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NEW SERIES—VOL. I.
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HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 18, 1876.

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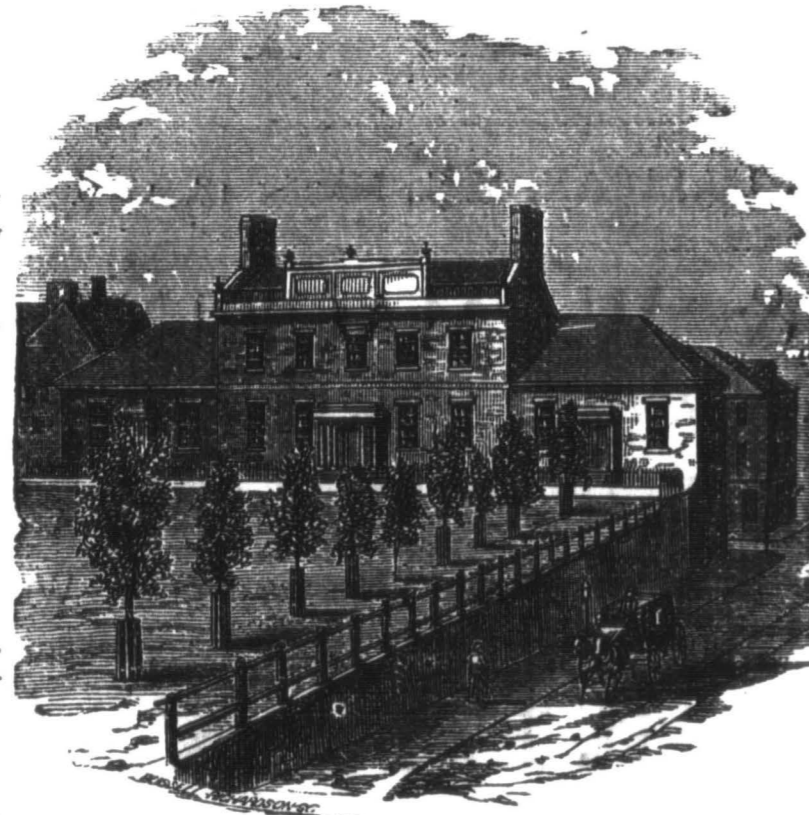
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DALHOUSIE
GAZETTE.

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

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 18, 1876.

NEW No. 9.
WHOLE No. 79.

“VINCIT QUI PATITUR.”

HOPELESS the task to baffle care
Or break through sorrow's thrall!
To shake thy yoke thou may'st not dare,
It would more keenly gall.
Through life's dark maze, a sunnier way
This tranquil thought ensures,
To know, let Fate do what it may,
He conquers who endures.

Vengeance for any cruel wrong
Bringeth a dark renown,
But fadeless wreaths to him belong
Who calmly lives it down;
Who scorning mean redress
Each recreant act abjures,
Safe in the noble consciousness
He conquers who endures.

Who quells a nation's wayward will
May lord it on a throne;
But he's a mightier monarch still
Who vanquisheth his own.
No frown of Fortune lays him low,
No treacherous smile allures:
King of himself through weal or woe
He conquers who endures!

Mark the lone rock that grandly stands
The melancholy main;
The raging winds, the foaming floods
Burst over it in vain.
In age majestic as in youth
It stands unchanged, secure,
A lasting symbol of the truth—
They conquer who endure!

March, 1876.

G. H. H.

THE POSITION OF ERASMUS DURING
THE REFORMATION MOVEMENT.

(Concluded.)

YET, though he wrote at one time against the Romanists and at another against the Protestants, he condemned in each only what he thought in each called for censure. Slowly and with great

reluctance, he took up his pen to engage in literary warfare. He chose one of the few topics on which he differed so fundamentally from Luther as to be able at the same time to exonerate his conscience and satisfy the Church. He attacked in his “De Libero Arbitrio” the predestination principles of the Reformers. Luther's reply was the sternly logical treatise, “De Servo Arbitrio.” From this time there was war between the two giants; and as they had failed to convince or convert, they too often had recourse to covert vilification, at least on Luther's part. But they opposed each other in no further doctrinal discussion. The monarch of letters had also to defend himself against meaner adversaries. A year before the antipapist Hutten, (the title “reformer” would be a misnomer) had led an attack in his “Expostulations;” he was speedily answered in his own coin by the “Sponge” of Erasmus. The Semi-Reformer Farel also took a prejudice to him, misrepresented him, and wrote against him a pamphlet in language none too flattering. So the great leader of Humanism managed to get into discredit with almost all the reformers with whom he had any connection, except the gentle Mejancthon.

We will next consider his practical idea of reform. It consisted of both a destructive and a constructive phase; his destructive the correction of abuses, his constructive the inculcation of practical piety. The Christian, he thought, should claim from the Church the right of private judgment upon religious matters, and full liberty of conscience, at least upon all minor points; while the Church should demand from the Christian obedience to its authority and a recognition of the headship of the Pope. Both Erasmus and Luther would reform, but after two different types. The latter was convinced that the Church of Rome, from refusing to admit in its fulness the cardinal doctrine of Justification by Faith contained scarcely the first principles of Christianity, that she was utterly corrupt, and that it.

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was the duty of all God's people to come out of her and bend all their energies to her destruction. But Erasmus sighed for a peaceful, bloodless reform, which should sweep away all abuses and perversions, restoring the church to its former splendour. In the words of Dr. Eadie, he was for putting new wine into old bottles—an operation which Henry VIII would fain have reversed. He desired a gradual change within the church herself; and it was his consistent endeavour to preserve her external unity, and her organization under the Popes, while reforming her internal discipline and doctrine.

Now, however christian his motives, and prudential his acts and efforts for reform, they were not suited to such a religious crisis. He thought he had but to let in light, and the darkness would vanish, but he did not fully estimate the corruption of the Papacy in his day. He was led astray by a false analogy. If, moreover, by any means it could be purified, and restored to pristine sanctity, what were to be its relations to the new dogma spreading through Europe like wild-fire? In truth things were not now as in former days, when there was but one religion in Christendom: for Catholicism to regain universal spiritual sway, it would require to be so modified and altered as to abandon its principles and give up its distinctive features entirely.

It was no time for moderation. The spirit of Erasmus, shrinking from war, loving ease, alarmed at uncompromising boldness, gentle and pacific, was not fitted to guide the helm in such a storm. A man of sterner mould was needed, whom opposition would but invigorate, who would not shrink from consequences the most appalling, who could spurn at papal or imperial frown, who knew not the meaning of weakness, or fear, or caution. Such a man was not Erasmus. Had divine Providence willed him to live in a gentler and purer age, the pacific principles of his nature, his love of learning and practical piety, would have given him an honored place in the Calendar of Saints, and saved his name from undeserved obloquy. But in the age in which his lot was cast, his aims and acts were quite inadequate to accomplish the end he had in view. "It is safe to affirm," says Dr. Fisher, "that the Erasmian School would eventually have been driven to the wall by the monastic party . . . [and] would have succumbed to the terrors of the Inquisition."

It appears to us evident that Erasmus cannot be charged with either insincerity or cowardice.

A sentence of his has often been quoted to the effect that, if tempted like Peter, he would imitate the Apostle in his fall: an ingenuous admission which has furnished a text for many an edifying disquisition by Protestants of the sterner sort—men who know of the rack and stake only as matter of history. It is but fair that Erasmus should be heard out to the end. In several passages in subsequent letters, he professes himself willing to endure anything for the cause of Christ—"not," as he caustically adds in one Epistle, "for the cause of Luther."

That, especially in matters of minor importance, he did not always preserve a stern adherence to principles of generosity and strict integrity, we are willing to admit. But his peaceful disposition was left to its development in a tumultuous age, and amid sinister influences: let us not harshly condemn because he did not in religious matters follow a more daring course or strive after a more exalted ideal. He was at least no poltroon; his manful exposure of error, and his contest with superstition forbid the supposition.

The stupidity and bigotry of the monks helped to place him in a false position. He was never granted a fair hearing by his opponents, who were wont to condemn him without even reading his books.

It is perhaps hardly fair to estimate Erasmus by comparison with Luther; let us rather measure him with the preceding age, or contrast him with Henry VIII. The Catholics at one period acknowledge the latter as Fidei Defensor, while the former was styled a heresiarch; at another, the Protestants looked up to the English King as the head of his church, while the German Savant became in their eyes a contemptible time server.

The position of Erasmus furnishes an instructive lesson in Ecclesiastical History. Even in those troublous times God was overruling the affairs of humanity, and revealing his Providence to the world. By raising up such a man of rare genius, and intellectual powers, whose whole life was one great effort to purify Romanism, He has effectually stopped the mouths of those who might otherwise say, that a revolutionary Reformation was uncalled for, and contrary to those principles of unity and harmony which are inherent in true Christianity, and which might have been carried into practice by some great intellectual leader, less violent and uncompromising than Luther.

DISAPPOINTED EXPECTATIONS.

READ BEFORE THE KRITOSOPHIAN SOCIETY BY G. L.

IN jotting down a few circumstances connected with a day's experience at mackerel fishing, I take it for granted that some of you at least, are unacquainted with the peculiar pleasures arising from this pastime. The exercise is no doubt beneficial to one who spends only a portion of his time in the open air, but there are some things in connection with it altogether unlooked for, and others, which one would expect, are wanting. The anticipations which are indulged in when pushing the sloop from the shore, and which continue for the first hour or so, are slightly modified by the realities which present themselves on the fishing ground, or as I said before, the pleasures arising from the amusement are of a peculiar kind. This latter fact I think will appear patent to all, ere I reach the end of my narrative.

During a hot day in July last, my friend and I, both of us loyal sons of Dalhousie, were strolling leisurely along the sea-beach admiring the curiosities as well as the beauties of nature. It was one of those distressingly sultry days, when the sun comes forth in all his power and pours down his rays with grand effect. In vain do you look for a passing cloud to shield you from the scorching heat. The least breath of wind is hailed with pleasure. The northern blasts and biting frosts which are so much feared at this season of the year would no doubt be welcomed. So much are we the creatures of circumstances. What we consider at one time most disagreeable, is at another longed for.

Having proceeded a considerable distance, we espied before us a small shabby looking abode which from its appearance as well as surroundings, we concluded to be a fish-house. It was built on the beach. This fact immediately suggested to our minds the passage which speaks of the house built on the sand, and the sad end thereof, but notwithstanding Sacred Writ this house from its weather beaten appearance, seems to have stood a considerable time. Not to speak very particularly of the ends which a building of this kind serves, I may just say that it is at once the store-room for captured fish, and the dwelling of the fisherman, as well as the abode of several smaller species of animals which need not be mentioned in detail. Suffice it to say, that on account of the presence of these latter,

it is not safe to remain long in one spot when paying a visit to the worthy proprietor. I may also state that the arrangements of this domicile, although perhaps convenient, are by no means suited to a refined taste.

To describe briefly:—The stove occupies the middle of the floor, while the other articles of furniture lie round promiscuously; first a bed, then the dining table, then the cupboard, then another bed and so on. The four slabs nailed together which go by the name of bedstead, serve also for seats at table, but I cannot say whether the guests partake of their food in a sitting posture or recline after the Roman fashion. The whole appearance of the establishment indicates a state of primeval rudeness such as existed on this continent previous to its colonization by Europeans.

Having made up our minds to try our fortunes at capturing the finny tribes, we made known our errand in language as polite as our vocabulary at that moment afforded, and were told that we could not be accommodated until the following morning. This sentence chronicles our first disappointment, not a very serious one it might seem, yet to us it was. A whole day must elapse before we can enjoy our expected treat. It was quite as much as our heated feelings could bear. After a short conversation which I need not relate, we resumed our walk. I need only add that we retired to rest that night with high expectations about the rare sport we were to enjoy on the morrow. Every one knows what a pretty sight it is to behold a boat under full sail urged on by a stiff breeze, gliding swiftly and smoothly over the waters; and then the thought of the hundreds of fishes we should slay was quite a practical one when viewed in the light of our coming to college next term, and lodging. We were to be on the spot next morning at sunrise, at the very latest, ready to launch our boat, and what if we should not wake at the proper time! These thoughts passing quickly through our minds kept us for a long time from enjoying nature's balmy restorer. At length however weary nature succumbed and we passed without a murmur into the land of dreams.

My friend awoke next morning in quite a hurry, as he afterwards informed me, but as soon as he got his eyes open, he found to his great relief that it was still dark, and we were in good time. He also informed me that he was under the painful necessity of doing a considerable amount of tugging and kicking before he got his

companion fully aroused. But to our utter distress and mortification we found upon raising the window that it was raining. Here our hopes came suddenly to an end, for when making arrangements we were informed that if the weather proved unfavourable we might content ourselves at home. We spent a considerable time thinking over what course we should adopt. In the meantime the Eastern sky grows gradually brighter, which announces the fact that the sun is again about to emerge from obscurity. The clouds do not appear so dark and heavy as on our first looking out. The rain falls more slowly than it did an hour before. The aspect of things gradually changes and hope again takes the place of despondency. In an incredibly short time we finish our dressing operations. Rubber coats, umbrellas and all the other appliances for keeping out the rain are hunted up, and we are now ready to set out on our expedition, almost forgetting to partake of the breakfast we had ordered the previous evening. We knew that it would be next to an impossibility to awake any of the domestics at this early hour, and fearing lest we should grow faint before our return we determined to refresh ourselves before starting. We entered the dining room where we were told the provisions would be left, but to our amazement, the plates were there with nothing on them, the pitcher of milk was almost emptied and two or three shiny spots on the cooler was all that was left of the fresh butter which everyone knows is an indispensable article of diet when in the country. Well, what was to be done in such an extreme case? Did either of us know where the pantry was to be found? Yes, by a lucky chance we did. So thither we repaired and helped ourselves to whatever it contained. Pies, sweet-meats, and jellies all shared the same fate. While engaged in this manner, we very naturally began to wonder whose hand had so thoroughly robbed us, when one of us remembered having seen an ugly looking cur make his escape immediately on the opening of the dining room door. We thought it was just as well for him he did. Having partaken not very sparingly of the good things placed before us we started. It still drizzled, but from the appearance of the sky we concluded that the rain was pretty nearly over. Every now and then the clouds made room for the sun, already a considerable distance above the horizon, to show himself.

When we reached the beach we expected to find our boat in readiness, but instead of this

there was not a person to be seen. Everything was in a state of profound silence. We would have taken it for granted that we had been left behind, had not the boats lying high and dry on the sand told us otherwise. The pattering of the rain on the shingles announced to the sleepers within that they might sleep on, and very glad they were to hear the news. After a number of efforts we at length succeeded in arousing them, and having made the necessary preliminary arrangements, such as procuring bait and taking ballast, we pushed our boat off. The first duty of course was to hoist our sails, which we made haste to perform, expecting the boat to glide rapidly forward. We had forgotten that there was scarcely a breath of wind and as a natural consequence the motion was quite imperceptible. "Down sail and get out the oars," cried the individual who styled himself Captain. After each of the crew had taken his turn we were coolly informed that our assistance was needed. Now as a consequence of our not having a boating club in connection with Dalhousie, I was altogether inexperienced in the exercise. The oar did not move so gracefully as it might have, and it was agreed by all that a few more efforts would be necessary, before I should venture a challenge to any of the champion rowers of the day.

In due time we reach the fishing ground, a distance of about three miles from the shore. The anchors are let down, the bait is thrown; the lines are unrolled and fastened to the sides of the boat. We grasp them eagerly, expecting in a few moments to be drawing our coveted treasures from the deep. We place ourselves in the best position for pulling them in, and are just awaiting the sensation which makes known to us that a fish has been entrapped. But we wait in vain; no such sensation is felt. We first throw out our lines at one side of the boat and then at the other, but with equal success. Mackerel there are in abundance, for we can see them feasting on the bait, but on this particular occasion they are too wise to attempt making a breakfast on hooks. At last a solitary fish emerges from the water and is tossed with a triumphant air into the boat. This gives us new zeal, and we again bend forward in a state of expectancy only to be in turn disappointed.

Although it was almost a perfect calm there was quite a heavy roll on the surface of the water. The fishermen explained this phenomenon by saying that there was a breeze further off,

and that its effect on the water was produced even beyond its bounds. Whether or not this is the true reason I cannot say, but this I can say, that the agitation of the water was the cause of another and to me a much more serious one.—Opposing forces are at work and a great amount of resistance is necessary to keep the system in equilibrium. In the end they become uncontrollable, and the fishes rejoice in a copious supply of delicious food. "Nature abhors a vacuum" is a sentence familiar to us all, but the contrary proved to be the fact in this instance, and only in the presence of a very *decided* vacuum did she appear satisfied.

I need scarcely tell you that the one fish above mentioned was the sole fruit of our labours. We remained for about an hour and a half, and then weighed anchor and set out for the shore. We were quite glad to reach terra firma once more, fully realizing that we had tasted enough of the joys of mackerel-fishing to satisfy us for some time to come.

G. L.

Correspondence.

Dear Financial Editor:—PLEASE find enclosed my subscription fee for the wedding of Logic and Rhetoric which comes to me fortnightly labelled DALHOUSIE GAZETTE. I suppose, like the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer, you will soon be preparing your "Budget Speech," for the solemn conclave of the "roll." I trust after such a rise in your tariff as occurs this year, you will have no fear of the day of reckoning.

On the whole I am tolerably well-pleased with the GAZETTE. I do confess that the sight of continued articles "thrills me—fills me with fantastic terrors," and sends a kind of Sapphonic "gentle horror" along my literary nerves. I think GAZETTE articles appearing fortnightly should be, as the Scotch say of cottages, "self contained," complete in one issue, to be read as Poe urges about poems "at a sitting." It is only the lowest classes of jelly-fishes that can live after being cut in two. What then is the fate of the pre-historic mammals that flounder in the GAZETTE's sea of thought when—tell it not in Gath—dismembered by an editor's scissors. The decision of Solomon over that famous baby should be a precedent for you, full of threatening but saving life in unity. I do think, too, even were the attempts not a little "vealish", that some kind of classic articles

should more occasionally be provoked from the budding geniuses that pant for fame, "*Sub auspiciis Georgii Ramsay.*" It would refresh "an old boy" to hear a discussion about where Ajax got his victuals in the dark, or who did Homer's washing through his blindness, or whether Socrates' argument from house-renting is sound or not, or whether Plato really called Aristotle an "Asses' Colt," or whether a wash tub or a dish tub held the meeting of Diogenes and Alexander the Great.

These things would refresh the novice and most wholesomely affect the great unwashed; for "*omne ignotum pro magnifico,*" and Facitus was no fool.

I see you are raging for poetry. Alas! if I were a poet I could sing you a lyric ode about the old coal box that once graced the hall at Dalhousie. In the palmy past that dusted my head with philosopher's wool, we had a poet. Horace would never have talked "Scabies Ultimis" and such naughtiness over him: but there were jealous *proses* who envied him his laurels, and thus they used to fret and fume:

"The poet he sat on the old coal box
That stood in the College Hall,"
Complacently stroking his pimpled phiz
And singing his fall de rall, rall, &c.

"'Poeta nascitur non fit'"
The ancient poet said,
And sure this youth had never writ
Unless by muses led."

And the maddened tirade of sarcasm and fury ended with this circular-saw threat:

"We'll take the starch out of his poetic deeds
By hauling his head through the mire."

Agate gratias to all the immortal Nine that you live in such pleasant days now at Dalhousie with poetic gold-toned paper, and dollar subscription, and can sing of "Buried at Sea."

I hope you will get a Provincial University some time before the Greek Kalends. How happy Plato was who taught anywhere, or Aristotle in his Stoa, or Xenophanes with the open sky for his temple and "the All"—"the One"—for his throne!

You talk about books instead of Professors of Natural Science. Undergraduates, listen to a grave graduate: you'll get more good from hearing Prof. Lyall recite some of the bits of poetry that embellish his lectures than from half the transcendental books in creation.

Now I've talked my dollar's worth.

Yours, AN OLD BOY.

DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 18, 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 last number of the *Acadia Athenæum* contains an article styled "Outlook from the Border Land," giving a sketch of a lecture delivered some weeks ago by Professor Jones of Acadia College. This article contains some very remarkable passages. We recommend it to the perusal of those who take an interest in literary curiosities. At first sight we supposed the production to belong somewhere to the region of the comic, but have since concluded that the writer was in earnest. However, if he intended it for a mock heroic description we will have to beg his pardon for misapprehending him. We have not space or inclination to notice the article at length, but will just call attention to a few representative sentences.

For example; we are told that "the language was rich with imagery, and flung over them 'Sabean odours' from the spicy islands of 'Araby the blest.'" The quotation, as everybody knows, is from Milton. The poet uses the expression in describing the "native perfumes" that greeted the nostrils of the Fiend on approaching the Garden. He compares Satan to the mariner who after rounding the "Cape of Hope," and passing "Mozambic" meets those "balmy spoils" borne across the ocean by a "north-east wind" from the Arabian shore. No one can fail

to see the beauty and appropriateness of the figure. "Sabean odours" are good enough in their own place, but in certain circumstances they lose much of their sweetness. It is doubtful whether Satan himself could recognize them in the case which we are at present considering. We can understand how language can be "rich with imagery," but when it becomes odoriferous it puzzles us. Besides, what has Arabia to do in this matter? Has it any connection with the "Border land?" Possibly, when we have studied the geography of this region more thoroughly, we may be able to comprehend the meaning of the allusion.

Again, the speaker is represented as "now touching with white-ethereal pinion the far off glories of their heaven, and then hovering over the stygian pool with darkening wing and beating its heavy sunless air with labored stroke." We suppose the word "their" refers to the ancients, but are not certain. We congratulate the learned Professor on his safe return from such a perilous voyage. We feel certain that no expedition of equal hazard has been undertaken since the time when the "Traitor Angel put on swift wings" and "explored his solitary flight"

"Where eldest night
And Chaos, ancestors of nature, held
Eternal anarchy."

How could we help trembling for the lecturer's safety while "hovering over the stygian pool" lest by some mischance he should lose his balance and tumble in. No doubt his wings were carefully waxed. He deserves all praise for the adventurous spirit which he has manifested, but we are not sure that his example is to be recommended. There may be reason to fear that some disciple of his, less cautious than himself, may try the same experiment, act the part of Icarus and meet a similar fate.

In the following sentence the writer goes on to say that "Cerberus 'with horrid maw and streaks of hell-fire in his gaunt bosom,' passed away." We do not know whether the flight of the learned Professor had anything to do with the depar-

ture of Cerberus or not. In fact, we are not told why he left. Very likely he became disheartened on seeing that his position as guard of the gate was of little importance if man were permitted to fly so high as to be out of reach not only of his bite, but of his loudest bark. Perhaps he got a whiff of those "Sabean odours" and absconded because they were not agreeable to him.

For the remaining absurdities of the article we must refer our readers to the columns of the *Athenæum*. We suppose that with the "reporter of the *News*" we will be put down as lacking gentlemanly qualities, but we cannot help it. When we notice anything of this kind we do so from a zealous regard for the English language, which we are always sorry to see degraded; and in this particular instance we confess that we have some sympathy with the lecturer, whom we regret to see placed in such a ridiculous light before the public.

THE Paper University is an established fact. We are of opinion that it will be a good step in advance of our present educational status. It is, we believe, the first attempt at the establishment of such an institution in America. Whether it will be a success, time alone can show. Certainly it will not, unless the students of the various colleges rally round the new University, by patronizing its examinations. The Government has, in our opinion, omitted to secure to itself sufficient means of inducing students to attend the Central Board. A most desirable addition to the Bill would have been a clause introduced into a similar act prepared by the late Mr. Garvie, viz.,—in making the grants conditional upon the various colleges, sending up their students to examination at the Central University. We believe this clause would have passed without any great difficulty. As the matter stands, the Government has scarcely any control over the colleges, and will be wholly unable to enforce any elevation in their curricula.

We wish this act had been made public pre-

vious to the drafting of the petition noticed in our last issue. If the privilege of receiving an A license to teach in the public schools, and of admission to the bar at the end of three years, were to be granted only to members of Convocation of the new University—*i. e.*, all graduates of the different colleges up to the establishment of the Examining Board, and graduates from this board henceforward—a great inducement would be held out to students to present themselves for examination. It is not too late yet to introduce this amendment. It might be done in the Upper House, if any member of that august assembly take sufficient interest in University matters.

It is to be hoped that this new institution will tend to elevate the standard of our county academies. In the most of them preparation of young men for college plays a very secondary part to cramming aspirants to grades A and B licenses, with their half-hundred or so superficial requirements. Unless it be in the academies attached to Sackville and Acadia, not one school in the Province makes any special arrangements to prepare boys for college. Much good work is done in this way at Pictou and New Glasgow, but we believe no special provisions are made for this purpose. This is certainly not as it should be. If the Paper University is to obtain any large number of students, a thorough reform must be set on foot in our county academies. Halifax must wake up. She is rubbing her eyelids and yawning a little already. The School Commissioners are talking of establishing that much talked of High School. This time we think something is actually going to result from their cogitations. So long as the result be not the somewhat extraordinary scheme propounded by a prominent member of that Board a year or two ago, we shall accept it with all due gratitude and humility.

Another capital feature of the new institution is the addition of the power of conferring degrees in law. Before this part of the scheme can be put in operation arrangements will have to be

made respecting the admission of law students to the bar. If the new institution will tend to break up the present system of mock examinations, and transfer the power now exercised by the Bar Society to persons understanding what the primary requisites of proper examining are, it will do an enormous good. If in addition to this it will enlighten the suitors to that ancient and somewhat musty virgin—the Law by a few hints as to the best way of obtaining her favors, or in plain language will lay down a course of law reading with yearly examinations, we venture to predict that one department of the new University will prove a distinguished success.

WE have some respect for the opinions of a man like Dr. Sawyer, and hence shall devote a few lines to a letter of his which appeared in the *Reporter* last week. He says that it has yet to be shown that a large college gives a more thorough education than a small one, that it is very doubtful whether a state college is in any way more efficient than one supported by denominational or private funds, and that the scale is turned in favor of denominational colleges by the stricter supervision which they exercise over the moral and religious training of their students. The professor, we must say, is very wide off the mark. To discuss the question of Higher Education in Nova Scotia, or indeed in the Maritime Provinces, upon purely abstract grounds, seems to us very absurd. We think our readers will agree with us in the opinion that a college, in order to do its work efficiently, must be properly equipped in all its departments. No arts college can be said to be efficiently equipped which has not at least ten or twelve professors, together with a proper library and good scientific apparatus; and it cannot be disputed that such a college would require for its support all the funds which the people of this Province can well afford to contribute for the purpose for many years to come. Hence the question in Nova Scotia is not whether a large college is more efficient than

a small one, but whether an efficient college is better than an inefficient one.

The next point in the professor's letter is one on which different opinions may be held even by the consistent advocates of a state University for this province. If all the religious denominations in Nova Scotia were to unite in support of a really efficient college, or if any number of private individuals would contribute of their superfluity for the same beneficent purpose, we should be very well satisfied with such an institution. But neither event is likely to occur very soon; and in the meantime it is the duty of the state to see that proper provision is made for collegiate education. The question in Nova Scotia, therefore, is not between state and denominational colleges in the abstract, but between a strong state college and six weak denominational colleges.

Dr. Sawyer's third argument must, therefore, have very great weight if it is to turn the scale in favour of the present system of sectarian colleges. But neither the professor, nor any of those who have taken the same side have ever, to our knowledge, offered a tittle of evidence in support of their reiterated assertion that the morals of students are purer in denominational than in unsectarian colleges. We believe that in many instances the reverse is true. Upon young men, filled, as most youths are, with lofty ideas of their own independence, and of their right to hold whatever opinions they please, the intermeddling control of college authorities has generally a very bad effect. The influence of friends and the memories of home training are far surer safeguards.

We have devoted thus much space to Dr. Sawyer's letter, because he seems to labour rather to convince than to mislead. We wish it were possible to say the same thing about all those who support the same side of the question. Without intending it, however, the professor does mislead, by treating the subject abstractly. We know that it could easily be shown even on abstract grounds that a Provincial teaching

University is a necessity in Nova Scotia. But we fear that in a popular discussion of this subject, when abstraction is used it results in distraction, and that a great part of the truth is left behind.

THE *Reporter* saw fit to take us to book for confounding, in its opinion, colleges and universities. Not satisfied with criticising us it gave a definition of a university, purporting to have been extracted from a dictionary. The criticism and the definition were alike so erroneous that we had not intended to answer them. But as Mr. Woodworth, in last Friday's debate, saw fit to express similar views, or rather want of views, regarding the nature of a university, it may be worth while to say a few words on this question. The *Reporter* itself, while preaching to us, has managed to fall into a rather amusing contradiction. Here is its definition of a University.

"A Universal School, in which are taught all branches of learning, or the four faculties of theology, medicine, law and the sciences and arts. An assemblage of colleges established in any place with professors for instructing students in the sciences, and other branches of learning."

So: compare this with the last paragraph of the *Reporter's* leader.

"If our contemporary simply means to gather together in one place all students for the professions, and all students in the arts, and dub the gathering a university then the less it says about that the better." If a university be what our contemporary's definition asserts it to be, it is somewhat difficult to see wherein this assemblage together of all students would differ from such a university. The *Reporter*, we are sorry to say, is most decidedly "hoist with its own petard."

The *Reporter's* definition of a university is quite wrong. So is Mr. Woodworth's criticism of the Government's Bill.

Although the editor of a daily paper and a member of Parliament ought to be expected to know what a university is, the plain fact is that they do not. A university is a *corporation* with the

power of conferring degrees upon such students as have passed certain prescribed examinations. It need not have a single teacher in connection with it. The London University and the University of France, two of the largest and most successful universities in the world, are altogether examining universities. The *Reporter* makes matters worse by insisting upon "an assemblage of colleges in any place." Some notions respecting Oxford and Cambridge have led that paper astray here. The universities of the Continent excepting, we believe, those of Spain, are widely different from those of England in this respect. A college is, properly speaking, a place where instruction is given without conferring these degrees. We are aware that considerable confusion exists concerning this matter in America. No University on this side of the water, so far as we know, has connection with more than one college. Very few colleges, owing to the carelessness of Legislatures in granting charters of incorporation, have failed to secure university powers. Hence the term "College" and "University" are, in America, practically synonymous. There is however a distinction between the two, which distinction we are sorry to say appears to be wholly unknown to the editor of the *Reporter*, and the honorable members for Kings and Annapolis.

WE suppose that no important public question can be debated without the introduction of a great deal of irrelevant matter. The question discussed in Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening last was no exception to the general rule. Mr. Grant gave seven reasons for the establishment of one Central University in this Province. He said that no denomination in Nova Scotia possesses funds enough to support an efficient college, and his opponents asserted that sectarian colleges were successful in the United States and in England. It would be as reasonable to say that because England can keep up a fleet of 600 war ships, the best thing for Portugal to do is to support a fleet of 600 armed boats.

Mr. Grant went on to say that under the present system the Denominations are obliged to neglect their proper work, the teaching of theology; that the Government is now paying others for performing its own work inefficiently; that the Province is paying six men for doing the work of one; that each man of the six is obliged to attempt the work of two or three; and that the students, for whose advantage colleges exist, are deprived of a great part of the benefit of their four years' work by being confined to the unvarying grooves of a narrow sectarianism. No attempt was made to answer *one* of these six reasons. His Lordship the Bishop brought forward the only argument in favour of sectarian colleges which has the slightest bearing upon the question as it concerns Nova Scotia. He said that these colleges provide for the religious training of their students. With what effect they do this may be learned from the letter which we publish in another column, and from the letters of Prof. Sumichrast in the daily papers two or three years ago. In short, not one of the sectaries attempted to show a single valid reason why we should not have in Nova Scotia an Institution like the University of Toronto, where each Professor is not obliged to fail in trying to do the work of three for the salary of one, and

"Where every individual's spirit waxes
In the great stream of multitudes."

In the debate on the University Bill in the House of Assembly on Friday last, Mr. Longley made two statements which his sectarian friends would do well to bear in mind. In speaking of the strength of the denominational colleges, he stated that there are 177 pupils in the Academy in connection with Acadia College. What will Mr. Saunders say about this statement? He and the *Christian Messenger* attempted not long ago to prove that the Academy at Wolfville had no closer connection with the college than Pictou Academy has with Dalhousie. Mr. Longley also said that the late Judge Johnston, from 1843 to 1863, was an able and consistent advocate of

sectarian colleges. Why he changed his principles in the latter year and supported Dalhousie College, Mr. Longley professed himself unable to tell. According to the *Messenger* Dalhousie is a denominational college, and hence Judge Johnston did not change his views at all. Evidently Mr. Longley is more candid than some of his clerical friends.

Hon. Mr. McKinnon spoke warmly in favour of Dalhousie, and thought it strange that any member could believe it be a sectarian college. He has the thanks of all Dalhousie students for his clear and able statement of the claims and the success of our Alma Mater.

Late in the evening Mr. Holmes delivered a long and eloquent defence of our college from the charge of sectarianism. We venture to say that no man who heard him, whether converted or not, could fail to be convinced. We believe that the students have tendered an address of thanks to Mr. Holmes for his complete and thorough vindication of the Provincial character of their College.

Neither Mr. Holmes nor Mr. McKinnon will be forgotten by the friends of Dalhousie College, when they next appeal to public opinion to endorse their course of action.

THE establishment of the University of Halifax has opened the way for a measure which has long been in force in Great Britain with the most beneficial results; we mean the representation in Parliament of the interests of Higher Education. Our common schools are so firmly established in the affections of the people, and the benefits which they confer are so obvious to all men of ordinary intelligence that there is little danger of their interests being neglected by any Government. But the case is different with Collegiate Education. Though its benefits are shared by all, its wants are known and its requirements understood by very few. Though it is at once the keystone and the proper corner stone of the educational fabric of the country, it naturally does not engross so much of the

attention of the great mass of the people, as many matters of far less real importance; and members elected to represent an ordinary constituency have usually little time, however great their inclination may be, to make themselves fully acquainted with the requirements and interests of anything in which the great majority of their constituents can feel but little concern. We could bring forward many more reasons in support of the measure which we advocate, but we think it unnecessary to do so at present. The measure, as we have said, has been found to be beneficial in Great Britain; we can see no cause which would tend to render it less beneficial in this province. We believe that if the Government should see it their duty to strengthen their new institution by conferring upon it the privilege of electing a representative in the House of Assembly, they would not meet with much opposition in the House itself, and would have the cordial thanks of all the friends of education in the country.

DEAR GAZETTE.—One of the strongest objections to a Provincial Teaching University, in the opinion of those opposed to such an institution, is that it would be injurious to the morals of the student, and consequent upon the absence of church control, would become a hot bed of infidelity. Now in Dalhousie College we, as students, are under the supervision of no church, yet I think our moral standing is not below that of the denominational colleges, notwithstanding the fact that the *Chronicle* thinks we are very bad for hissing Dr. Slayter in Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening, when wishing to deprive us of the right of voting, a right exercised by men from King's County and from New Brunswick. Allow me to give you an example of the piety of the students of our denominational colleges. During the time of a revival in one of them, some of its students, concluding that the meat which perisheth was getting by no means its due share of attention, formed a marauding party, and with a chivalry worthy of Wellington, attacked a hen-roost and heroically captured some of its occupants. These were dressed and cooked in a camp, not far from the college build-

ing. In the meantime a keen eyed epicurean spied in the distance the Principal coming directly towards them. What was to be done? Flight was useless since the fire, feathers, and cooking utensils would still be there as witnesses against them. They were equal to the emergency. All rush to an adjoining hillock, fall devoutly on their knees, while the most voluble, with hands upraised, invokes the aid of Heaven to shield them from their "enemy." The Principal heard the solemn supplication, and rather than disturb their devotion, retired. The student who was praying against time was ordered to stop, and all returned to finish the feast.

This I give as *one* example out of many that I could relate on the authority of one of the students of the institution above referred to.

ALPHA.

WHAT on earth could have induced our Legislative wisdom to perpetrate a Second Farrell Rider? The clause tacked on to the University Act limiting the members of convocation of the new institution to graduates from the new board and graduates of the existing colleges, *previous* to 1870 is certainly a most unaccountable piece of legislation. What good end it can serve is utterly incomprehensible. Why, everybody knows that the graduates of the last five years from each and every college have, owing to increased educational appliance, been the best ever turned out by the several institutions. If the Government, instead of desiring all the support possible for the new scheme, had any sinister design against it, they could not have devised any method better calculated to cripple their institution than to alienate the sympathies of so large a number of young graduates.

Dallusiansia.

A STUDENT translates

"Distat enim, quae
Sidera te excipiant modo primos incipientem
Edere vagitus,"

"There is a difference what stars welcome you when you first begin to send forth howls."

THUS WALLETH A FRESHMAN:—

SPRING comes with speed, we must take heed
Our work well to prepare;
With courage toil, burn midnight oil,
Or else we will not bear
Examination.

Huge sighs we heave "the Gym" to leave,
'Tis only for our good;
And soon in spring we'll vault and swing,
When we with praise have stood
Examination.

I would I might have future sight,
My fate I then would know;
But 'twould be vain to learn my pain
If sunk beneath my foe,
Examination.

But this my rhyme takes precious time,
I fear that wretched Greek;
Though brains will burn, it I must learn
For else I may not seek
Examination.

A MISUNDERSTANDING. — Student translates "Magnae mentis opus aspicere qualis Rutulum confundit Erinny's;" It is the work of a great mind to behold what kind of an Erinny's *ae* was that confounded the Rutulian.

Prof. "Of what gender is Erinny's?"
Student. "Oh, I see! It is the work of a great mind to behold what gender Erinny's was of when he confounded the Rutulian."

WE have been told that a Junior who has attended the class in the Gymnasium regularly, and who has improved somewhat in the use of the gloves, has lately adopted for his motto "Nemo me impune lacessit."

A CHAP may ha'e an honest heart
Tho' failure hourly stare him,
The Prof. might wish to take his part
But ha'e nae chance to spare him.

The fear o' "pluck" 's a hangman's whip
To haud the wretch in order;
So when you feel your honor grip
Let that aye be your border.

Our Exchanges.

THE Capitol, Detroit High School, comes out this year in tinted paper. Some of the articles are good: the best is the verses which begin the January number.

THE University News comes from the "University of the South" Sewanee, Tenn. Its stock of college news is large, its selections are well made, and its original articles are fully up to our expectations. The News is very badly printed.

THE Otterbein Dial from Westerville, Ohio, is a new exchange, and we welcome it to our table. We agree with its opinions about marking the value of recitations. Is it in order to deceive its readers, or to test their literary knowledge, that the Dial publishes an extract from some verses of Lord Byron's prefixing to it the name of "George Gordon" as the author?

WE have received the second number of the Ebell International Academy Journal. As it is in great part written by the professors in the Academy, we shall say nothing about its literary merit, except that since it has chosen a Greek motto, it ought to accent it correctly. The Academy is established at 18 Cooper Union, New York, and 15 Hedemann Strasse, Berlin, Prussia. Its object is to give "a system of Object Study of Nature, Art and History, in the most extensive and truest sense, with a season of preparation in Berlin, and a course of concurrent instruction during the entire route of travel; to present to our American ladies a systematized scheme of the best European advantages in Science, Art, History, the Languages, Music and Physical Culture; and to furnish our teachers with a Normal System by which they might learn the best European methods, and adapt them as far as might be beneficial and practicable to our own requirements." The design is ambitious, and time will tell whether it is to be successful.

College News.

CORNELL has at present 525 students all told, so large a number as to necessitate the appointment of a new Professor in Classics.

THE N. Y. Tribune says—"The officers of Harvard University have lately kept a record of the parentage of the students, from which some interesting facts are to be ascertained. Merchants and shop-keepers send to the college about half her students. Lawyers send liberally and clergymen hardly so well. Among the classes of parents that do not send at all are sea captains, railroad men, hotel keepers, artists and literary men. Artists and architects have only contributed three students in six years, and editors, authors, and publishers have done little better." We are surprised that farmers are not represented on this list.

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TERMS:
One Collegiate year (IN ADVANCE).....\$1.00
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To be had at the Bookstore of Morton & Co.
Payments to be made to I. M. McDowall, Financial Secretary, and all communications to be addressed to "Editors DALHOUSIE GAZETTE," Halifax, Nova Scotia. Anonymous communications can receive no attention.

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