at 11.30 a.m. and begin an address to some tall mountain:—

"Rise mighty mount in grandeur rise."

The mount rose long before you did, and more-over most mountains are high enough now for all practical purposes. You would feel bad if the mount were to obey your command some day when you had climbed to its summit, and give you a trip about half way to the moon.

Again, if you must address mountains it is better to use familiar language, language that has been used before and will be used again; you might begin:—

"Hast thou a charm to stay the morning star."

And if it does not answer this civil request give up the conversation and go and gossip with the donkeys grazing in the valley, they will answer you for "blood is thicker than water." Above all my dear friend do not tamper with a mountain when it is smoking, they are very, very dangerous at such times. But more anon.

UTILITARIANISM.

UTILITARIANISM is that theory of Ethics which has for its end utility, as opposed to Intuitionism or innate sense. Though the useful in moral life may be looked upon as a many-sided question, happiness is by the supporters of Utilitarianism generally held to be the end sought for by mankind, though they differ in regard to the means to be used to obtain it.

They conceive that knowledge is based upon feeling and that in so far as an action conduces to pleasurable or painful feeling, it is right or wrong; and that it is from experience alone we learn how to seek the one and shun the other, for it enables us to measure the consequences of certain courses of action and to be guided thereby. This theory of happiness being the end of life has long occupied the mind of man, and has passed through many variations in its course to the present time.

The Ancients led by Epicurus maintained that the happiness of the individual was to be the chief concern, to the utter disregard of the happiness of mankind in general. They, in opposition to the Cyrenaics who gave special emphasis to the pleasure of the moment, looked upon the higher pleasures such as the pleasures of the mind, as far more important than those of the body, owing to the pleasurable sensations derived therefrom, being greatly increased by memory and anticipation. These views seemed to find favour, as they were adhered to strictly by many followers for six centuries.

Hobbes the founder of the present idea of utility adhered to the Epicurean doctrine of self love being the fundamental law of nature and it alone prompting to action, but he also finds that this self-interest may be furthered by paying more attention to the interests of his fellow men; he endeavours to show that the giving out of self in sympathy, pity, and acts of charity contributes pleasurable sensations which add very much to man's enjoyment of life.

He can surely never have come in contact with true sympathy or he would have a better idea in regard to it. For it oftentimes seems as if the troubles of our friends were more difficult to

bear than our own; as not having the strength supplied to us which they have in their hour of need; it seems to us that they can never rise above their trial; and we dread to approach them feeling that we are utterly powerless to bring them any comfort, and the great physical exhaustion which so often follows our efforts on their behalf, must make one realize that the painful rather than the pleasurable is the predominant sensation, it is a morbid pleasure to seek in the interest of self.

Pity, Hobbes illustrates as man picturing himself in the position of the pitied, and the more innocent the sufferer is, the more he pities, for he thinks to himself, if so innocent a one can suffer, there is all the more likelihood that I shall be called upon to do the same.

Thought according to Hobbes is calculation. He was materialistic in his views and though he did not openly censure christianity, he has done a great deal to undermine the faith of mankind. Bentham is one of the greatest supporters of Utilitarianism, it was he who originated the term Utility in connection with his theory of morals. He looks upon pleasure and pain as the sovereigns of humanity ever exercising their sway, self-interest is still very prominent.

Duty is unrecognized, the word "ought," he declares, should be put out of the vocabulary, for a man is under no obligation to act; personal happiness is alone to be his criterion as to the rightness of an action. He warns us that self-interest is so prominent in all action that we need never expect disinterested kindness, for not a hand's turn will one man do for another unless self be furthered in the doing. James Mill held very much the same ideas as Bentham. John Stuart Mill diverged from the conceptions of the foregoing, he agrees with them that happiness is the end in life, but thinks that man to derive his own happiness must often sacrifice the end to the means by losing sight of self and seeking the happiness of the greatest number. His view is the highest held by utilitarians, he classes pleasures as quantitative or qualitative, viz., the pleasures of the higher nature being better in quality than those of the lower nature and more

lasting in their effect, therefore to be the more eagerly sought after by mankind.

Bain conceived morality to be enforced by external authority, the fear of punishment being the motive power for good. He says that it is through this fear that a young child learns obedience, it appealing to him at first through the senses, reason following later to show him the warrant for the course pursued; this idea implies that obedience is obligatory upon the child. Certainly, life is not according to the utilitarian theory presented in a very attractive form, for distrust of others and disgust of self would seem to be the natural outcome of such a standard of morals. Losing sight of that one little word "ought" seems to take away all that would tend to make man worthy of regard above the lower animals, for without it there is nothing to make morality a binding force, and self legislation is sure to prove too lenient for man's ultimate good.

It is only in the realization of divine rule that man finds true incentive towards the natural use of his powers; life must sometimes be fully sacrificed in the interest of others, and where utilitarians fulfil their ethical end in a manner which is surprising on account of its completeness, and are at a loss, as Mill and others, to explain what looks like strong sense of duty, is it not an intuitive knowledge which comes to them and leads them to preach beyond their powers of expounding?

The end sought by all mankind evidently is happiness, but the utilitarians seek it in this life, while experience does seem to show us that those who best fulfil their ethical end, seek it in a life to come, and though losing sight of it here they invariably discover the truth of the doctrine of St. Paul, that "godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life which now is and of that which is to come."

LAURA M. MORROW.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY is to have a new Hall for Graduation Ceremonies. Parliament granted \$60,000 to purchase a site, and Mr. McEwan, M. P., presented the University with the sum of \$250,000 (a quarter of a million) for the erection of the Hall itself.

The Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 23, 1887.

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"THE king is dead! Long live the king!"
 Two years have gone since the present popular tutors began their work within the walls of their Alma Mater, and with this term that work ends. In this issue we have the double duty of bestowing our benisons upon them and of extending our welcome to their successors. The names of Messrs. McLeod and Murray have somehow been naturally linked together since they first met as Sophomores in the session of 1881-82. And when Messrs. Campbell and Trueman had finished their two years of service it needed not a prophet to tell whom fate and the Senate would ordain to be their successors. Messrs. McLeod and Murray came to perform a task that the success of their predecessors had rendered more than arduous. That they have performed it well is known to every student and to all others who have chosen to enquire. While their fame is not perhaps in all the churches it has gone to the homes of all the young men whom they have taught. Always ready to assist,

thorough teachers both of them, they have helped to make the study of classics and mathematics more palatable to the many who are prone to find such subjects distasteful. To Messrs. McLeod and Murray as they go from us to other pursuits we wish a heartfelt God-speed, assuring them as we do so that we are not ungrateful for the zeal they have shown in everything that pertained to our welfare; that we shall follow their future careers with interest hoping—may we hint it?—to see them recalled to take professors' chairs in old Dalhousie.

It is now an open secret that the new Tutors chosen are Messrs. Murray and McKenzie. The name of Howard Murray is familiar to every Dalhousian, and his scholastic successes are known to not a few. We have glanced hurriedly at the Calendars of the years '78 to '80 to find his record and this it is:—

FIRST YEAR.—First Professors' Scholarship; prizes in Classics, Mathematics, Rhetoric; first Alumni prize; first class Certificate of Merit; first class in Classics, Mathematics, Rhetoric.

SECOND YEAR.—Prizes in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Chemistry, Logic; Waverley Bursary; St. Andrew's Prize; first class Certificate of Merit; first class in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Logic, Chemistry, Roman History.

THIRD YEAR.—Prizes in Classics, French, Metaphysics; first class Certificate of Merit; first classes in Latin, Greek, Experimental Physics, Metaphysics, French, Grecian History.

Mr. Murray missed a year (always a matter of regret to him) between his first and second years, and was unable to finish his course. In the summer of '81 he won the Gilchrist Scholarship, and in the fall of that year he crossed the Atlantic. Having the option of studying either at Edinburgh or London he chose the latter, and at the next examinations at the University of London he headed the list in Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, besides being second in French. No other man in the College took even *two* first prizes. The years following were just as successful. Prizes and honors, among them the coveted Hollier Scholarship in Greek, came thick upon him. In 1884 he graduated from the University of London with first rank honors in Classics, and has since been studying chiefly at Edinburgh where he still is. Our best wish for Mr. Murray is that in his work as Tutor he will meet with

the same marked success that has hitherto attended him in all his undertakings.

It is one of the singular coincidences that will happen that when Mr. Murray was teaching in New Glasgow one of his pupils—we may readily imagine one of the best and brightest of them—was A. Stanley McKenzie—now chosen as the colleague of his former master. Mr. McKenzie entered College as winner of one of the Junior Munro Bursaries in fall of '81. Two years later he won a Senior Munro Exhibition being first on the list. We have gleaned from Calendars the following which we believe to be as nearly as possible Mr. McKenzie's correct record:—

FIRST YEAR.—Junior Munro Bursary; first class Certificate of Merit; first class in Greek, Mathematics, Rhetoric, second in Latin.

SECOND YEAR.—Prize in Logic; first class Certificate of Merit; first class in Latin, Mathematics, Logic, Chemistry, second in Greek.

THIRD YEAR.—First Senior Munro Exhibition; Prizes in Physics and French; first class in Physics, French, Greek.

FOURTH YEAR.—Sir Wm. Young's Gold Medal; second rank honours in Mathematics; Prizes in French and Astronomy; first class in French, Astronomy; second in Practical Chemistry.

Since graduation, Mr. McKenzie has been teaching in the Yarmouth Academy and has been meeting with such success as we would imagine would fall to one so talented. We shall look forward to his two years work among us confident that he will justify the great expectations we have formed respecting him.

SOME months ago the GAZETTE, voicing the views of the Alumni, as their unanimous vote showed, demanded increased representation on the Board of Governors. Since then we have not referred to the subject as the executive had charge of the matter. A committee of the executive, it seems, had a conference with the Governors and were told that there was now a vacancy on the Board, and if they nominated a man for the position the Governors would have him gazetted, *if he were unobjectionable to them.* Now if this be true we are certain that the Alumni will not accept such a concession, and for the very best reason that it would be wrong

to put any nominee of theirs in a position to be rejected or accepted at the whim of a majority of the present Governors. We hope such is not the case. There is talk of a change in the composition of the Senate and in the whole government of the institution; if these are defective the sooner the charter is amended the better, and let not the mirage of consolidation prevent changes, which experience shows are necessary, from being pushed through at once.

WE are certain that every barrister in the province agrees with our contention that it is high time the status of the preliminary was raised, especially in mathematics and English. Barristers should have a stiffer examination in these important subjects than 3rd class teachers. They certainly have not now. We hope that no time will be lost in advertising an amended syllabus in which a knowledge of some English classics and of arithmetic, beyond the simplest problem in simple interest, will be imperative.

ONE of the measures promised in the speech at the opening of the Legislature was an act to change the assessment laws of the Province. As this session has about run the allotted span, it is not likely to be introduced this spring. Any person who has given this subject the slightest consideration will acknowledge its difficulty, and no government or man who has not a class interest at heart can be blamed for delaying to deal with a question that will give rise to so much adverse criticism.

With Nova Scotians, as with all Americans, the pocket is the vulnerable part, and men honest in commercial intercourse with each other think it no harm to cheat the government, and will resist any attempt to bleed them. But the persistent and influential grangers are of opinion that all farmers pay too much, and that the present system is the embodiment of slipshod and inequitable legislation. The objections to the present act may be shortly stated. The definition of personal property is not inclusive enough. That there is no uniform rate; while one section of a municipality may assess at a certain value, another will estimate at double

this, so that section will have to bear double its just proportion. Again, when the assessors try to strike one-third of the value as the true basis, how can a man appeal with success from the freak or personal spite of a valuator. No county council will listen to a complainer after he says that he is not valued at what he is worth, but only higher than his neighbour. This latter defect is partially remedied by some of the councils having printed schedules which the assessors must have filled, and fixing a uniform valuation for personal property.

But what shall be assessed is where the rub comes in. Some theorists, whose ablest exponent in Nova Scotia is Mr. Fysche, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, reason that since every person requires land that a simple act would be to make real estate only the subject of taxation, make the owner responsible and let him reimburse himself as best he may. The *Toronto Globe* has also expressed itself in favour of this view. However simple it may appear, and its equity no one can dispute, it is impracticable at present, as impossible as it would be to abolish indirect taxation or adopt absolute free trade. What the granger has his eye on is income—money at interest, notes, debentures, mortgages and all securities as well as book debts, the assessor to subtract the debts owing by the assessed. In New Brunswick, Ontario and Massachusetts these are the subject of taxation, and the people appear satisfied with the experiment. Pennsylvania though, has been the pioneer state in advancing new ideas on direct taxation, and its law is said by farmers to be the pattern for us, and has best succeeded in plucking the goose without making it cry. Its system is most complicated, perhaps that is the reason that it is admired so much.

It is difficult to see what justification can be offered for assessing the mortgagee, instead of the mortgagor as at present. Admittedly, this tax would be indirect, as its incidence would ultimately fall on the borrower, and why the equity of redemption should be taxed in one name and the mortgage in another, the same man paying both, how this could make taxation more equitable is not possible of explanation. The

fairness of taxing income at the same rate as property has been questioned. Times may be dull or brisk, property high or low, money plenty or scarce, its all one to the salaried citizen. The profits of trade know him not. But until the courts give an obvious just ruling that Dominion officials should pay their share of municipal burdens, professional men will object to being made a subject of what looks like class legislation. It takes no "great objector" to raise other embarrassing questions, should the earnings of ships be taxed on their full or part value. Many of them never return to their port of registry, and are a tax on their owners. Would it appear too much of an inquisition to assess book debts, ought money in banks, or their earnings, to be rated, or should the owner pay where he resides, but the number of such questions is legion.

Prof. Sumner has laid down the rule that "taxation tends to diffuse itself, but on the line of least resistance." In the various states of the Union, corporations, railroads, insurance companies and other classes of property, which can be plucked without touching a chord of sympathy in the popular heart, are made to bear a large share of the municipal and state burdens. In Wisconsin the state did not require to levy any direct tax in 1884, as that from corporations was sufficient. In Minnesota too, it is expected that the money from this source will meet all the necessities of the state in a few years. In New York, Pennsylvania and other states "taxation without lamentation" has one feature borrowed from England,—a tax on collateral inheritances. In Pennsylvania the tax is 3 per cent., and few people feel sorry that a man who receives a windfall apart from his immediate family is required to pay the municipality a portion of it.

We are a well fed and well clad, but withal a poor people,—few corporations of substantial wealth have grown up among us. These few who manufacture we have been too glad to suckle by freeing them from municipal burdens, and the amount of money that is bequeathed outside of the direct line would not warrant us in trying to seize any for roads and bridges.

So we must jog on the old footpath way as well as we can.

When the bill is brought down we hope no party spirit will prevent a business-like measure. Such a bill now may mean much in future, for the day of direct taxation for provincial purposes is coming within the phase of practical politics, and as burdens have to be borne let them be shared equally. We can only glance at a subject of such magnitude, but it will be a living question soon, talked about, and written about; and without offering advice we think that no student, be he in the class of political economy or not, should be ignorant of any living question. No thinking farmer or practical business man but has views on the question, and in summer we have a good opportunity to gauge public sentiment, much nonsense will be offered in opinion, but a great deal of common sense; and as in the multitude of counsellors there is safety, so by a little judgment any of us can get a good idea of the subject, so when it is rightly before the public we can follow discussions intelligently.

THE thanks of the Editors are tendered to Mr. Geo. Patterson, Jr., for files of GAZETTE.

A NUMBER of interesting articles are crowded out of this issue, and will appear in our next.

THIS copy of the GAZETTE will likely be placed with other papers in the foundation stone of the College building.

COLLEGE NEWS.

MCCOLL and McKay of New Glasgow, and a number of graduates from Pictou will be down at convocation.

MESSRS. John Doull and Robert Sedgewick have been soliciting subscriptions during the past week for the new building.

MCCULLY and McLatchey are in the city. They are passing their final examinations at the law school. Ford of Sackville, of the First year law '85, has also arrived to participate in the fun at convocation.

THE alumni dinner is to be a grand affair, and every member of both graduating classes should attend.

THE unsophisticated law student who visited the Nova Scotia Printing Company's offices "to see how the presses worked" will never succeed in his profession. He will be "fired" in every suit as quickly as he was fired out by the honest guard of the job office.

ONE thing we hope for, and that is that every graduate this spring will join the alumni. It only costs \$2 a year, and it is the clear duty of every one who feels that the institution has done him any good to keep up his connection with it. The alumni will be in a few years an important factor in the government of the university. Every graduate has a right to become a member by signing the roll.

OLD vs. YOUNG DALHOUSIE.—A reference to the Calendar informs us that this most interesting of football matches is to take place on Convocation morning, the 27th inst. The ball will be kicked at 10.30 a. m.; the place is yet to be decided upon. From Mr. Henry, the captain of the Old Dalhousians, we learn that the team will be composed of the following:—Dr. Stewart, Messrs. Fraser (W. R.), Gammel, Mellish, McKay (E.), McColl, Murray (D. A.), Locke, Patterson, Campbell (G. M.), Smith, McDonald (J. A.), Carter, Stewart (D), Henry (Capt.) With such a team playing for Old Dalhousie, the present generation of Dalhousians will have to look out for the laurels they won at many a hard fought field last fall.

FIRST YEAR MOOT COURT.—Since the Christmas holidays the First year students have held a Moot Court fortnightly. Many interesting cases have been argued, and the late Freshman class feel that they have greatly benefitted by their work in preparing their briefs and discussing the legal questions, the arguments necessarily involved. At the last sitting of the Court an exceedingly practical case, arising out of a revising officer's omission to put the name of a free and intelligent elector on the list was argued. Messrs. Ross and Dennison were counsel for the defendants; Messrs. Nicolson and Patterson for the plaintiffs. Mr. Parsons presided, and won the respect of counsel and students by the courtesy and kindness with which he acted during the argument, and the acuteness and clearness of his judgment. Altogether the First year Moot Court has been a great success, and the Freshmen of next term will find it to their advantage to follow in the footsteps of their illustrious predecessors.

A GENERAL meeting of the law students was held Saturday night, and a goodly number attended. Various committees presented their indebtedness, and arrangements were made to pay them off. Officers for the next year's debating club were elected. These are:

President ADAMS MCKAY.
Vice-President GEO. E. PATTERSON.
Secretary A. W. NICOLSON.
Executive Committee MCINNES and CUMMINGS.

After disposing of some class matters, the members were called on to speak. McDonald, E. M., led off, regretting that he was severing his connection with such a good crowd of fellows as he had ever met, but feeling confident that the equipment, professionally, that had been received at the school would aid all graduates to force themselves to the front in life. His references to the peculiarities of his classmates were happy and well received. Carter did not feel like saying good-bye too soon, and humourously described how he had learned to count at cribbage since he first came on the campus. McLatchey's only regret that he had attended, was the impecunious state it had left him in. But when he got hold of a client he was going to be reimbursed. He would do nothing dishonest, but reimbursement had to come. Somebody was going to pay for all this. The retiring president, McKinnon, also made a few remarks, referring to the fact that he would be the first LL.B. from the tight little isle, always presuming that the Rubicon was safely crossed. With cheers for the graduates, and Rogers and Campbell of the second year, who do not intend returning, one of the best meetings of the season broke up.

GLEE CLUB CONCERT.—On the evening of the 31st March, the College Glee Club first appeared in public. Orpheus Hall was filled by a large and appreciative audience on the occasion, and we venture to say that never was an audience better satisfied. Many of the old and honored College hymns were rendered in a manner that made many of them seem new. Persons who thought they were so familiar with "Upidee" and "Billy Magee" that they could never enjoy hearing them sung, were delighted beyond measure as they listened to them. For the next few days after the concert catching bits of the songs were being whistled and sung all over the city, and nothing was more common than such expressions as these, "Wasn't the Glee Club concert fine," "Trust the students for a good time," "Never enjoyed anything more," "So novel and so funny," "Prof. Penny must be a grand teacher."

The programme rendered has already appeared

in both the city papers, and at this late date it is not worth while to reproduce it. It would be invidious to enter into particulars, but we cannot refrain from making special mention of the songs "Bullfrog," "Bohokus" and "Meersham Pipe." These fairly brought down the house and were heartily encored, as by the way, were the majority of pieces. Nor even in a general notice should we omit to refer to the beautiful violin solos with piano accompaniment of Mr. H. McD. Henry.

We make bold to say that the College Glee Club will again be heard in public, and that a packed house will greet them. In the words of "John Gilpin"—

"And when they next go forth to sing
May we be there to hear."

We must congratulate them on their marked success in their first venture, and extend to them our best wishes for the future. To Prof. Penny, in the name of the students who are interested in every institution connected with the College—and an institution the Glee Club is destined to be—we give our heartiest thanks for the painstaking and skilful manner in which he trained the voices of the sixteen members of the Club. Previously a stranger to the great majority of Dalhousians, Prof. Penny has by the manner in which he acted toward the Glee Club made not only its members but each student his friend. We hope to show that we are not ungrateful for the efforts he has been making on our behalf.

PERSONALS.

A. ROBINSON, B. A. '86, is Principal of the High School in Campbellton, N. B., and is rapidly gaining a reputation as an energetic and successful teacher.

We have been favoured with a flying visit from Dr. J. W. McKay, of Oxford. Mr. McKay, who was a student here during '83-'84, has the best wishes of the students for his success.

D. L. MURRAY, M.D., C.M., a general here during the sessions of 1882-83 and 1883-4, and a graduate in Medicine of McGill University, class of '86, is practising his profession with success in Campbellton, N. B.

AMONG the many Dalhousians who have carried the name and fame of their Alma Mater into foreign lands, one of the most prominent was James McLean. All readers of this column are aware that Mr. McLean after leaving Dalhousie and teaching for four years in New Glasgow went to Australia. Less than a week after he landed there he obtained the position of Professor of Mathematics in Balaraat College, Australia—a position he has ever since held. Mr. McLean was chosen over the heads of

graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, as well as over those of Melbourne University. Last summer he visited his native land on a short furlough, and while on his return to the country of his adoption was taken sick, and we regret to say was obliged to throw up his situation and come home. We extend to him our best wishes for a speedy recovery. It might be interesting to add that both of our new Tutors were pupils of Mr. McLean's while he was teaching in New Glasgow.

DALLUSIENSIA.

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

EXAMS. are raging.

NUNC est *pluckendum*.

THE Glee Club Concert was a grand success. So say we all.

THE boys did their duty gallantly the night of the concert. We wont mention names.

THE new building will be quite an improvement on the old one.—Freshie who has been out to see.

SOME of the boys have of late been walking in the high places of the earth, yea, verily, they have gone into the Senate; but, like the youth in Schiller, they are dumb with regard to all that they saw and heard there, and all joy has departed from their life.

AN ambitious Junior who is making philosophy a speciality has made a discovery which is likely to prove of great importance. He has proved by a practical case that in order to overtake a fair one who is leaving a concert unattended, it is shorter to jump over the seats than to follow the aisle. Patent has been secured. A Freshman has improved on the plan by suggesting that he would take the lady to the next concert.

LAW SCHOOL FACETIÆ.

WHEN the first year students finished Constitutional History it was a relief; when they were through with Contracts it was *primer seisin*—a sort of extra relief.

AUCTION SALE.—To be sold at Public Auction, in lots to suit purchasers, a large and varied assortment of empty glass bottles, with or without corks. For further particulars as to time and place of sale, apply at No. 34 Morris Street. Sale without reserve.

THE "Stately Senior" who mistook Saturday for Sunday evening and went to church claims that he was nearer heaven after his return than before he went. We bounced him even to the ceiling!

NECESSITY, invention's mother stern,
Thou didst alight on the unfurrowed brow
Of one in whom ambition's fires burn
With wanton rage no hindrance would allow.

Why didst thou urge with they unhallowed must
Thy victim on to do the dishonor'd deed;
To meet with low bred wile the watchman's trust,
Why didst thou urge him on thus to proceed?

When late, exams. the Law School students prest,
And all the papers had been worked but one,
On Friday eve a student went in quest
Of paper like to that on which was done

The other papers, he was called to work
On days before. The smoking room was dark—
He entered in and through the mirk
Was seen to take some sheets as for a lark.

His willing pen sped o'er the unwritten page,
As case by case he copied shipping law.
Nor heeded knotty points, nor took umbrage
At judgments long. He wist not any saw.

All neatly folded in his pocket lay
The cases long, when in the morn he came:
But they were gone when he had passed away
From that exam. Unchanged they found the same

When next they saw his paper—lest we note
The change he did effect when he had learned
That he had tain the wrong one from his coat.
'Tis said the unused ones were straightway burned.

The crumpled paper told the fearful tale;
When first it met the astonished Lecturer's view.
The student is, if not he should be, pale.
It was the costliest "bluff" he ever knew.

EXAM. QUESTIONS FOR 1888.

Natural History.

How old was Methuselah's cat?
How old would the cat have been had
Methuselah died first?

Where would you sleep if cats were as long-lived now?

Discuss the comparative merits of young and old felines as a soporific?

Discuss cats from a mince pie stand-point.

Why have robins and crows web feet?

Account for the extreme gravity of the crane.

Account for the quietness of the average circus giraffe.

Is the tonn tit found in any other place than "The mikado," if so where?

Discuss the comparative merits of birch and alder as school-room furniture.

For the First Year Law.

AN Englishmen tells a Canadian to go to L., will the court take judicial notice of the English habit of omitting H. before vowels, and if so is it a tort?

English Literature.

"He said eleven pounds of meat
Is all the food I wish to eat
At one straight heat."

Is the above an example of poetical license or gluttony?

Is the statement that Walt. Whitman discovered prose in a vain attempt to write poetry correct? Give your reasons for your answer.

Who was the author of, "There were three crows sat on a tree," &c.? Were the crows sitting or standing? Was it a tree or a board fence they were sitting on and if not why?

Quote the first two verses of Tennyson's "Jubilee ode." Was he insane when he wrote it, if not when was he?

Who is "Bill Nye?" What amount of humor does he mix with a pound of rubbish? Note any striking similarity between him and Shakespeare.

State what you know of "Prof. Hinde's theory." Who "cooked" the statistics? Who paid the Prof for his remarkable discovery?

What theory does he intend to produce next and will the result be as effective as before?

Who said he was a "crank" and if no one, why?

If the Freshmen speak the truth how many of them will be "plucked?"

A student from the country goes home four times and comes back once, where is he now?

"The world grows weaker and wiser," is this true of poets? Give reasons.

Since the new license law a man takes twice as large a drink as before, how much does he drink in a week?

Questions on Sunday Observance Act.

1. A private carriage drives down the street car track on Sunday. Is the driver thereof liable for breach of this Act? Where is the line to be drawn between carriages and street cars?

Can the owners of the street cars have themselves driven around town in them on Sunday? If not, why?

2. A city sportsman goes out fishing on Sunday, he catches a fish. Is he entitled to immunity from the operation of this Statute on the ground of accident?

3. Is the shooting of rapids on Sunday forbidden by this Act?

4. May the Salvation Army continue to "fire volleys" at their Sunday meetings?

5. May our cruisers shoot at American fishermen on Sunday or must they board her and engage in a "soft glove" contest?

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George Campbell, \$2; H. Stromberg, \$2; Albert McNeil, D. Mackinnon, John M. McLeod, F. C. Coffin, James S. Trueman, Rev. W. R. Cruikshank, McLeod Harvey, N. F. Murray, W. J. McKenzie, G. Creighton, W. C. Morrison, Prof. Alexander, Alex. Laird, Miss Paton, H. M. Smith, \$1 each.

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FALL, 1886.

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