

DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

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

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 19, 1876.

NEW No. 7.
WHOLE No 77

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GAZETTE.

NEW SERIES—VOL. I.
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HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 19, 1876.

NEW No. 7.
WHOLE No. 77.

WHAT I SAW IN A TEA-CUP.

A TEN MINUTES' TALK.

THE old tea gardens of London have long since disappeared, and, save through books, even their names are unfamiliar to the present generation. One hundred years ago they were among the pleasantest and most fashionable resorts of the great metropolis. In order to exclude the vulgar herd, and to make it certain that everyone who used the gardens paid something for the privilege, a small charge was made at the gate, but the visitor received in exchange for his sixpence or shilling, a small card which entitled him to its equivalent in refreshments. Once inside, you might stroll around the shady walks, over rustic bridges, and among brilliant flower-beds; or, tiring of this, sit down among a bevy of old-fashioned ladies and gentlemen and sip the fragrant drink then newly introduced from Holland. Some quaint old pictures, still preserved, give us a lively idea of the manner in which our ancestors sipped tea,

"On summer afternoons
At Bagnigge Wells, with china and gilt spoons,"

and at other similar resorts.

What a delightful thing it must have been, too, to drop in at Mrs. Thrale's on some pleasant evening to find "learned Johnson splashing his ponderous wit over the tea table for Boswell to pick up"; and everybody's friend Oliver Goldsmith, who "wrote like an angel but talked like Poor Poll," gabbling about some subject of which he was blissfully ignorant, in spite of Garrick's efforts to silence him, and Sir Joshua Reynold's silent protests. There would be Mrs. Thrale sitting at the head of the table, filling delicate little shells of the rarest china while Johnson displayed his wonderful capacity for emptying them, listening to the talk of the great men around her and occasionally venturing a little shaft of her own: "Sugar yourselves, gentlemen, and I will milk you all."

What a shock it would have given some of these old tea lovers to have seen the Mohawks tumbling those precious chests into Boston harbour the night that Freedom's Tea-pot boiled over, and when as the result of one night's work

"The waters in the Rebel Bay acquired such a flavor of Hyson that you may almost detect it at this day."

I am afraid that those old-fashioned tea-parties have gone forever. Now-a-days we ask such people to dinner, and discuss weighty matters between the courses; or meet them at those fashionable soirees, where literary men, artists, actors, musicians, and people worth knowing most do congregate.

Some of the ladies of modern society are conspicuous for the success with which they cast their lines for these notables. As Mrs Brown-ing has it they seek out a celebrity

"As lion hunters go
To deserts, to secure him with a trap
For exhibition in their drawing-rooms,
Or zoologic soirees."

The people who are really successful in this way, however, are comparatively few, though their imitators are many. When Mrs. Baggs succeeds in inducing her husband to cut trade and abandon the rooms over the shop where all the little Baggses have been born, and moves to a fashionable quarter, and into a mansion where unheard-of magnificence fills the little Baggses with wonderment and the maternal Baggs with pride, her first effort is directed towards the cultivation of a society for which she has a most profound respect. Some day, at the instance of his misguided wife, Baggs invites a lot of his old business associates to meet the great Herr Popoff, a magnificent creature who wards off starvation by consenting to fill the empty places at the tables of people who *do* know him, and by patronizing in a lofty manner an inferior class of people who *don't*. The Herr, on this occasion, refuses to pop-off at all for the amusement of the company, for whom he does not hesitate to

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show his contempt, and conducts himself generally in such a manner that Baggs is afraid to look his friends in the face for six months afterward. But Herr Popoff is a diner out of a rather unusual pattern. These gentlemen, ordinarily, are too particular about securing a second invitation to exhibit any want of appreciation of the feast. To win the good will of their host they make as sincere efforts to please his company as if their very existence depended upon it, as in most cases it does. Like Bottom in the Midsummer Night's Dream, they will roar so that the company will say:

Let him roar again
Let him roar again,

or they will "roar you as gently as a sucking dove." They tell their old stories, crack their old jokes, and try honestly to laugh and say "Ah, very good" at the right time from house to house, and from year to year, until their coats get shabby and their hands tremulous and they step off the scene and we know them no more.

The fact, that in this country the majority of people take their principal meal sometime after mid-day, has perhaps tended more than anything else to confine the practice of dining out within very small limits, and to very special occasions. Here, when we want to gather our friends around us, we ask them to tea, and the tea hour, in the opinion of the majority of people, is the pleasantest of the day. I have often wondered that it never occurred to Poe to add one more verse to that pleasant jingle of his description of the melody of the Bells. He has succeeded in hitting off to perfection the emotions suggested by the merry sleigh bell, the joyous marriage bell, the terror spreading fire bell, and the slow, solemn, tolling funeral bell. How did it happen that he had not a word to say for that sharp lively ring, so suggestive of hot rolls and jam, that calls us to tea. If he had omitted the breakfast bell, now, I should not have complained. There is no necessity for saying anything about that bell. We are none of us likely to forget the peculiarly exasperating way that it has of forcing itself upon our attention these cool mornings, and always about a half an hour or so sooner than we have any desire to hear it. It is a standing rebuke to us, and seems to chant in a tiresome monotone, these lines familiar to our youthful days.

'Tis the voice of the sluggard,
I hear him complain,
You have waked me too soon
I must slumber again.

It comes winding up the stairs in a creaky sort of way, forces itself through the key-hole, and insinuates itself under the blankets, making us feel as if we had been committing some grand misdemeanour, and a hand were laid on our shoulders, and an inexorable voice whispered in our ears, "young man you're wanted." No, a bell of that sort is the last thing in the world for any one to go into raptures over, much less to do into poetry.

One reason why we appreciate the tea hour so is that our day's work is generally over then, and we experience a feeling of relief, of which we are not conscious at any other time during the day. The music of David's Harp drove away the evil spirit of Saul, but its influence was not a circumstance, so to speak, to that music of the household, before which the money imps of the world fear and fly. I never saw the room yet that could not be made to look cosy in the evening, when the curtains are drawn together, and the coals glow in the grate, and the light dances and flickers on the china, and an agreeable aroma from the bubbling tea urn fills the air. Then, when you get your feet encased in a pair of soft slippers which have been warming before the fire, and exchange your coat for a loose dressing gown, if you do not look like a lord of creation it is not because you do not feel like one.

The proper people to ask to tea are smiling-faced, chatty, good natured people who like to see every one else reflect their own sunbeams. Heavy people should always be reserved for the dinner table, when you can talk over weighty matters between the courses. The conversation at the tea table should be as light as the biscuit. Dr. Johnson, in spite of Talmage's opinion to the contrary, I think, must have been a capital person to secure on such an occasion. The ladies, I know, ugly as he was, liked him exceedingly, and were delighted when the great man allowed them to pour out cup after cup for him, which he drank with the greatest relish. There was one little lady that he used to drop in upon almost every evening, and there are many stories related of his popularity with the fair sex. The people among whom Johnson mixed, understood his eccentricities, but the lady with whom Horace Greeley took tea one evening was not so fortunate. Horace you know had other peculiarities besides his bad writing, and bad hats. He wrote so energetically against the evils of eating hot bread, that his hostess

LEGAL EDUCATION.

The improvement made within the past twelve years, in Common School Education, throughout Nova Scotia, is patent to all. But if advancement is to be characteristic of our present system, there is much yet to be done by our more wise and honest statesmen. And it is our humble opinion that a mild compulsory law, more liberal salaries, a better educated and more competent class of teachers, would bring our educational status to a much higher standard. To note a similar amount of improvement in our Professional and Higher Education, would no doubt be to all intelligent men equally satisfactory, though even here, notwithstanding all the burning side issues which have lately been thrown before the Public, there are some grounds for congratulation. In the various Theological Institutions of the country much advancement can be noticed. The Episcopalians have awakened from their lethargy, and have rallied around their old Institution at Windsor; the Baptists have become even more zealous in men and money; the Presbyterians have strengthened and established more firmly than ever their so called "School of the Prophets," while other denominations are thereby stirred to rival emulation. If more liberal provisions and deeper interest can in this realm of knowledge effect anything, we should reasonably expect throughout our land men more learned, eloquent, and wise, and therefore better able "to vindicate Eternal Providence and justify the ways of God to man." The efforts made by the sons of Esculapius in Halifax for the advancement of their profession have met with eminent success, and the college erected in Carlton Street at a large expense, stands a lasting monument to their energy, perseverance, and pluck. Young men have thus facilities for the study of a very useful profession brought within easy reach, by which they themselves are improved and their country benefitted. For the prosecution of scientific study, provisions to some extent are made, though we must confess too meagre for a country which stands in the foremost rank in geological interest throughout the world.

Yet while we can note some advancement in certain branches of study, our wants are still numerous and varied, and nowhere greater than in the facilities for the acquisition of a legal education. The apparent indifference to this branch of knowledge exhibited by men who in

had considerably provided everything moderately stale, with the exception of one small plate of biscuit, which was placed some distance off so as not to be offensive. To her dismay Horace singled out that one unfortunate plate and no persuasion could induce him to partake of anything else.

Men as a general thing care very little for tea. They take it more as a matter of form, than anything else. It is a dish which must have been designed by Providence especially for the ladies. They are so partial to it, I believe, that they have invented a five o'clock tea as a pretext for a little further indulgence. But this much is to be said for them, that, next to sipping this innocent beverage themselves, their chief pleasure consists in pouring it out for others. There is no other position that they can occupy where they are so charming, or where they appear to such advantage as at the evening board.

So gracious sweet and purring,
So happy while the tea is poured
So blessed while the spoons are stirring.

This fondness for tea seems to increase with advancing years. I have heard of some good souls who guard the fire that warms their tea pot as lovingly as the Vestal Virgins watched the sacred fires that burned on the altars of the "immovable mother." If it were possible to drop in at any moment when they were not prepared to say "Wont you have a little drop of tea, my dear," they would never hold up their heads afterward.

Tea is a great socializer. It is amazing how confidential we can become over a well brewed cup. Sairy Gamp and her particular friend Mrs. Harris would sit for hours at a time in this way, unbosoming themselves of their own and other people's affairs. Sairy, I think, had a curious habit of increasing the stimulating power of her Gunpowder, with a slight addition of whiskey. The influence of tea drinking upon various temperaments, would afford material for a separate paper. Under its influence some people become grave, others become gay, and into others it infuses such an amount of asperity, that by the time they are through with their cups there is not a whole reputation left in the neighborhood. But I am trenching upon dangerous ground, and my ten minutes are up.

J. M. G.

other affairs seem to possess sufficient practical knowledge is truly wonderful. That men governed and protected by laws, of which they often boast, should be not only ignorant of, but completely indifferent to, their study, or to any wise measures for its improvement, seems to approach the marvellous. This can be seen every day in the abuse of the jury system, where men are called upon to decide questions in which "the law and the fact are intimately blended together," and where they almost invariably give wrong decisions. Thus the country requires more judges and litigation is increased. But in the science of legislation, the noblest and most difficult of any, and which is only a portion of a legal training, we find even greater ignorance and incompetency.

Sir William Blackstone has said "apprenticeships are held necessary to almost every art commercial or mechanical; a long course of reading and study must form the divine, the physician, and the practical professor of the law; but every man of superior fortune thinks himself born a legislator." And the great Tully has said "Est senatori necessarium nosse rempublicam; idque late patet: genus hoc omne scientiae, diligentiae, memoriae est sine quo paratus esse senator nullo pacto potest."

In our country we find men pushing their way to the highest legislative positions, for whom we can find no better description than that of Disraeli's "Nisi prius lawyers with the souls of demagogues", or else some ignorant boor who has made enough money in trade or barter to fasten on his outside what he conceives to be the marks of a gentleman or a man of refinement. Now it must be evident to all, that for legislative purposes, lawyers are indispensable, for innovations on the substance of existing laws can only be accomplished by lawyers—whoever may conceive and suggest them. Sound legislative reforms cannot be expected from the undisciplined minds of laymen, though no doubt they can make valuable suggestions; and for the welfare of our Dominion, now on the verge of national existence, intending lawyers should have every facility for the study of the science of legislation which is so closely connected and interwoven with law. The benefits that would flow from intelligent legislation have been stated by the great Judge Sir Edward Coke as follows: "If acts of parliament were penned by such only as perfectly knew what the common law was, before the making of any act of parliament con-

cerning that matter, as also how far forth former statutes had provided remedy for former mischiefs and defects discovered by experience; then should very few questions in law arise, and the learned should not so often and so much perplex their heads to make atonement and peace, by construction of law, between insensible and disagreeing words, sentences and provisoes, as they now do."

The system for the training of lawyers now in vogue in this province is too despicable to admit of criticism, and has succeeded in giving us a class from whom we can expect no reform in this matter, and from whom we turn to other sources. By the establishment of an unsectarian college like Dalhousie, largely supported by the state, we notice an impetus given to higher education which must be highly satisfactory to its advocates and supporters; being also highly suggestive of other improvements.

In connection with this college there can be no weighty objection urged against the establishment of a Legal Faculty. The success of the Medical Faculty has been already noticed, and it is the base legislation of past years alone in reference to the Legal Profession which has prevented the founding of a Legal Faculty by similar means. By the large number of influential governors, together with the members of the Senate, measures might be taken for the establishment of such a Faculty. Through the Senate a slight change could be made in the curriculum which would open the way to this reform. That part of the course given to constitutional and early English history, which is of great importance to intending lawyers, could be easily increased in value by adding a knowledge of the "Corpus Juris Civilis"—Greek, Mathematics or Ethics of the fourth year being made optional to prevent overburdensome work. In order to show that we are not over-estimating the value of the "Corpus Juris Civilis" we quote the statements of two of the most eminent jurists of modern times. Falck says: "Its permanent value does not lie in the decrees of the Emperors, but in the remains of juristical literature which have been preserved in the Pandects, nor is it so much the matter of these juristical writings as the scientific method employed by the authors in explicating the notions and maxims with which they have to deal, that has rendered them models to all succeeding ages, and pre-eminently fitted them to produce and develop those qualities of mind which are requisite to

form a jurist." Savigny says: "In our science, all results depend on the possession of leading principles, and it is exactly this possession upon which the greatness of the Roman Jurists rests. * * * If they have a case to decide they begin by acquiring the most vivid and distinct perception of it, and we see before our eyes the rise and progress of the whole affair and all the changes it undergoes. It is as if this particular case were the germ whence the whole science was to be developed. Hence with them, theory and practice are not in fact distinct, their theory is so thoroughly worked out as to be fit for immediate application, and their practice is uniformly ennobled by scientific treatment. In every principle they see a case to which it may be applied; in every case the rule by which it is determined; and in the facility with which they pass from the general to the particular and the particular to the general, their mastery is indisputable." Lord Hale often said "the true grounds and reasons of law were so well delivered in the Roman Digests that a man could never understand law as a science so well as by seeking it there;" while Sir Wm. Blackstone recommends the study of the Law of Nature and of the Roman Law in connection with the study of the particular grounds of our own. By this change in the course of study in the fourth year, its value, as far as mental culture is concerned, would be in no way lessened, while its practical value would be much increased, in improving the large number of young men who give their attention to the study of English Law, as well as others who do not make a specialty of it. But from the influence of our governors, as already stated, and from many others who only require the question to be intelligently and honestly brought to their notice, we can reasonably expect in this matter an immediate reform. Two more professors, specially for this purpose, in addition to the facilities now afforded by a learned and deservedly popular Arts Faculty would furnish advantages not only to the young men of our own province, but to all the Maritime Provinces, such only as they deserve and the necessities of our circumstances demand. Wise laws for the security of life and property have throughout all ages in intelligent countries been a subject of the most careful consideration, and at no period of our history more than at the present does this subject demand our attention.

—ONE of the greatest difficulties with which the friends of higher education have to contend, is the gross and frequent, though, we believe, unintentional, misrepresentation of the subject in the columns of the daily press. The *Herald* of Tuesday morning contains an article in point. We have space merely to mention the errors into which the writer has fallen. He talks as though those who advocate reform were in favour of giving Government patronage to some one of the existing colleges at the expense of the rest. By looking through our columns, he may see how widely he errs. He says that if the number of students be taken as a test Acadia College claims precedence. This error is worse than the other. Dalhousie has nearly double the number of students that Acadia has. "The strength and frequency," he thinks, "of the protest of Dalhousie against being considered Presbyterian," is a suspicious circumstance. Dalhousie has never protested against being considered Presbyterian, except when directly charged with being so. And what does the writer in the *Herald* think of the express denial of the Presbyterians that they have any claim to our college? He says that the grant given last spring was given largely on denominational grounds; while the *Chronicle*, the organ of the Government, and Mr. Hill, the leader of the Government, declared in the plainest terms that it was given entirely on unsectarian grounds. He says Wesleyans come from New Brunswick to attend Sackville, when "every school boy" knows that Sackville is in New Brunswick. He asserts that the Denominational Colleges are more popular and powerful than ever. This may be true, though we doubt it; but if it be, the fact is entirely owing to such articles as this of the *Herald*. If the real state of the colleges were plainly set before the people in the public press, this popularity and power would not exist very long. We have not noticed all the mistakes which the *Herald's* article contains, but we would most sincerely advise the writer before he again attempts to discuss this subject, to try and get some inkling of the truth, or else to confine his attention entirely to politics. If his knowledge of these is equal to his lack of knowledge on educational matters, he must be invaluable to our lively contemporary.

DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 19, 1876.

EDITORS.

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

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THE article upon the Colleges of this Province in our last number has elicited the opinion of certain of our contemporaries on this much agitated question. The first response appeared in the *Reporter*. This journal, we are happy to say, agrees with us in thinking reform necessary, but believes that the ideal Provincial University is an impossibility. Were we about to break fresh ground, thinks the *Reporter*, were there no colleges at all in this Province, then by all means let us have one Provincial University. But as matters stand, what between the prejudices of the various denominations, each bent on maintaining its own institution and opposing Dalhousie, and the vested interests that have gradually been secured by these denominational institutions, all hope of obtaining this one Provincial University must be given over. The best practical scheme, according to the *Reporter*, is to give each of the colleges \$2800, and to establish a Paper University possessing the power, though not the exclusive power, of conferring degrees. The reason for the advocacy of so lamentable a scheme of educational policy, the *Reporter* finds by gauging public opinion on the matter. Here is a strange confession for a journalist to make in the last quarter of the 19th century! On all other questions of general welfare, it is not the public that guides the press, but the press that guides and moulds public

sentiment. But on this matter of higher education, in which of all others the public mind might be expected to require instruction and guidance, all that can be done is to adopt such a scheme as may be pleasing to the great mass of the people, whose only views on the subject are such as the partisans of this or that sectarian university may be pleased to impart. Would it not be better, would it not be more consonant with the dignity of the Fourth Estate to make some attempt at educating public opinion in the matter, instead of following blindly in its wake? The supineness of the daily press on this subject is disheartening to those really interested in higher education. We are convinced that were, even at this stage of the college question, some prominent statesman or a leading newspaper to discuss the matter fairly and candidly, not advocating the claims of Dalhousie or any other institution, but urging the unification of our six small struggling colleges into one large, well equipped university, public sentiment regarding higher education would undergo an almost complete transformation. As to the vested interests at stake, they need give no very great trouble. Part of them could be transferred to the new institution; the rest could be utilized in equipping theological colleges. The *Reporter* need not have drawn any comparison between the education given by the respective colleges in the Province. That is rather a matter for private discussion, or the test of this work-a-day world, than for self-laudation in the papers of the different colleges. But can any one deny that the education given at one large central university with well stocked library, complete scientific apparatus, thorough distribution of subjects among a numerous body of professors, and, which is perhaps the most important of all, the rivalry of three or four hundred students, would be immeasurably superior to anything that can be at present obtained in the Province? Before leaving the *Reporter* we must call our readers' attention to a strange inconsistency on the part of that journal. Immediately following

the article in which the impossibility of establishing a Provincial University is maintained, is a short leader in favor of Maritime Union, ending thus:

"The Maritime Provinces have too much machinery for the size of the concern. It is like putting a 40 horse power engine in a birch bark canoe."

If such be the case, (and who can doubt it?) with three good sized provinces, what must it be with six tiny colleges?

The second response comes from our old friend, the *Messenger*. Of course, like everything else in that ingenuous periodical it is characterized by breadth of view and a thorough knowledge and impartial statement of facts. It says:

"The partiality and unfairness of the present distribution of public moneys, to aid in sustaining the colleges of the province are so palpable that it is a wonder the parliament of the country could ever have perpetuated it; or that having disregarded right and equity in the matter, that (sic) the people who bear the injustice would endure such an outrage of their rights for one year; yet it has been permitted to go on, and, as is ever the case with wickedness, it gets worse and worse"

Now grammar is one thing and eloquence is another, and, as the *Messenger* has never shewn any symptoms of being able to comprehend two things at once, it was quite natural for that luminary, having embarked upon a long sentence with the premeditated design of being eloquent, to become slightly (?) confused regarding the proprieties of syntax. Apart from this view of the case, if this sentence be read with a signification the exact opposite of that intended by the *Messenger*, it will be somewhat like the truth. It was gross unfairness that each of the denominational institutions should draw from the public treasury \$1400 per annum, while a college owned and directed by the province itself should have been until last year put off with a paltry stipend of \$1000.

Again the *Messenger* says: "The Presbyte-

rians received at the hands of Parliament about the year 1864, Dalhousie College, with all its endowments, properties and conveniences." This is a strange statement. We have indeed met it before, but as we have never seen any shadow of proof brought forward in support of it, we would like the *Messenger* to tell us on what authority it is made. The statute referred to is now by us, and if need be, we can publish it in our next issue. Upon it, as well as many other grounds we are entitled to deny that the *Messenger's* statement contains one particle of truth; and we challenge, nay beg that paper to produce one jot or one tittle of evidence to support its statement. It would be a curious problem in casuistry to reconcile the title "Christian" at the head of the *Messenger's* pages, with this constant reiteration of a statement that has been proved false a score of times, and the falsity of which we cannot help believing must be perfectly well known to the *Messenger* itself.

The figures by which the *Messenger* would lead its readers to believe that the Methodists and Baptists receive but \$400 of public money apiece are only a quibble. Each of these denominations, in addition to the last mentioned sum for their colleges, expends \$1000 of public money on their respective academies at Sackville and Wolfville. As these academies are just as important to the denominations as the colleges (for without them the latter could scarcely exist) it is, to say the least, not very ingenuous to attempt to hoodwink the public by omitting so important a part of the truth.

Both the *Reporter* and the *Messenger* propose a number of schemes to meet the educational difficulty. Not one of these is good, one or two are indifferent, and the rest bad—very bad. It will be time enough to discuss these when they come fairly before the public. The great question at present is this: Shall the people of this Province determine finally upon a scheme of higher education that will forever cramp and stunt the intellect of our Nova Scotian youth?

The real question is not concerning Dalhousie College, but a new Provincial University. Though Dalhousie be a Provincial Institution to all intents and purposes, nevertheless, so far as the GAZETTE has any say in the matter, we could endure to see her sacrificed, if by so doing room were made for a new institution that might be at once Provincial, and not subject to the same unfortunate hatred and misrepresentation that has attended her throughout her career. It is perfectly marvellous that every intelligent man of every denomination is not in favor of a Provincial University. That such is not the case must be regarded as a signal triumph of the Sectarian spirit over, not only liberality of thought, but over even the commonest dictates of prudence and economy. Let us look at the matter fairly. You Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian, or whatever else you may be, are at present spending a large sum of money every year in support of a small college. Moreover, a grant of public money—to which you of course contribute a share—is made to this same little college. Each of your co-religionists is doing precisely the same thing. In each of these little colleges almost the same system of instruction is pursued, theology alone excepted. By uniting your forces with those of the other denominations you might have a large and well-equipped University, besides a good theological seminary for the training of your ministers, and all at less than the cost of the present system. We ask you is not such a policy far wiser and more economical than the present? Is it not such a policy as you would instantly adopt in the ordinary transactions of life? Would not the man who should conduct his business on a system so wasteful and improvident as our present system of higher education be set down as a thriftless ne'er-do-weel? You cannot avoid answering these questions in the affirmative; then why not act upon the better policy? Is it your prejudice against Dalhousie that prevents your doing so? Then by all means found a new college under some less obnoxious title. We are assuredly not wanting

in love for our Alma Mater. We have fought for her rights in the past and are prepared to do so in the future. Nevertheless we will not allow any sentiment, however strong, to stand in the way of a reform which must be made, or else Nova Scotia must fall far behind, in all that relates to the culture of her rising manhood. Speaking for the GAZETTE, we are prepared now as we have always been, to go more than half-way in favor of this change. Only let the organs representing the other colleges meet us and it can soon be effected. If the denominations at present opposed to the reform will draw up any suitable scheme for a new university upon such a basis as may perfectly satisfy them of its non-sectarian character, we will almost pledge the GAZETTE to give it hearty support. It is only because Dalhousie has represented so far the Provincial University, that we have been thus persistent in urging its just rights. We trust that some one in parliament this winter will bring this view of the subject fairly before the public mind. If this be done, accompanied by an intelligent and impartial discussion of the matter in the daily press, we are convinced that public opinion will not long be astray on this vital question.

MR. JONES, the chaplain of Newgate, has recently brought in his report of that prison for 1875, in which some interesting statistics relating to crime in the city of London during the past year may be found. He thinks that those statistics furnish sufficient data on which to found an argument unfavourable to secular education. He tells us that the gaol records for 1875 show that the crimes commonly committed by the lower classes, such as highway robbery, burglary, pocket picking &c., are much less numerous than in previous years, while those requiring not bodily strength, but skill and training, occur more frequently. He says "A large proportion of the prisoners of the past year were men who had received a fair education, and many of the crimes were of such a nature that

uneducated criminals could not have perpetrated them." If this is the effect of education under the present arrangement when the Bible and Catechism are mixed up with the arithmetic, grammar, &c., taught in the common schools, what will it be, he asks, when the instruction comes to be purely secular?

The enemies of free, unsectarian schools in Britain will, no doubt, swallow this morsel with delight. So many of the props have been taken away from the tottering system they have upheld so long that anything which appears to give it additional strength is exceedingly welcome. Perhaps the chaplain is a little too easily alarmed. Granting that he is correct in concluding that a certain class become more dangerous in proportion to the secular education they receive, the same cause should result in making the honest portion of the community more acute in detecting, and successful in preventing their attempts. The restraining influence, which Mr. Jones thinks does so much to prevent crime under the existing system, is perhaps not as great as he supposes. We think that the religious character of comparatively few has been deepened by the lessons given in the school room, the recollection of which is so often associated with that of the ruler or the rod.

While we have not a word to say against religious instruction being given in the common schools, if such a thing were at all practicable, yet it is doubtful whether any benefit can result by taking from parents and sabbath school teachers any part of this work, and handing it over to the teachers of our public schools. All agree that patriotism, and integrity, and truth should have a home in the school-room, but why introduce our peculiar religious views there, when they are not welcome? When we can get all men to think alike in this matter, and subscribe their names to the same creed, then, and not till then, can such a system as Mr. Jones advocates be tolerated, without inflicting a positive injury on popular education. Every one knows that both in England and America one

of the chief modes of operation adopted by swindlers is that of inducing people to invest their money in wild and unlikely schemes from which it is never recovered, and the very existence of such a plan of action depends on the ignorance of the people. Intelligent men are not likely to be led into such a snare. This is only one example among many in which purely secular education tends to prevent crime. Where principle and integrity are wanting, it may tend to make a man a more accomplished scoundrel, but then, it only enables him to bring out that phase of his character which would, independent of education, find vent in some other way.

Macaulay says "There are communities in which it would be as absurd to mix up theology with government, as it would have been for the right wing of the allied army at Blenheim, in the midst of the fight, to commence a controversy with the left wing about purgatory and the worship of images." England for many centuries shut her eyes to this fact, but now, to some extent at least, she recognizes its truth. Macaulay might have said the same about theology and education. Much time and labour has been spent in trying to mix them in such proportions as to obtain a compound to suit the tastes of all, but the task is a hopeless one.

This is undoubtedly one of the most important questions with which English statesmen have to grapple at the present time. The press has been almost unanimous in reference to this matter for years, but its voice has been, to a large extent, disregarded. Britain assumes the province of assisting the oppressed in other lands, and liberating the slave, but would it not be well if she put forth a little more effort to break the fetters of ignorance that bind so many of her own sons, and vouchsafed to them that inheritance which is theirs by right—a free unsectarian education? Intelligent Englishmen must sooner or later admit that this is what is needed, and as this matter of imparting religious instruction in the schools is at present about the only obstacle in the way of its accomplishment,

the sooner they recognize that secular and sectarian training are separate things the better.

WE would like to call the attention of Parliament to the admirable opportunity which has just offered itself for the final solution of the college question. The *Christian Messenger*, which may be taken, we suppose, as a representative of the supporters of the denominational colleges, thinks that "Taking away all grants from colleges is a short road to a settlement that would remove all just grounds of complaint." Prof. Sawyer, speaking for Acadia College and the Baptist body, says: "we do not ask that the grants to the colleges should be continued; we are willing that they all should be withdrawn." The *Presbyterian Witness* tells us that "The Presbyterians are ready at very short notice to relinquish their connection with Dalhousie College, and to do their own work without a dollar from the Provincial Revenue." It may safely be said, therefore, that all grants given to religious bodies for educational purposes may now be withdrawn with the consent of those who receive them. If the Government, or any member of the House, should bring forward a bill for the establishment of a new Provincial University, he would meet with little or no opposition from the supporters of the existing colleges; and he would not be without efficient and active support. For the *Reporter* says "If all things were equal, if we were about to start out afresh—break ground, as it were, on the collegiate question,—we should not hesitate a moment. We should throw ourselves altogether and unreservedly on the side of a new Provincial University, giving it alone the power of granting degrees in arts." The *Reporter* will see, from the extracts we have given above, that there are really no great difficulties in the way, and it will, of course, with its usual vigour, support the right scheme. Should any member introduce an efficient plan for a new University, he would, while not offending any party, confer a lasting benefit upon Nova Scotia, and his name would not be forgotten in our Provincial History.

Correspondence.

DEAR GAZETTE,—

One of the important functions of the average student is to criticise the journal of the college to which he belongs. You will see him on the evening on which the said journal is published, as, approaching the office and passing through his comrades, perhaps with a greeting, perhaps not, he asks with sublime (apparent) indifference; "What's in this issue." This question is not put with any definite expectation of an answer, but like "how d'ye do" is merely intended as a safety-valve for superfluous feelings. Every man is expected and understood to answer that question for himself; accordingly our friend, having obtained a copy, immediately proceeds to do so. One would naturally suppose that the simplest method of finding out what was in the paper, would be to examine the table of contents, but our critic scorns to look at that; he has a nobler purpose in view. That method of treatment he leaves to the weekly reviewer of *Reviews*; he was made for something higher. Taking it up, and sitting, standing, leaning, or reclining, as is most congruent with his faculties and facilities, there and then, he begins at the back, front, or in the middle, always provided that he carefully avoids the editorial department. Generally the back is preferred because there the items, the small fry of newspaper articles, congregate. Among these he makes a hasty but judicious selection, for he always chooses the shortest. Passing on, or rather back, he is beguiled a moment from his critical steadfastness by the wit and humor column. He forgets that he is a critic, and then, and not till then, does he really become one. It is only in what Carlyle calls "the domain of the unconscious" that we can truly criticise, and there is nothing that will more effectually carry us into that domain than a brisk budget of fun. All affectation, generally speaking, dies away as a morning cloud before a good joke, a thorough-paced side splitter. There are of course a few exceptions, but these are confirmed incurables, and should be immediately destroyed to prevent contagion, or perhaps better still, put on show like the drunken Helots of Sparta to instil a wholesome terror of their evil ways into the minds of the incipient population.

But, allured by the enticements of philosophy, we have forgotten our critic. He has not forgotten us and his duty to us ward. Donning

again his critic's coat of arms, he now turns his attention to the more important articles, carefully avoiding, as we before hinted, the editorials. The reason of this startling anomaly will appear subsequently. His method of treating these articles is apparently very simple, but to become expert in it requires considerable practice. He first examines the title of the article, reading perhaps one sentence of its matter; next he turns over to see if the subscription will give a clue to its authorship, and finally he turns back and reads a sentence or two more, just a taste, you perceive, of the style, to ascertain its peculiar tang. Having thus obtained a knowledge of the subject, of the writer, and of the style, has he not abundant trials for forming a judgment as to the merits of the article? This is the first reading. We now see why the editorials are avoided. It would be impossible to subject them to this treatment, because they have neither title nor subscription. They are passed over simply because they have neither heading nor tailing, if you will admit the analogous word, and not on account of any intrinsic inferiority. The second reading includes the editorials and consists of a reperusal of the minor items, and the wit and humor, and a further taste of the larger articles.

Having formed his opinion upon each of the articles, that is, having made his best guess as to what will be the opinion of his fellows, he proceeds at once to test its accuracy. A meets B and thus loquitur, That article is good isn't it? B's answer will depend on circumstances. If he has had no chance of learning the general opinion and is dependent upon his own guess he will express himself cautiously as "Yes I think it is." If he has heard the opinion of others he assumes the tone of a master; "It is," says he "decidedly good." Thus confirmed in his belief, A afterwards speaks with confidence. He assures his friends that the said article is an excellent one, that it is well written, that it deals cleverly and accurately with the subject &c. &c., and so the story goes the round.

Who is there that has not observed something like this. Who has not observed the effect which the common voice has upon private judgment? It is not students alone who are subject to this frailty, nor are they subject to it in any greater degree than other mortals. Is it not exactly in this way that most persons judge of an address, a politician, a new song, a lecture, a preacher, in short anything except personal

beauty, whether our own or of somebody else? Have we not ourselves, when we have watched our thoughts narrowly, found them veering round with the breath of popular opinion and at the same time striven fondly but vainly to account for the change in some other way. So completely do "all ape all."

We do not object to this kind of criticism. We scarcely wish even to sneer at it. It is a part of life and a part which we would be sorry to be without. But we wish to point its utter emptiness and the folly of being in any way guided by it.

We would leave a wrong impression upon the minds of your readers if we did not tell them that students, those of Dalhousie at least, pay much more attention to the paper than what we have indicated. There is a third reading which consists of what is implied in common parlance by the expression, reading the paper. This takes place in private and the result is often that private judgment is made up in that "domain of the unconscious" possessing a few peculiarities of its own, and a thousand times more valuable than the complements and complaints which are put forth in public; for these are judgements formed mechanically according to rule. The other indicates how far the reader has felt the power of the writer. X.

WE learn that Mr. Notman intends to prepare a photographic group containing the college, the professors, and several of the students. Copies of this picture will be sold at fifty cents and one dollar each, according to the size. As the portraits are to be taken separately, individual clearness will be attained, and from the well known skill of Mr. Notman as an artist, we have no doubt that the work will be executed with elegance. We trust that the patronage of students and their friends will be such as to render this a profitable enterprise.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.—George Henry Horsfall DeWolfe, M.D., Canada, M.B., C.M., University, Edinburgh, has been appointed Medical Officer to the Tintera District of the Chepstow Union, and the Tintern Abbey Iron and Wire Works, vice Audland, resigned.—*London Standard*.

THE *Presbyterian Record* for the Dominion of Canada does not, in our opinion, compare so favorably as it ought, with the old *N. S. Record*, either in literary style or in general appearance. Perhaps the extremely low price at which it is published may account for this. We are happy to learn from the *Record* that Rev. Adam Gunn, B.A., '72, has accepted a call to Gore and Kennetcook; and Rev. E. S. Bayne, B.A., '71, to Murray Harbour, P. E. I.

Dallusiensia.

WE have been told that our Janitor has turned the reading room into a laundry. "*Sic transit gloria mundi.*"

A CERTAIN student has been seen prowling round the Citadel of late, looking into the mouths of the cannon expecting to find the "bubble reputation" there.

"BOVEM Romam actam deducit ad fanum Dianae," was translated by a Soph. the other day: "He led the *dun* cow to Rome to the temple of Diana.

KAUM wurden die Tejer zu Abderiten, so schlugen sie aus der art. A student in the German class renders the above. "The Teians became Abderians as soon as they were kicked out of the ark."

A SOPH. as he was hurrying along the street a few days ago was heard to say to himself: "Imagination is intellect working under the laws of emotion or passion, or if any of those fellows hook my gown off the peg before I get there, I'll go for them."

A JUNIOR on being told that fog, when it rises to some distance in the atmosphere, becomes mist, remarked that it is at least some consolation for him to know that if he "goes up" in the Spring he will be *missed*.

THEORETICALLY every gas can be condensed to a solid. A Soph. takes exception to this. He says there is gas evolved in the Excelsior Debating Club, that it would be utterly impossible to compress into anything solid.

A STUDENT, who is writing an essay on "How far thought is legitimate in explaining the problem of existence," asked a class-mate what he understood by legitimate thought. The latter replied that he did not know unless it is something not found in books.

IN "Galbraith and Haughton's Mechanics" Friction is spoken of as rather a generous fellow, inasmuch as he always helps the weaker force, but our Prof. in Mathematics brings out other phases of his character. He tells us that Friction is lazy, stubborn, and has no fixed principles.

A SOCIETY has been formed in Paris, each member of which is bound by a solemn pledge to the effect, that when he has no further use for his corpus, it will be handed over to the Medical Society for dissection. Would not a similar society in the city of Halifax serve a good purpose?

WANTED—A poet among the students of Dalhousie. What can be the reason that the Muse never visits us? We are told that she delights to make her home among ruins and ancient relics. We are not altogether destitute of these. Besides, we have the Grand Parade, the Round Tower, and the Local Parliament, any of which might furnish materials for an epic. Why then do we not sing?

MR. BLANFORD, of India, after several years of observation concluded that the "solar heat undergoes a periodical variation" which "agrees with the variation curve of the solar spots."

THE February No. of the *Journal of Education* is a good one. Speaking of the Teacher's Association it makes some suggestions which we think very valuable. The address of Mr. McLauchlan, Vice-President of the Association is given in full. While we agree with much that is said in it, we hardly know what to say about this sentence. "The education that a man can turn to profitable account in this utilizing age, is the only valuable education—the only with life and growth in it." If in the term *profitable* Mr. McLauchlan includes mental as well as material profit, he is uttering a truism; if not, he is opposed not only to the best thinkers but to the best teachers of every age. The *Journal* errs a little in speaking of any of our articles as selected; all that we publish, except within quotation marks, is written for the GAZETTE.

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