

# DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

NEW SERIES—VOL. I.  
OLD SERIES—VOL. VIII.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 8, 1875.

NEW No. 4  
WHOLE No. 74.

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HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 8, 1876.

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## SCOTTISH CLUBS.

(Continued and Concluded.)

THOUGH not chronologically the successor of the Maitland, the *Spalding Club*, from the talent which it comprised and the value of its works next merits attention. Edinburgh and Glasgow had become the seats of famous associations of literati and antiquarians: which of the other Scottish cities would follow examples so illustrious? A response came from the distant north. Aberdeen, whose virtues have been definitely decided by Prof. Blackie to reside in good granite, beef, and Latin, in friendly emulation of the Lowland centres became in the year 1839, the head-quarters of an enthusiastic band of literary labourers who eschewed the quarry, stalled herd, and dog-eared Horace. We append an extract from an advertisement in the Aberdeen newspapers of 1839:—"It is proposed to establish a club, on the model of the Bannatyne, Maitland and Camden Clubs, and the Surtees Society \* . . . The chief object would be the publication of inedited manuscripts, and the reprinting of works of sufficient rarity and importance to make such reprints desirable. The district to which the attention of the club would be first directed comprehends the shires of Aberdeen, Banff, and the Mearns." The association contemplated was speedily formed. It received its designation from John Spalding, Commissary—Clerk of Aberdeen, and a leading local annalist of the 17th century. The design in view was, "the printing of the Historical, Ecclesiastical, Genealogical, Topographical, and Literary Remains of the North-eastern Counties of Scotland." The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, was elected President, and John Stuart, afterwards L.L.D., Secretary. The number of members was at first limited to 300, but so many applications for admission were received, that it was extended to 500. The first work under-

\* These two latter are English Clubs.

taken by the club was: "The History of Scots Affairs from 1637 to 1641, by James Gordon, parson of Rethiemay." Thenceforth its respectability was secured, and before long it took a high rank in the estimation of the well-informed public of Scotiand. Owing to the rich materials for archæological research in the district in which its main labours were expended, it soon exhibited a more decided antiquarian tendency than its sister clubs: it was also more local and conservative in its preferences, a great proportion of its works being confined to the history and antiquities of Aberdeen. At a general meeting of its members, Dec. 23rd, 1870, the Society was formally dissolved not without opposition.

In all, the Spalding Club edited 38 works, of which the following may be considered representative: Gordon's Scots Affairs, and Description of Bothe Touns of Aberdeen, A short Abridgement of Britane's Distemper from the year of God 1639 to the year of God 1649, A Brief Narrative of the Services done to Three Noble Ladyes, Registrum Episcopatus Aberdonensis, Topography and Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff, Spalding's Memorials of the Troubles in Scotland and England, The Brus, The Book of Deer, a colossal and most valuable work, The Sculptured Stones of Scotland. It included among its members, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, Earl of Aberdeen, Prof. W. E. Aytoun, Principal Barclay, Archdeacon Bissett, Prof. J. S. Blackie, Dr. J. H. Burton, M. E. Grant Duff, Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Dr. Geo. Grub, Prof. Cosmo Innes, Dr. David Irving, Principal Jack, Dr. David Laing, Prof. Muirhead, Lord Napier, Lord Neaves, Dr. W. R. Pirie, Duke of Richmond, Dr. Jas Robertson, Sir. J. Y. Simpson, Bishop Skinner, Dr. John Stuart, Duke of Sutherland, P. F. Tytler.

The *Abbotsford Club* has the next claim upon our consideration. This association was formed in 1833, but not placed on a sure basis until the following year. Its designation was bestowed



upon it in honour of Sir Walter Scott, whose residence was Abbotsford, near Melrose. It owed its formation to the energy of W. Turnbull, Esq., Advocate, who was elected Secretary: the first President was John Hope, Esq., subsequently the Right Hon. the Lord Justice Clerk. The club was limited to fifty members,—whose aim was, “the printing of Miscellaneous Pieces, illustrative of History, Literature and Antiquities.” In point of fact, the publications followed mainly in the wake of Scott’s own researches, and seem to have been intended to throw additional light on the writings of the great novelist, poet, and historian. Each member was expected to undertake a work for the Club at his own expense: which work was to be in quarto, and printed on ‘a particular paper’ The literary life of the Association extended from 1835 to 1864. Judging from a sentence in the preface to the Catalogue which was published in 1866, no formal dissolution seems to have been made: “The club has continued for several years to have had little more than a nominal existence: although a few volumes have been contributed by individual Members. . . . But the club may now be considered to have reached its termination.” The publications in all numbered 32 or 34. The following titles are suggestive: Ancient Mysteries; The Presentation in the Temple, a pageant; Mind, Will, and Understanding, a morality; Arthour and Merling, metrical romance; A Garden of Grave and Godlie Flowers, by A. Gardyne; The Buke of the Order of Knighthood; The Conversyon of Swerers, by Stephen Hawes.

The *Wodrow Society*, (formed on the basis of the earlier clubs) was instituted in May 1841, “for the publication of the works of the Fathers and early writers of the reformed Church of Scotland.” It received its name from the Rev. Robert Wodrow, who was the minister of Eastwood (near Glasgow) in the beginning of the 18th century, well-known as a zealous Presbyterian and the author of “The History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland.” Wodrow’s “Lives of the Scottish Reformers” and “Analecta” were printed by the *Maitland Club*: three volumes of his “Correspondence” were edited in 1842 by the Rev. Thomas McCrie for the *Wodrow Society* from Mss., in the Advocates’ Library. Among the other publications of the Association may be mentioned: Two Histories of the Kirk of Scotland, one by Row and the other by Calderwood, Bruce’s Sermons, Auto-

biography and Diary of James Melvill, Life of Blair.

The *Spottiswoode Society* finished the list. This club was established in Edinburgh, in 1845. It owed its designation to John Spotswood, Spotiswood, Spottiswood, or Spottiswoode, who flourished in 1565—1639, and served his God and country in the capacity of Archbishop of St. Andrew’s and Lord Chancellor of Scotland. Up to the institution of this society, the clubs were apparently on a friendly footing. At least they sometimes lent each other assistance in literary enterprises: and in their membership not a few men of letters were ‘common stock.’ But the new association appears to have been organized in opposition to the Presbyterian Wodrow. Though an Edinburgh Society, it consisted of Episcopalians: whose choice of a patron saint in “that grave and reverend prelate and wise counsellor” Spotswood, is significant; the learned Archbishop having won an unenviable reputation in Scotland from the relation he sustained to the detested Five Articles of Perth. The publications were confined to the works of Episcopalian ecclesiastics in the land of Knox: Spotswood’s famous History of the Church of Scotland, edited from original Mss., was perhaps the Club’s most important undertaking; though there may also be mentioned, Bishop Sage’s works, Bishop Keith’s Affairs of Church and State in Scotland, and Sermons by Bishop Forbes.

We close with a few general remarks upon clubs. British publishers usually refuse to undertake the printing of works which do not promise to meet with a ready and remunerative sale. The consequence is, that works of antiquarian research, (which *ipso facto* are unsuited to the popular apprehension) can be published only at great personal expense on the part of the unfortunate writer or compiler. This grievance was to some extent remedied by the formation of literary Societies. The prospective author became a member of one of them, and availed himself of its valuable resources and archæological material; his work if worthy was adopted by the club, as the result of which its publications and respectability were assured—all for an annual contribution ranging from £1, upwards according to circumstances.

The *Roxburgh Club*, organized in England about the year 1712 was the first association formed for the editing of Works from Mss., or curious black-letter tracts. It may be considered

the parent of all the English, Scotch and Irish Societies which have since come into existence, devoted to the same literary purpose. The general results achieved by these societies may be stated in the words of the Committee of the *Spalding Club*: “A mass of isolated, and, in many cases, decaying historical papers, has been rescued from further risk, and placed within the reach of those who would otherwise never have seen them. Many costly volumes . . . have been printed, which private enterprise would never have ventured to publish.”

The only Scotch Clubs in existence at the present time, as far as we are aware, are the *Grampian* and the *Burgh Records Society*. The former of these holds its meetings, oddly enough, in London. We understand that it is considered comparatively disreputable, has given scanty proof of healthy activity, and can boast of little talent amongst its members. The latter is a better representative of Scotch scholarship. It was formed in Edinburgh in 1868, and is confined to the publication of old burgh records, some ten or twelve volumes of which have already been put in circulation.

All the great literary clubs of Scotland above mentioned, from the Bannatyne to the Spottiswood, are now defunct. For the fact two explanations have been given. First, the duration of such associations is necessarily limited. A club proposes to bring to light the poetry of a certain age: the available manuscripts are soon disposed of. The energies of another society are directed to a particular county: the materials desired prove by no means inexhaustible. Be it also remembered, that the members are united by no strong bond, that the work of procuring and publishing the necessary records is often very expensive, that the death of the original promoters of the scheme means the loss of the most concentrated energy and enthusiasm, and that the editorial duty is soon left to a faithful few, and Dr. Stuart’s observation will appear perfectly just; “Thirty years is a long life to a printing club.” Secondly, to a great extent the work of these societies has now been superseded. Since the year 1857 the Government of Britain has undertaken the collection of historical and ecclesiastical records, which are published by the authority of Her Majesty’s Treasury, under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. Already these ‘Rolls Publications’ rival in number and excel in historic material the aggregate productions of the Scottish Clubs. We may be tempted

at some future date to say a word or two about them, but as our readers’ patience must now be exhausted, think it wise to come to an immediate conclusion.

## A SCOTTISH HISTORICAL QUERY.

BY G. L. G.

AN ESSAY READ BEFORE THE KRITOSOPHIAN SOCIETY.

(Continued and Concluded.)

IN A. D. 843, Kenneth McAlpine, King of the Scots, received the Pictish Crown. The Register of St. Andrews tells us that he ‘destroyed the Picts’ and so took their country to himself and his followers. Fordun, Boece, and Buchanan, adopted this explanation of his sovereignty and added fables of their own. Fordun for example, says, ‘sic quidem, non solum reges et duces gentis illius deleti sunt, verum etiam stirps et genus, adeo cum idiomatis sui lingua defecisse legitur.—*Scotichron*, liv. iv. c. 4.’ Were we left to the testimony of the monks of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries and of the would-be historians of the present age, we might receive with implicit faith the record they give us; but fortunately we have a choice: manuscripts older and therefore more trustworthy, are still extant and have been carefully examined, deciphered, and translated. By the help of these we understand that Urgusia, sister of Constantine the Pictish King, was married to Eogannan MacAodh—called in Latin Achaicus—prince or king of the Scots. Her son was Alpin, whose son was King Kenneth.

The war with the Norsemen which waged hot and continuously during this period, cut off many of royal descent. Hence it is not at all unlikely that the direct line of succession was cut off, and Kenneth McAlpine consequently acquired the kingdom peaceably and by succession, taking up his residence at the Pictish capital, Forteviot. There was no revolution, no annexation, no conquest, no extermination, any more than in 1603, when James vi, received the crown of England, and became the first king of Great Britain and Ireland. The people remained the same, their king was “King of the Picts,” and the laws of the kingdom continued unaltered.



Thus Donald the brother of the supposed annexer, conqueror, exterminator succeeded him according to Pictish law, and not his son Constantine according to Scottish law.

The Ulster Annals tell us that in 862 Donald McAlpine, King of the Picts died; in 865, Beallach, Abbot of Iowa died 'in regione Pictorum'; in '876, Constantine, King of the Picts, died; in '878 Aodh, King of the Picts, died; and we read of Pictish armies under their kings gaining great victories over Danes and Saxons. In 'A. D. 989 Gofraig, son of Avalt, King of Innisgall was slain by the Dalriads in Dalriada.' Nennius, who is said by some critics to have written his history as late as 994 says (§ 12) of the Picts, 'Ibi, tertiam partem Britanniae tenuerunt, et tenent usque nunc.' These extracts are given to show that the Picts under their Scottish Kings, continued to be the most powerful nation in Alban, and that the Dalriadic Scots extended no further than Dalriada, and could cope with no more formidable enemy than the King of the Hebrides.

In summing up let us observe that Alban was now divided among at least four nations. The Britons, occupying the Lennox and the district south of the Clyde and west of the Catrail; the northern Saxons, south of the Forth and east of the Catrail; the Scots in Argyleshire and probably the islands of Bute, Arran, Jura, and Islay; and the Picts occupying the rest of the country. All these, with the important exception of the Britons, are under one King of Scottish descent; yet their land is not called Scotland. It is Albania, it is Pictovia and Dalriada, but Hibernia is Scotia. These people are no longer nomadic; they are finally settled in their several tracts of land. Gaelic is the language of the court, but it is no longer the Gaelic of the Picts, nor that of the Scots. It is a classical dialect, having a wider range of thought and words than either of the others.

In after ages the dynasty may change from the House of Alpine to that of Atholl, and then to the House of Stuart; Norman Lords may receive large grants of Albanic lands, and wars, civil and foreign, may be waged; yet history tells us that the people remain the same. The language of the Saxon has gained the ascendancy, but even at this late period, the Sibboleth of the inhabitant of Argyle proves him to be of a slightly different family from the Gaels of the rest of Scotland.

### HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.

THIS proverb "Evil be to him who evil thinks," or somewhat more literally translated, "Let him who imagines the evil, be covered with the shame of it," has degenerated into a pernicious aphorism. When it means nothing more than that a filthy soul will be filthy still in the very presence of virtue: that a perverted ingenuity sees evidences of depravity in everything with which it comes in contact: that an impure mind seeks in purity itself for some object to excite the exercise of its lust: when it means that he who wilfully transforms agencies for good into influences for evil; or turns out of his way for the express purpose of finding moral stumbling-blocks over which to fall, must himself bear the penalty of shame and suffering, it is the expression of a solemn truth, against which we have no disposition to contend. But we cannot hide from ourselves the fact, that such is not its wonted application. It is the writer who unnecessarily details the disgusting minutiae of crime, the novelist who delights in the *double entendre* and the indecent hint, the poet whose unhallowed verses set the blood on fire: these are the characters who appeal to this maxim as a sanction to their iniquities. Thus then, after being despoiled of all that is ennobling to our character, we are expected to nod assent to the statement, that we alone are to blame for the pitiable results. What would we think of a man hurling stones at the passers-by, and informing them, as each missile felled a victim, that none of the consequences which might happen could be attributed to him, since manifestly he was not to blame for their deplorable weakness of skull, and unfortunate propensity for bleeding? And when a man, or rather demon in disguise, lives and loves to wound the chastity and smite the virtue of human souls; should he be held guiltless though he append to every sentence the words that head these lines, and parade his abominations beneath the banner of their protection? For impurity is impurity still, though set in courtly phrase, or tripping from the lips of beauty, adorned by classic muse or defended by a score of French apophthegms. Not thus lightly can we shake off the responsibility that attaches to all our words and deeds, and a hundred fold to those that come under the notice of our fellow-men, upon whose eternal destinies they will undoubtedly exert an influence, for good or for evil. We dare not tell those whom

we have helped to ruin, that their blood is upon their own heads. The Roman Pilate, after consenting to a deed of infamy, called for water, thinking that the washing of his hands meant the cleansing of his soul from guilt: have eighteen centuries dawned and died, and left us partakers of the same conception of moral responsibility? "Evil to him who evil thinks!"—with what an air of conscious innocence we indignantly transfer all blame from ourselves to our victims! What an advance has logic made upon the teaching, that even for every idle word we speak, we shall have to render an account!

When and so far as this maxim is an echo of the apostolic dictum, "Unto the pure all things are pure," no fault can be found with it. It was an effective argument in the mouth of the founder of the order of the garter, if the well-known tradition may be relied upon. But in its present ordinary perverted usage, the least objectionable element which it contains, scarce equals in justice the kindred but devouter exclamation chronicled in one of Reade's novels, of the elephant making his way through a brood of chickens: "Each one for himself and Providence for us all!"

"Evil to him—" but it sounds better in the original: and to transmit from one age to its successor, with a constant downward tendency, a maxim of such doubtful morality and capabilities of perversion, French is assuredly the most appropriate tongue.

### Personals.

WM. H. BROWN RIGG, a junior of last year, is teaching at Stellarton. We miss him at foot-ball.

HARRY McCULLY, a soph of last year is rusticated in Amherst, his native village. He should be here.

KENNETH DUFF, B.A., of '73 is attending the Halifax Medical School.

JOSEPH GRANT, a general of last year is teaching at East River Pictou.

MURDOCH CHISHOLM, who has taken several sessions in Dalhousie as a general, has entered the Halifax Medical School.

F. G. SMITH, a freshman of '75 is spending the winter at home in Truro.

A. I. TRUEMAN, B.A., has been appointed Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Portland. We are glad to see a graduate of Dalhousie taking one of the first positions open to the Educationists of New Brunswick.

### Our Exchanges.

THE *University Monthly*, Knoxville Tenn., contains a criticism on "Queen Mary," which has the merit at least of being modestly and clearly written. None of the prose articles are bad; but the verses entitled "The Last Hunt" are unworthy of the paper. We can well believe that they might raise a laugh among the boon companions of the writer if recited when he and they were "half seas over" after a college examination, but how any man can have the face to get such trash published we cannot understand.

THE *Union College Magazine* is one of our best exchanges. The editors have a hundred pages to fill every month, and they fill them well. We must make special mention of the prize essay on Coleridge by J. G. Lansing, which occupies the first twenty-five pages. We have seldom read so long an article in a college paper with more pleasure.

THE *College Journal* for January comes out resplendent with gilt and ornamental covers. We are as much pleased with the inside as with the outside. The articles on Christmas are far above the average of articles on this subject. "Little Classics" is extremely amusing. The editorials are well written and the locals are free from the childish efforts at wit with which some of our exchanges are filled.

WE have much pleasure in welcoming to our table the *McGill Gazette*. It comes to us this year in a new form, is well printed on tinted paper, and filled with useful reading matter. We notice a little stiffness in the style of some of the articles, but this fault will wear off as the writers get more used to their work. The December number contains the second instalment of an article on the History of Science, dealing with Science among the Greeks. The writer of "The worthlessness of General Musical Criticism" writes well. We entirely agree with the opinions expressed in the editorials. By the way faultfinders seem to be numerous in McGill, and uncommonly rampant.

THE *Packer Quarterly* is well printed, well arranged, and well written. We like the tone of the articles on "A Summer among Seaweeds," and "Poet and Painter," showing as they do a genuine love of nature. The poetry of the Quarterly is inferior to the Prose.

THE *Lafayette College Journal* publishes no literary articles but confines itself wholly to college affairs, which it deals with in a manner at once concise and thorough.

THE *Alabama University Monthly* contains a very good article on "Geniuses and Hard Workers." The verses on Hope are up to the average. "Across the Line" is full of rough humour, and gives on a rather vivid idea of the delights of life in the State of Mississippi.

*Vick's Floral Guide*. This is a beautiful Quarterly Journal, finally illustrated, and containing an elegant coloured Frontispiece with the first number. Price only 25 cts., for the year. The first number for 1876 just issued, address

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## DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 8, 1876.

## EDITORS.

J. MCG. STEWART, '76. J. H. SINCLAIR, '77.  
F. H. BELL, '76. J. MCD. SCOTT, '77.  
ISAAC M. MCDOWALL, Secretary.

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Is it possible that Honors are to count for nothing towards winning the gold and silver medals next spring? When the announcement that the medals had been presented for competition was first made, we would have answered such a question with a most emphatic negative, and treated the interrogator to an open-eyed stare of amazement. But from sundry indications it is now almost certain that such is the case—that the medals are to be awarded solely on the average standing in the regular work. If this be the intention of the Faculty, we beg to offer them some few considerations tending to shew that such a course is unwise as well as unjust. We are convinced that such a disposition of the medals was never intended by their donor. They were to be given, if we mistake not, to the best student of his year, and surely the best student is he who has accomplished successfully the greatest amount of work. Just think of giving a fellowship at Oxford or Cambridge to a student who had done well in a dozen different subjects, but who had not attained honors in either classics or mathematics; or of giving the gold medal at Dublin to an ordinary "pass"! The idea is absurd, and Lord Dufferin, with his Oxford training, would gasp with horror at the thought of it.

The amount of work to be done by the student competing for honors is so great that to attempt any estimate of merit or demerit without taking it into account, would be like the play of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out, or a criticism of Sir Walter Scott that said nothing of the Waverly Novels. Take any one of the Honor Courses and appraise it by the most superficial of all tests—by the mere amount of labor spent in getting it up, omit any estimate of the time required for reviewing so large a field of study and putting it in trim for examination, any estimate of the mental discipline imparted by the steady concentration of the mind on some one particular branch of study—it will still be seen that each and every one of the Honor Courses is equal to *all* the regular work of the third and fourth years. More than this: the regular work of the two last years is divided by the third year examinations, and the final examination for B. A. is only upon the work gone over in the previous six months. But the unfortunate student in Honors has to keep the whole of the two years' work in readiness for the final agony.

Pelion imposuisse Olympo.

And to crown all, he is likely, far more likely than the regular student, to have all the mountainous structure reared with such toil, struck down by a bolt from the hand of that dire deity, Jupiter Professorius. When such is the case would not leaving the Honor Courses out of the estimate be a prodigious hyperbole of injustice?

Again to take no account of the Honor Work would be in direct opposition to the principle that our Professors are constantly enunciating. We are told that the great curse of a College Curriculum in this country is that it aspires to take all knowledge for its province, thereby tending to superficiality and that "general knowledge" which, as Professor McDonald says, "educationally considered, must always mean practically *definite* and *dense* ignorance." To remedy this state of things Honor Courses were initiated; and an Honor Degree is according to the

same authority, "a mark of special excellence." Yet the special excellence is so little thought of that it will be entirely disregarded in the competition for the medals next spring. Certainly a very peculiar and step-motherly way of showing regard. If honor students from this time forward shall be very few and far between, the Faculty will have only themselves to thank for it. But there is not only this negative injustice of refusing to take into account the extra work performed by the honor student. There is the positive disadvantage that he enters upon the contest with the ordinary student, so burdened as to make success almost hopeless. Had Godolphus or the Flying Arabian entered the course at Newmarket so fearfully overweighted he would have been beaten all over the field by a coster-monger's donkey. Either the Honor work or the regular work is sufficient in itself to engross the greater part of one's time and energies—how then is it possible for the honor student to compete on anything like equal terms with a student giving his whole time to the ordinary work? And if the student in Honors takes advantage of the regulation enabling him to drop certain studies, does he not thereby put himself entirely out of the lists? In short, the more we think of the matter the more its folly and injustice become apparent, and we are tempted to throw what we have written into the fire, believing that so preposterous a line of conduct could never have been resolved upon by a Faculty that have on most occasions displayed so much good sense in the regulation of Collegiate affairs.

Perhaps one may say that we should suggest some plan by which the honor work can be put into the estimate; we might reply that it is not our business to frame rules and regulations for the University. Let the Faculty contrive some plan, and if it do not suit the wants of the students we shall not be behind-hand in criticising it. Still we think the matter could be very easily adjusted. Either count the honor work into the estimate as one of the other subjects of the regular work, attaching to it however a standard

commensurate with its extent and difficulty, say 1,000 points; or, which may perhaps be the better plan, add a certain percentage to the honor students' score in the regular work, say from 15 per cent. upwards for a first-class honor degree, and from 10 per cent. upwards for a second-class. Either of these plans would be better than leaving the Honor Courses out in the cold. We submit these views to the consideration of the Faculty, feeling sure that if it ever was in their minds to overlook the claims of the honor students it has been more of inadvertence than of deliberate purpose, and that they will not delay in arranging matters on a more equitable basis.

RUSSELL in his history of the Crimean War tells us that the Russians, instead of that deep-chested roar known the world over as the British cheer, used to indulge in a peculiarly devilish style of yelling, called by the English troops the "Inkerman screech" from the frequent use made of it by the Russians in that battle. In a similar manner we might denominate the somewhat peculiar style of howling in vogue among the "bloods" of the Junior year the "third year screech." At the end of almost every class they congregate at the foot of the stairs, and there proceed to make (not night but) day hideous. Then storming fury rises and clamor such as heard in Dallusia till now was never. The *modi operandi* of this exquisite art are various. One brawny Junior elevates his head, elongates his wind-pipe, and pours forth the dulcet strains of a (Nova Scotian) nightingale. Another, short as to person and red as to face, despairing of rivalling the fine head-tones of his more gifted compeer, is fain to make up in quantity what is lacking in quality, and so emits a bellow like that of an Ayrshire bull with an inflamed throat. Between these two extremes the disciplined ear can detect every conceivable species of howl, yell, screech, &c., &c. It is a pity such talent should be unappreciated; some one suggests that they had better "go West."



there to instruct the benighted Sioux in the art of howling *à la Dalhousie*. But it seems to us that we have heard the advice to "go West" before. We must be original; therefore we say "Young men, go East, go East! join a company of Howling Dervishes and your fortune is made."

THE Presbyterian Theological Hall in this city is attended this Session by 15 students, 13 of whom take the full course and 2 one class each. In the first year there are 4; James A. McKean, B. A.; Archibald Gunn, James A. Caruthers, and Alexander Stewart. In the second year there are 6; Donald McLeod, B. A., B. K. McElmon, John McLean, John A. Logan, Daniel McGregor, B. A., and D. S. Fraser, B. A. In the third year there are 3; William Ross, B. A., Thomas Murray, and D. F. Creelman B. A. Louis H. Jordan, B. A., attends the Junior Hebrew, and George L. Gordon the Greek Class. The attendance this Session is larger than it has been for several years.

OUR readers will be glad to learn that Prof. Johnson has so far recovered from his injury as to be able to resume his lectures. He is not yet able to go to the college, and he meets his classes at his own residence.

THE annual competition for the "Hunter Prizes," of \$50, \$40, and \$30, took place in the Presbyterian Theological Hall in this city, on Nov. 30th, 1875. The competitors were examined in Theology, on Dr. Chalmers' "Christian Revelation," and in Greek, on the "Acts of the Apostles." The prizes were won respectively by D. F. Creelman, B. A.; D. S. Fraser, B. A.; and William Ross, B. A. The fourth competitor, Donald McLeod, B. A., stood so near the third, that he was awarded an honorary prize, consisting of books: and the fifth, Thomas Murray, who was only a *fraction* behind the fourth, also received a valuable book prize.

THE *Wesleyan* finds fault with us for ranking it with the *Messenger* as an enemy of Dalhousie. We based our remarks on the fact that a few years ago the *Wesleyan* was decidedly hostile to Dalhousie, and that last winter expressions were made use of in its pages which seemed to justify us in supposing that its opinions were unchanged. We were not aware that there had been a change of editors. We need not say that we are delighted to be able to correct our mistake, and to inform our readers that the *Wesleyan* does not agree with the *Messenger* in its opinions about Dalhousie College. The *Wesleyan* also accuses us of ill-manners; we can forgive this, however silly the charge may seem to our readers, because the *Wesleyan* was naturally indignant at being classed with the *Messenger*, and it was no doubt soothing to its feelings to shew a little spleen.

#### ALMUNI ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Alumni Association of Dalhousie College will be held in Class Room No. 2, on Monday, 17th inst., at 9 p. m., at which important business will be transacted.

By order of President.

#### OUR HOLIDAYS IN CAPE BRETON.

WE had returned from Dalhousie in May in the used-up condition generally ascribed to students at that season of the year. We had delved and hoed, sowed peas and planted potatoes, and played at "Georgics" on a small scale generally. We had boated, bathed and fished, and now, thoroughly recruited, we began to be studious once more.

One cannot study vigorously in the dog-days, and we came to the conclusion that now was the time to carry out our long cherished project of a walking excursion to Cape North. It was the end of July, the roads were at their best, the weather dry, the country beautiful, and Mac, our chum of last winter, who was enjoying his holidays at his home in Margaree, had invited us to spend some time with him in that paradise of anglers. So for ten days or a fortnight we took

longer walks than usual as training for our expedition. Then we looked up an outfit; one of us chose knickerbockers, the other preferred the orthodox trousers. Knapsacks were brought to light from dark corners. One, a brown old veteran which in paternal days had made innumerable piscatorial excursions "from arrowy Spey to silver Dee," was diligently furbished up, and both were filled with socks and flannels, fishing tackle and shot-cartridges. One of us carefully examined his fishing-rod and reel, the other polished up his breech-loader. An old tin paint-box with many sub-divisions was extemporised into a case for collecting insects. And no disciple of Honeyman could go forth on such an expedition as this without a geological hammer, and a map to mark interesting localities of junction and outcrop.

The first of August dawned bright and beautiful; the early sun was gilding the top of Skye Mountain as we buckled on our knapsacks and moved away. We had a good forty mile walk ahead of us, and pushed on quickly in the cool of the morning. The first few miles were remarkable only for the execrable condition of the road. But the woods were a set-off to this; rolling masses of green, here dark and mysterious in the shadow, there bright and shining in the early sun. In a couple of hours the road improved and soon Lake Ainslie was in sight. One may travel far before he sees a sheet of water like this, an irregularly shaped lake about twelve miles in length and from one to six in breadth, flanked on either side by high and wooded hills. Our road lay along the eastern shore, sometimes at a height above the lake, sometimes close to the pebbly beach. Not a breath of wind ruffled the water. Here a bluff promontory rose crowned with dark spruce and silvery birch; and there a low, long cape, softly green and bordered with a fringe of white sand, reached out into the calm bosom of the lake. A hundred rivulets, rushing down the hill sides and purling through the meadows, feed the lake, which in its turn has its outlet by the south-west branch of the Margaree.

If Lake Ainslie were in England or in Scotland thousands of tourists would visit it every season; summer residences would look out from every headland, or peep from every clump of trees along those winding shores; yachts, skiffs and steam launches would flit from side to side, and lake poets would weave their verses in honor of its fairy beauty. But where would the peace

and calmness be then? Where the green meadows with the cattle resting under the elms? Where the old farm houses and the five-barred gates? And where, above all, would the trout-fishing and duck-shooting be? Let England keep her Windermere; we have our sweet Lake Ainslie.

Soon we reach the outlet, where the lake drains away through wide marshes with tall reeds (a splendid place for ducks if you don't mind mud) and the "Sou'-West" River begins. Along this river side for twelve miles our road lies. The river is smooth, rapid and muddy. The road is pretty good, but few people seem to travel on it. It is hay-making time and the music of the scythe rings everywhere. Down in the valley it is scorchingly hot, for it is noon, but a cool breeze comes now and again from the upland farms, fragrant with the scent of new-mown hay.

We stop for half-an-hour to lunch *sub tegmine fagi*, for there are no hotels as yet on this road. How delightfully cool and refreshing it is to leave the dusty highway, plunge into a thicket, and sitting on a mossy old log, munch your sandwiches, and look up through the openings in the green dome above you to the far away blue! Soon we lose sight of the river and the road crosses a rising ground, rather bleak, and still having the same stiff red clay so characteristic of the valley of the "Sou'-West." We pass one or two primitive brick fields, and then descending for a few miles we come in sight of the broad valley of the Margaree with the mountains beyond. This spot is the Forks, where the two branches of the river meet, the South-West dark and muddy, the North-East clear and sparkling. From this point, onwards a distance of ten miles, the two streams run side by side, the clear scarcely mingling with the dark. Salmon come up on the northern side of the united stream and ascend the North-East, but few ever find their way to Lake Ainslie.

We have come down one limb of the V, we have now to ascend the other. The valley of the North-East Margaree is a wide one, and the River itself a splendid stream, famous for its salmon. Several tents are pitched on its banks where ardent fishermen live during the season. They come from everywhere, Halifax, the States, England. The season, however, is nearly over and the tents are few.

The road along the Margaree is one of the best in Nova Scotia, and the scenery is exquisite.



The farms are generally good, some of them very superior; and several of the farm-houses are tastefully built and picturesquely situated; but everything is picturesquely situated in Margaree. We loitered so long to admire these things that "twilight gray" came upon us ere we were aware, and deepened into night. We lost our way. We stumbled across the fields to a distant light, and, coming to a house, asked directions. The hospitable owner wished us to stay all night, but as we were not more than a couple of miles from our journey's end we preferred to go on; he not only guided us thither, but placed his horses at our disposal.

Soon we were at our destination, and over a hearty tea discussed with Mac the day's proceedings and made arrangements for a fishing excursion on the morrow. In this we were to be joined by his brother, whose acquaintance we were proud to make, having often heard of his prowess and his deeds of "derring doe" in the wild and tangled forests which clothe the rugged hills and gloomy ravines on the upper reaches of the Margaree. Next day, however, was rainy, and although we did go out with rods and baskets, we did little more than examine the streams and survey the ground for future operations on more propitious days.

We remained a fortnight in Margaree, a memorable fortnight, "a joy forever." We fished late and early, and oh! such basketfuls of trout! We went forth beetle-hunting and entrapped flies of divers sorts. We captured and dissected a huge snake. We threw off our coats—seldom on—and worked at the hay. We explored the ravines with hammer in hand, and roamed through the woods. The hottest part of the day usually found us in the coolest spot on the premises, to wit the dairy, where, seated on empty butter tubs, we "bided the flow of longicaudate kine," as the Autocrat hath it. And in the evenings Mac gloried in showing off the paces of his "gallant grey" as we drove down the valley for a few miles, or returned, singing snatches of songs, in the moonlight and the dew.

One day we went to the Barrens. A stiff ascent of from three to five miles through very thick woods brought us to the edge of a wide plateau almost destitute of trees. The vegetation is short and scrubby, and everything is covered with lichens. Here and there are deep gloomy gorges, their sides shaggy with sombre firs, and black peaty looking streams silently stealing along in their dark mysterious depths. But the

greater part is high table land, bleak and bare. From one point we could see Margaree Island, 25 miles to the west, the Baddeck mountains 30 miles to the south-east, and to the north the highlands and barrens of Cape North 40 or 50 miles away; and as far as the eye could reach in all directions there was not the faintest trace of a human habitation, not a tree cut, nor a track but those of the bear and the cariboo. We were struck by the great abundance of the *Rubus Chamaemorus*, the "cloudberry" of Scotland, the "bake apple" of Nova Scotia. We saw no flowers, but in one spot the bright orange coloured fruit was so plentiful that we could not step without crushing some. We ate *ad lib*: and saw that bruin had a liking for them too, as his huge paw had left a frequent mark on the soft and mossy soil. Blueberries are also abundant on these barrens, and bears are particularly fond of them. We spent several hours out on the barrens and then returned through a tremendous ravine, along the ragged and slippery sides of which we floundered, in danger of smashing not only our guns but our heads.

The visitor to Margaree cheats himself if he goes away without climbing the "Sugar Loaf." The view from the summit is magnificent. The wide valley lies before us with its busy hay fields, the sparkling river, winding its way to the sea, the circle of hills melting into fainter and yet fainter blue in the summer haze: Behind us the ridgy mountains with their dark and solemn firs, and beyond these, glimpses of those "wastes that dern and dreary lie" where the river rises in the great Barren.

Our chum's holidays being over he left to resume his duties; and in a few days we buckled on our knapsacks again, said good-bye to our friends in Margaree, and set out once more on our pilgrimage. It was a scorchingly hot day. Our road lay through the Bear Glen, an unfrequented way, a mere footpath at times. There was scarcely a breath of wind, and the dense forest all round had a choking effect. After several hours walking, we emerged from the woods and below and before us lay Cheticamp and the sea. Now we had a breeze to fan our dusty faces. Rapidly descending the green slopes of the mountain we soon came to the highway, and along it we went for some miles through the French settlement of Cheticamp. It was a busy time, the mackerel were on the coast, boats, some with white sails and some

with brown, were out on the water, others were drawn up on shore; men were arranging lines, cleaning fish, coopering casks and barrels, and making ready to go out for the evening; boys were, as boys are wont to do, playing practical jokes on each other; along the white and dusty highway, stout ponies were drawing carts loaded with fish, French women walking beside them industriously knitting; and sunny haired maidens with merry brown eyes played at housekeeping in ancient boats hauled up on the beach, or walked demurely with their mothers, speaking the speech that Evangeline spoke as she tripped through the meadows of Grand Pre'.

(To be continued.)

#### OUR ADVERTISERS.

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#### Dallusiensia.

A STUDENT in the natural philosophy class, thinks a baulky horse a good example of stable equilibrium.

A THOUGHTFUL soph. who believes in the intuition of cause and effect, thinks that the eating of Christmas geese has something to do with the shrill cheers that we hear in the hall since vacation.

THE student in the German class who translated "jung und schön sein ist wünschenswerth," "a young and beautiful girl is desirable," has just returned from spending his vacation in the country. How could he be expected to forget so soon? Verily, male and female created He them.

A SOPH. who doomed himself to confinement with hard labour during the holidays is thus described by one of his fellow students: "His brow is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought, and from all appearance, Shylock himself would have hard scraping to find his pound of flesh on him."

A MEETING of students was held last evening to consider the best means of getting access to a gymnasium. We hope the Committee may be successful. Football is our only exercise at present, if we exclude walking, which takes up more time than the student can well spare. Even Football is thinly attended; one afternoon this week an exciting game was played with two on each side.

A SENIOR sends us this: The two following sentences in the Esquimaux tongue, may not be without interest to some of our readers.

Tamaitarsuit tapsomunga pingortitauvut, tapsoma assiagullo pingortisimmangilet pingortisimmajut. Innosëk tapsoma il- luanëtök innosërloinnuit kaumanerivaet.

The translation you will find John i. 3, 4.

#### Acknowledgments.

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## Literary Notes.

GAMMA.

MR. BAYARD TAYLOR intends writing a biography of Goethe and Schiller.

"THE Time and Place of Homer in History," by Mr. Gladstone, is now in press.

It is reported that Mr. Tennyson has agreed to write an epitaph for Edgar Allan Poe's monument.

PROFESSOR MAX MULLER has tendered his resignation of the Chair of Comparative Philology at Oxford.

MR. STEDMAN'S *Victorian Poets* has been published in London, by Chatto and Windus. It is an able work, and to those who prefer criticism to poetry, will, no doubt, be acceptable, and to those who have carefully read our modern poets, will be valuable.

THERE are three poets by the name of Tennyson: Frederick, the eldest, who wrote "The Days and Hours," Charles, whose earlier poems were highly spoken of by Coleridge, and considered by Wordsworth to be even better than those of his younger brother; and Alfred, the present Laureate, of whose fame everybody has heard, whose books everybody reads, and whose genius everybody admires.

THE first volume of Mr. Forster's *Life of Jonathan Swift* has been favorably received. The *Saturday Review* says: "The value of this volume is intrinsically very great." "This *Life of Swift* while surpassing in interest, as it does in elaboration, all the earlier works by which the author has established his claim to rank as the foremost of living English biographers, is not, if we may judge from the present volume, certain to prove the most perfect in form among them."

A NEW history of the United States, entitled *Historical course for Schools: History of America*, by John A. Doyle, has lately been published by Macmillan & Co., London. It is one of the "Historical Course" edited by Mr. Freeman, and sustains the reputation of that excellent series. We have had good histories that were too extended for general readers, and short histories that were too one-sided for honest ones, but now we have a book which, though brief, is comprehensive, and which evinces in the author but little prejudice either in favor of or against the Great Republic.

MR. W. M. ROSSETTI has sent the following for publication in the *London Times*. It is an extract from a letter-written to Mr. Trelawney by his daughter. "Rome, Nov. 22, 1875. My Dear Father,—I have just heard something that will interest you. A little while ago there died at Spezzia, an old sailor, who, in his last confessions to the priest (whom he told to make it public), stated that he was one of the crew that ran down the boat containing Shelley and Williams, which was done under the impression that the rich 'milord Byron' was on board, with lots of money. They did not intend to sink the boat, but to board her and murder Byron. She sank, he said, as soon as she was struck. This account was sent to my friends the K—s, by a person they are intimate with, and who lives at Spezzia, and I believe knows the old priest."

## Miscellaneous Notes.

GAMMA.

MESSRS Dewar and McKendrick of Edinburgh, after a series of experiments on the physiological action of ozone, have arrived at the following conclusions: 1. "That the inhalation of an atmosphere highly charged with ozone diminishes the number of respirations per minute. 2. The pulsations of the heart are reduced in strength, and the heart is found beating feebly after the death of the animal (experimented on). 3. The blood is always found in a venous condition in all parts of the body, both in cases of death, in an atmosphere of ozonized air and of ozonized oxygen. 4. Ozone exercises a destructive action on living animal tissues, if brought into immediate contact with them, but it does not effect them so readily if they are covered by a layer of fluid. 5. Ozone acts as an irritant to the mucous membrane of the nostrils and air-passages, as all observers have previously remarked."

THE "Keely Motor" has ceased from troubling, and the efforts to discover perpetual motion are no longer a public annoyance, but like Alchemy and Astrology have either died out or retired to private life. And now the sons of men are looking to new quarters for force. A writer in the *Revue Industrielle*, thinks that there is good prospect that explosives will take the place of coal. He says: "In a single litre of nitro-glycerine there is stored up five thousand five hundred horse-power working continuously for ten hours." This is very important in view of what we have lately heard concerning the British coal fields, and the possibility of its truth gives one a ray of hope that England perhaps may exist a little longer.

U. S. IRON.—"While a smaller number of tons of pig iron was manufactured than in 1872 or 1873, the production was larger than anticipated, and about 439,000 tons more than the consumption, so that on January 1, 1875, there was about 800,000 on hand—considerably more than the usual stock. Comparing 1872, 1873 and 1874, the following shows the condition of the American iron trade:—Tons of pig iron manufactured 1872, 2,854,558; 1873, 2,868,278; 1874, 2,689,419; furnaces in blast in December, 1872, 500; 1873, 413; 1874, 365; imports of pig iron, 1872, 295,965 tons; 1873, 151,708; 1874, 61,165; exports of pig iron, 1872, 1,477 tons; 1873, 10,104; 1874, 16,039. At the close of 1874 there were altogether 701 furnaces in the country, so that about one half were out of blast."

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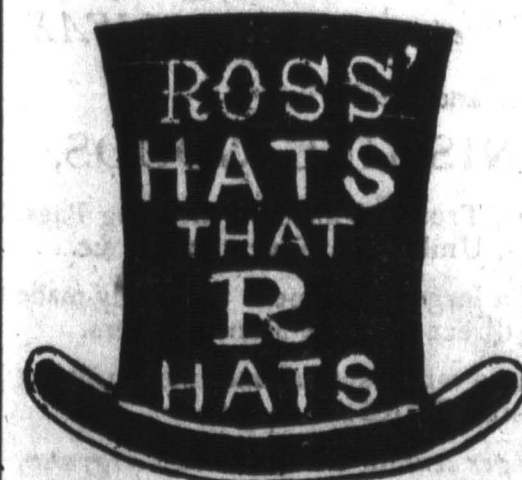
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