

The Dalhousie Gazette.

ORA ET LABORA.

VOL. XVII.

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 20, 1885.

No. 8.

ULTIMA THULE.

After the terrible flash, God's thunder is broken in Heaven,
Torn from its temple of cloud and hurled on the infinite
Silence ;
Shattered, it falls with a moan and drops, cliff by cliff, thro'
the tempest,
Shaking the earth with its tread as it walks to the halls of
His Quiet,
The soul of the tempest is Light ; the spirit of sunshine is
Shadow.

We grope for God in the darkness, and silently sometimes
We touch His hand in the shadow, unseeing, unknowing ;
At midnight we call in our anguish aloud, and low voices
Close walking beside us unseen answer us out of the silence :
We turn in our fear to behold, but nothing is there save the
darkness.

Constantly by us forever walks an impalpable Shadow ;
Constantly too can we feel it in everything earthly ;
In the falling of leaves in the autumn, in the rustle of vines
by the window,
In the sound of the sleet as it rattles in the roof-tree over
above us,
In the cry of the tempest-blown rain as it rushes at night
thro' the lindens,
In the sad, pale faces of clouds, when they glide like ghosts
in the daytime,
In the gusty cold tones of the winds as they moan in the
forest at night time,
Moaning without in the dark with deathly, deep-drooping
voices,
As if they were souls of our dead going by to the Silence
Eternal.

Where goeth thoughts shot into dark ? Where goeth dews
blown from the thistle ?
Where lighteth the raindrops that fall when struck by God's
lion, the Thunder,
Who roars 'mong the valleys of clouds and shakes from his
mane the black tempest ?
Mysteries all, and unknown as which apple will fall on the
marrow,
We grope for God in the darkness, stern-drawn, in sorrow
and often
We touch even the palm of His hand—His Hand, and sleep
is unknowing.

About us forever a filmy strange thread of the Mystic is
woven
That twines us around at the noon and crosses our pathway
at even ;
Yet if we find rest in His tent, who questions the way of the
Shepherd ?

—Charles J. O'Malley, in the Week.

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

During the present season Halifax audiences have had the privilege of listening to lecturers of world-wide fame. But we have no hesitation in saying that one of the most interesting lectures yet heard was that delivered on the 9th inst. by the Rev. Dr. Macrae, of St. John, his subject being, "The relation of the physical sciences to thought and fact during the present century." As the Academy was occupied, this, the third lecture of our Course, was delivered in Masonic Hall, which was well filled on the occasion. The reverend gentleman fully sustained his reputation as a brilliant lecturer, and the audience went away delighted. To do anything like justice to the eloquent and scholarly manner in which the subject was treated, would be impossible in a brief outline; but for the satisfaction of those of our readers who have not had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Macrae's lecture we will attempt a condensed report.

The lecturer commenced by relating the story of the Eastern Magician who possessed a wonderful umbrella, which he could make so small that it only covered his own head, or so large that it overshadowed the universe. This umbrella formed a canopy less flexible, less expansive and accommodating than the first part of his subject, the relation of the physical sciences to thought. The old story of the man who carried round a

brick as a sample of the house he had to sell, was an illustration of what he would attempt in discussing the second part of his subject, the relation of science to fact. The purpose of the lecture was first to indicate what had been attempted in the way of speculation with regard to the causes of physical phenomena and the properties of bodies; and, secondly, to glance at what had been done and was doing in the way of turning these causes and properties into account for the use of man.

The years 1783, '84, '85, formed a period in the history of Europe, especially marked by the great French Revolution. It was a period when, in the political, in the social, in the religious, and in the scientific worlds the fountains of the great deep were broken up. France was then the home of a brilliant circle of men who first gave a fresh impulse to the discussion of the question, "How came the world to be as it is?" But it was not in France that this question had originated. Four or five centuries before the Christian era the quick-witted Greeks had pondered upon it and had ascribed the origin of all things to a fortuitous concurrence of atoms—atoms innumerable, swaying, vibrating, coalescing through eternity. Finally they began to combine, mass joined mass, and worlds were formed. An explanation of this strange conduct on the part of atoms was neither given nor sought. Such was Greek philosophy twenty-five centuries ago. The same idea was received by Kant, who said, "Give me a rational being, matter and force, and I will construct a universe." La Place, the distinguished mathematician, developed the same speculation into the Nebular hypothesis. Such a nebulous conglomeration as the apparent patches in the sky which the telescope revolves into worlds, La Place conjectured the solar system had once been. The lecturer having discussed this theory, dismissing it with the remark that it was now generally discredited, next noticed briefly Newton's grand generalization, proving that, guided by the same great law of gravitation, worlds revolved in their orbits, and tears rolled down the cheeks of disconsolate lovers. Next in order of time and importance came Franklin's discovery of the identity between lightning and other electricity. The important discoveries made with the spectroscope and microscope were then reviewed. The former revealed that all bodies in the universe were compounds of the same elements. The latter

exhibited not only an unbroken gradation of organizations from the meanest animal up to man; with its aid it was also found that all animal and vegetable tissues are one in composition and structure; that the painter is identical in substance with the flower he paints, and the botanist with the plant he studies. The primary matter of all organisms consisted of but a few simple elements. Scientists in their pride prophesied that the discovery of the secret of life was at hand. Meanwhile the researches of Meyer, Faraday, Lyndall, Joule, Davy, and many other eminent physicists had led to results no less important. It was demonstrated by their experiments that forces are mutually convertible; that no force is ever lost; and that what are called the physical forces are merely modes of motion. It was now attempted to bring mind within the domain of physical phenomena. The votaries of science grew arrogant. In want of a name which would enforce and explain the process of creation they invented "Evolution"—a term more capacious than the magician's umbrella, surpassing in its power all genii of fairy lore. Darwin now advanced with his "Origin of Species," showing how apes develop into men. Dr. Bastian followed, asserting that he had seen spontaneous generation. Lyndall denounced the assertion as nonsense, but encouraged its author; and in his Belfast address he said that he "discovered in matter the promise and potency of all terrestrial life." Whence the life Tyndall did not say. To refer it to time is to attribute to time creative power. The public who had long enough endured the throwing of dust in their eyes—dust composed of "ifs" and "it seems" and "it must have been," began at length to ask back. Common sense reasserted itself. It was seen that Evolution furnished no adequate explanation of the origin of things. A system must be operated on from without. No one can say that life ever comes out of dead matter, or that atoms are the first things. That life had a beginning all grant, and men still persist in asking whence and how? In concluding this portion of the subject the lecturer would say, in the words of Cowper: "These lives and works a soul in all things, and that soul is God."

Reviewing the advances made by science in relation to speculative thought, Dr. Macrae observed that progress had not been marked. Thinker after thinker had departed, leaving the problem where it had been left by his predecessor. The chasm which divides chemical processes from mechanical, vital from chemical, sensitive from vital, mental and spiritual from sensitive, still remains unbridged. No one can believe in

spontaneous generation or in the theory advanced in the burlesque:—

There was an ape in ages earlier,
Centuries passed and his hair grew curlier,
Centuries more gave a turn to his wrist,
Now he's a man and a positivist.

With the relation of science to fact it is entirely different. History makes mention of no century in which thought has borne such fruit. Its profusion bewilders. The century is ablaze with brilliant discoveries and inventions. These the lecturer considered under three classes—(1) results illustrating perfection arrived at in certain departments, though the discoveries themselves were of no apparent utility; (2) results ministering to man's power of destruction; (3) results relating to man's welfare, prosperity and peace. As an instance of the first kind the discovery of the planet Neptune was cited. The unaccountable motions of Uranus—seriously suggesting irregularity in his habits—furnished the data which enabled Mr. Adams and M. Leverrier to publish independently of each other the position and mass of the missing world,—a more wonderful feat this than that of the magician in Eastern fable who detected, amid the tread of a distant city's throng, the footstep of Aladdin, the bearer of his fortune. As illustrative of the wealth of practical results derived from science, the lecturer imagined a person of the last century returning by balloon to visit a modern household. He would find the lucifer match in place of the old-time flint and steel, groping for which on dark wintry mornings our worthy ancestors were wont to sputter out a few words of—blessing. Newspapers, envelopes, postage stamps, steel pens, sewing-machines, photographs, pianos, are some of the luxuries he would find, unthought of a century ago. Then there would also be the marvellous applications of electricity; and great as steam is with its magnified uses it is but the servant of electricity. Dr. Macrae then vividly portrayed what electricity had done and was probably destined to do in the way of contributing to man's convenience. A factory was described in which the motive power, the heat, the light were all furnished by electricity, and in which electrical apparatus placed every workman in the sight and hearing of the manager. In reference to the destructive arts, with the increasing power afforded by science of waging war at a distance, the element of personal animosity, had all but disappeared. War would be shorn of much of its glory when, with the development of the present tendency, it no longer afforded scope for the exercise of personal bravery. Then might dawn the time of which Tennyson sung.

Shams and counterfeits, it is true, have multiplied under the fostering influence of science. But the general tendency of science is beneficent. It may yet usher in the age when, the energies of man set free by labor-saving machinery, he shall grapple in earnest with the gigantic problems of progress and poverty. "Words," said the lecturer in conclusion, "fail the thought." It is the Golden Age of which poets have sung and high-raised seers have told in metaphor. It is the glorious vision which has always haunted man with gleams of fitful splendor. It is what he saw whose eyes at Patmos were closed in trance. It is the culmination of Christianity—the city of God on earth with its walls of jasper and its gates of pearl! It is the reign of the Prince of Peace.

The Provincial Secretary, who occupied the Chair, thanked Dr. Macrae in behalf of the students for his kind response to their invitation to lecture; adding that he would also do what he felt, the warmth with which the lecturer had been applauded warranted him in doing,—he would convey the thanks of the audience to Dr. Macrae for the eloquent lecture with which he had favored them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A GODLESS COLLEGE?

Edinburgh, Jan. 25th, 1885.

DEAR GAZETTE,—I am glad to see by your issue of the 9th inst., which has just reached me, that your Y. M. C. A., though young, is vigorous.

A short letter from Edinburgh may encourage the members of the Association, and interest general readers.

The papers have already told you of the death of Sir Alex. Grant, and the election of Sir William Muir as his successor in the Principalship; so that it is unnecessary for me to say anything about that matter. But the newspapers say little of another change in the Ministry, which is of more importance, and likely to have more momentous results than the death of one Principal and the election of another.

It is well known that, for many years, prayer meetings have been regularly held by the students of both Arts and Medical Faculties. And the Medical Students' Christian Association is a strong body, whose officers include several of the medical professors.

Athletics and religion are not generally supposed to be very closely connected; and muscular Christianity is looked on as a sort of

outlaw by some very good people. For this opinion there are surely no good grounds. At any rate people in Edinburgh have had lately some strong evidence of the perfect compatibility of a high state of muscular "training," and a very earnest type of personal religion. The Medical Students' Christian Association, already mentioned, has to be thanked for this.

Two young Graduates of Cambridge, about to proceed to China as Missionaries, were invited to come to Edinburgh and address the Students before sailing for their field of labor. They accepted the invitation, and, on December 9th, Charles T. Studd, B. A., ex-captain of the Cambridge eleven, and Stanley P. Smith, B. A., late stroke-oar of the Cambridge eight, addressed a large meeting of students in the Free Assembly Hall. Rev. Professor Charteris occupied the Chair, and introduced the speakers. He thought that these men would have at least some very important qualifications for their future life. The captain of the cricket team knows how to place his men to the best advantage; while in the sweep and rush of life the stroke-oar will know how to take out of his helpers all the work of which they are capable, without sparing himself.

Mr. Studd then gave a quiet, earnest, and very interesting account of the way in which he had been led to undertake the work of a Mission, and Mr. Smith followed with a telling address from the text "They feared the Lord, and served their own Gods." I cannot possibly do justice to his language, and shall not attempt it. The audience was very deeply impressed, and, at the close, when opportunity offered, crowded round to grasp the hands of the broad-shouldered, hard-gripping, manly Christians. Immediately after the meeting closed the speakers took train for London, escorted to the station by an enthusiastic band of students.

Enthusiasm is all very well; but if nothing more had resulted from the addresses of those young men than a mere burst of enthusiastic admiration, their visit would scarcely be worth mentioning. It was evident, however, that there was more. And when it was announced a few weeks afterwards that they were to visit us again, the notice excited deep thankfulness in many a thoughtful mind. On the evening of Sabbath, January 18th, Messrs. Smith and Studd addressed a crowded meeting in the U. P. Synod Hall. It was estimated that about 2,500 were present, and these were almost exclusively students. Admission was gained only by showing a matriculation or class ticket, either from the University or from one of the Theological Halls. Professor Charteris was again in the Chair, and

on the platform were many of the leading clergymen in Edinburgh, and a large number of professors from the University and the various Theological Colleges. The deep attention with which the immense audience of young men listened to the calm, quiet addresses of the speakers, to the earnestness of their minds, and to the power of the simple gospel when spoken by earnest men. No more interested or attentive hearing could be given to the most brilliant oration or scientific disquisition than was given that night to the "Old Old Story," told in plain simple language by men whose hearts are on fire. Every man present seemed to feel the truth of the chairman's statement, when he said, "To you young men in search of truth these men come with facts which cannot be denied. *They themselves are the facts.*" The meeting was also addressed by Reginald Radcliffe, of Liverpool, a Solicitor, whose name has long been known in the religious world, and by the Master of Polworth. The latter, representing the present generation of Cambridge students, said that fifty young men at that University had lately decided to go as missionaries to foreign fields.

On Sabbath afternoon previous to the meeting just mentioned, the missionaries addressed a meeting composed of the boys' schools of the city.

On Monday afternoon a meeting was held, which was largely attended by the general public, and over which the venerable Dr Horatius Bonar presided.

The same evening there was a large meeting of students only in the Free Assembly Hall presided over by Prof. Butcher, who is also a Cambridge man. Prof. Butcher's ability and reputation as Professor of Greek in the University no doubt brought several to the meeting who would not otherwise have attended. Equal interest was shown here as at the other meetings; and at the close it was announced, amid much applause, that Messrs. Studd and Smith were to return to Edinburgh after visiting Glasgow. Accordingly, a farewell meeting was held in the same hall on Friday evening last.

Together with the notices of these meetings there was announced a meeting for last Sabbath night in the Oddfellows' Hall, to be addressed by the now-famous Professor, Henry Drummond, of Glasgow. At this meeting, Prof. Greenfield, of the Medical Faculty, presided; and on the platform were Professors Simpson, Grainger Stewart, Charteris, and others, with Principal Cairns, of the U. P. College, Doctors Cathcart and Barbour, and other leading men. The large hall was uncomfortably packed, but perfect silence and the closest attention prevailed

throughout. Speaking guardedly, I may say that I have no recollection of ever being present at a more interesting meeting. Professor Drummond, who has so well proved his ability to speak on scientific and philosophical subjects, knows equally well how to speak to anxious souls. He knows that nothing but the bread of life will satisfy a hungry soul, and in his own clear, simple way he tried to tell how it can be found. Pointing out the difference between conversion to Christianity and conversion to Christ, and comparing the former to the ghost of the latter, so like it that men cannot distinguish, he urged his hearers to make sure of the real thing.

What is true religion? It is the knowledge of God. "This is life eternal that they might know Thee the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." Well, how is this acquaintance to be begun? You sit to-night beside a man you never saw before; going out at the door you speak to him, and he answers; you walk down the street together; to-morrow he comes to your rooms and has a cup of tea with you; next vacation you go off on a tramp together. So acquaintance deepens into friendship, and as the years roll on the friendship gets stronger. Just so you get acquainted with Christ. You go down on your knees in your lodgings and speak to him. You open his word and let him speak to you. You may not know him very well by to-morrow night; you may not know him very well by this time next year. But there is an acquaintance, and it will grow.

Insisting on the necessity of putting religion in its proper place, he said, "It is a very hard thing to seek *second* the Kingdom of God, but very easy to seek it *first*." Those who find the Christian life hard are those who are not out-and-out Christians. He who would become a Christian must be ready to bid his old life goodbye, and revolve round an entirely new centre.

Your space will not permit a full report of Professor Drummond's address, and I must hasten on. When an opportunity was given for those who had to go away to do so, and an invitation given to any who wished for more to remain, scarcely a dozen men left. Then Prof. Greenfield spoke earnestly and plainly. He was not much accustomed to speaking at such meetings, but feeling the solemnity and importance of the occasion he felt bound to add his entreaties that his hearers would decide the matter there and then.

Professor Cartier's said that he could only repeat, and he would specially emphasize the statement of Prof. Drummond as the necessity of seeking the Kingdom of God *first*. Some men seemed to think that if they so acted, all other

things would be subtracted from them. He never knew a man who by becoming a Christian had lost anything except what would be a shame to keep, and what he should be ashamed to acknowledge having; but he had known hundreds who lost *every thing* by not becoming Christians. Quoting from a sermon he heard when a student in Edinburgh, he said: "The border-land between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan is twice cursed. It is cursed by Satan because so near to God, and it cannot be blessed, nay, it is cursed by God because so near to Satan. But come over into God's Kingdom altogether and you shall be doubly blest." Prof. Greenfield announced that some of the Professors felt it borne in upon them to have another meeting next Sabbath, but he almost dreaded to intimate it lest some might say, "There will be time enough next Sabbath." There's *not* time enough. He had known some fearful instances of men who had put off decision and lost their chance, lost Christ, lost everything.

When the meeting finally broke up many remained for personal conversation with those able to help them out of their difficulties, and it was an encouraging sight to see men, foremost in the intellectual sphere becoming guides in spiritual things to those who learned to trust their guidance in professional matters. No doubt the counsels and advice of those learned professors would be all the more valuable, and would be all the more readily received by the students, because of the respect and admiration inspired by their professional ability. Doubly will they be blessed if, while teaching their disciples the noble art of healing the body, they point them also to the Great Physician of Souls.

This letter is written for two reasons. One is implied in the title I have given to it. The state of matters I have endeavored to describe as existing in the National University of Edinburgh must furnish interesting thought for those who maintain that an unsectarian college is necessarily Godless.

The other reason is that the actions of the professors named above, and who stand by no means alone, may do something to reassure some timid souls who fear that the old foundations are swept away or at least shaken. "Say not the former times were better than these." We must remember that the Athenians are not the only people who think that the novelty of an opinion makes it valuable. The Gourd that springs up in a night may be more beautiful and artistic and may attract more notice than the Oak, centuries old. But the Gourd is not destined to stand long, while the Oak shall last for many generations to come. SIGMA.

The Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 20, 1885

EDITORS.

I. GAMMELL, '85. J. F. SMITH, '86.
C. H. CAHAN, '86. J. C. SHAW, '87.
E. MACKAY, '86. H. MELLISH, Law, '87.
D. STEWART, '86. } *Financial Editors.*
N. F. MACKAY, '86. }

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THE January number of the King's College *Record* is certainly a very attractive one. It has a new frontpiece that will cast every one of our exchanges in the shade, containing, as it does, four most excellent views of the College buildings at Windsor. We certainly take pleasure in commending the enterprise which the new editors have thus shown. But to us not the least pleasing feature in the contents is the frank and yet independent manner in which the editors deal with the question of Consolidation with Dalhousie. Speaking of a prospective meeting of the Alumni in June next, the *Record* says:—

"It is hoped that a large number will be at the meeting to consider this important question, and that the plan will be given, as far as concerns our side of the question, a fair trial. Our side of the question did we say? That phrase is just what, in our opinion, ought to be entirely forgotten. If a conference is held, with power to draw up a general outline of the scheme, the question ought not to be, 'what will you concede to us if we yield such and such a point?' but, 'which plan is the better, which has the greater merits in itself?' Many points must be given up by King's, and the same with Dalhousie, and not improbably many points of practice will have to be different from the usage of either; but throughout the whole discussion both parties must avoid a selfish way of looking at things, or the plan is sure to be a failure."

The above presentation of the case cannot but commend itself to the Alumni and supporters of both Universities, and we cannot but await with anxiety the report of the committee appointed at that informal meeting at the Dutch Church in this city. Meanwhile, we trust that the *Record* will not cease to stir up the public to a fair and impartial consideration of the merits of Consolidation. For reasons which we have already presented in our columns, we feel assured that such a union on an equitable basis will prove of immense advantage to both institutions. *May the gods be propitious!*

MEANWHILE the *Wesleyan* of this city has been awakened from its lethargy by that letter from President Inch, of Mount Allison, which we had occasion to mention in our last issue. As the organ of a progressive denomination, it cannot afford to lag in the rear, when the representative Methodists of Ontario have publicly pledged their support to a system of collegiate federation, and when the most thoughtful adherents of the Methodist Church in these Maritime Provinces are convinced that such a federation is essential to the complete and harmonious development of our highest educational interests. The *Wesleyan*, however, seems to think it sufficient that it should signify its willingness to consider a system of federation when some one else has formulated one. Although this indicates an advance in sentiment on the part of that organ, an advance which we heartily appreciate, it should by no means stop at this point. No one person can formulate such a system as shall meet with favor from the several colleges; but it is absolutely necessary that each should discuss this question with thoughtful candor in order that, from an interchange of opinion, we may arrive at some equitable basis. The Principal of Mount Allison has indeed taken a commendable position, and we cannot forbear expressing the hope that he will again give public expression to his views on the question, but more in detail. One thing is sure that the progressive and enlightened denomination, which he in his official capacity, to a certain degree, represents, even now feels the necessity of taking some such steps as that which their brethren in

Ontario have already taken; and it is for the present leaders of that denomination in these Maritime Provinces to lead the way, or just as sure as education is in its essential nature progressive, others will rise from the common ranks to lead in the advance and thus usurp the position which these men now occupy. The cause of higher education must overcome every obstacle, and the enlightened public sentiment of this Dominion has and does declare that we must have fewer and better equipped Universities. In consequence, it is the height of absurdity for any individual or class of individuals to attempt to impede this inevitable advance.

The pressing need of the present is that some system be devised and presented to the public. If Mount Allison is really in earnest, it is incumbent upon the authorities of that institution to take the initiative steps, for they in the past have refused to entertain any proposals in regard to this question. We are not aware what position, if any, has been taken by the Mount Allison *Argosy*, as we have not received recent numbers of the paper, but we shall expect from its editors that free expression of opinion which this question deserves. Meanwhile, we trust that the city papers will not let this subject rest, as it is of vital import to the cause of higher education in these Provinces that it be thoroughly discussed.

NOT long since a gentleman, whose life has been almost wholly engaged in studies of an historical nature, remarked in our hearing that, in his opinion, no country of any age whatsoever, in proportion to its population, could boast of such a brilliant galaxy of statesmen as that which shaped the destinies of this fair Province some thirty odd years ago. Such a remark, coming as it did from one who was not a Nova Scotian, and an eminently qualified yet unprejudiced judge, could not fail to make the heart of a blue-nose boy glow with enthusiasm and pride.

The nature of the times in which those men played their parts on the stage of provincial history, is by no means too well known to most Nova Scotians. It was a time when parliamentary debates were not reported verbatim. Short-

hand reporters did not transcribe lengthy reports for city newspapers to be printed and reprinted, read and reread throughout this and the neighbouring provinces. In fact, newspapers were not then so numerous; nor had they our modern facilities for obtaining, nor our scientific machinery for reproducing the news of the day.

Nevertheless, our knowledge of those and preceding times depends upon the really excellent and interesting reports, debates and general news items contained in the Provincial newspapers of those days. Accordingly, some time ago, an effort was made to obtain a safe depository for valuable files of these papers among the Archives of the Province. Our public-spirited citizens made noble and generous donations. Many thousands of valuable papers, pamphlets, reports, etc., were thus saved from possible destruction. Many others who were unwilling to give outright the valuable papers which were in their possession, gladly placed them in the care of the Historical Society for safe keeping, where at the same time they might be available for public reference.

Our energetic and public-spirited Law-librarian, Mr. J. T. Bulmer, was then Provincial Librarian, and to his assiduous effort, the collection of much valuable historical matter was due.

A few days ago a number of our citizens were surprised to find their parcels from the city markets wrapped in some of the most valuable historical papers of our Province. They were even found wrapped about sausage meats, market produce, grocery parcels, etc. Did any of our public-spirited citizens wish a shave he had merely to enter any of the barber shops of the city, where he could enjoy the exquisite pleasure of being shaved by the use of the historical papers of his native Province. Mr. Bulmer, with his characteristic and commendable energy, at once visited the markets and barber saloons and bought up several hundred weight of papers, records and pamphlets at the price of waste paper, three cents per pound. In a very modest, considerate and courteous letter to one of the city papers, Mr. Bulmer called public attention to this destruction of the records, which many gentlemen in this Province had earnestly endeavoured

to preserve, and at the same time demanded, what, to him above all others, was certainly due, a public explanation. Mr. Crofton, the Provincial Librarian, replied to Mr. Bulmer in a letter in which he tacitly acknowledged that all that the latter gentleman stated was true, and at the same time blamed his office boy, not for having destroyed the papers, but for having sold them instead of using them to kindle fires in the offices of the Parliament building.

To say that Mr. Crofton's letter was ungentlemanly in its tone, is quite inadequate; to say that it was grossly insulting does not exceed the truth. But our surprise and indignation was not allowed to rest at this point. The *Recorder*, an evening paper of this city, said to be edited by a well-known M. P. P., who, by the way, is a member of the Library Committee,—after attempting to deny the facts and failing therein, came out openly and with most disgraceful language, publicly endeavored to commend this wholesale destruction and exonerate Mr. Crofton.

The latter may have acted with a culpable indiscretion that was withal, in the eyes of his friends, pardonable, yet the letter which he sent to the press of this city shows that, whatever other qualification he may possess, he certainly lacks those gentlemanly instincts which should be the essential requisite of any public official.

We certainly hope that this matter will be carefully investigated by the Legislature at present in Session. Meanwhile, we take this opportunity of expressing our utmost confidence in our Law-Librarian, Mr. Bulmer, and trust that he will not rest satisfied until he has probed this matter to the bottom; and we believe that an honest and enlightened public opinion will bestow upon him the approbation which his disinterested conduct manifestly deserves.

THE *Dalhousie Gazette* appears to be carefully edited. The December number has a lengthy article on co-education which contains, along with much that is excellent, *not a little that is open to criticism.*—*Acadia Athenæum.*

Why not criticise, Friend?

THE two last lectures of the Dalhousie Students lecture course will be held in the Academy of Music:—

Feb. 20th, Rev. G. W. HILL, A. M., D. C. L.; subject—"Jabal, Jubal, and Jubal-Cain."

March 6th, Rev. A. J. TOWNEND, A. M.; subject—"Sam Slick."

Thus far, in their efforts to give the people of Halifax an interesting course of lectures, the Students have not been able to meet the current expenses, and it is earnestly hoped that the remaining lectures of the course will be well patronized, as they cannot fail to interest every listener.

THERE is some talk of amalgamating King's with Dalhousie; and friends of both institutions are about to meet to consider the question of College federation. No doubt the union of the two colleges would prove of advantage to both institutions. The influence, that each commands, could not fail, in combination, to produce good results. Greater inducements could be offered to students than at present can be afforded by either institution; and the expediency of the union would require, we think, but a short time for demonstration.—*University Monthly.*

"At Harvard work on the college papers is accepted as a substitute for the regular literary work of the University."—*Ex.*

This is just as it should be in every college. There is no better medium for advertising a good college than a good live college paper, and without doubt the authorities of Dalhousie should show the editors of the *GAZETTE* some such consideration. We earnestly invite their attention to the above notice.

A WRITER in the *King's College Record* thinks the statement made in a paper on Novels, which appeared in the *GAZETTE* a short time ago, to the effect that Macaulay and Carlyle had brought about a great change in the popular estimate of Charles I. and Cromwell, incorrect. Though he does not say that no such change has taken place, he certainly implies it, but he does distinctly say that the authors in question have not altered materially the popular opinion on this question.

COLLEGE NEWS.

ELI PERKINS will lecture at the Academy on Monday and Wednesday evenings of next week.

REMEMBER that the Rev. G. W. Hill, A. M., D. C. L., will lecture at the Academy of Music this evening under the auspices of the Dalhousie Students. Subject,—“Jabal, Jubal, and Tubul-Cain.”

NOTWITHSTANDING the severe storm on the 7th inst., about a dozen students turned out to hear an able address by the evangelist, Mr. Vans, whom we are sorry many of the students failed to hear. On the 14th a good representation of the society was rewarded for their attendance by the addresses of the Rev. Messrs. Simpson and Manning, who presented the claims of the christian ministry in a masterly manner, and while magnifying their office left the impression on their hearers. “We speak that we do know.” We were also pleased to hear from the Rev. Dr. MacGregor and Mr. Murray, Editor of the *Presbyterian Witness*, who were present, and with brief pointed words sealed the addresses of the previous speakers and cheered the members present by reports of successful work in other parts of the field, chiefly in regard to the Edinburgh University. The main facts of the latter are stated in a letter in the present number to which we call attention instead of stating them here.

THE Y. M. C. A. wishes at this time to record its satisfaction with the conduct of our students at the late Munro drive. It was noticed with unfeigned pleasure that strict sobriety was observed throughout the whole affair. One of its members presided at the feast, and opened the proceeding with acknowledgment of and thankfulness to the giver of every good gift. A toast was also proposed to and drunk in honor of this society, while an unexceptionably moral tone, which reflects the highest lustre on the College, prevailed the exercise of the evening.

These facts are especially interesting and significant to the friends of the Y. M. C. A. This celebration of Munro day has been not only a social success but also a moral success. Never did our Arts students enjoy a more pleasant evening, which goes a long way in proving strong drink is by no means necessary to the true enjoyment of such an occasion. May the day never come when Dalhousie students shall declare by their conduct they can not appreciate the high principles that adorned the drive of '85.—*Com.*

The following is from the 9th Edition Encyclopædia Britannica:—“Historians, till within a comparatively recent period, have been nearly unanimous in their judgment on the character of Cromwell. That he was a man of extraordinary abilities was a necessary and universal admission, but served for the most part only ‘to point the moral’ as an aggravation of his crimes. The only question concerning so terrible a prodigy seemed to be how far a selfish and unscrupulous ambition may have been modified in him by a blind fanaticism, how far in deceiving others he may gradually have fallen into deception of himself.

The same office which cowardly hands had done for his bones, servility, ignorance, and prejudice did for his memory; and, during the most part of two centuries, the name of the greatest man of his own age, and one of the noblest of any age, has been associated with all the infamy that belongs to a life-long career of unmitigated hypocrisy and insatiable ambition.

The most eloquent of all English historians has defended in pages read by all the world, both the Puritans and their King; and another historian, with still deeper love and admiration, has paid his ‘tribute to the memory of a hero’ in a work which will henceforth enable posterity to know what kind of man Oliver Cromwell really was.”

And the writer of the article adds in a note, “No such noble service was ever rendered to the memory of a great man by a single hand.” In 1849 the first two volumes of Macaulay's History appeared, ten years later, the very year in which the great historian died, leaving his work unfinished, the form of prayer in which the martyrdom of King Charles was commemorated, was officially removed from the Book of Common Prayer.—*Com.*

DR. AUGUST HJALMAR EDGREN, professor of modern languages in the Royal University of Sweden, has accepted a similar position in the State University, Nebraska, and will enter upon his duties there about April 1st.

THE German language is more popular at Yale than Greek or Latin.

PROF. FORREST'S LECTURE.

NOTWITHSTANDING "Pinafore" and other attractions there was a fair attendance of students in the Library on Friday evening, the 6th inst., when Rev. Prof. Forrest addressed the Literary Club on the "War in the Soudan." The Chair was occupied by the President, Mr. I. Gammell.

The Lecturer began by showing that at a very early date the "land of the Pharaoh's" had attained to high civilization, the Nile being at once the source of the country's wealth and the educator of the people. He next described its successive conquest by the Greeks, Romans, Mohammedans, and Turks. At the commencement of last century Napoleon formed a plan of making Egypt the base of his operations against India; but he was unsuccessful and Turkish rule was restored. But Mohammed Ali, who became Governor of Cairo in 1839, quarrelled with the Sultan, and so far prevailed as to secure independence on condition of paying certain taxes. His policy—adopted too by his successors, of whom the present Khedive is the sixth—was to "Westernize" Egypt. However commendable it might have been, it was fraught with great expense. The national debt became enormous, money was borrowed on disadvantageous terms, and bankruptcy was the result. The interests of British capitalists, who had advanced a large part of the Egyptian loan, made the interference of the British Government necessary. Their interest in the Suez Canal pointed the same way. The high-way to India must be kept safe at all hazards. The interests of French capitalists were also at stake. And accordingly Britain and France, seeing that it was impossible for Egypt to extricate herself from her financial difficulties, formed a sort of coalition for the regulation of her affairs. Things went on smoothly for a time. The interest on bonds was reduced, and it was thought that a very satisfactory arrangement had been made, when Arabi Pacha, who had attended college for fourteen years without graduating, (twenty years being the length of the College course at Cairo) appeared at the head of a "Young-Egypt Party" and was soon in arms against the Khedive. Both Britain and France saw that war was necessary; but the latter nation could not induce her Assembly to vote supplies, and the former had to undertake it single-handed. A graphic account of the siege of Alexandria and the battle of Tel-el-Kebir—which decided the struggle—was then given; after which the lecturer took up the present phase of the war,—the rise of the El Mahdi, and the Gordon exhibition—the events of which are

of too recent occurrence to require any summary. He concluded by expressing the opinion that "England would have to take Egypt, and pay the bill," which would prove the best thing that could happen to the latter country.

At the close of the lecture Prof. Forrest exhibited magic-lantern views of most of the scenes of the war, and of the persons who had figured in it; and also of castles and other specimens of architecture in various parts of England, Scotland, France and America, giving much interesting and useful knowledge in connection with each.

A very hearty vote of thanks, to which the lecturer briefly responded, brought this most enjoyable and profitable meeting to a close.

AMONG THE COLLEGES.

MORE than a fourth of the students in German universities are Americans.

NINE young ladies lately received the degree of A. B. from the Royal University of Ireland.

THE Yale Library Magazine, established in 1839, is the oldest college paper.

PROF. SYLVESTER, now at Oxford, is declared by English men of science to be the greatest living mathematician.

A \$1,000 scholarship has been established at Dartmouth on condition that no student who either drinks or uses tobacco shall receive any benefit from it.

A GOOD college paper is worth more for the moral and gentlemanly tone of college life than a whole library of by-laws and an army of faculty spies.—N. Y. Independent.

CORNELL is in a stew over a statement of a newspaper correspondent to the effect that the influence of the University is for atheism. President White ably disproves the truth of the statement.

THE Russian government has recently sentenced nearly one thousand of the students of the University of Kiev to military service in penal regiments stationed in distant regions of the empire.

IT has been calculated that Vassar College girls eat 5,200 pancakes every morning. This is equal to 1,889,000 pancakes a year, which, with an average diameter of five inches, would extend 302 miles a straight line; or they could be built into a single column nearly eight miles high.

THE new laboratories erected at Lehigh are said to be the finest in this country and the equal of any in the world. A new course in advanced electricity has been started there to meet the needs of the coming age.

THE student whom the John Hopkins University refused because she was a woman, Martha Curry Thomas, of Baltimore, has just received the degree of Ph. D., *summa cum laude*, the fourth and highest degree which the University of Zurich can bestow.

THE University of London has recently, for the first time, given the titles of Doctor and Master of Arts to a lady. Since its doors have been opened to women, many have made use of the opportunity. Several hundred have already matriculated and last year 120 women entered the examinations. Fifty were created Bachelors of Art; eight, Bachelors of Science; three, Bachelors of Medicine. Now one has secured the Doctor's degree.

DALHUSIENSIA.

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 alone are expected to understand its contents.

WILL freshie buy a new broom?

SOME say it is time the Dalhusiensia column was abolished. All in favor of the motion say, *aye!*

WHY did he advise the Juniors to go out in society more? Because he wants to pluck them.

WHEREFORE the sudden sporting of the significantly shaped maroon tie by the tender Juniorette?—ask "Allie."

EDITORS must have the names of parties contributing items to this column before publishing the same. No anonymous communications received.

"THERE go the Dalhousie fools," remarked a city belle noted for a lack of beauty, as the students swept by on the Muuro drive.

WHO made a practice during the holidays of stealing letters from the box? There was no possibility of mistaking names in this instance.

IT was suggested to the committee on revision of "Crimina Dalhusiensia," to change the words of the popular song "Johnny comes marching home again," to "The ladies come marching in again."

A CERTAIN first year man absents himself from Latin so frequently that the professor threatens to bring him in under a writ of *Ha(y)beas Corpus*.

AMONG our students is a scamp belonging to the Sophomore Class, who, while caring for NONE, is constantly dogging the footsteps of the ladies who attend Granville St. Church. Let him bew—r—!

HAD he no more reason for directing the sewing-machine agent to his land-lady, than the hope that if she bought a machine somebody would be round to show her how to run it?

THE ladies of the Sophomore English class have started a subscription list to get one of the poor Sophs a false tooth. Some of the tender hearted creatures subscribed as high as one cent.

A PROMINENT temperance man met the tall freshie coming out of a liquor store on Spring Garden Road and proceeded to give him a lecture in private. "Oh, sir," said Freshie, "I only took soda water. 'Pon my word!"

FRESHIE in the Botany class says: "I do not think the *umbellifera* is found in this Province unless it be the cherry tree. The professor thinks that a gross insult to Nova Scotia.

WE understand that negotiations between the St. Andrew's Juniors have been suspended for the present. Each undervalued the other, and failed to strike a bargain.

A HEAVY load was borne by the letter carrier toward Dalhousie on St. Valentine's day, and deposited in the box. A grand rush displayed much *true artistic taste* hidden in the one cent documents, but we must congratulate the Soph who received the gift of the *majors*.

PERSONALS.

RANKIN MACDOUGALL has returned from his sea voyage, and is now at his home in Maitland.

L. M. JOHNSTONE, a general here in 1882-83, is reported at Edinburgh, studying medicine.

DR. G. H. DEWOLFE, M. D., C. M., 1872, is practising medicine in England.

J. H. KNOWLES, B. A., 1882, is studying medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

HUGH MCKENZIE, B. A., 1872, M. A., 1875, is taking a front rank at the Truro bar.

C. D. McDONALD, B. A., 1873, editor of the *Pictou News*, and at one time one of the editors of the Dalhousie GAZETTE, was in town a few days last week, and paid us a flying visit.

W. C. HERDMAN, B. A., 1874, M. A., 1881, is engaged in the baking business in Pictou. Thus Dalhousie grads. are well represented in that town, not only on her Academy staff and editorial staff, but even in her staff of life business.

A. MCCOLL, B. Sc., '83, is distinguishing himself abroad. We clip the following from the *Pictou Standard* :—

"Archibald McColl, son of Jeffrey McColl, New Glasgow, is a student of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and at the recent examinations there, passed with honor, in German; with the credit in

Constitutional History and Analytical Geometry; besides passing in all the subjects of the course."

DR. J. M. McLEAN, B. A., 1879, graduated in medicine at McGill last spring, and is now practising his profession with much acceptance at Hopewell, Pictou Co.

P. F. LANGILL, a general here during the Session of 1877-78, is taking his last year in Divinity at Princeton, N. J. Also A. McAULAY, a general in the same year, is "finishing up" his Theological studies at Queen's College, Kingston.

WE notice by the *Mail* that the Rev. W. SCOTT WHITTIER, late pastor of Chalmers Church in this city, who has been cruising about in British Columbia, has returned to California and promises one of the city papers a letter from the Yosemite.

PROF. MACGREGOR delivered his lecture on "Technical Education" in Prince St. Hall, Pictou, on the evening of Friday, the 30th ult. Pictou papers speak in the highest terms of the lecture. The *Standard* says editorially:—

"The lecture delivered by Prof. MacGregor on Friday evening was a clear and effective statement of the benefits to be derived from a good system of technical education. When he began his hearers knew little about the subject and probably cared less; when he ended they were enthusiastic. This fact we are inclined to regard as a favourable omen, and we firmly believe that in a few years the change that came over the audience in Prince Street Hall will be experienced by the great majority of Nova Scotians.

ELI PERKINS ON DR. McCOSH'S IMPRESSION.

"Ah, I have an impression!" exclaimed Dr. McCosh, the President of Princeton College, to the mental philosophy class. "Now, young gentlemen," continued the Doctor, as he touched his head with his forefinger, "can you tell me what an impression is?"

No answer.

"What; no one knows? No one can tell me what an impression is!" exclaimed the doctor, looking up and down the class.

"I know," said Mr. Arthur. "An impression is a dent in a soft place."

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Dr. Alexander, \$5.00. Rev. Dr. Burns, Rev. E. S. Bayne, B. A., Rev. Anderson Rogers, B. A., Rev. J. D. McGillvray, Miss Newcombe, S. A. Merton, D. R. Grant, W. J. MacKenzie, Geo. G. Campbell, J. J. Buchanan, Sydenham Howe, R. T. Locke, and S. MacLennan, \$1.00 each.

TWELVE numbers of the GAZETTE are issued every Winter Session by STUDENTS of Dalhousie College and University.

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Payments to be made to N. F. Mackay, Box 128, Halifax, N. S. Other business applications to be made to D. Stewart, 50 Maitland Street, Halifax, N. S. All literary communications to be addressed to Editors "Dalhousie Gazette," Halifax, N. S. Anonymous communications will receive no attention.

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