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SHAKESPEARE.

FOR THE M'NAUGHTON COMPETITION

O Nature's child, thy mother's favorite,
Who drew'st thine inspiration from her breast,
Thou can'st not lie "hid in death's dateless night;"
For genius never dies; thy works attest
The greatness of thy worth; and thy bequest,
Made to the world's a monument of fame,
More durable than brass. Time cannot wrest
Thee from the hearts of men; revered the name,
That all true men admire, and Albion loves to claim.

Immortal bard! I cannot sing thy praise;
Feelings alone are mine, when thou art near;
Thy skilful hand my passive nature sways
With music's graceful notes, charming the ear;
But touch the chords of woe, the silent tear
Steals from its crystal fount, a frightened thing;
My soul goes out to thine in trembling fear,
'Tis pierced with grief; touch thou another string,
And joy a blithesome bird mounts up on airy wing.

In every touch the artist's hand is seen;
The beauties of the earth, the sea, the sky,
The day, the night, the fields, the forests green,
'Scape not the poet's penetrating eye;
His feelings rise in strains of ecstasy,
His soul dilates, his words become sublime,
He soars aloft, he sings exultingly;—
But Ah! Parnassus' heights I cannot climb,
I lack poetic fire, and lose myself in rhyme.

A NEW YEAR'S REVERIE.

[WADDELL COMPETITION].

NEW YEAR'S EVE was drawing to its close as I sat with an open book before me, tired, drowsy, and decidedly "in the blues." For the past two days and nights I had been making a mighty effort to clear off the accumulated arrears of back work, and so start the NEW YEAR on a better basis; to accomplish which I had almost foregone sleep and exercise. But nature cannot be forced too far. Though but a few pages remained

of what I had planned to read, I had become utterly exhausted. My eye, it is true, still glanced mechanically along the lines; but, do what I would, I found it impossible to concentrate my thoughts any longer on the subject before me. A line (from *Hamlet*, I think) kept running through my head to the exclusion of all else, "*Some must work while others sleep!*" producing in me feelings truly Ishmaelitic. Realizing, at length, the folly of further attempts at study, I threw down the book, blew out the light, drew an easy-chair before the fire, and proceeded to warm myself, preparatory to retiring.

In a few minutes, however, I began to feel less "with myself and with mankind at war." The cheering influence of the fire wrought in me a more cheerful frame of mind. My present lot did not seem so bad after all, and what might not the future have in store? For my absent fellow-students (to whom my thoughts naturally went out) I could now entertain more friendly sentiments. All dog-in-the-manger feelings soon vanished, and I heartily wished them a most pleasant vacation. Giving full rein to fancy, I pictured many a scene in which they figured,—welcomes-home, friendly greetings, Christmas trees, parties, all holiday enjoyments.

Then scenes of a different character began to appear. The actors were the same; but I beheld now not the present, but the future, not the near but the distant. Thought, annihilating time and space, carried me forward nearly a third of a century and westward "from Ocean to Ocean." I saw everywhere indications of mighty national progress. A quadrupled population, a good national credit, general contentment, and the

successful development of natural resources showed that the "National Policy" had worked its expected result. Potentiality had become actuality; Canada was great. And, needless to say, united; for the striving after a common object, the up-building of a nation, had effaced all sectional jealousies. The Quebec and North-West difficulties had been adjusted, Cape Breton was satisfied that she had got "justice," P. E. Island had her "subway" and was therewith content, and in Nova Scotia the "Repeal" agitation was as dead in fact as its originators had long been politically. In Parliament, it is true, there was still an "Opposition," but it was a mere "forlorn hope," for the then Premier, Sir John's successor, had an overwhelming majority to support him in carrying out the policy that had made Canada great, and would yet make her greater. Something familiar in his appearance struck me; surely he was a Dalhousian!

But with material progress there had come something higher; purer morality could also be discerned. Enlightened public opinion had demanded and obtained not only "Prohibition," but also other great social reforms. Moulded by the pulpit and the press, and by the better class of men in all the professions, it reacted on them and, in fact, exercised a healthy censorship over the conduct of public men generally. As a consequence, politicians, discarding all corrupt practices, relied solely on the merits of their cause for success. Journalism sought no longer to pander to political clique; it had the country's weal at heart. Philanthropic not mere mercenary motives actuated our Doctors. The Lawyer's aim was to secure justice, not "to make the worse appear the better reason." Our Clergy laboured not for the praise of a fellow-mortal, but for the "Well done!" of a Higher Power. And in the front ranks of the professions thus reformed, I seemed to see many Dalhousians! They had borne the brunt of the battle for reform, and, as victors, were now enjoying their just share of the spoils.

Further, with the growth of a national sentiment, and the attainment of national greatness, their outcome had appeared—a national

Literature. Canada had at length produced great authors. Her standing in the world of letters was worthy of her political rank among nations. Indian and Acadian legend furnished subject, the scenery of Quebec, Southern Nova Scotia, and Cape Breton colouring, for many a charming tale in prose and verse. The establishment of a younger Britain on American soil had found a worthy historian. And much more was expected of her promising young writers. Though essentially Canadian in genius and subject our literature was not without charm for all English-speaking people; while in Canadian homes the great national works were as well-known as some of their authors are now in the halls of Dalhousie

For some time similar bright visions kept crowding before me. I saw a brilliant future for my "*Alma Mater*" as the Canadian Harvard, for she claimed this rank, and "had her claim allowed." Then gradually the colours became less and less bright, till scenes of an entirely different character began to appear. All unconsciously to me the fire had burned down till nothing but a handful of dead gray ashes remained in the grate, and the room was cold and cheerless. Without, too, all was gloom. The sky had become overcast. It was "the dark hour before the dawn." My thoughts adapted themselves to the altered complexion of the surroundings. They still followed the futures of my fellow-students, but I saw nothing now but the repetition of the same life-tragedy—bright hopes at the start, chilling disappointments succeeding, the path to fame found too "rugged," ending in a struggle for very existence.

The climax was reached when I surveyed my own future. A teacher at loggerheads with pupils and parents, a half-starved attorney, a thrice rejected candidate for the legislature, a *litterateur* whose books had never found a publisher—such had been the successive stages in my career. What should I turn to next? I must—A HAPPY NEW YEAR! said a familiar voice, I opened my eyes and took in the situation. I was sitting shivering, in a most cramped position, my head having fallen over the arm of my chair. It was broad daylight. The "new sun" had risen "bringing the NEW YEAR."

THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF PARTY POLITICS.

[Read by E. FULFON before the Literary Society.]

Mr. President,—There is a maxim, familiar no doubt to all, that many men are of many minds. Remark upon the truth of this saying is scarcely necessary, as the experience of every age of the world's history amply verifies it. Indeed it could hardly be otherwise, since every individual has been endowed with an independent mind. Just as we find variety in form and in feature, so we find variety in thought; and it would be just as reasonable to expect that all men should look alike, as to expect that all men should think alike. This contrariety of thought, however, does not necessarily imply, that in difference of opinion, there must be wrong ideas and right ones. They may be all wrong. An object presents different views from different positions. So may the same truth be differently viewed from different standpoints; nor can any truth be fully comprehended, unless it be surveyed from all possible positions.

In all States which have any pretensions to civilization, and in which the people have to a greater or less extent a voice in the government, the tendency is, and has always been, towards separation into parties in regard to the more important principles and practices involved in the art of government. The poet may sing of the good old days of the past, and try to make us believe that,

"Then none was for a party;
Then all were for the state."

but that is mere poetic fiction. Such a time never really existed. If there were no Liberals and Conservatives—Republicans and Democrats, there were Roundheads and Cavaliers—Plebeians and Patricians, or some such division or other.

Not only, however, do we find that, in the political world, division into parties is the rule; but we also find that there are not generally more than two parties. Third parties and independents have scarcely ever been healthy or long-lived; for the reason, perhaps, that a strong temptation always exists for any two to forget minor differences and combine against the third. It is not therefore surprising that they have neither been successful nor have been looked

upon with much favor. The best example, perhaps, of a stable and successful independent party is that of the Parnellites of the present day. Government by means of party seems to have been adopted by the universal practice of civilized nations as unavoidable. Entire absence of party in politics has never yet been seen nor ever will. Such a state of things is purely Utopian—unpractical and therefore not worth discussing. Party politics is a necessity. It arises from the very nature of things. While there is variety of opinion, there will be discussion; and while there is discussion, there will be division. That there are many and serious evils in party politics may be admitted. What system has not its defects? But when we weigh the disadvantages with the advantages, it must be seen that the former are in no way proportionate to the latter.

The greatest objection to party politics, and the one most frequently urged, is its strong tendency to promote corrupt and unjust practices in political dealings. That these practices are common in political dealings, is true; and to be deplored. But this is the fault, not of the system; but of the times—of the people themselves. Why should there be one code of morals for the political, and another for the social or commercial world? It is owing to the lack of right ideas in regard to political duties and privileges that this evil exists—that the term *politician* has come to mean one who is an adept in the arts of roguery and chicanery, who is ready to "frame his face to all occasions," who is "everything by starts and nothing long." But this is an evil which can be lessened—which is, in fact, at the present day growing less. Slowly, but surely, reform is advancing; and, though the millennium is yet far off, it will be at no very distant date that we shall have our political atmosphere purified of much of the obnoxious miasma with which it is at present infected.

Another evil attendant upon party politics is that it encourages the viewing of public questions from purely partizan stand-points. This is a decided disadvantage; and one, perhaps, inseparable from the system. Too often do we find that statesmen, in regard to this or that particular

question, consider first "how will our views affect the party?" not "how will they affect the state?" Too often do we find that questions, which in themselves are utterly prejudicial to the best interests of the state, are raised merely for the purpose of favouring the political aggrandizement of this or that party. But these and lesser evils we must take with the system. We must not condemn it because it has manifest disadvantages. The point for consideration is, does the bad outweigh the good?

If there is one thing that division into parties is likely to encourage, it is discussion. If one party adopts certain views, the other, unless the views are universally recognized as sound, will endeavour to prove them false. By this means is secured a thorough investigation into all ideas which are not in themselves sufficiently obvious to be adopted by the majority, or which are of doubtful or debatable merit. How can we arrive at a perfect knowledge of a subject better than by hearing it fully discussed? If false doctrines or unsound principles are promulgated by one party, how ready is the other to detect and expose them. The one thus serves as a check upon the other. And just as we have harmonious and regulated movement from the opposing action of the centripetal and centrifugal forces in the planetary system, so have we harmonious and regulated movement from the opposing action of well-balanced parties.

From this, too, it may be inferred that party politics give us the best possible security for a just and stable administration. It is admitted by all that an administration should be responsible to the representatives of the people; that if its actions are not in unison with the ideas of those representatives, it should be removed. But will anyone say that there should be no safeguard for the security of a ministry; that it should be left to the caprice of a body of unorganized men? What is more capricious than popular feeling, and consequently, though in a less degree, popular representation? There is, as somebody has very aptly said, a remarkable tendency in any large assembly of men to degenerate into a mere mob. Here the utility of the party system is manifest. It serves as a

check upon this tendency. And the more strongly drawn the lines of party, the more decided the check, and the more likely to result in stability of government. To the fact that at present party lines are more sharply defined than in former times, as, for instance, in the reign of Queen Anne, is due, largely, the advantage we possess over those of that time in regard to responsible government. A careless and irresponsible ministry at the present day may be said to be an impossibility; whereas, in the crude state of parties at that day, responsibility was practically unknown. What was everybody's business was nobody's business.

Popularly, it is supposed that the representatives of the people receive their political opinions from those they represent. It would be more nearly the truth to say the opposite. To whom but the leaders of a party do we look for the peculiar tenets of that party? The people follow, not lead. They, however, should see that they are well led. Statesmen—those who are familiar with all the questions and difficulties affecting the body politic, are naturally the best authorities on such subjects. They should therefore educate or try to educate their followers up to their own standard. This may indeed be a false standard: but that is no argument. Time will soon right that. Their duty is to lead not follow popular opinion; nor are they true statesmen who do not do so. The people are best served, not when their needs force themselves into consideration, but when they are anticipated. And it can hardly be denied that the rivalry of parties stimulates the leaders of those parties to try and anticipate the wants of the people. There is of course such a thing as unnatural forcing; but more evil is likely to result from stagnation than from excessive activity. While, therefore, party politics has many disadvantages, it has also its decided advantages. The former, at least the more serious ones, are largely incidental; but the latter are inherent. The advantages belong to the system, the evils are the result of the morbid state of political morality at present existing. The remedy then lies with ourselves. In this as in many other things, it is pretty nearly true that,

"Our own felicity we make or find."

To the Editor of the Gazette:—

Would you kindly allow me space to express a few ideas relative to the lecture system in Colleges. It is well known that it is the custom in Dalhousie, as well as in many of the older universities, for the students to take notes; and it is equally true that in Dalhousie, at least in many of the classes, the text book, if any, is little used, while the lecture notes taken by the students form the rugged field in which they must sweat and labor to dig out the buried talent which is to satisfy the demands of professors on examination day. When his college career has closed he who "*Baccalaureatus in Artibus gradum adeptus est*" without a pang consigns his old note-books to—nowhere, while his successors in harness write, copy, erase, misread, don't understand, swear over, their notes just in the same way as if nothing had ever before been known or written on the particular subject which these notes are supposed to elucidate. His predecessors notes are no good to him. Why? First, they are illegible; second, they are too meagre; third, they cannot be understood except perhaps by the person who took them. The predecessor didn't use shorthand. The professor went too fast. The scribe couldn't understand him, was perchance lazy, careless, or stupid, or &c., &c. But cannot the student abandon his notes and take up a good text book? Yes; but the professor's lecture can be found in no one text book, and if he do this he may miss the examination hobbies even though he may know a good deal of the subject. The man who knows all that has been ever said in class by his professor, can *ceteris paribus* pass the best examination. But why don't the professors get their lectures printed? Now you have asked a posey. We are a very conservative people, as the Yankee said who spit across the dinner-table into the fire. Professors have always lectured from the days of the peripatetics and earlier. But printing has now been in use for some years, and we hope to see it used yet more, if it will do away in any measure with this toilsome, time-wasting, perplexing, stupid system of taking down "bosh," for such a lecture becomes when once permanently registered by the average student. If the lectures of the professor can be found in no text book, let them be printed, and that too every year if the professor's knowledge continues to be so recent. If the reader will go back to the time when he was wont to be inverted over the parental knee, he will, it seems to me, find the true system of school and college study. A definite text book is prescribed, a definite lesson is assigned, and only such remarks are made by the teacher as are clearly necessary

to exemplify or explain it, or for the solution of difficulties. The college student is not a scholar. Of many of the subjects which he is to take up he knows little or nothing at the commencement. He is a comparative suckling. He should at least be able to get a peep at the substance of the lecture before it is given. If so, he will appreciate it when it is given instead of striving to keep his feet on the bottom of the argument, and take notes at the same time.

How many students remember with supreme dissatisfaction the opening lectures of some difficult subject, simply because the light so suddenly burst upon them is too strong for unaccustomed eyes groping in "territories of ignorance." What can they do under the circumstances? Blindly take notes which are to form the basis of their future knowledge (?) of the subject, and which it is not improbable will fill no higher destiny than that of tiding them past the Ides. Reform is necessary. Be ye not therefore over-solicitous O student of taking down every word that your professor saith, but strive rather to understand what he is talking about, and the probabilities are, you will be able to find the same thing in any text book put in a much clearer manner than you could have expressed it. Try too, and find out, what your professor is going to talk about next day.

I am yours, etc.,

OLD STUDENT.

AMONG THE COLLEGES.

DELAWARE College has abolished co-education.

COMPULSORY attendance upon religious exercises has at last been abolished at Harvard.

THE Faculty of Wellesley will not allow the students to publish a paper.

HEIDELBURG, the oldest German University, was founded in 1386.

OXFORD University gives \$500,000 annually in scholarships and fellowships.

ABOUT 150 of the colleges in the United States publish papers.

THE President of the California State University gets a salary of \$8,000.

THE University of New Brunswick has thrown open its doors to lady students, and one young lady has entered the Freshman class as an undergraduate.

The Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 17, 1887.

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"TIME rolls his ceaseless course," and 1886 has been added to the pages of history. The year just ended was one especially noteworthy in the history of our University. In it the fact that our present building, palatial and comfortable as it no doubt is, was not large enough to accommodate the ever-increasing number of students, seems to have come home to our Governors. The gift of a benefactor, of whose name we need make no mention, roused them to action, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that next year we will be in the long-talked of new building. During the past year the Alumni, before little more than a name, seemed to take heart, and we now find them claiming their share in the management of the affairs of the College. Among ourselves, professors and students,—for in the spirit of the age we are beginning to lose much of the old time awe with which we used

to look upon the former, and have begun with more confidence to couple the names,—we have to regret the loss of one of our most popular professors, and with pleasure have made the acquaintance of his successor. We miss the seniors of last year, and have welcomed with paternal affection the verdants who, as the others advanced, stepped into the breach. At the beginning of a new year, however, we should not spend too much time in such a retrospect, but should rather look ahead. Let us then bury the old year in the memories of our Xmas festivities, and now peer into the future.

To most of us no doubt the outlook for the immediate future is drear enough, work, work, culminating in April in the sessionals. Here we were about to enter our protest against the plugging, which no doubt will commence shortly, but we feel it to be useless; as long as there is a college, so long will there be pluggers. But for those who have not yet tried it we will only say—don't. In closing and wishing our readers all a Happy New Year, we would also ask for their good wishes and support. We ask them to devote some time to the interests of their paper. We ask them to contribute to its columns, and in order that we may not become embarrassed financially, we ask them to pay up. Remember then our requests for the New Year, support your paper by contributions, literary and monetary.

THE alumni meeting have, by resolution, killed the agitation for a different location for the new building, and have shown their loyalty to their *alma mater*, which was tested severely by the indifference of the governors to their representations. This is as it should be. A resolution regretting that the governors did not consider the memorial of the association at sufficient length was voted down, as it was considered of no use to cry over spilt milk. There were objections to the site, but the discussions in the press, and at the meeting, were carried on without bitterness, and we do not think that feelings have been engendered which will materially effect the governors' appeal to our friends for monetary assistance. One thing this passing

THE MATCH.

The *Acadia Athenaeum* in a lengthy article grows exceedingly wrathful over Dalhousie's report of "that match." The writer finds fault with the "Exchange man" for referring to the matter; flies into a rage with the reporter for "his version;" tries to prove several things and proves nothing, and after referring to Acadia's gentlemanly conduct (?) when Dalhousie was the visiting team, closes with regret that they had to refer to the matter at all. If the writer had common sense he would have seen that the remarks made by the "Exchange man" was in no way different from the account given by the reporter. Nowhere does the latter say that Dalhousie interpreted the rule, but only that a dispute occurred about the *interpretation*. When Acadia's captain appealed to Dalhousie's, he was referred to the referee, who gave his decision in favour of Dalhousie. Acadia's captain refused to abide by this decision. In this, we think, he stands without a rival, as being the first captain who ever refused to abide by the decision of a referee chosen by both captains.

THE GAZETTE has been charged with being a purely local paper. Though this criticism was no doubt passed in a spirit of the most friendly solicitude, we certainly do not admit of its correctness. Every issue, we venture to assert, contains matter interesting to any one, even should he be totally unacquainted with the University and its associations. We keep always in view the fact that our paper is the *Dalhousie Gazette*, but at the same time strive to make its influence as wide as possible. While, therefore, we see the necessity of making no serious changes, some slight ones might not be amiss. One change that must be affected, is a reform in the column *Dallusiensia*. To contributors we would say, for gracious sake cease punning. This habit is always reprehensible. Last year it developed into a nuisance, and this year it has become a perfect bore. Glance at this classic column, and see the frantic striving and far-fetched conjuring that is employed to connect the names of some guileless freshmen with events, real or fictitious, with which they have been, or are said to have been, associated. We have no objection to wit, on the contrary, we solicit witty contributions, but we do object to, and will attempt to stop, this atrocious habit of punning.

THE Charter of William and Mary College, in Virginia, is retained by the old President ringing the college bell every morning. No student responds, however, for the institution has been defunct for years.

THE Faculty of Amherst is entirely composed of graduates of that institution.

As to the statement that Dalhousie's captain "called his men *jeering and howling* off the field," we say that it is a malicious falsehood. Before Dalhousie's captain called his men off the field, he took Acadia's captain aside and asked him if he was going to play by the decision of the referee; and when Acadia's captain said that *he would not*, Dalhousie's captain at once called his men off the field.

When called off the men went without either "jeer" or "howl," and in just as gentlemanly a manner as ever Acadia's men conducted themselves. When Acadia's captain says that he will not play but by his own interpretation of the rules, we would like to know what course is left but to call the men off the field. We think it is high time Acadia ceased to accuse any other team of ungentlemanly conduct.

As to yielding the point when Dalhousie was the visiting team, Acadia knows well that the first dispute was settled by a compromise in which they had the lion's share; and when the second arose, no concession was granted to Dalhousie whatever. This year when Acadia was

the visiting team, Dalhousie, at Acadia's request, asked their best player to leave the team, and even chose a second umpire because Acadia disapproved of the first. No doubt, Acadia having had in part the privilege of deciding who should play on Dalhousie's team, and act as their umpire, thought that they should dictate to the team as they saw fit. Dalhousie has more than once played with the champion teams of the Maritime Provinces, but never, till they met Acadia, has she been accused of dishonourable or ungentlemanly conduct.

The *Athenæum* regrets that occasion should have arisen for such an article. Their regrets may be sincere, but yet they must remember that it was not until an incorrect and one-sided report appeared in the *Athenæum* and two other papers as well, that Dalhousie was forced to refer to an event which she had otherwise determined to pass over in silence.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

THE PASTOR'S DIARY AND CLERICAL RECORD FOR 1887. By Rev. Louis H. Jordan, B. D., Third Edition, Revised and Improved, 12 mo., Cloth, \$1.00. Montreal: W. Drysdale & Co.

The above is the title of a very complete and useful little hand-book prepared specially for the use of clergymen, and aims at supplying what must have been a long felt want, viz.: A convenient and properly arranged hand book, in which to jot down the multifarious items and details of duties and experiences, which a pastor would deem incumbent upon himself to preserve. It contains Tables for Reference, Daily Record for the year, Tables for the record of Pastoral Visitation, Pulpit and Platform, Church Rites, Collections, Memoranda, Annual Summary, &c., &c., together with a carefully prepared digest of Scripture texts suitable for various occasions—in all 224 pages. The compiler, Rev. Mr. Jordan, Pastor of Erskine Church, Montreal, is, we are happy to say, one of Dalhousie's most illustrious graduates—having highly distinguished himself on both sides of the Atlantic; and it affords us much pleasure to observe the eminent success that attends his labours in the laborious charge of which he is now occupant. We bespeak for

the *Diary*, and its companion volume, the *Communion Register*, an extensive sale.

BELCHER'S FARMER'S ALMANAC for 1887, published by McAlpine & Barnes, Halifax, contains a large amount of valuable information which is contained in no other work of the kind.

REAL RELIGION AND REAL LIFE is the subject of a work recently published by Rev. S. McNaughton, M. A., of Preston, England. The aim of the author is to show that religion is more than doctrine, theory, or creed; that to be of benefit to the human breast, it must become a real power in, and have a practical bearing upon daily life. The author writes with an earnestness which cannot fail to impress the reader, and with a clearness and simplicity of style which make it at once intelligent and interesting. The work is intensely earnest, thoughtful and practical throughout. Mr. McNaughton is also the author of several other well-known works.

"THE LEGEND OF HAMLET," is the subject of a very interesting work lately published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. The author of the work is the late George P. Hansen, for many years United States Consul at Elsinore, in Denmark. While there, he had access to records and rare manuscripts, from which the material for his work was obtained. In his opening pages the writer points out the chief differences between the Hamlet of the play and the Hamlet of history. The latter he represents as a man full of the spirit and daring of the heroic age, whose life was a succession of encounters, in which might was the only right. The author at the same time quotes the views of a number of leading historians which have a close bearing upon the subject. The legend is written in a masterly and pleasing style, and cannot fail to meet with that success which it so richly deserves.

AN exceedingly interesting and instructive little work, entitled, "THE SOCIAL STATUS OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN WOMEN," has just been published by Miss Martin, and Miss Henrotin. The book, while not advocating "woman's rights," in the popular sense of the term, advances many useful suggestions for the improvement of their condition. It is also

important for the light which it throws upon the improvement of society in general. For sale by Kerr & Co., Chicago.

THE MORAL INFLUENCE OF CARLYLE.

[FOR THE WADDELL COMPETITION].

THE popular opinion of Carlyle does not seem to be a favorable one. This is only what we might naturally expect, as no truly great man is fully understood or appreciated by his contemporaries. Many condemn Carlyle who know nothing of his life or works, just as they praise the Shakespere and the Milton, that they have never read. His life, as written by Froude, is supposed to represent him in a very unfavorable light. Ever since the work appeared the reviewers have been hissing and cackling at the biographer and his hero. The most serious charge against Froude is, that he told the truth about Carlyle. He portrays the great sage with Boswellian faithfulness; and perhaps his work is the only one in our language that deserves to be ranked with Boswell's life of Johnson. Most of our biographers portray angels, and not men who nobly fought the stern battles of life. This one-sided and untruthful style of writing lives has been the fashion for some time, and so people are startled when a *real* picture of human life is presented to them. Carlyle expressly wished to be represented as he really was; and such a wish was in perfect harmony with the tenor of his life, which was essentially true and morally pure.

We shall look at a few points in his life and teaching that impress us with a sense of his moral greatness. He studied with a view to the ministry, but felt that he could not conscientiously enter that sacred calling. His mind was perplexed with doubts on the greatest spiritual questions, and he could not profess what he did not sincerely believe. A man with less moral strength would have silenced his doubts, or reconciled his conscience to the circumstances; but Carlyle could not trifle with his convictions; and this gives us a vivid glimpse of his sterling honesty.

After declining to enter the ministry, he was adrift on the world, and knew not how to get

his bread in an honest way. He thought of entering the literary ranks, and went to London to see the leading writers of the day. His opinion of these great men is well known. Most of them were mere dandies who had no deep convictions nor serious views of life. He discovered that truth was not their first object; that they wrote to please the public, and wished to be popular at any price. Carlyle would not write merely for money,—his first object was truth, not popularity. One of the central ideas of his teaching is that Honesty is the cornerstone of all true greatness. The man who sees into the nature of things around him must have a true moral, as well as intellectual, vision. He must not on any account play tricks with his conscience, or be false to his convictions. Nothing could induce Carlyle to write what he did not believe, hence the moral earnestness that characterizes his writings.

When he seriously entered on his literary career, he spoke with authority, and denounced in scathing language the whims, follies, and pet theories of the age. He proclaimed that the end of man is action and not thought. Mere theories and noble ideas are useless if they do not end in action. He showed the dignity of honest work, and maintained that the great precept of life is: "To do the duty that lies nearest hand." But then he saw that men worked merely for money and pleasure, and not from a sense of duty. So, like all true prophets, he denounced mammon worship, and he would rather see men getting better than richer. He knew that hundreds became rich at the expense of truth and honesty and feared that such a state of matters would ultimately lead to national ruin. A nation may decline in the highest sense, while progressing in material wealth. Carlyle, therefore, demanded absolute right and honesty in every individual and national transaction. Many represent him as teaching the "gospel of force," or that might is right; he, however, taught the very opposite—that *right* is might. The right idea is the strong one, and the just cause must prevail. Politically speaking, only intellectual kings had a right to rule. He says: "The king that God appointed would be an emblem of God, and would

demand all obedience from us. But where is that king? The best man could we find him." Hence the reason why he justified some of his heroes for doing what to us may seem wrong. If they overturned society, and demanded that thousands should submit to them, it was because the nature of things required a revolution, as the world was groaning under a burden of lies and imposture. Perhaps no writer ever understood the meaning of history more clearly than he did. To him, no axiom was more true than that every form of evil-doing would be punished. "All political follies," he says, "issue at last in a broken head to somebody." History was his only Bible, and every man's life was a page of that record. We are sorry that he lost faith in the recognized creeds; but he never ceased to believe in the sublime morality of our religion. "A Puritan who lost his creed," is the best definition that can be given of Carlyle from the religious point of view. Honesty, wherever found, he always loved and admired. Even culture and brilliancy were nothing in his opinion, unless founded on genuine soundness of heart.

But many say that he did not practice the high morality that he preached. Some represent him as a social bear, who found pleasure in making things disagreeable around him. That he was not a social dandy, who could politely say nothing at great length, is quite true. He sometimes used strong and sarcastic language, and his sincerity in speaking the truth often led him to be regardless of personal feelings. His nervous system was so sensitive that the least annoyance would drive him into a violent state of mind. When enraged, we are told, language flowed out of him burning hot, like lava from a volcanic eruption, so that all around him were terrified by his wrath. But we must not forget that dyspepsia accounts for more than half his faults and misery. At heart, the man was true and tender all the time; there was nothing base or cruel in his nature. An honest man's faults are easily seen; and Carlyle's character was too transparent to hide his failings. Many whose sins are ten times greater than his have condemned him; but they have sufficient hypocrisy

to hide their sins from the world. Froude says that, "The most malicious scrutiny will search in vain for a serious blemish on Carlyle's character." He walked the slippery paths of youth with unsullied purity, and in old age maintained the strictest integrity. Taking him all in all, we may truly say that he practiced the noble principles that he preached.

EXCHANGES.

THE Xmas. number of the *Kings College Record* contains a large amount of interesting reading matter.

WE are pleased to welcome to our exchange list the *College Times*, published by the students of the Upper Canada College. Judging from the first number, it promises to be interesting.

The Xmas. number of the *Pennsylvanian* contains a large amount of reading matter, all of which is carefully written. The *Pennsylvanian* has just entered on the second year of its existence. We wish it every success.

The University, published by the students of the University of the City of New York, has reached us for the first time. The paper, which is only in the first year of its existence, promises to take a high place among college journals. The editorials are well written and interesting, and the paper presents a pleasing appearance throughout. We wish it every success.

We have received the first number of the *CHRISTIAN WORKER*, published by the Halifax Young Men's Christian Association. The paper, which is neat and well written, is entirely devoted to Christian work, not only as done in Halifax, but throughout the Maritime Provinces. It should be in the hands of every one interested in Christian work. We wish it every success.

The Portfolio contains a number of well-written and interesting articles. The leading editorial on "Originality" is the result of careful thought. "Dreamland," by "Louise," is written in a style which renders it peculiarly interesting and at the same time is instructive throughout. The *Portfolio* presents a neatness which would do credit to journals of larger pretensions. What the ladies undertake to do they do well.

WE have also received the *Queens College Journal*, *Latin School Register*, *University Monthly*, *Presbyterian College Journal*, *The Unity*.

COLLEGE NEWS.

DR. WILLIAM C. ROBERTS, a graduate of Princeton, and a trustee of the College of New Jersey, has accepted the presidency of Lake Forrest University, near Chicago.

AN unknown donor has given \$2000 to the Bursar of the University College, Toronto, to found a scholarship in Natural Sciences, to be called the "Daniel Wilson."

THE Columbia College Glee Club propose starting in a few days on an extended tour. Concerts will be given in Philadelphia, Washington, and other cities.

ALL Europe has fewer colleges than Illinois, and one of the European colleges has more students than all Illinois.—*Ex.*

ALUMNI MEETING.—The largest meeting of the Association ever held met in the Physics room on Wednesday, January 5th, to discuss (1) the location for the new building, (2) to secure for itself a larger representation on the board of governors. There were present, Sedgewick, Q. C., Harrington, Q. C., Newcombe, J. McG. Stewart, Pearson, McDonald, J. T. Ross, D. C. Fraser, Wallace, Boak, Sedgewick, Bulmer, and Geldert; besides Principal McKay, Prof. McGregor, Cahan, Mellish, W. M. Doull: Eben McKay, New Glasgow; McKenzie, Yarmouth; Murray, McLeod, Patterson and McInnes, etc. The meeting did not adjourn until midnight, and every member present had his say. The number of lawyers present was noticeable, and among all the clergymen who have graduated from Dalhousie, not one was present. After many resolutions had been submitted, the following was passed:—

"This Association regrets that the governors of Dalhousie College did not find themselves in a position to secure a better site for the new building, believing that to abandon the site chosen at this time would entail loss, which in view of the present financial prospects of the university could not well be borne, the Association deem it their duty to assist the governors in fulfilling their obligations in respect of the building in course of erection, in making the site already selected conserve in so far as possible the best interests of the University."

Mr. Patterson's resolution that the executive take immediate steps to obtain the necessary legislation to enable the alumni to select one third of the governors was seconded by Mr. Bulmer, and received the unanimous support of the meeting.

A TRIAL balance.—The baby's first run.—*Phil. Inquirer.*

DALLUSIENSIA.

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

"I am sure," said a freshman as he paid his washerwoman, "that I now understand how King John lost his crown and money in the Wash."

"I wish I were you," said a down-east freshie to his chum, as the latter seated himself in the car beside a young lady friend. His chum, however, never offered him an introduction.

A double guard against scrimmaging has been placed at the class-room doors. No doubt the combined efforts of Classics and English will perform what neither could accomplish alone.

One of our Seniors was recently caught in the act of stamping a Christmas Card with a rather suspicious looking address. We congratulate our popular chum, but trust he will not indulge in constitutional round Tower Road too often. We really did not expect this.

We congratulate our brave Islanders who were willing to abandon their books during the Christmas vacation to see their loved ones. Truly it may be said:

"That even the fear of an ice-bound ocean
Could not quell the feelings of love's emotion."

A Senior unconsciously gets poetical when he says:

"With what joy the lovers started
To claim their Native Land;
And with what pain the *Vectors* parted,
Who can fully understand?"

The following written for the McNaughton was received too late for competition:—

He went to bed with heavy heart,
And mind oppressed with fears;
The morning found his eyelids red,
His pillow wet with tears.

For he had got a message stern,
From the Senate grave and grim,
That the next day, at their judgment bar,
They were to sit on him.

Like a funeral bell it seemed to him,
That made him sadly groan;
As the fatal hour drew near, it fell
With deeper and *Fullertone*.

HIDDEN FRESHMEN.—See that freshmen with a bit of chalk in his hand, with which he is about to embellish the broad back of the brother freshie in front of him. "What'll I put?" he asks his neighbor. "Oh, something comic, call him an irrational quantity." He applies the chalk stealthily, when round jumps the broad-backed greenie and exclaims rather audibly, "if I catch you makin'—" "Tush, tush!" said the professor, whose back, by the bye, had been turned, "I wish your manners were a little more agreeable—no excuse, sir, no excuse, (the poor fellow was trying to say it wasn't he), you can easily avoid such outbreaks by being on your guard. Nor need you, sirs, over there on the end of the seat, make loud and disagreeable noises with your feet; and the gentleman alongside, I don't see what pleasure it can

give you to *make lanes* and canals all over the top of your desk. Just here a stout young man in the back seat laughed outright. "What do you mean, you *scamp*, bellowing like that!" Hullo, look at that poor lean little fellow over there, how he jumped at the professors sharp rebuke to the stout fellow; a *hungrier son* of a freshie's pater was never seen. "Well, *you is nervous*," said that wise-looking, glass-eyed brother who sat next him. "A *fish er* a cat's got more nerve than you have," said that fellow with the big eyebrows, who is such an active scimmager(?) These freshmen talk (as they look) very green sometimes. One fellow said to his neighbor, "give us the latin for 'unknown dandy?'" "*Incog swell*," came the answer from the confident latinist. See how his questioner is *rolling his eyes*; he must be in a fit; no wonder! All this time the professor was driving away at this noisy, restless, verdant class of mortals, and had become quite melancholy. "Will you, sir," he said in a most sorrowful tone, "give an example of a geometrical series?" "First six books of Euclid," said a bright eyed little chap who was not the one addressed. Of course, the professor was forced to demur: "*Eh! ah! did I hear—*" ding-a-ling-a-ling went the bell, and out tumbled the freshmen to rest their tired brains by scimmaging in the hall.

PERSONALS.

H. R. MUNRO and H. S. JACQUES, medicals of '84-'85, are also studying in the University of New York.

DUGALD STEWART, B.A., '86 is studying medicine at the University of New York. Mr. Stewart who was a general favourite here, has our best wishes for his success.

D. H. MACKENZIE, an under-graduate in Arts for two years, and an under-graduate at the Halifax Medical College, is also studying medicine at the University of New York.

F. A. RAND, M.D., a General of '81-'82, who has since been pursuing a very successful career, is also spending this winter at the University of New York.

J. W. PROCTOR, an under-graduate in medicine of last session, and FINLAY McDONALD, for two years a student of the Halifax Medical College, are also studying at the same University.

F. W. COX, C. W. McDONALD, E. D. McLEAN and J. F. T. MURPHY, all former Dalhousie men, are studying in Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

G. M. CAMPBELL, B.A., and former tutor of Dalhousie, and W. B. TAYLOR, B.A., are studying medicine in McGill Medical College. We wish them abundant success.

WALTER M. THORBURN, B.A., has returned to India, after his year's furlough, and is settled as Joint Magistrate and Sub-collector at Tuticarin, Madras. Government land-agent would be a better name for the office he holds. His work is largely judicial. He presides over a Land-Court for fixing fair rents and settling other disputes between landlords and tenants, and has also judicial powers in civil suits. Besides that, he is Inspector of Factories, Controller of Customs, Registrar of Shipping, President of the Local Fund Board, and Government representative in the Municipal Council, all in one. So Thorburn has his hands full of work. Yet he finds time for literary and scientific work, and at present is compiling a list of the vernacular names of indigenous plants.

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