

The Dalhousie Gazette.

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No. 2.

HE PASSED.

(BY SECOND YEAR.)

He was an articled Law Clerk,*
And a happy man was he,
For his Supplementary Const. Hist. Exam.,
He'd passed successful-lee.

He could enter into his second year,
On his face was a look of glee;
He hugged himself and said Hurreer! **
I'm clear of the Histor-ee.

They asked him to "Explain the Terms:—
Scutage, Demesne and Thane;
They thought they'd catch him on the Common's
Germ,
But he answered it "all the same."

He gave a list of the English Kings
From William down to James;
And he gave some yum-yummingly-yum-yum
things
Which were done in King Henry's reign.

About Magna Charta then he told;
And he stood their piercing gaze,
As he said (to himself) I can show them fold
Crib notes in fifteen ways.

"Habeas Corpus" he had down fine,
And he said that this writ ran
From England into Canada,
As did also the Cholera. †

And he passed with honor that dread Exam.,
In the Second Year now he sits,
And he smole a smile to himself as he said,
"Well, I gave that History fit."

N. B.—These lines were written before the Exam. came off, and accordingly the questions could be only guessed at, stipitately enough, the questions anticipated were not asked.

* Pronounced Clerk. In English, quite English, you know.

** This should be Hurreh, but it would not rhyme.

† Neither would Cholera, there neither rhyme.

Two hundred college papers are published in the United States.

IS A COLLEGE COURSE WORTH SECURING?

(Read before Dalhousie Literary Club.)

Is a college course worth securing? There is no one here to-night but has an idea of college life; and, as we are all better acquainted with our own college course than with any other, what can I do better than ask, Is it worth securing?

There are some people in the world to-day who say that an Arts' course, for a young man not intended for professional life, and even for one who intends to take up the study of Medicine, for instance, is only four years of unnecessary cram in the spring-time of life, and is virtually not worth securing. Such persons claim that there is danger of overtaxing the mind at the expense of its casket, the body; and that there is a liability of the student's becoming so absorbed in studies apart from real life, as to be wholly unfitted for practical business. But there are difficulties and dangerous tendencies everywhere, and the only reason we can advance for such an opinion is that those who hold it have not received a college course themselves.

While then we hold that a college course is worth securing, and that for some spheres of life it is absolutely necessary, still there are cases, we think, that are exceptional:

(I.) A university education for females is, in our opinion, not worth securing.

(II.) Cases in which such an education may be of comparatively little benefit.

(III.) For certain callings in life the time otherwise applied might be of more value.

I. Now, not to enter into a discussion to strengthen our first assertion, we will merely say that such a course seems to us folly. Is it worth securing is one question. Certainly it is! That, surely, must be of little value, that is not worth securing; but whether it is worth the time, money and energy it costs, is a far different question. However, we will not discuss Female Education at present, especially as we are opposed to it.

II. There is a tendency of the age—and a bad one—viz., to cut short the period of preparation, and to rush headlong into offices of trust. Often young men are not patient enough to train their mind by vigorous and continuous thought; to enrich it with universal facts, and thus gradually develop it into a condition of solid strength by selecting those subjects that may be useful in after life. They seek a royal road to fortune, and think if they are lawyers or doctors at twenty-one, the object of their search is obtained. Now a student who enters college, not at too early an age (for this we think is one objection), and carries out such principles as the above, is adopting a wise course, and will certainly succeed. But let us look at the other side of the argument.

Education now-a-days must be admitted to be a beginning of many things. We attempt to learn more now than the most brilliant intellects of former times; for every one subject they learned, we attempt half a dozen. In fact, now-a-days we get a smattering of everything, and in Dalhousie here, with our short session, we only begin to get an insight into the different subjects, when the term closes. Hence the student is tempted to take subjects that would not be so useful to him, simply because they are easier. There is still another tendency, viz., to let slip those subjects which would be conducive to his future welfare, for those that bring applause. The question is not what is the most useful, but what is the most ornamental. He thus becomes a student of dry facts and little judgment. But we are all tired hearing of this plugging system, the fact of the matter being that those who condemn it most are very often the worst grinds themselves.

III. We said, that for certain callings in life, the time otherwise applied might be of more value.

Whatever we study, it matters not what it is, there are some who will consider it a waste of time. Scarcely any subject of intellectual labour has escaped the utmost rigor of public criticism.

The classical languages have long been considered of little benefit by the great majority of practical men; the higher Mathematics for doctors, ministers, commercial men, etc., seems perfectly ridiculous, and the little smattering of Modern Languages we acquire almost useless. To all such opinions there is but one answer: We work for culture. We work to enlarge the mind, and make it a more powerful instrument for good. He who expects to further unlock the hidden treasures of Nature, must first open out his own mind. Self-improvement must necessarily precede all other improvement. Whatever new wonders are yet to enrich the world, all must originate in the brains of thoughtful men. Again, he who expects to unlock the beauties of Nature, must first become acquainted with those truths already acknowledged. Before he can get ahead, he must first overtake,—and this is no easy matter. Knowledge in some sciences that would have commanded respect several years ago would not save us from the reproach of ignorance now. Dugald Stewart said that a man could learn in two years all the Mathematics known to the ancients; but truth is progressive, now it is the work of half a life-time. There is no royal road to learning. No last will can bequeath it, and the son of a Newton may be a blockhead. Before the astronomer can discover new worlds, he must have an instrument that will penetrate farther than the natural eye. No diligence in night watching will pay up for the absent telescope. "Give me a stronger eye," says the astronomer, "and I'll reveal new worlds to you." And so it is with knowledge: "Give us stronger minds," say the lovers of truth, "and we will show you more satisfactory explanations." For these reasons the college is demanded—to produce large-minded men; in one word, for culture. But cannot this culture be acquired in other ways? Cannot the intending farmer go through

a course of training in an agricultural college, and the commercial man in the commercial college? and, even granting that the mental training is not so good, still, considering that it borders directly on his future career, would it not be the more advisable? But some one says, are not the foundations which a college course lays, so broad as to fit a man, not only for the professions, but for all the business callings of after life? This may be true as regards the professions, but the truth appears almost lost in the latter case, when we consider that, of the subjects we are compelled to take, probably not more than two have a direct bearing on our future course. In the case of the medical profession, too, although such a renowned university as that of Oxford exacts the degree of B. A. as a prerequisite to that of M. D. (and in this exaction I think she stands almost alone), the fact that so few medical men are B. A.'s. shows, I think, that a university course cannot be of much benefit.

However, although it seems quite unnecessary that he who sets a broken leg should be able to read Plato and Hippocrates in the original or be well versed in the higher Mathematics, still we do not maintain that a college course is not worth securing even in such cases. It is certainly worth securing, although we maintain another course might be equally profitable. The mental culture is commendable, and the knowledge acquired in the course adds to its importance. If the citizens of a country are only to look to the monetary advantages accruing from this or that course, if, indeed, men are to be narrow-minded, having no ideas beyond their trades, then is it foolishness to study anything that does not fill the purse; but if there are higher and nobler motives in a man, if he has a desire to cultivate more than his sensual faculties, a desire for knowledge, by all means, we say, let it be encouraged.

HARVARD library contains 184,000 volumes; Yale 115,000; Dartmouth 60,000; Cornell 53,000; Brown 52,000; Columbia 51,000; Williams 19,000; Princeton 49,000; Michigan 45,000; Iowa 18,000; Oberlin 16,000; Minnesota 15,000.—(Ex)

THE NEW EDUCATION.

IN the November number of the *Andover Review*, Doctor Palmer, Senior Professor of Philosophy in Harvard University, has published an article with the above title which, on account of its able defence of the changes made last year in the Harvard Arts Course, has been already published in pamphlet form. It is the purport of this article first to bring before its readers a few of the chief points made by Professor Palmer, and then to show what position Dalhousie College has taken in the educational reform movement.

Harvard University offered to those students matriculating in 1884 a course which, though thoroughly systematic, was, with the exception of less than one-half of the subjects of the first year, purely elective. It must be borne in mind that the student taking an Arts Course at Harvard is studying under a system. He is in a very different position from that of the student who goes to Germany, spends his time as he likes and looks for no degree. For, though "the topic is variable," the work required of the Harvard student is "fixed in quantity and quality." After more than half-a-century's careful experimenting, the Harvard authorities have rejected the principle that "every head should contain a given kind of knowledge."

The reasons for adopting such a course are most cogent. After years of careful observation, the powers that be in Harvard have perceived that the elective system is superior to the old way in that it "uplifts character as no other training can, and through influence on character it ennobles all methods of teaching and discipline. * * * It strips off disguises, places the great facts of the moral life in the foreground, forces the student to be conscious of what he is doing, and makes him perceive that gains and losses are immediately connected with a volitional attitude." They have observed that, in direct ratio with the wider adoption of the elective system has increased the "response to studious appeal," together with that loathing of vice, that desire for uprightness, that moderation, courtesy and keen sense of honour which are pre-eminently the distinguishing qualities of the true gentleman in every rank of civilized society.

They have seen that, with the great advance of the physical sciences and the "enlargement of humanistic interests," it has become impossible for a student in the brief period of college life, if he is compelled to know something of all or most of the departments of study taught in the modern college, to do more than take a superficial glance at each subject required of him. They have found that, as they have increased the number of electives, their students have increased in number, while the magnificent gifts and bequests which the University has received of late years testifies that the methods adopted by the authorities have met with the approval of those interested in the cause of higher education. And besides, a far larger proportion of their students do not belong to the four professions,—preaching, teaching, medicine and law. During the past ten years the proportion of graduates who have not followed the professions is fully one-third. The standard arrived at by the ordinary student has steadily risen as the elective system has been more fully adopted. In 1884 the average mark of the graduating class was 81 %, while in 1874 it was only 67 %. And this is not to be explained by asserting that the students have chosen the easiest courses. As a matter of fact, the opposite is true. Those courses such as Political Economy, Philosophy, &c., which are generally acknowledged to be the severest, have been the most popular.

The method by which studies are chosen in Harvard is most admirable. Before leaving college in June the student, having consulted with his fellow-students, such professors as he may have some intimacy with and his friends, hands in the four courses which he has chosen. "After the electives are chosen and reported in writing to the Dean, the long vocation begins, when plans of study come under the scrutiny of parents and interested friends. Until Sept. 21st, any elective may be changed on notice being sent to the Dean. During the first ten days of the term no changes are allowed. Afterwards, for a short time, changes are easy if the instructors consent." By means of other regulations, such as that "courses specially technical, which are marked by a star in the Elective Pamphlet, cannot be

chosen till the instructor is consulted, the faculty try to prevent the wasting of time over unprofitable studies." In the following telling words Professor Palmer sums up the evils of the old system and the advantages of the new:—"Prescribed studies may be ill-judged or ill-adopted, ill-timed or ill-taught, but none the less inexorably they fall on just and unjust. The wastes of choice chiefly affect the shiftless and dull. The wastes of prescription ravage the energetic, the clear-sighted, the original, the very classes that stand in greatest need of protection."

There is no one who has taught under the old system but will acknowledge that between himself and the majority of his students "it is an ignoble game, in which the teacher is smart if he can catch the boy, and the boy is smart if he can know nothing without being found out." When the teacher, instead of imparting knowledge, has to strive to elicit information, teaching becomes a most irksome form of toil. But under the elective system those who teach are taught. The professor works *with* his class. He is saved from becoming intolerant, self-absorbed, neglectful and insufficient, for he has an opportunity of seeing himself as others see him. If he is seemingly indifferent about his class or apparently absorbed in outside matters, the small number of students in his class will soon make him aware of the fact. Again, should he fall into the habit of presenting the truths which he wishes to inculcate in such an abstruse form that his students cannot properly assimilate them, the empty benches soon warn him to correct that error to which the studious and best-meaning teacher seems peculiarly liable.

To what extent now has Dalhousie adopted the elective system? We find that four-fifths of the work in the first two years of the Arts Course is prescribed. For a student aiming at the ordinary degree, one-half the work of the junior year and one-third that of the senior is prescribed. But when we take into consideration the Honour courses, the freedom of choice is greatly extended. In fact, if there were 250 students in the Senior Class, it would be quite possible that no two of them advanced to their Arts degree by an exactly similar course. Four years ago a student had

no option in his first two years, while in his last two but one-third of his course was elective, and he had but three subjects to choose from in his third year, and but five in his fourth. Now the Junior has nine subjects to choose from, the Senior thirteen.

It is pleasing to note that among our provincial colleges Dalhousie is by far the foremost in the adoption of the principles of the "New Education." Long may the authorities in this University aim at keeping Dalhousie abreast of the times in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the interests of Higher Education.

ILLUSIONS OF A HARVEST PICTURE.

THE pleasures of anticipation are generally greater than those of realization. There is a buoyancy of spirit and an intellectual enjoyment derived from looking forward to an object of pleasure far greater than that which we actually experience when the coveted object is within our grasp, and we are actually passing through its enjoyment.

As an illustration of which, we may instance a young couple winding the pleasant pathways to the portals of matrimony. They experience far more pleasure and happiness from each other's society and in looking forward into "the sweet bye-and-bye," than they realize during all the years of married life, excepting of course, the brief period of the honeymoon, a period which may be appropriately regarded as the intermediate or connecting link between the two states. A difference very similar will be found to exist between certain pictures representing particular phases of life and the actual life itself, and especially is this the case with those pictures representing the time of harvest.

A false glamour is thrown over life, which we do not meet in the tough, hard facts and experiences of every day life. An unsophisticated youth, who has derived his views of rural life chiefly from pictures, paintings, and the works of poets, is liable to receive very erroneous impressions. He might imagine from the picture that the binding up of the sheaves and treading

them on the cart was the most sportive work on the planet, that the men engaged in it sang merrily all the day long, listening to the murmur of the babbling brook, and admiring the golden sun streaming down the west. Such ideas and sentiments are among the grossest of illusions, and are entertained only by the visionary. Now let us approach the facts. We enter the field and find that these men have been toiling hard all day long under a burning sun, with the perspiration oozing out of every pore in their bodies. The tossing of the sheaves on the cart costs them the expenditure of their utmost strength. For them, the babbling brook as it winds its way to the distant ocean, possesses few charms; they do not see it through "the poets eyes in a fine frenzy rolling," but they wander to its banks a dozen or twenty times a day, not to admire its beauties but to slake their scorching thirst. Neither does the golden sun as it sinks toward the western horizon form a subject of meditation or soliloquy; they cast a hurried glance at it now and again, to see how long before it will touch the trees, the signal for them to cease their toil and hie home to partake of a hearty evening meal, when soon after they will retire to rest, to refresh themselves for another day's work.

These are facts which cannot be belied by any poetical daub on canvas. We find that the only part of the picture, which does not possess a false glamour, is that of the children chasing the butterfly, or catching the trout in the purring brook. This indeed is fun, the very essence of merriment; for them and them alone the long summer days are one continuous round of pleasure, a lot very different from their fathers' alongside of them as they gather in their winter's bread.

DALHOUSIE LITERARY SOCIETY.—Friday evening this society met to discuss the question, "Is a college course worth obtaining?" Mr. H. J. McLeod read our excellent paper on the subject. Then followed speeches from Messrs. A. W. Macrae, Geo. McLeod, J. Calder, V. Coffin, H. Shaw, J. C. Shaw, J. Crighton, H. G. Allison, McL. Harvey, A. Morrison and the President, C. H. Cohen. The question was decided in the affirmative. The speeches were unusually good. There were several students who had never spoken at the meetings before, and who surprised themselves in a most commendable manner.

The Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., NOVEMBER 28, 1885.

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THE season for study has commenced and the majority of the students are zealously striving to do justice to their work. The years which a student spends at College constitute in the majority of cases, the most formative period of his life. It is then that his physical and mental powers are coming to maturity. It is then that habits are formed which will make or mar the future career of the stripling who contracts them. We have a thorough contempt for those students who neglect their regular work and trust that they may be able to make up for their present carelessness by an extraordinary amount of "cramming" in the spring. We do not say that such students will fall low in their examination list. Not at all. But we would give a word of warning to those who are proceeding on this plan. Let them remember that, by following such a system, they lose

nearly all the benefits which a College Course is calculated to afford them.

But while we express our strong disapproval of shirking the work which comes to hand, we would note the fact that it is quite possible to err in the opposite direction. Surely that student has a heavy load of responsibility on his shoulders who has so wrapt himself up in his studies that his constitution is undermined, his views narrowed, and his social sympathies warped. Let every student then strive to strike the happy mean. Let him devote a fair proportion of his time to physical exercise in the gymnasium, on the foot-ball field, or in some other way congenial to his tastes. We are glad to see that there is a more than ordinary interest taken in the Athletic Club, and that more students are ready to avail themselves of foot-ball practice than there were wont to be in past years. We believe that, to a far greater degree than is generally supposed, it depends on the students themselves whether our College is, or is not, to become the "cramming" institution which many outsiders seem erroneously to imagine it is. Let each of us then take care that we do our duty by our College, by our professors, and by ourselves, and we will have no fear for the future reputation of our Alma Mater.

THE Faculty was fortunate in securing the Haliburton residence for its New Law School. A building more suitable could not, we venture to say, be found in Halifax. Its location, besides being convenient, possesses the additional advantage of respectability. Whatever moral considerations may have induced us to dislike the situation of the former school, cannot apply to our present quarters. In an ethical sense Morris Street is the very antipodes of the thoroughfare that skirts the Citadel. Another circumstance no doubt also influenced the Faculty in making the purchase; few alterations were required in the interior of the building to convert it into a model law school. One might almost imagine that the Haliburtons had, whilst constructing their home, contemplated its eventual conversion into a Seminary from which

would graduate members of a profession on which they themselves had shed such lustre.

If we were inclined to be retrospective the traditions of the house would furnish us with abundant materials: Here several generations of jurisconsults "have lived moved and had their being." Within its spacious chambers worked and meditated Sir Brenton H. Haliburton second Chief Justice of Nova Scotia. These lofty walls have often re-echoed with the mirth the wit of the "Clockmaker" evoked. Here have been welcomed with all the graceful and genuine hospitality of the olden time the wealth, beauty and fashion of the metropolis. Governors, Bishops, Judges, Statesmen and many a *Grande Dame* and "fine Gentlemen" have thronged these stair-cases and crowded these reception-rooms in days past when Halifax Society possessed other attributes than that of mere exclusiveness.

The building itself deserves more than a passing glance. Venerable in appearance its massive front now grown gray with age, it still stands a sturdy monument of past generations. In becoming a seat of legal instruction we think it enters upon the most appropriate chapter in its history.

WE take the present opportunity of reminding our students that they are one and all expected to do everything in their power to maintain the GAZETTE. It is scarcely necessary that we should dwell on the immense value of original work. That it is a prime necessity to the proper development of the intellect, will, we think, be acknowledged by all. Surely there is no way in which a student can better exercise his powers of originality than by contributing to the GAZETTE. But, even if a student refuses to write anything for our columns, yet he can do much to assist by offering useful and practicable suggestions to the editors, and by giving such aid as may be in his power to the Personal column, the Dalhousiensia, &c. If every student would consider it a personal matter to maintain the reputation of the students' organ, we feel sure that our columns would be crowded with articles which, by their literary excellence, would elicit continual praise from an appreciative public.

IT pains us to notice the indifference with which some of our Alumni regard their Alma Mater. That our old graduates should not furnish us with changes in their P. O. address seems a pity; but, when a graduate, whom some of us remember as being but a short time ago a fellow-student, returns the GAZETTE unopened, it makes us feel decidedly cynical with regard to the success of the strong efforts being put forth by a faithful few to render the Alumni Society a power to be felt in the University's government.

WE take great pleasure in calling attention to the changes made in the Alumni Society since the last issue of the GAZETTE. We quote from a local paper:—

"Hereafter persons educated at the old Pictou Academy, West River, Truro, the Free Church Academy, Goreham College, and any college merged in or affiliated with Dalhousie College will be eligible to membership. There is a provision by which persons educated at other colleges may also become members of the Association. It was resolved to have regular meetings twice a year, at the opening and closing of the session. By these changes the list of possible members is raised to over 1,500, many of them, like the Chief Justice of Canada, occupying leading positions in the Dominion. The constitution is to be printed and mailed at once, and all of the Alumni invited to become members."

It is to be hoped that all those who are thus privileged to take an active part in the affairs of the University will hasten to do so. It is well known that the object of those members of the Alumni who take an interest in the University is to form a society which will be so strong as to be justified in asking for a greater share in the control of the affairs of the University than it now has.

WE are delighted to offer our congratulations to Mr. R. Sedgewick, Q. C., on his recent election to the post of Recorder of the city of Halifax. Mr. Sedgewick is one of our first graduates and has always been a staunch supporter of the College. At present he is the Alumni representative on the Board of Governors, and a lecturer in the Law School. He is a gentleman who has won a high reputation as a member of the bar of this Province. His appointment to a position, which we know he will occupy with credit both to himself and to the city, is one which cannot be but received with satisfaction in every quarter.

THE GRANGE.

MANY are the attempts of the social and economic writers to correct what they consider the evil tendencies of the present age. Often have they pointed out the consequences that must result from the growth of cities at the expense of the country which is a corollary of the haste to get rich that is peculiar to the American continent.

The fondness of the people for sedentary employments and the over-crowding of professions that are supposed to be the short cuts to wealth and fame, have furnished material for many a magazine writer. If we keep on sinning in these respects it is not for want of being warned. An ex-minister of finance attributed as one of the causes of an existing depression the flocking of men to towns, and thus lessening the productive power of the country; fifty years ago the proportion of inhabitants in the country to the town was 5 to 1, now it is one to 8. The wealth of the farmers in the past 30 years has increased 20 per cent, of the manufacturers 300 per cent. A writer in a late number of the *Popular Science Monthly*, attributes this recognized centralization in a great part to the influence of railroads, in changing the habits of a people. It costs little to move from one place to another, and the respect for home, and parent's knowledge, together with local traditions, is soon lost.

But the more farmers who go off the land the better it is, in one way, for those who remain. There must be food for the dwellers in cities, the greater the demand the higher the price.

In our own Province the progress of the farmers has been so rapid that it seems almost as if were unreal since it is so noticeable. Their social standing has been improved as a result of increased pride in their professions. In Nova Scotia we have one drawback, there is no new blood coming into the country. In Ontario and the North West a continual influx of strangers brings new ideas and introduces new methods of work. Now and then a rich farmer does make this Province his home, or a new mining engineer, or professor comes among us, but very seldom. But we are taking from precept what others can have from example. Years ago our farmers depended almost solely on lumbering for a living. When the forests became culled and the soil had lost the natural fertility that it had acquired by secreting for centuries decaying plants farmers were in a bad plight. Then we had our most serious emigration, but then too we had our John Young. Before his time very

few of our farmers, especially those who came from the Western Isles of Scotland, knew anything more of the principles of proper cultivation than to sow and to reap.

Now one of the most potential factors for good is the much abused Grangers or trades union of farmers. In many of our counties these have a firm hold. Weekly local, quarterly county and yearly provincial meetings are held. The chief objects of the order are to spread among its members a knowledge of the leading principals of their profession, and instill them with a greater respect for their calling. They are careful, also, to distribute accurate reports of markets and co-operate to sell in the dearest and buy in the cheapest market. As a political factor they have not yet received the recognition that from their numbers and influence would be expected. This is owing to their unaggressive policy, as they belong to the class upon which Prof. Sumner lavishes his enconiums, "The forgotten man who pays his taxes and never murmurs." While unions of tradespeople often clog the wheels of industry, yet secure scarcely any advantages for themselves beyond papers read by manufacturers at associations discussing concessions, let us see what the modest grange has done. How much they have raised the dignity of their calling cannot be measured, but they are doing away with middlemen and exorbitant profits can no longer be realized by merchants. For years they have been demanding a change in the present unfair and badly enforced assessment act, and the government has at length appointed a commission to gather information. If they had adopted the excellent N. B. law they would be doing a wise thing. By their efforts a teacher of agriculture has been placed in the Normal School; this was done as a set-off to their demands for technical education and will of course fail. I notice that out of nearly 200 pupils but 25 are young men, so what can be the use of all this expenditure without the government enact that the young lady graduates must marry farmers. The English master of the largest high school in the Province says that the young men from the country districts speak hopefully of the future of agriculture, that more of the boys are educating themselves for farmers than for the medical and legal professions. In their compositions they voice the opinions of their several localities by saying that it is time that farmers sent men of their own profession to represent them, instead of lawyers and doctors. Straws show how the wind blows, and in agricultural counties at least the chances for political preferment are with the tiller of the soil.

A FARMER'S SON.

EXCHANGES.

OUR Exchanges are coming in but slowly, and some familiar and welcome sheets have failed as yet to put in an appearance. Foremost among those we have we notice the *'Varsity*, a journal in every way worthy the University it represents. We find in it a vigorous protest against an extension by the Senate, of the prize system in connection with the College. It seems that a previous petition of the students had had the effect of curtailing the system, and it is against the proposition of its revival that the *'Varsity* inveighs. There can be little doubt that student opinion at Toronto has reached a higher plane on this subject than among ourselves. We commend the following sentence to the consideration of our readers: "Scholarships are vicious in their influence because they set up unworthy ideals before students, because they place a premium on dishonest study, and because they discourage originality and independence of mental effort." It is suggestively consistent with this tone (which refers to all material inducements to study,) to find on another page reports of the meetings of the following societies:—"Modern Language Club," "Mathematical and Physical Society," "Natural Science Association," "Y. M. C. A.," "Literary and Scientific Society." And with us the continued existence of one intellectual Club is by no means assured!

WE have before us a copy of *Belcher's Farmer's Almanack* for 1886, published by McAlpine & Barnes, Halifax. It is the standard publication of the kind, and we understand that the issue has been carefully revised up to the present month. The almanack has been in existence since 1824, and we believe is generally regarded as practically infallible. We have ourselves an almost implicit trust in its accuracy, and most heartily recommend it to any one in need of such guarantee. In form it is neat and compendious, and contains a vast amount of information oftentimes invaluable. Printed by the Nova Scotia Printing Co. Price 12 cents.

The *King's College Record* seems likely to keep its place as one of our most attractive exchanges. It devolves considerable space to

the heralding forth of the new Professors and to a well earned eulogy of the late Geo. Hodgson. Of Prof. Roberts high hopes are entertained, and it will sound strange to Dalhousian ears to hear that the *Record* confidently expects that "its columns will be graced" by his efforts. We really trust that the new Professor will have more regard for his dignity. Why our professors would not dream of such a thing. But it may be that the members of the Faculty of Kings have so lost sight of the supreme importance and value of the system of cram as to regard the college paper as entitled to some slight consideration; it may even be, indeed, that they have joined the ranks of such puerile and retrograding institutions as Harvard, and have actually come to the conclusion that such a paper—the outlet and index of student thought—may be worthy, not only of toleration, but of support. If such be the case, we hasten to inform these misguided men, on the authority of our august senate, that such views "are derogatory to the value of their degrees." We haven't had time as yet to disseminate this ultimatum, but purpose sending Harvard due notice at an early date.

Our old friend, the *Acadia Athenæum*, makes a very respectable appearance indeed. We are sorry, however, to see that some verdant youth has had unrestrained access to the Editorial columns, and has left his mark in the following sentence: "With an enlarged and well-paid staff of instructors, she (Acadia) cannot fail to retain the position she has won, of being one of the first Colleges in the Dominion." Now we are fond of a joke, but we would seriously recommend the editors of the *Athenæum* to confine that species of composition to the proper column. In our opinion, the above remark would more properly be introduced to the outside world among those which it is the custom of college papers to preface by the warning, "none but those interested are expected to understand."

We are also glad to be able to acknowledge the receipt of the following, which want of space does not permit us at present to enlarge upon:—*Brunonian*, *Queen's College Journal*, *Beacon*, *Argosy*, *Niagara Index*, *Portfolio*,

Vanderbilt, Library Magazine, (John B. Alden, New York,) Adelphi, Oberlin Review, University, Mirror.

FOOT-BALL AT WOLFFVILLE.

Saturday last the Dalhousie Foot-ball team, consisting of members all of whom had never played together before, proceeded to Wolfville to play the Acadia boys. The teams were:—

| DALHOUSIE. | | ACADIA. | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Fraser, | Forwards. | Balcolm, | |
| Creighton, | | L. Eaton, | |
| McKenzie, | | Knapp, | |
| Murphy, | | F. F. Eaton, | |
| Campbell, | | Corey, | |
| Morrison, | | Raymond, | |
| Leck, | | Wallace, | |
| Alex. Morrison, | | Smith, | |
| Brown, | | Prescott, (Capt.) | |
| McGinnis, | Quarter-backs. | L. Lovett, | |
| McKay, | | Knapp, | |
| Henry, (Capt.) | Half-backs. | H. Lovett, | |
| Stewart, | | Anderson, | |
| F. Stewart, | Goal. | C. H. Eaton. | |

The ball was kicked off at 12 o'clock by Prescott. After a couple of scrimmages Dalhousie's umpire called "thrown forward." The Dalhousie boys stopped running when their Captain called "foul," and an Acadia man carried the ball into Dalhousie's goal. The umpires disagreeing there now followed a heated discussion as to what should be done. Dalhousie waived its just claims so far as to agree to a scrimmage five yards from their own goal. During the rest of half-time the ball was kept down near Acadia's goal line. During the second half the ball was kept in the middle of the field nearly all the time. A few minutes before time was up the ball was kicked by Henry. It bounced, and McKay tried to catch it, but, as it was too high, it passed over his head, just touched the tips of his fingers and falling in the rear was caught by Raymond. Acadia claimed a fair catch. Dalhousie's umpire and captain both protested but in vain. Prescott had the ball placed, and kicked a goal, the Dalhousie team having stopped playing on account of their protest. Mr. Cummings, of Truro, who umpired for Acadia could scarcely have relished the dictatorship which Acadia's captain seemed determined to establish over him. Mr. Troop who umpired for Dalhousie is a gentleman who cannot be "sat down on," and who, having a perfect knowledge of the game, showed himself to be a most excellent umpire. Henry's playing on the side of Dalhousie was splendid, while on Acadia's team Anderson specially distinguished himself. It is said that the game was the

roughest and most savagely (almost brutally) contested that ever it was Dalhousie's fortune to take a part in. Neither team seems satisfied. We would suggest that the teams meet again this season and have it out. Certainly Dalhousie's men seem to think they are able for Acadia's team and that too without neglecting their college work for the sake of practice.

LAW SCHOOL NOTES.

LAW CLUB.—The students met for their second debate this session in the Law School building on the evening of Saturday, the 14th instant. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Rogers, who occupied his rather trying position with great tact. Mr. Cluny, on being called upon to show why Prohibition should be adopted, responded in a clear statement of his views on the question. Mr. Russell followed with an eloquent and logical speech on the other side of the question. During the evening the opener's views were supported by speeches from F. A. McCully, T. J. Carter, H. McInnis, S. R. Thompson, and C. A. McCready. Besides the respondent the speakers who argued against Prohibition were J. R. Campbell, E. A. Magee, W. A. Lyons, D. McLellan, H. F. McClatchy, E. H. Armstrong, and A. E. Milliken. The debate was very exciting and some of the speeches were worthy of any debating club. The question was finally decided in the affirmative. Mr. Lane performed the duties of critic in a most acceptable manner.

We would suggest that the chairman be empowered to put a stop to members of the club speaking at great length, apparently for the purpose of practising high flown outbursts of oratory at the expense of the students' time and to the detriment of the proper discussion of the matter in hand.

"MOOT COURT."—The first Moot Court for this session was held on Friday, the 13th inst., and was presided over by Dr. Weldon. The case was an appeal to the Privy Council to set aside a verdict delivered by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, which held that an Act of Provincial Legislature permitting the Town of Pictou to impose a license on insurance Cos. doing business in that town was *intra vires*. Messrs. J. A. Chisholm and A. E. Milliken argued the case in the interests of the Insurance Co., (the Canada Life) the appellants, and Messrs. H. V. Jennison and A. Thompson appeared on behalf of the Municipality of Pictou; the Respondents, Mr. Chisholm, argued this was an indirect tax

although it was only a nominal tax of \$50, the price to be paid when the license was taken out. He showed that the best authorities on "Political Economy" all agree that this could not be otherwise than an *indirect tax*, consequently the Provincial Legislature which has not the right under the British North America Act, to tax otherwise than *directly*, could not confer the power to tax indirectly on any Municipality. Mr. Chisholm's argument was thorough and exhaustive and showed a clear and intelligent idea of one of the most puzzling questions to a Canadian constitutional lawyer, viz:—to discriminate between the powers of the Dominion and Provincial Governments, as set out in the B. N. A. Act. Mr. Thompson followed with a masterly argument, striving to convince his Lordship that the tax was not an indirect tax, but could not possibly be more direct. Mr. Thompson also showed a thorough knowledge of the intricacies this and similar cases present, as well as considerable original and able arguments, which could be presented on behalf of Respondents. Mr. Jennison next, for the Province, contended that apart from the question of taxation which had been so ably discussed and presented in its different phases, he could find ample authority for this act by sec. 92 sub. sec. 9-13-16 of the B. N. A. Act and he proceeded to show by a careful and ingenious argument that his contention was right.

Mr. Milliken closed the case, submitting that his learned associate had so ably dealt with the question of taxation under sub. sec. 2, sec. 92 B. N. A. Act, that he would immediately proceed to show the fallacy of the other grounds, taken by the respondent. He dealt more lengthily on the question of license under sub. sec. 9 and contended that as the right to grant licenses to *shops, saloons, taverns and auctioneers* had been expressly granted to Provincial Legislatures and as they were *ejusdem generis* it could not have been intended to confer the power of licensing Insurance Companies or else they too would have been especially enumerated.

Judgment was given in favor of the appellants (Ins. Co.) more particularly on the ground that the tax contemplated was an indirect tax, therefore *ultra vires* the Provincial Legislature. As this question is a burning one to-day, considerable interest was exhibited about the result of the case. Quite a large number were present and the first Moot Court was conducted in a manner highly complimentary to all parties concerned.

LAW SCHOOL DEBATE.—The debating club in connection with the law school had one of the most exciting debates of the season on Saturday

evening, when the following resolution was discussed: "Resolved, that prisoners be permitted to give evidence in criminal cases, and be placed on the same footing as witnesses." The discussion was opened by Mr. Chisholm in the affirmative, whose arguments were responded to by Mr. D. McLellan. The question was then taken up by the students and talked over in the most lively fashion. The speakers for the resolution were: Messrs. Carter Jennison, McCully, Gray, Thompson, McDougall, Cluny. Those who opposed it were: Messrs. McDonald, Lane, Burrill, Milliken, McLennan, Armstrong, Russell, McCready, McKinnon, Ford, Turner, Whitford. The question being put to the meeting, resulted in a vote of eight for the resolution and fifteen against. The meeting was presided over by Mr. McLatchy. Mr. F. H. Hanwright acted as critic. At the debate on Saturday evening next Mr. Lane will preside and Mr. A. E. Milliken assume the functions of a censor.

DALLUSIENSIA.

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

THE powers that be have undertaken to protect the poor Freshies from being scrimmaged in the hall.

AMOROUS little Senior: "Gallos in bellis floruisse acipimus." "We have heard that girls are brave in war."

THE Scotch Philosopher thinks that the Provincial Normal School should be situated in Halifax, and more than he lose by its present location.

WE would warn our Junior Philosopher to be careful about creating a sensation by mashing through the car windows, when out on excursions.

NEVER be leeking in courtesy. Even if you dinna leek to mak' an effort in this way of your own accord, you should remember that the eyes of the students are on you. This is, of course, a general remark.

"Pshaw! this is terrible," said a Junior who had lately been vaccinated. "How on earth can I go home with my girl now. The affectionate pressure of her fingers on my arm, which I used to love, would be agony now."

A CERTAIN Senior fortified himself for his winters work by spending the last two weeks of his summer vacation at Wolfville. It is said that he found the air in the vicinity of the Ladies' Seminary very conducive to his health. Can any one tell who he is.

THOSE graceless creatures, the Sophs., seem for the most part to hold that *all is one* in the matter of church attendance. One of them, however, has of late shown a

remarkable partiality for Park Street Church, especially in the evening. What can be the reason? *Alas(s)!* we fear, we fear.

LAW SCHOOL FACETIÆ.

WHAT deeds are like cabs? Conveyances.

CONSIDERING the result of the recent final examination before the Bar Society, Law School students think they have a right to *Crow*.

IN the debate on Prohibition one of its opponents ingeniously argued that the use of wine has a tendency to *elevate* man.

WHAT'S the difference between a "chairman who can't keep order," and a "reading room committee who supply no reading material?" Don't know, give it up. No difference at all, my boy, one's as good as the other.

A MOST zealous officer is our assistant librarian; whenever a book is asked for he has his "*Handwright*" on the volume wanted. His elder confrère is loved by all the boys for his equally zealous endeavours to please, but of course he is not so "*Hughes*" to the business yet.

PERSONALS.

OF the Freshman class of last year Mr. J. P. Falconer is teaching at Sydney, C. B., Mr. H. W. Frye has returned to his home in the State of Maine, U. S.

IN the last number we stated that Mr. R. M. Langille was, during the past summer, second master of North Sydney Academy. We should have said that he was principal. We very much regret that such an error should have been made.

MR. W. D. CARTER, who sustained his high reputation at the sessional examinations last spring by taking three out of the six prizes offered, is pursuing his studies in the office of Mr. Hutchison, Richlbucto, N. B. We understand Mr. Carter will return to the Law School after Xmas. vacation to take his degree of LL. B. this year.

THERE have been several changes in the different classes since last year. Mr. D. H. Flemming a Junior of last year has gone to finish his Arts course in Queen's College. The blank in our numbers has been filled by Miss Stewart, a young lady whom the Senior year is only too glad to number in its ranks. Miss Stewart comes among us with certificates from London University, an institution at which she has won high distinction.

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