

The Dalhousie Gazette.

❖ "ORA ET LABORA." ❖

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ATHLETICS AND ATHLETIC GROUNDS.

THERE is no student of Dalhousie but wishes to see our University foot-ball team successful in its efforts to hold the championship of the Maritime Provinces. His joy, to a great extent, is wrapped up in its success. The defeat of the team means a personal blow to him. Its victories mean great rejoicing on his part. Foot-ball is the only great game in which the University as a whole is interested. Gymnastics have failed to interest the many, and the old time gymnasium contests have been abandoned. But the foot-ball spirit is on the increase, and we have no reason to lament the fact of its being so.

No one will be inclined to dispute the great value of this game as an exercise. Like everything else its privileges may be abused, and the abuse of them has frequently led many to condemn it. But yet when it is engaged in and played as it is in Dalhousie, no one will dispute its beneficial effects on the healthy student. It gives him both recreation and exercise, bringing into full play all the muscles of his body, and developing to the full his corporeal nature. But not to the student only

is it beneficial. The Senate, or at any rate, the Board of Governors, ought to rejoice in the successes of the foot-ball team. The College has never been advertised before so extensively as it has been these last few years; and that has been because of the games that have been won in foot-ball contests. The name of Dalhousie has been spread abroad throughout the whole province. The student who is looking about for a university to attend, goes to one of which he can be proud. And the excellence of a foot-ball team, so widely known, will but be the means of directing his attention to the many other excellencies that centre in Dalhousie,—with the result that he will attend Dalhousie. And so the college athletics has an interest for both student and Senate.

But it is impossible to play foot-ball without having grounds for practice. In previous years the absence of grounds owned by the college has been remedied by the Athletic Club renting those of a city association. But this year the meanness of this association in trying to force the Club into a corner, and so compelling them to pay an exorbitant rent, obliged our team to look elsewhere for practice grounds. A gentleman kindly came to their rescue and offered the use of his field for this fall; but this is anything but level, and poorly fitted to prepare men to engage in trophy contests.

We are glad that this, to some extent, will be remedied in the future. Between the college building and Robie St. there is a piece of ground sixty yards wide. This our President, who has always manifested a warm interest in athletic matters, promises to have prepared for a practice field for next autumn. But its narrowness will effectually prevent its ever being used for anything but a practice field. And the necessity remains for regular athletic grounds to be owned by the college. The Association has not lost sight of this fact, and there is now a committee appointed which is engaged in looking for a suitable piece of land. To get such a piece of land it would require at the outset a sum of at least fifteen hundred dollars. The important question then becomes, how to obtain this amount? At a late meeting of the Association it was determined to make an effort to secure it this winter. The students have an interest in the matter, the graduates have an interest in the matter, and the Board of Governors have an interest in the matter. Between

them all the difficulty of raising the sum above mentioned should be slight indeed. We may return to this subject in a subsequent issue.

ARTS LIBRARY.

IN our last number we called attention to some changes and to one or two grievances. Talking still continues. It is very unfair for two or three to disturb ten or twelve times their number. The observance of this rule has become more important since the number of readers has increased so much.

The Librarian reports that about 1000 books are taken out during the session—that is about 5 books for every Arts student. The plan of reserving those books which are in greatest demand, allows many to consult the same book. Still some inconvenience is caused by the neglect of a few students to return borrowed books promptly.

We have mentioned these two grievances, because we believe that all that is necessary to bring about their removal, is to bring them to the notice of the students. According to the Librarian's report the students have, during the past year, shown themselves worthy of the confidence placed in them by the Senate. Although fully 1000 books were taken out last year, and as many more were consulted for references, but *fourteen* books were lost during the year. This is fourteen too many. Still it is an excellent showing when we consider the possibilities of loss.

The Librarian also reports that of the books reported lost previous to Sept. '93, 32 were recovered during the past year. Two books were returned which had been taken out before we moved into our new building in 1887. Of the books lost previous to Sept. '93, 93 are still missing. This with the 14 lost during the past year, makes a total of 107. The heaviest losses have been in texts in English, Classics and Mathematics.

The Librarian reported at the close of last session that the class of '94 decided to present forty dollars to the Library. He has informed us that several standard classical works have been purchased with this contribution and that they are to be here in a few days. The proceeds of the entertainment, given by '96 last year, purchased some 16 volumes for the English department.

The same report credits the GAZETTE with 17 volumes, and the Philomathic Society with 8 volumes. In all 500 volumes were added to the Library last year. We may remark here that the library is sadly deficient in reference books of Biography. Only the first twenty-five volumes of the Dictionary of National Biography are in the library, though the fiftieth volume has been published. The last letters of the alphabet have been similarly slighted in Chambers' New Edition. Six volumes of this Cyclopædia were purchased; one has been lost; the remaining five present quite a melancholy appearance.

The Librarian's report is surely conclusive evidence that the present system of allowing students free and easy access to the Library books, provided they hand in slips for those taken out, is by far the best. We believe that its increased usefulness more than compensates for its losses. In fact there is reason to believe that the greater number of missing books were lost under the old system. It seems that no record of losses and gains was kept till last year. According to the record of that year the recoveries exceed the losses by 18.

We feel sure that Dalhousie will not go back on her record. We publish a list of the books lost during the past year. Every book should be recovered.

English.—Lamb: Tales from Shakspeare. Fleming: Analysis. Dryden: Poems. Mrs. Hemans: Poems. Griffiths: The Mikado's Empire.

Classics.—Juvenal and Justinus.

Philosophy.—Spencer: First Principles. DeMorgan: Paradoxes.

Science.—Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge vol. xxiii. Gray: Botanical Text Book. Buckton: Health in the House.

Modern Languages.—Schiller: Wilhelm Tell: Selss: Brief History of the German Language. McMillan's Progressive French Reader, Part ii.

The following important books, lost previous to Sept. '93, are still missing:

Addison, Dryden, Goldsmith, in English Men of Letters Series; Addison's Essays; Hunt's Men, Women and Books; Marlowe's, Crabbe's, Hood's, Goldsmith's Works; Ward's English Poets, vol. iii; Cicero's Letters, (Tyrell); Pliny's Letters, (Cowan); Chambers' Encyclopædia, vol. iii; Rawlinson: Ancient Monarchies, vol. i; Froudes History of England, vol. ix; Hume's History of England, vol. i, (two copies); Bancroft's History of

United States, vol. i; Challenger Reports, vol. i; Scribe's Theatre, vol. ii; Cotterill & Slade: Applied Mechanics; Garnett's Heat; Laverty: Laws of Motion; Edwards' Differential Calculus; Cockshott & Walters: Conic Sections; Hall's Diff. Integ. Calculus.

Contributed Articles.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Far above Cayuga's waters,
With its waves of blue,
Stands our noble *alma-mater*,
Glorious to view.

Far above the busy humming
Of the bustling town,
Reared against the arch of heaven,
Looks she proudly down.

Lift the chorus, speed it onward,
Loud her praises tell,
Hail to thee, our *alma-mater*,
Hail! all hail! Cornell.

BEAUTIFUL for situation, indeed, is Cornell University. It is located in Ithaca, a city of 12,000 inhabitants, at the head of Cayuga Lake. Ithaca is truly a most interesting place; its deep gorges and water falls are a source of never failing wonder and admiration. They baffle description and must be seen to be appreciated. The University stands on the eastern slope of the Cayuga Lake Valley, almost half a mile from the centre of the city, and at an elevation of four hundred feet above it. In full view of the grounds, the lake stretches away to the north a dozen miles, and the prospect in every direction is one of surpassing beauty.

In stating that the elevation of the University is four hundred feet above the city, while we undoubtedly speak forth the words of soberness and truth, and the results of accurate measurement, yet to the student, especially to the new student, and more especially to the new student *who resides in the city* and is obliged to toil up the almost perpendicular ascent two or three times a day, four hundred feet appears but an infinitesimal fraction of the height with which his imagination has endowed that hill. Verily there is no royal road to learning at Cornell, but steep and difficult is the path, and (in icy weather) perilous.

The University estate comprises two hundred and seventy acres of land, of which one hundred and ten acres are devoted to the use of the Agricultural Department, and thirty acres to the Horticultural. The campus and ornamental grounds embrace about eighty acres. On these are located twenty-six university

buildings, and thirty-one professors' houses, the majority of the former facing on Central Avenue, which runs directly across the campus. Of these buildings there are only a few of which any account would be at all interesting to GAZETTE readers.

The Library, the gift of Hon. Henry W. Sage, was completed in 1891, at a cost of \$260,000; and from Mr. Sage the library has also an endowment of \$300,000. It is built of stone, and has shelf-room for 475,000 volumes. The reading room has desks for 220 readers. Upon the walls of this reading room, accessible to all, is a reference library of 8,000 volumes. The north wing of the building is devoted to the "President White Historical Library," the gift of ex-President White. This section includes 20,000 bound volumes and 3,000 pamphlets. The building also contains a periodical room, and seven seminary rooms. The construction is fire-proof throughout, and the building is lighted by electricity and heated by steam supplied by the central heating station which supplies all the University buildings. The entrance hall is wainscotted in coloured marbles and all the wood-work of the principal rooms is of highly polished oak. The tower of the Library is a prominent feature of the building, and here is also suspended the big college bell and a peal of chimes.

To the average Cornellian "the chimes" are the cause of much amusement, not unmixed with a respect amounting, in some cases, to reverence. There is such a delightful uncertainty in regard to these chimes. You know not whether "Old Hundred," "Michael Roy," "Sweet Hour of Prayer," or the "National Anthem" will greet your listening ear. Of one thing only are you certain,—that variations such as ear hath not heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive, will appear in the rendition of each and all of these classic gems. Deep respect for the chimes, however, seizes upon you when, from quietly sleeping the sleep of the just, you suddenly awake to the consciousness that it is their music which has aroused you, and that consequently it must be, at least, a quarter to eight, and that you are due at some distance for an "eight o'clock," for which you have most probably not completed your preparation work—then, indeed, only do you realize and appreciate the full value and importance of the chimes.

In Sage College, Cornell University and its promotors have provided for co-education. This was the design from the start, but it was not until 1872 that the plan was carried into effect. In that year Mr. Sage built and endowed a young woman's college connected with the University, and it received the name of Sage College. The entire cost, with endowment, was \$266,000. The building accommodates one hundred students, and is under the direction of a lady principal.

An interesting group of buildings is found at the extreme north of the campus, and on the borders of Fall Creek Gorge. This is Sibley College, the largest department in the University. It is devoted to mechanical engineering and the mechanical arts. The laboratories and workshops are most completely furnished with all necessary apparatus, and the course of instruction is second to none in the world. Perhaps, to a visitor, the most interesting part of Sibley is the workshops. In these shops the students receive instruction in woodworking, blacksmithing, foundry and machine work. It seems to be the almost universal belief that a college course in such manual work amounts to very little, but such is not the case here. Every engineering student works nine hours a week throughout his whole college career in the shops, and the course is so systematically arranged that each piece of work is one step towards the desired end. It is no wonder, then, that visitors are astonished at the quality of the work done by the students, and it can be justly claimed that each graduate student is practically master of three trades. The power for driving all the machinery at Sibley, is obtained from the power house in the gorge below. It is generated by water turbines there, and transmitted by iron cables to the college buildings two hundred feet above.

An interesting building to the athletic readers of the GAZETTE would be the Gymnasium, a large brick building near Cascadilla Gorge. Here is the Armory also, and in fine weather the campus around is dotted with the navy blue uniforms and white helmets of Cornell's embryo warriors. Each student during the first two years of his course is compelled to attend drill three hours each week. The Gymnasium is well furnished with apparatus, and a large number of the students avail themselves of its privileges. A practice room is provided especially for the Cornell crew, while a trophy room holds the sports of the chase.

Sage Chapel, the gift of Hon. Henry W. Sage, is worthy of notice. Dean Sage, in the sum of \$30,000, has endowed the chapel with a preachership, and this enables the University to provide for weekly services to be conducted by eminent clergymen from all parts of the country. Near the chapel is Barnes Hall, the home of the Y. M. C. A., and one of the most useful and most used buildings on the campus. It contains a large audience room, a well equipped and comfortable reading room, together with several cozy committee rooms.

Franklyn Hall, devoted exclusively to Physics; Morse Hall, to Chemistry; Lincoln Hall; the Civil Engineering Building; the Agricultural Buildings; Boardman, White and McGraw Halls, each worthy of note in itself, can only be mentioned here.

There are about 2,000 students in attendance at Cornell, and over and above them nearly 200 professors and instructors.

The system of supervision by which each student is kept hard at work is almost wonderful. Cornell is no place for idlers. Anyone not doing satisfactory work in his classes is calmly "dropped," or as Cornell slang has it, "busted," must leave Ithaca within five days, and is not permitted to return to the University till the following year. The sorrowful meditations of a "dropped" student have been pathetically expressed in Cornell's comic paper:

Bust! Bust! Bust!
I am busted out, you see,
Excuse me if I utter
Some thoughts that arise in me.

Oh! well for the freshman boy
That he studies his "math" all day;
Oh! well for the senior, too,
With his bills that he cannot pay.

And the stately cars go on
To the avenue on the hill;
But oh! for a whack at the last exam.
And some military drill.

Bust! Bust! Bust!
I am busted out, you see,
And the tender skin of the sheep that is dead
Will never be given to me.

As a class, and personally, Cornell students differ not at all from those of any of our Maritime Colleges. There is the same noisy rejoicing among them over a football victory and the same sorrow over a defeat. "Cornell, I yell, yell, yell, Cornell," has the same ring as "One, two, three, U-pi-dee, Dal-hou-sie." The scrimmages in Dalhousie's Halls are represented here on a larger scale by the "rushes" on the campus. The practice of "hazing," which led to such disastrous results last year, seems this year to have died a natural death. *Class spirit* seems to have vanished. There is now only *Cornell spirit*.

The societies and clubs among students are almost without number. There are Debating, Social, Political, Philosophical, Classical, Historical, Scientific, and Musical Clubs. The latter include the Glee Club, the Banjo and Mandolin Clubs, and the Cornell Band. There is also a Washington Club, a Buffalo Club, a Southern Club, and what may be more interesting to GAZETTE readers, a Canadian Club. The latter meet in Barnes Hall every fortnight. There are about forty members. Dr. D. A. Murray worthily fills the president's chair, while another Dalhousian, Miss Ethel Muir, is vice-president, G. A. Cogswell, '90, is secretary, and S. D. Jenks, another Nova Scotian, treasurer. The primary object of the Club is to get Canadians at Cornell acquainted with each other, and to promote and maintain a loyal Canadian spirit. Papers on Canadian subjects are sometimes read, while at other times the meetings are wholly informal.

Cornell students are justly proud of their university. Springing into existence only a quarter of a century ago, she is yet in her youth, with her life work before her. The greatness of that work none can foresee.

The soldier with his sword of might
In blood may write his fame;
The prince in marble columns white
May deeply grave his name;
But graven on each student heart
There shall unsullied dwell—
While of this word they are a part—
Thine own dear name, Cornell.

BRET HARTE.

FRANCIS BRET HARTE, poet and novelist, was born in Albany, N. Y., on August 25th, 1839. His father was a teacher in a girls' seminary, and gave his son a good foundation for an education, but he died while Bret was very young.

Thus left alone, he, in 1854, being at that time but fifteen years old, went out to California in search of gold, and for three years wandered about the mining camps digging for the precious metal and teaching school, but met with no pecuniary success. Accordingly, in 1857, when an opportunity of working as compositor in the office of the *Golden Era*, in San Francisco, was given him, he took the position. While working there, he first began his literary career by contributing sketches of California life to the journal on which he worked. His articles attracted some attention and he was promoted to the editorial staff. This position he held for a short time, when he became editor of the *Californian*, a literary weekly.

Soon after this, in 1864, he was appointed secretary of the United States branch mint at San Francisco, which office he held for six years. During this time several of his short poems contributed to San Francisco papers appeared, and were widely copied and greatly admired. Among them are "The Society upon the Stanislaus," "The Pliocene Skull," and "John Burns of Gettysburg." In July, 1868, the *Overland Monthly* was started, with Bret Harte as editor, and to the August number he contributed "The Luck of Roaring Camp," a story of mining life which marks the beginning of his best work as a writer. In the January (1869) number of the same paper appeared "The Outcasts of Poker Flat," a story in some respects superior to its predecessor. These were followed by several other stories, dealing also with life in the West, but none have been quite so successful. About the year 1870, the young author was appointed professor of recent literature in the University of California, but in 1871 he resigned that chair

and also the editorship of the *Overland Monthly*. The cause of this was his desire to move East, which he did; and, after having visited all the Atlantic cities, took up his residence in New York, where he is still engaged in literary work, chiefly on magazines.

The works of Bret Harte deal almost altogether with life in the West, and show that he was thoroughly acquainted with his subject, and has the ability to put his knowledge on paper in an artistic and interesting manner. His poems are written partly in dialect and partly in plain English, and though some of the former are very fine, yet they are excelled by the latter. All, or nearly all, are written in a light manner, and have a vein of humor running through them.

First, considering those written in dialect, it is noticeable that they are all in the form of tales told by some person, usually a miner, and they display a recklessness of language and action that has always been characteristic of the man of the West. Among the best of this class are those told by Truthful James, for a sample of which take "Plain Language from Truthful James." This is one of Harte's humorous poems, and deals with a game of euchre which the narrator had with a "heathen Chinee," who did not, when he started, understand the game, but who, nevertheless, by carrying in his capacious sleeves twenty-four packs of cards as a reserve, thoroughly worsted his opponent. From which experience Truthful James forms the following opinion of John Chinaman:

"Which is why I remark,
And my language is plain,
That for ways that are dark,
And for tricks that are vain,
The heathen Chinee is peculiar,—
Which the same I am free to maintain."

To show how popular this poem was when it first appeared, it may be mentioned that several illustrated editions and a fac-simile of the original manuscript were published. The only other poem in dialect we will notice is "Dow's Flat." This poem tells the tale of the hard luck of a miner who toiled and plodded along in the search for gold, but

"You see, this 'yer Dow,
Hed the worst kind of luck;
He slipped up somehow
On each thing that he struck.
Why, ef he'd a straddled that fence rail, the derned
thing 'ed get up and buck."

But his luck changed. The spring of water near his house dried up, and he was forced to dig a well. He dug forty feet but no water appeared. Discouraged with life, he contemplated suicide, and stood on the brink of the well ready to "pass out." But, before taking the final step, he struck one blow with his

pick, the side of the well caved in, and abundance of gold was revealed. His fortune was made, and the place was named after him, "Dow's Flat."

The poems written in plain English are more numerous, and show more thought and deeper feeling than those that have been considered. Among the best is "Dickens in Camp." The rough miners are gathered round the camp-fire, when one of them, the youngest in the group, and probably Bret Harte himself,

"Arose, and from his pack's scant treasure
A hoarded volume drew,
And cards were dropped from hands of listless pleasure
To hear the tale anew;
And then, while round them shadows gathered faster,
And as the firelight fell,
He read aloud the book wherein the Master
Had writ of 'Little Nell.'"

Though rough, these miners were deeply touched by the pathetic story, and silence fell over the camp, while all received the words with eager, listening ears, thus paying the great author a tribute which the poet hopes will not seem presumptuous.

"Lost is that camp! but let its fragrant story
Blend with the breath that thrills
With hop-vines' incense all the pensive glory
That fills the Kentish hills.

And on that grave where English oak and holly
And laurel leaves entwine,
Deem it not all a too presumptuous folly—
This spray of Western pine!"

Another of his poems, the address at the opening of the Californian Theatre at San Francisco, contains several fine lines, and the last is especially good:

"And oh! when others take our place,
And Earth's green curtain hides our face,
Ere on the stage, so silent now,
The last new hero makes his bow:
So may our deeds, recalled once more
In memory's sweet but brief encore,
Down all the circling ages run,
With the world's plaudit of "Well done!"

Most of Bret Harte's poems are very short, but there are some of a fair length, among which is "The Lost Galleon," in which occurs the oft heard quotation—

"Never a tear bedims the eye
That time and patience will not dry;
Never a lip is curved in pain
That can't be kissed into smiles again."

"Aspiring Miss De Laine" is also lengthy, and is a hit at, and a warning to, conceited young ladies.

These poems which have been noticed are but a few of many good ones that have been produced by Bret Harte, and are quite worthy of being read by every one who has an opportunity

of doing so, as they will repay the time spent in their perusal. The gifted poet himself is yet alive, every now and then giving something in the literary line to the public, and it is to be hoped he will long continue to do so, as he ranks among the best of American poets and novelists.

PHILOSOPHY.

Philosophy's a science,
 Abstruse and most abstract ;
 It scorns to make alliance
 With materialistic fact ;
 And turns one's mind all up and down,
 And also inside out.
 It makes one ponder long and deep
 As to what the world's about.
 And am I you? or are you me?
 Or are we just a bubble
 Of an undifferentiated mass
 That causes all the trouble.
 For, "Being is" "Non-Being's not,"
 And which we are's the question.
 Now, are we one, or more than one?
 Without the least connection?
 Then, can we move or can't we move?
 Perhaps, we're non-existent.
 We're maybe just a mental groove
 Which, we're told, becomes persistent.
 We cannot move, we cannot cross,
 A road, a room, an ocean,
 For Zeno proved, that—to our loss—
 There's no such thing as motion.
 Then if we hope to make a noise
 In this world that doesn't exist,
 We'll likely lose our equipoise
 So had better far desist.
 For sound is but a curious myth,
 A sensuous sensation,
 A logical dialectic pith
 For Zeno's delectation.
 Now, as for space, it never was,
 And never could have been,
 'Tis but the fermentation
 Of a pluralistic dream.
 But I am very happy,
 For things are not what they seem ;
 If I think the world is going wrong,
 'Tis nothing but a dream.

SCEPTIC.

ACADIA COLLEGE, has entered upon the winter's work with an increased number of students. There are about 130 in attendance. The Freshman class numbers about 35. The reading room at Acadia is subject to the following regulations: All members of the Athenæum, or any person subscribing to the *Acadia Athenæum*, shall be entitled to the privileges of the reading room free. Other members of the College and Academy may secure the same privileges by the payment of 50 cents a year.

FOOTBALL.

On Wednesday, the 31st Oct. our team met and defeated the Army by a score of 6—0. In the first half our boys made their opponents touch for safety six times but were unable to score. In the second half Pickering and Barnstead each secured a try for the College. The play throughout was very loose, and our hopes for Saturday's game were not of the brightest.

The Wanderer's were confident of victory, and went on the field expecting to win. The only change in the team was the substitution of McNairn for Lawson at half. The Wanderers kicked off and the ball went into touch, within our 15. On the line out the red and black rushed the play and soon had the ball close to our line. After about ten minutes hard work, the Collegians forced the game down the field and from that time their goal was never in any great danger. Our forwards as usual were too strong for their opponents, which giving our quarters a great opportunity, enabled them to stay round the Wanderers quarters. Our halves each marked his man, and no sooner did a Wanderer half get the ball, than he was tackled by one of our men. The game was very even throughout the first half, neither side scoring. In the second half our team pursued the same tactics and soon had the ball near the Wanderers line. From a scrimmage near the north corner of the field, Barnstead passed to Pickering, who by a most brilliant dash secured the only points of the day. The kick for goal failed, and the game was resumed by the Wanderers dropping out from the 25. Despite the gallant efforts of each team, neither line was crossed again, and the game ended 3—0 in favor of Dalhousie. To say the students went crazy is putting it mildly. They shouted, gave the College yell, bounced every man in the team, and ended up by paying the same compliment to the janitor.

The last match with the Army was scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 10th, but owing to the bad condition of the grounds the game did not come off till the following Tuesday. In the first half Pickering by a splendid pass gave the ball to Maxwell, who obtained a try. No goal resulting, the Army dropped out and a scrimmage was formed about centre field. The Army worked the ball into our territory and our team thinking the whistle had blown, stood watching Ewart speeding down the field with the ball. Though well tackled by McIntosh, he obtained a try which the referee allowed. The half closed 3—3. For the first twenty minutes of the second half the game was very close, till McNairn secured the ball and scored. Pickering was successful in converting the try into a goal. Five minutes later McNairn again got it across and another goal resulted. Just before the call of time Bigelow obtained another try and the kick for goal failing, the game ended 16—3, in our favour.

College Societies.

A SPECIAL meeting of the D. A. A. C. was called for Monday, October 29th, to discuss some project to obtain some suitable grounds for football. Dr. Forrest was present, and by his suggestions helped on the meeting a great deal. It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of a committee, and let them act as they saw fit. Dr. Forrest promised to have the field behind the College fixed during the summer, so that it would be suitable for next year's practice. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the presentation of the football caps to all entitled to them. They were presented by Dr. Forrest, with remarks appropriate to the occasion.

SODALES met on Friday evening, the 2nd inst, when the subject, "Has Confederation proved a benefit to the Maritime Provinces?" was ably discussed by the members. The sentiment of the meeting was very evenly divided, and many good arguments were produced by both sides. Cummings, J. C. Murray, Doull and others took the positive side of the debate, while Ross, Macneill, Cummings, and others were on the negative side. It was finally decided by a majority of two that we should not yet sever our connection with the Upper Provinces. At the close of the debate Mr. Harry Sedgwick read a very interesting critique of the speeches. On the 9th inst., owing to the inclemency of the weather, there was no meeting of the Society.

Y. M. C. A.—The large attendance at our regular meetings shows the increased interest in this Society. We congratulate the committees who arranged for the instructive course of lectures which we are having this session.

On Saturday evening, Oct. 27th, we had the pleasure of listening to the Rev. A. Gandier, who gave a very practical talk. He gave a brief account of the rise of the College Y. M. C. A. He looked back, he said, with pleasure upon the help which he received from it when he himself was a student, and would recommend all present to identify themselves with the Association.

On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 28th, Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, returned missionary from India, gave a very instructive lecture on that field, and urged upon the students the claims of the millions.

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 4th, Prof. W. C. Murray gave the second lecture of his series, subject, "Abraham and Lot." Prof. Murray is always a favourite, and it is needless to say that his address on this occasion was listened to with pleasure and we hope with profit. A pleasing feature of his addresses is that

an opportunity is given at the close to ask questions. Quite a number of students availed themselves of this privilege, asking pertinent questions and receiving explicit and suggestive answers. Perhaps it would be well to remind the students that the remainder of Prof. Murray's lectures will not be delivered exactly in the order in which they were at first announced. Thus, on Dec. 2nd, instead of taking the subject "Saul and David," he will speak on "Our Saviour's Temptations."

PHILOMATHIC.—The second meeting of the Philomathic Society was held on Nov. 1st. A large number of students and friends of the college were present, and if this meeting may be taken as a promise of what is to follow, the Society has entered upon an interesting and profitable session. The evening was devoted to the late Oliver Wendell Holmes. The President, D. A. Frame, first gave a general sketch of his life and writings. This sketch gave, in a comprehensive way, the principal facts regarding the life of Holmes, with a general estimate of his character as a man, as a teacher, and as a writer, and was illustrated by several incidents revealing the character of the man.

Following this general sketch, came two papers dealing more particularly with Holmes' literary work. The first paper was on the "Breakfast Table" series. The three books comprising this series were briefly reviewed, their points of similarity and difference carefully noted, and their literary value remarked. When we say that the writer of this paper was Miss Hobrecker, nothing further need be said regarding its character. The last paper was on Holmes' novels—"Elsie Venner," and "The Guardian Angel." The weird story, the startling incidents, and the peculiar psychological theories of these works were clearly and forcibly presented by the writer, Miss Church. This paper was prepared under difficulties as the writer had an unusually heavy press of work at the time, but the opinion of those present was that they would like to hear from Miss Church again, even although the next paper was prepared under difficulties also.

After the reading of the papers came an interesting and spirited discussion, during the course of which the merits and demerits of Holmes as a writer were pretty well discussed. D. K. Grant pointed out what he considered some weak points in the writings of Holmes, such as his failure to take any decided stand on the great religious, moral and political questions of the day. He considered Holmes entertaining rather than instructive. J. A. Sedgwick, LL. B., who was present, was now invited to speak. Mr. Sedgwick declared himself an enthusiastic admirer of Holmes, and stated in a very clear and forcible manner his reason for taking this position. Mr. Sedgwick's remarks added greatly to the interest of the meeting, and the Society hope that he and other graduates of the University will continue to show an interest in a practical way.

After some practical remarks by other members, Dr. MacMechan summed up the whole discussion in that able and impartial manner with which his English students are so familiar. Altogether the meeting was both pleasant and profitable, and was voted a success by all present, and when the meeting adjourned after an enjoyable session of two hours, all went home resolved to attend the next meeting of the Philomathic.

Exchanges.

WE welcome the opening number of *Acta Victoriana*. It comes to us clad in its usual modest garb and filled with interesting articles on political, literary, scientific and religious subjects. "A Summer in Wales" is well worth reading.

THE first number of *Queen's University Journal* is to hand. It contains a short account of convocation, the inaugural address of Prof. Depois, Dean of the new Faculty of Practical Science, and Principal Grant's address. These articles with the usual editorials and college notes and news, make up a very creditable number.

WE are pleased to meet once more the *Acadia Athenæum*. This contains a short sketch of Rev. A. W. Sawyer, D. D., President of Acadia College, and a part of the address delivered by Prof. Higgins at the opening of the college. This is an able and scholarly effort and we await with interest the remaining part.

WE have to thank Mr. Alexander Robinson, B. A., Principal of the Vancouver High School, for a copy of the course of study of that school. Of the Faculty of Instruction four members are Dalhousie graduates, viz., The Principal, Alexander Robinson, B. A., '86; James C. Shaw, B. A., '87; George E. Robinson, B. A., '85; and Joseph K. Henry, B. A., '89.

WE clip the following from an article on "Foot-ball and its Votaries" in the *Young Men's Era*. "The first sweep of the October breeze, with its suggestion of frost and coming furs, gives a real pleasure to vigorous exercise, and ushers in the foot-ball season with all due *eclat*. Foot-ball is neither murderous nor suicidal, if properly played, and in accordance with the rules. Any other game could easily incur an overwhelming odium for brutality, if the same disregard for the regulations was practised as that which brought foot-ball into such disrepute in the eyes of a considerable portion of the civilized world last year. It would be deplorable, if any number of associations should take action against foot-ball because of the roughness displayed on a few fields last year. The game is a noble one, it is susceptible of improvement, and as a health promoter has no superior and few equals."

The Review of Reviews for November has an excellent character sketch of the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, by Dr. Edward Everett Hale. Dr. Hale was an intimate associate of that distinguished group of which Dr. Holmes was the last survivor. He characterizes the statement that "Dr. Holmes was vain, that his egotism permeates all his work," as absolutely untrue. He says:

"He was eager to enforce some essential truth in what he wrote. I told him once that an over-sensitive reader had taken the fancy, that his description of a "possession" in Elsie Venner was so true, that she who read felt in danger that she was thus controlled by a master mind, as, indeed, the hypnotists would perhaps teach us. Holmes was very grave when I said this. He said he wrote the book merely as a psychological romance, with the eager wish to expose the folly and wickedness of the doctrine of transmitted sin."

This number also contains a very interesting and instructive article on "Legal Education in the United States," by Lynn R. Meekins.

Among the Colleges.

QUEEN'S has the largest Freshman class in her history.

TO undergraduates of Toronto University the gymnasium fee is \$3.00.

THE University of Edinburgh has purchased a new athletic field. The amount paid was £9000.

IN Edinburgh, women have been admitted to the University Degree of M. B., C. M., though they have not yet been able to gain admission to the University classes.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY, the largest in the world, embraces twenty-one Colleges and five Halls. It has an income of \$6,000,000 and has 12,000 students.

THE faculty of Denison University has decreed that only three games of foot-ball shall be played by that team this fall, and at least two of them must be at home.

A DISCUSSION is going on regarding the proposition that it would be advantageous to completely sever the relationship existing between the University of Toronto and the Provincial Government.

PRINCIPAL GRANT, at Queen's Convocation, said: "Any one would be within the mark if he said that half the students in Canadian colleges would have been better had they stayed at least a year longer in the high schools."

IT is proposed to split Harvard up into several small colleges, somewhat after the Oxford University plan, each to consist of 500 students, with its own dean, and to be governed by its own administrative board. Each will also have its own dining hall, reading room, etc.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY extension work in Alberta during the past summer seems to have been very successful. Classes were organized at the towns of McLeod and Pincher Creek. There miscellaneous audiences gathered to hear lectures on Political Science and other subjects.

Dallusiensia.

[In future this column shall not be restricted as heretofore, but shall contain items respecting such happenings in and around College as may be interesting to the students generally.—EDS.]

LET'S have Lawn Tennis, so say we all.

MR. ALL-N has been appointed water-carrier for the W. A. A. C.

WHO cuts the interesting items out of the papers in the Reading Room?

A DEPUTATION of the Freshman class recently waited on Mr. R-nk-n of that class and compelled him to cut his whiskers. Very sad.

PROF. (quizzing bashful student)—“Mr. Fraser, if you are not awed by the presence of Sm-th you need not be afraid of me.”

IRA (sadly, to lady-love)—“I fear my eyes are becoming weak.”

L. L. (still more sadly)—“How can you expect anything else, when they are in a weak place?”

ACTING on the hint of the students who last year removed the old clock, the Faculty have seen fit to procure a new one, which is a decided improvement on the previous time-piece.

FIRST YEAR EPISODE.—*Gentleman*: “Is there room for a lady on that next chair, Mr. McK-nn-n?”

Mr. McK.—“Yes, sir.”

Immediately, says McK., all the ladies strove for the coveted spot.

PROF.—“Is the exercise finished, Mr. B-rt-n?”

Mr. B.—“No, sir.”

Prof.—“What shall we do next, Mr. B?”

Mr. B.—“Go on with it.”

A DEPUTATION of the W. C. T. U. recently called at 42 Spring Garden Road and left temperance tracts with L-yt-n and T-q-h-rt. The latter would have preferred Exhibition samples of “T. & B.,” and the former volcanic specimens from the brick-yard.

WE notice that there are some aspirants to pugilistic fame among us, especially in the Freshman class. Nearly every day some of these daring youths don the gloves in the gymnasium and give exhibitions worthy of Corbett. It is to be hoped, however, that their love of the “manly art” will not lead them to forsake the college halls for the prize ring.

A. C-MM-NGS spent the summer at Maitland. There he met a young lady who asked him:—

“How do you like attending college, Mr. C.?”

Alfr-d—“O, very well. You see, there are two classes in college, the Y. M. C. A. and the wild set, and the Y. M. C. A. fellows kind of look down on us.”

A VERY successful “Kiss in the ring meet” was held on the evening of the 12th inst. Among those present were four Juniors, three of whom participated in the game, while the fourth acted as scorer and referee. The score stood as follows:

McNeill, out of a possible 125, got 124½.

Ross W. D., out of a possible 90, scored only 50, getting his mouth continually filled with hair.

Murray J. C. was in his element among the “tulips,” as he termed the fair ones, and embraced every offer as well as the one offering.

Reported by “KID,” Scorer and Referee.

IN making up the files of the GAZETTE for binding, the librarian has found that the following five numbers are missing:—Vol. 21 (1888-89), Nos. 2, 3, 10; Vol. 22 (1889-91), Nos. 2, 3. He would be pleased, if some person who has the above numbers and doesn't value them, would send them to him, in order that the complete volumes of the GAZETTE may be kept.

A SENIOR hearing the Freshmen singing “Rock-a-bye Baby” in the hall below, sighed as he said:—

“Surre are your childish voices,
And, though I can't join your lays,
My soul with you rejoices
As I call up by-gone days.”

SISSY J-HNS-N (entering a tonsorial artist's shop, with a few frost-bitten pieces of hemp hanging to his chin which, through some delusion, he has been led to call whiskers)—“Shave, please.”

Barber (having procured magnifying glass and examined face)—“Shave you, sir, I cannot, but such a splendid chance of sharpening my razor on calf-skin seldom presents itself.”

A TREAT is in store for the students on Friday, the 23rd inst., when Mr. George Patterson, M. A., of New Glasgow, reads a paper before the “Philomathic” on the history of several of our popular out-door games. Mr. Patterson's name is familiar to every Dalhousian, and his amusing and interesting sketch of the origin of football, contributed to the GAZETTE a few years ago, is remembered with pleasure. We need hardly bespeak for him a large audience.

FOOTBALL field: Dalhousie vs. Garrison. Enthusiastic Dalhousians cheering on their players.

Lady J (turning round and perceiving I-r-vng, L-v-tt, L-yt-n, C. D. McInt-sh)—“What a horrid looking crowd! The ugliest fellows I ever saw.”

Irv-ng (drawing himself up majestically)—“O benighted hippopotamus of depraved tastes, how canst thou say so, beholding my placid countenance and the beautifully innocent expression of my companions. By yonder shining orb I say there is no truth in thy remarks.”

Tableau.—L. J. is carried away in a swoon.

THE picture presented to the English Room by the Class of '96 is a good clean print of Landseer's “Midsummer Night's Dream.” The class committee generously permitted Dr. MacMechan to select the picture; and as part of the work last year was on Shakspeare's wonderful comedy, and “sundry students” had represented scenes from it in public in a very clever way, this was judged to be the most fitting memorial of the class. The plate represents Bottom seated on the ground conversing with Monsieur Cobweb, probably; while Peaceblossom is mounted on a delightful fluffy white “bunny” ready for his master's commands. Nestling close to the famous weaver's side is the infatuated Titania; the embodiment of the moonlit midsummer night, and in the background is the fleecing, mischievous face of Puck. After paying for the picture, there remained a small balance, which the class committee decided to hand over to the Library fund.

The other additions to the English Room “picture gallery” are two prints of Dürer's, the “Melancholia” and “Ritter, Tod und Teufel,” and an engraved portrait of Haliburton, presented by Professor MacGregor. A copy of the New Shakspeare Society picture of Old London Bridge, which was knocking about the Library has also been framed, and will prove useful in illustrating the work of the second year.

Friends of the College who have portraits of English authors, or illustrations of their works, are invited to contribute them to this object. Such pictures will form a permanent ornament to the College walls, and help to make the study of English concrete and interesting to generations of Dalhousians.

A NEW VERSION OF DALHOUSIE'S POPULAR BALLAD.

With apologies to D. T. A.

There once was a youth so forlorn
That he wished he had never been born;
And the cause of his pain
Was because he had ta'en
Too freely of "B. & S." corn.

Chorus—Oh won't you come up to Finlay's?
Oh won't you come up, come up?
Oh won't you come up, come all the way up?
Come all the way up to Finlay's?

There was a place called U. N. B.,
Too small for our friend Traverse D.,
And so to expand
(For he plays a good hand)
He hied him to old Dalhousie.

Chorus—Oh won't you come up to Snyder's? etc.

Near the lower end of Morris street
Live the men who're possessed of flat feet;
They keep a great dive
For "penny and five,"
And aces and jack-pots so sweet.

Chorus—Oh won't you come into the jack-pot? etc.

Don't talk of beards scanty and mean
Until our friend "Gladstone" you've seen,
The gentle breeze whistles
Through his amber bristles
The lullaby, "God save the Queen."

Chorus—Oh soon he'll come up to Tattie's? etc.

Lothario, alias Hill,
Is quite an Apollo, but still
His limbs to enhance
He purchased short pants,
And now all the ladies are ill.

Chorus—Oh won't you come up to Clayton's? etc.

There was a young man named Macneil
Whom nobody ever saw "squeal";
When he won the North British
He felt rather skittish,
And treated the crowd in his zeal.

Chorus—Oh won't you come up for oysters? etc.

A very exemplary young *mahon*
The sowing of wild oats began;
First he smoked cigarettes,
Then at poker he bets,
And thus down the broad road he ran.

Chorus—Oh won't you come up to Windsor? etc.

Personals.

REV. HENRY DICKIE, B. A. '83, has recently been inducted into the important charge of the Presbyterian church, Windsor, N. S.

DR. A. H. MACKAY, B. A., Superintendent of Education, was one of the principal speakers at the opening of the new High School at New Glasgow, last week.

WE omitted to notice in our last issue, the appointment of Mr. J. B. JOHNSON, B. A. '92, as Assistant Arts Librarian of the College. Mr. Johnson has only to maintain the high standard of excellence of his predecessor to win the thanks and admiration of the students.

IN a current number of the *Week*, we notice an interesting reminiscence of the late Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, from the pen of MR. J. MACDONALD OXLEY, of Montreal. Mr. Oxley graduated from this University in '74, and his *alma mater* watches with pride his continual success in the literary world.

THE numerous friends of MR. WM. BROWN, C. E., of the Class of '88, are delighted to see him in the city, and an interested spectator of the football games. Billy served his apprenticeship on the team in the old days, and was, if we mistake not, one of the immortal fifteen who first wrested victory from the previously invincible "red and blacks."

MR. GEORGE PATTERSON, M. A., was in the city last week, witnessing one of the league games. As an ex-captain of our team, and one who has been well called the "Nova Scotian Father of Football," Mr. Patterson takes more than an ordinary interest in our club. Indeed he is to Dalhousie what Walter Camp is to Yale, and his opinion is still sought in matters of importance by the club authorities.

✉ SUBSCRIPTIONS to the GAZETTE are now due, and should be forwarded at once to the "Manager."

New Books.

CICERO: PRO MURENA. Edited by J. H. Freeze, M. A. Macmillan & Co., London and New York. Pp. xxxii + 130. Price 2s 6d.

An excellent edition of one of the most interesting of Cicero's speeches, "distinguished by its light wit and good-humored raillery," and exhibiting the wonderful versatility of the orator who was capable of thus delivering himself at a time when the crisis of the Catilinarian conspiracy might have been expected to tax his powers to the utmost.

Besides an adequate introduction, the volume contains over 70 pages of note to smooth away the difficulties and assist in the appreciation of the text. A critical appendix and a full index are added.

SHUCKBURGH: A. HISTORY OF ROME. By Evelyn Shirley Shuckburgh, M. A. With maps and plans. Macmillan & Co., London and New York. Size 5 by 7½ inches. Pp. xxviii + 809. Price 8s. 6d.

This handy volume carries the story of Rome from its legendary beginnings, when the government lay in the hands of kings, down to where the victory of Octavian over Anthony at Actium left the country again under the rule of a single man. The work plainly evidences that Mr. Shuckburgh has brought to bear upon his task immense research and profound reflection. The earliest and latest authorities on the subject alike have been carefully studied, and the value and interest of the book are not a little increased by the mention at the close of each chapter of the original authorities upon which it is based. The gradual growth and extension of the power of Rome are kept prominently before the mind of the reader by the excellent device of printing at the head of the chapters the names and dates of colonies planted and provinces formed, and the numbers of the census. The margins of the pages are occupied by a useful summary, and the interesting narration is made more clear by no less than twenty-five excellent maps and plans of campaigns and battlefields. Mr. Shuckburgh's is beyond doubt easily the first of existing single-volume histories of Rome.

BEITRAGE ZUR CHEMIE DES CERS, von L. M. Dennis and W. H. Magee. Hamburg and Leipzig: L. Voss.

This is a separate issue in pamphlet form of a paper published in the *Zeitschrift für Anorganische Chemie*, Vol. vii (1894). It will be of special interest to our readers because of the fact that one of its authors, Dr. W. H. Magee, is a graduate of Dalhousie College.

As indicated in the title, the paper contains several contributions to the chemistry of cerium, the results of a long series of experimental investigations, made at Cornell University.

The first part describes a new, or at least very much improved, method of separating cerium from the other earths with which it is found associated. Debray effected this separation by getting the earths first into the form of nitrates, and then fusing a mixture of potassium nitrate and the nitrates of the earths at a temperature between 300° and 350° C. By this process the cerium nitrate was decomposed, an insoluble oxide being formed, while the other nitrates remained undecomposed and could therefore, on cooling, be separated from the cerium

oxide by solution. Practically, however, several repetitions of the process were found necessary before a complete separation was effected, the cerium oxide being found even after two or three repetitions, still associated with didymium. The authors argued from the fact that cerium nitrate begins to decompose at 200° and didymium nitrate not until 300° has been reached, that the mixture of nitrates employed by Debray had too high a melting point. They, therefore, mixed with the nitrates of the earths a molecular mixture of potassium and sodium nitrates, which melts at 231° C., and found that by using this mixture the cerium oxide could be separated quite sufficiently free from other earths by a single process of fusion. The authors give a detailed sketch of their procedure in carrying out this method, which results in a very great saving of time in the preparation of pure cerium salts.

In the course of their work the authors required frequently to test for cerium, and were thus led to determine the relative delicacy of the various tests in use. The experiments made with this object are described in the second part of the paper. They showed the reaction suggested by Boisbaudran to be the most exact of all those so far proposed.

The third part describes the experiments by which the authors were led to the discovery and the preparation of a new chloride of cerium, together with the peculiarities of the form in which it crystallises.

Part four contains a description of experiments throwing light upon the characteristic colour changes which the hydroxides of cerium had been known to undergo in certain circumstances, but which had not previously been satisfactorily explained.

Dr. Magee and his colleague are to be congratulated on the successful accomplishment of a very difficult piece of experimental work which demanded wide and accurate knowledge, considerable experience, and great skill.

FROM D. C. HEATH & Co., Boston, we have NATURE STORIES FOR YOUNG READERS, mostly in words of one syllable. It tells very simply and in an interesting way, of the habits of the "little beings about us." The object of the book, as Miss Bass says in her preface, is to teach children of those wonderful little creatures, that they may enjoy them as they do "the sunshine, the hills, and every other beautiful thing. The author in her last story draws sharply the distinction between the instinct of the animal and the intelligence of man. After telling of the "little people" about us, she takes up the most wonderful and most useless of all: the Baby, and shows that he is wonderful, not for what he can do now, but for what he "may learn to do."

CONVERSATIONAL METHOD IN FRENCH. Part II. J. V. Plotton, Halifax, 1894.
Pp. 221, i-iii. Price \$1.

The prime object of this book is to bring the student face to face with French as "she is spoke" in this last decade of the nineteenth century. Classic French is well enough, but for practical purposes we need something modern. This little work is distinctly modern and practical. The plan is ingenious. First comes a brief paragraph on some grammatical point, such as the imperfect of the verb. Then there follow extracts from good authors, illustrating the usage, with exercises and questions upon them. The explanations are all in French; and this is a decided advantage, not only in familiarizing the student with the technical terms of grammar but, as French is more precise than English as a general thing, in impressing the rules and usage more firmly on his mind. The extracts selected for reading are interesting and not too brief. Other desirable features that call for mention are the model letters, the table of idioms, and the exercises on that most troublesome part of French grammar, the irregular verbs. The book is well printed and neatly bound.

THE CLASSIC MYTHS IN ENGLISH LITERATURE. Edited by Charles Mills Gayley, Professor of English Language and Literature in the University of California. Ginn & Co., Boston, 1893.

This is not a successful book. Its aim is to provide a short and easy road to the understanding of classic mythology in its relation to English literature. Instead of getting his knowledge of the great fables first hand from the poetic fountain heads, the American student is expected to content himself with Professor Charles Mills Gayley's prose; as thus:

"And when the puzzled Apollo, having traced the knavery to this babe in swaddling clothes, accused him of it, the sweet boy swore a great oath by his father's head *that he stole not the coins, nor knew even what coins might be, for he had only that moment heard the name of them. Apollo proceeded to trounce the baby.*" Page '73.

The book is illustrated, apparently, by a relative of the lady who put pantalets on the legs of her piano; and the old unfettered fancies of the natural man are mutilated beyond recognition to suit the pictures. A comparative study of literature is not for young men and maidens. The redeeming feature of the book is a quantity of valuable bibliographical material.

CROSSING.

Crossing by the ferry,
O'er the waters deep;
Climbing on together
Up the hill-side steep;
Resting by the wood-way
'Neath the shady trees;
Lulled to quiet and stillness
By the gentle breeze.

Clasping hands together,
Gazing into eyes,
Heeding not the cloudlets
In the distant skies;
Happy in each other
Only for to-day.
Ere the day declineth
Joy must flee away.

One sweet day of gladness
To the maid he gives,
Paying for the sadness
Of the months she lives.
Just a day of pleasure,
Just an afternoon,
Just a glimpse of happiness
Fading all too soon.

* * * * *

Crossing by the ferry,
Many years have gone
Since they crossed together
That fair summer's morn.
Crossing by the ferry—
Autumn now is nigh,
Shadows in their lifetime,
Shadows in the sky.

Since that summer morning,
Since that happy time,
He has crossed the ocean,
Dwelt in far off clime.
Once again together
One short day they spend,
Knowing that with sunset
All their joy must end.

Now the day is over,
Night has almost come;
And again together
They are crossing home.
Crossing o'er the waters
At the set of sun,
Saddened into silence
Over pleasures gone.

Crossing by the ferry,
Heeding not the storm
Quickly brooding round them,
Feeling no alarm.
Ere night closes o'er them,
Holding hand in hand
They have crossed forever
To the promised land.

Law Department.

"A POLICEMAN'S life is not a happy one," is an old saying, and one which it is conceded contains a good deal of truth. It might, however, be varied just a little by substituting "editor's" for "policeman's," and then its truth would be brought home to every one with undoubted force. Although all the law students recognize the burdens and inconveniences attaching to the position of editors of the GAZETTE, evidence of which they give by endeavoring to shy clear of it, still they do not show it in any substantial way. They apparently think that they have acquitted themselves of the duty which they owe to the College paper when they have come together and appointed three of their number as editors of the Law Department. They entirely forget—or at least seem to—that the editor's time is just as valuable to them as to the rest of the students, and that in justice to their law studies they should devote it all to preparing themselves for their future career in their chosen profession. The editors have the very same exams. to undergo as others, and although it should—and we take the present opportunity of humbly suggesting to the faculty that it should—the fact that they are editors does not weigh very heavily with the professors in examining their papers.

Now all the students should endeavor to make as light as possible the duties of their representatives on the GAZETTE, and, to that end, should bestir themselves to aid them in filling the columns of the Law Department with matter interesting to both the present and former students of the Law School. The present is the third issue this year of the GAZETTE, and with the exception of one or two items nothing has appeared other than what the self-sacrificing editors themselves have written. Wake up, therefore, brother students, and give us an opportunity to exercise our editorial discretion in deciding which contributions shall appear, instead of making us burn midnight oil in the almost impossible task of providing suitable and interesting matter for our GAZETTE.

LAW SCHOOL NOTES.

DURING the past week Messrs. McInnes, Harrington and Russell, three of our lecturers, have been up at Ottawa attending the Supreme Court of Canada.

MR. R. S. MCKAY has been appointed by the Law School Faculty as Assistant Librarian in J. F. Outhit's place who, as before mentioned, was promoted to chief.

AMONG the relics of the Sophomore class is a cane carefully preserved and guarded, formerly the proud possession of one of our present worthies. *Mirabile dictu*, they never profit by experience.

IN naming the successful candidates to the final Law examinations before the Barristers Society this fall in a former issue, the names of H. C. Borden and C. F. Tremaine were inadvertently omitted. Both *passed creditably*.

WHAT has become of Evidence? Are we to have no more lectures in this important branch? Surely we can ill afford to have the lectures in this subject piled up at the last of the term when we begin to prepare for examinations, and so can not give the time we could now, or ought to give.

ON Friday, Nov. 2nd, we were without our genial W. H. Snyder; for his football fame had rapidly spread over the Province. And on that day he was called to Kentville to assist the Home team against the staunch Windsorians. The game was a draw.

ON Nov. 5th, we had a visit from Mr. R. B. Graham, LL. B. of Truro. "Blackie" is a graduate of '93, and is now managing the business of S. E. Gourley, a leading barrister of Truro, who is visiting the North West. We always welcome a visit from our old graduates.

IN another column we acknowledge the receipt of the Statutes of P. E. I. for 1894 from Mr. W. A. MacKinnon, LL. B., of Georgetown, P. E. I. Mr. MacKinnon was last year elected to the Legislative Assembly of his native Island, and is fast rising in political and professional spheres to the honour of himself and his *Alma Mater*. The GAZETTE extends best wishes.

WE are pleased to notice that the Law Library, already one of the most efficient in the Maritime Provinces, is gradually being added to. This year the Library has been supplemented by a set of Cox's Criminal cases, and a full set of the Law Journals. Both of these sets of reports are very welcome and useful, and fully appreciated by the students.

It is generally known among the Law students that the Senate of the College have absolutely refused permission for a dance in the College Halls. This year the students were for the first time unanimously in favor of it, and nothing was to hinder but the *vox senatus*. This, however, is against us, and the question now is, "How are we to get our dance?" Rumors and suggestions are heard of hiring a hall down town and having a ball, but no steps have been taken so far.

THE following books have been presented to the LAW LIBRARY, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged with sincere thanks to the various donors.—Journals of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, 1894, from Queen's Printer. Todd's Parliamentary Government in the British Colonies, presented by Dr. Weldon. Statutes of Canada, 1894, Dr. Weldon. Statutes of Nova Scotia, '91, '92, '93, '94, and debates of N. S. Leg. Coun. and Assembly, Queen's Printer. Acts of P. E. I., 1894, D. A. McKinnon, LL. B., '87. Principles of Hindu and Mohammedan Law, presented by F. Blake Crofton. Sessional papers '94, No. 1, Distribution Office.

ON Thursday evening, Oct. 25th, a very pleasant evening was spent by the 2nd and 3rd year law students at the residence of Prof. Russell in Dartmouth, for on that night the genial Professor and his wife were "at home" to the students. Arriving on Dartmouth side in the 7.20 boat, they did not have to go through the wild experiences of their verdant and inexperienced brethren; and profiting both by former experience and by a capable guide who claimed to know the way, saying he had been up that way before, they arrived in good time at the house and spent a very pleasant and agreeable evening. If the Professor would take into account the remorse of some of the students in having to leave so early, he would surely have a line of steamers to accommodate their feelings. The Law Students always look forward with delight to an "At Home" at Prof. Russell's.

MOCK PARLIAMENT.

OCTOBER 20TH, 1894.

The Speaker called the House to order at 8 p. m.

Questions were asked of the ministry, which were satisfactorily answered.

HON. MR. BIGELOW, Minister of Public Works, introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, that this House express its approval of and agreement with the policy pursued by the Government last session in relation to the re-adjustment of the tariff, which while adhering steadfastly to the principles of Protection in changing the duties in many cases from specific to *ad*

valorem, placed those articles chiefly consumed by the poor more easily within their reach."

The Premier, who seconded the resolution, was followed by MR. OUTHIT, (Annapolis,) who spoke strongly against it. MESSRS. FERGUSON, (Colchester,) and LOGGIE, (Northumberland,) spoke in favor of the bill, while MR. GRANT, (Pictou,) opposed it. MR. MCKINNON, (Antigonish,) closed the debate, speaking in support of the resolution. On division the resolution was lost and the Premier immediately announced the resignation of the government.

OCTOBER 27TH.

Shortly after the House was called to order HON. JOHN FRANCIS OUTHIT, Premier and Minister of Finance, introduced his cabinet, composed as follows:

"HON. D. FINLAYSON.....*Minister of Justice.*
 " H. ROSS.....*Minister of Marine and Fisheries.*
 " A. D. DUNN.....*Minister of Interior and Postmaster-General.*

The Hon. Minister of Justice introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Act of the Legislature of Nova Scotia, 1892, ch. 2, entitled "An Act for the further encouragement of Coal Mining," (the act under which the Dominion Coal Co. was formed,) is, in the opinion of this House, a measure beneficial to the best interests of this province and the Dominion of Canada at large."

This resolution was seconded by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. The Hon Minister of the Interior, and MESSRS. GRANT and FINN spoke in favor of it, while MR. LOGGIE opposed it. The resolution was carried by a vote of 15 to 3.

NOVEMBER 4TH.

The Mock Parliament opened at the usual hour. Speaker McIlreith in the chair. After the order of the day was disposed of, PREMIER OUTHIT moved the following resolution:

"Resolved, (1) That the Customs tariff should be based, not as it is now, upon the protective principle, but upon the requirements of the public service;

(2.) The existing tariff, founded upon an unsound principle, has developed monopolies and combinations;

(3.) The existing tariff, as aforesaid, has oppressed the masses for the enrichment of a few, has impeded commerce and decreased the value of land and other landed property;

(4.) That the highest interests of Canada demand the adoption of a sound fiscal policy, which, while not doing injustice to any class, will promote domestic and foreign trade;

(5.) That, to that end, the tariff should be reduced to the deeds of honest, economical and efficient government;

(6.) That it should be so adjusted as to make free, or to bear as lightly as possible, upon the necessaries of life; and should be so arranged as to

promote freer trade with the whole world, and more particularly with Great Britain and the United States ;

(7.) We denounce the principle of protection as radically unsound and unjust to the masses of the people, and declare that the recent tariff changes, which are based on that principle, must fail to afford any substantial relief from the burdens under which the country labors."

Speaking in support of the resolution for over 40 minutes, he endeavored to show that the country is, at present, suffering from such commercial depression under the existing tariff that some change is absolutely necessary. Taking up the resolution clause by clause, he, in eloquent language and charming diction, dissected the record of the conservative party in federal politics showing, apparently to his own and his colleagues satisfaction, that a tariff drawn up on the lines suggested in the resolution is the *sine qua non* to the prosperity of Canada.

MR. MCGREGOR, (Pictou,) seconded the resolution. He called attention to the deterioration in the value of landed property in the county he represents. He also spoke of the restrictions placed upon manufactures of farming implements by the duty of 35 p. c. on steel.

MR. O'DONOGHUE, (Antigonish,) spoke against the resolution.

NOVEMBER 11TH.

When the members met at the parliament building at 8 p.m., neither the Speaker nor Clerk were present. Nor did they put in an appearance during the whole evening. MR. MCVICAR, (Cape Breton,) was appointed Speaker for the night and MR. MCART Clerk of the House. While some excuse may be urged for the absence of the Speaker, there are no grounds whatever upon which the absence of the Clerk, both on this and the preceding night, can be excused. We should suggest, in due humility that the House take measures to acquaint the Clerk that his is not a life estate in the clerkship, but only one at will, determinable at notice, and that in the event of his again absenting himself said notice will be given.

When the House settled down to business the order paper was read. Many questions were put to the ministry in relation to the various services of the country.

The debate on the resolution was resumed. MR. GUNN in an impassioned and labored speech, supported the resolution, endeavoring to show that the N. P. was guilty of all the misery existing at the present day in Canada. He maintained that the record of the McKenzie government was one to which all good liberals could point with pride. The country had been ruined by the policy pursued by the Macdonald administration during their first term of office, and the McKenzie government did all they could reasonably be supposed to do to rescue Canada from her perilous position. The N. P. was never fairly and squarely laid before the people of Canada ; but in all cases the government

snatched the verdict of the people on side issues. He quoted John Stuart Mill in favor of free trade.

MR. MCKAY, (Plymouth,) followed, speaking in favor of the resolution.

MR. GRANT, (Pictou,) was the next speaker. He condemned in unmeasured terms the protection policy of the conservatives. He characterized the administration as scandalous and corrupt, going outside the question to rake up the old and exploded scandals of the past twenty years. The audience having decreased to insignificant proportions, MR. GRANT, after lamenting the fact, concluded his speech.

MR. FINLAYSON, (Cape Breton,) endeavored to explain the action of D. C. Fraser in voting with the shareholders of the New Glasgow Glass Works to accept a certain sum from a large company in compensation for handing over the works to them, thus in practice doing what he condemned in theory.

MR. MCART argued against the resolution, claiming that protection was a blessing for Canada. He also called attention to the fact that although free trade is the cardinal idea running through John Stuart Mills' Political Economy still that author, in concluding his work on that subject, admits that the proper course for a country, lying adjacent to another which has a high protective tariff, to pursue is to adopt the same policy. This assertion was questioned by MR. GRANT who claimed there was no such statement at all contained in Mills' work, and said that he would be worse than an idiot who should say there was. MR. MCART still claimed that he was correct in his statement.

MR. FINN, (Dartmouth,) made his maiden speech, speaking in support of the resolution. Waxing eloquent as he proceeded he lauded the patriotic endeavors of Messrs. Laurier, Fielding *et al* to turn the conservative administration out of power.

On a vote being taken the resolution was carried by a large majority in a very slim house.

MOOT COURT.

October 4th, 1894.

MAYOR OF CITY OF ST. JOHN, *Appellant*,
v.
KINNEALY, *Respondent*.

Before WELDON, C. J.

This was an appeal from a decision of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Snow had been left on a side-walk in St. John for a considerable time, and in consequence of alternate thaws and freezing, and walking upon it, a ridge of ice had been formed with sloping sides. The respondent (plaintiff below) while walking upon the sidewalk in the evening, slipped upon the ice and was injured.

In an action against the city for negligence ;—*Held*, (Tuck, J., dissenting,) that there was evidence which should have been submitted to the jury to find whether the defendants had been guilty of negligence by allowing the snow and ice to accumulate on the sidewalk, and to remain there an

unreasonable time, so as to render it unsafe for people to walk upon, the duty of the city being to keep the street in a reasonable state of repair.

Judgment reserved.

MCLEAN and MCKAY for Appellant.
LOVITT and MCART for Respondent.

SMITH v. SMYTHE.

Before WELDON, C. J., and RUSSELL, J.

Defendant was master of a ship, not being a part owner. Plaintiff brought action to restrain him from using pumps which was an infringement of plaintiff's patent, but did not join the owners as defendants. Defendant applied to have the manufacturers of the pumps made defendants, and they, on being joined, defended on the ground that the pumps were not an infringement. The pumps had never been used in British waters, and there was no proof of an intention so to use them, beyond the fact that they were in the ship and there were no other appliances for pumping. The court after trial granted an injunction against the captain, who now appeals to the Supreme Court of Canada (the pumps were an infringement of plaintiff's patent).

MURRAY and TERNAN for Appellants.
MCVICAR and ROSS for Respondents.

RUSSELL, J., delivered the judgment of the court, which was for the appellant. He decided that there should have been a mandatory injunction, or one to prevent the ship from going to sea.

LAW SCHOOL FACETIE.

FUTURE BRIDGEWATER SPOUT :— "That case should be very familiar to your Lordship."

AN interesting scene took place in the Library not long ago, when Father O-TH-T, seated aloft on a table, had gathered around him a band of Freshmen, and delighted them in pointing out the intricacies of the State trials.

LECTURER ON SLANDER :— "Charging a man with a crime is not liable, if the bystanders know it is impossible, e. g., A says to B, "you killed my wife," and all present know the wife is alive, that would not be actionable."

A-t-k-n :— "What if the wife were alive?"

Lecturer :— "That would be very good proof that the wife was alive."

IT was broached around the Law Library last week that a very interesting suit was to be instituted by Fer-son against A-t-kin for assault. Charlie, somewhat interested himself, succeeded in getting the matter hushed up. Fer-son may now be seen wending his way every morning to the Medical College for treatment.

SCENE : One of our county offices, in which presides a graduate of 93. Enter W-d-m-n, a law freshie who is peddling typewriters through the country. Graduate tries to look dignified and is intently engaged in reading a law book,

Law Freshie :— "Are you studying law?"

Dignified Graduate (still looking in his book) :— "Yes."

Law Freshie :— "That's the same business I'm in myself. It's a nice study, and I think you'll like it. Do you find it hard?"

Dignified Graduate looks at him out of the corner of his eyes and mutters between his teeth an ejaculation of "ugh," which might be taken for almost anything.

Law Freshie :— "I did myself when I first started in, but you ought to take a course at Dalhousie. I've been there a year now, and I've

learnt most everything. Our lecturers are (names some of the prominent ones).

Here the *Dignified Graduate*, who was gritting his teeth, got up, walked around the room three times, and finally said, "I graduated from there myself not long ago."

Freshie collapses and sneaks off.

THE multiplicity of prevaricators around the Law Library has induced the Dean to offer a copy of Bret Harte's poem, "Truthful James," to the person telling the best three out of five original stories containing the least amount of truth. Some of the competitors being veterans, the Dean in his unbounded wisdom has decided to make it a handicap affair. Those with the largest handicap will be allowed to consult Sunday-school statistics and Prohibition returns :—

- J. F. OUTHIT..... { Champion Economiser of the Truth, Gold Medalist from Annapolis and Melvern Square. } *Scratch.*
- W. H. FERGUSON..... { Entered under protest, Greatest American Professional Champion, Tutor to McKenzie. } *Scratch.*
- C. A. MCLEAN..... { Basso Profundo, Gold Medalist Choir Competition. } *Scratch.*
- R. S. KEEFLER..... { Winner of all local Lunenburg competitions. } *Handicap 2 points.*
- HUGH ROSS... { Hogoma's Best, 1st in the Ingonish List. } *Handicap 3½ points.*
- W. H. SCHNEIDER..... Maiden Plate badge, easily detected. *.5 points.*
- W. J. LOGGIE..... Lumberman's and Miner's Favorite. *.5½ points.*
- E. W. MOSLEY..... { Good at Matinee's. May advise with his tutor, F. A. Morrison. } *40 points.*

Three impartial and now truthful Judges from the Arts have been chosen, viz :

- R. S. D. AITKEN, the Buster.
- A. D. GUNN, the Infant.
- J. S. MORRISON, College Jumbo.

Result looked forward to with great eagerness. Odds 2 to 1 on Outhit.

At a recent meeting of the Senate the following case came up on appeal from the adjudication of PRICE, B. J.

YE PAINTED BEARD ARTS PROF., } GRANT & OUTHIT for Plaintiff.
v. } and
TOMMIE FRASER. } VERNON & MOSLEY for Defend't.

On the trial below it was proved that the defendant had called the plaintiff "Scott," the said Scott being a defunct theologian, whereby the plaintiff suffered great damage of mind from the insult. The counsel for the defendant, while admitting the charge, asked for his release on the following grounds :

- 1st. 25c eye-glasses.
- 2nd. Over indulgence in Rot G. Whiskey.
- 3rd. Confused mental condition.

Defendant also filed certificates of church non-attendance, unpaid wash-bills and an I. O. U. due Finnely.

The judge, however, ordered the defendant to keg up for a period of 4 days

Held by the whole court that the conviction was right but that considering the past life of defendant the sentence was too heavy. They therefore, ordered that the pictures of both Scott and the defendant be sent to the Gold Dyspepsia Cure Co. to be used as ads in lieu of Tommie's poetic effusions. One of the judges expressed the opinion that the plaintiff should not have been insulted since he was not called "Fraser."

Medical Department.

THE reading room of the Halifax Medical College is not a credit to the institution. We believe that this state of affairs can be remedied to a great extent by a very small outlay. The necessity of having plenty of profitable reading matter in the reading room is at once evident; for the medical students life is, or should be, a busy one, and every moment of time should be utilized. Considerable time is necessarily spent here by the students, owing partly to the tardiness of many of the lecturers, who seem to think that they are smart enough to give an hour lecture in half an hour. This and other causes compel students to spend time here which could be profitably and agreeably employed in perusing the pages of some standard literary or medical magazine, but, under existing circumstances, he cannot do this, for even the magazine that does occasionally find its way thither is not suffered to remain long.

Should not the Medical Society take this matter in hand? Let a committee be appointed to consider the matter and report to the Society. We believe that a few dollars spent in providing suitable reading matter for the otherwise idle time spent in the reading room would be a good investment.

STUDENTS' MEDICAL SOCIETY.

THIS society, as its name indicates, is conducted by the students of the College; has for its object the dissemination of medical knowledge and the promotion of social intercourse among the classes of the different years. The subjects introduced are of such a nature as to be interesting alike to fourth and first year students. Meetings are held on Friday evening of each week during the collegiate year.

The first meeting of the society for the session of 1894-5 took place on the 12th of October, when the officers for the ensuing year were appointed. On this occasion G. P. Skelly, B.F., briefly addressed those present.

On the evening of October 19th, the opening address was delivered by Dr. A. P. Reid, Superintendent of the Victoria General Hospital. The Dr. spoke upon the many advantages and disadvantages of the medical profession. By his usual happy manner he succeeded in making the evening both pleasant and profitable to his hearers.

A scrap discussion was held on the evening of October 26th, in which the first year men took a prominent part. While great benefits are derived from papers read by doctors and other gentlemen outside of the society, still the evenings handled by the students themselves are by no means to be despised. It is needless to say that the hour was profitably spent.

The subject for the evening of November 2nd was "Anæsthetics," and the matter was opened by an excellent paper on anæsthetics in general, by J. C. Macdonald. H. E. McEwan presented a paper on "Ether," followed by one on "Nitrous Oxide" from W. H. McDonald.

On November 9th, Alex. Fraser, B. A., delivered an address, subject, "The Relation of Mind to the Body." His paper was admirably written, and was presented in a manner that could not fail to meet with appreciation from the audience.

HISTORY OF ANESTHESIA.

(Paper read before the Students' Medical Society.)

You are all, doubtless, familiar with the old Latin story of our school books which tells of a certain poet who was commanded to prepare a poem, upon the subject of which the unfortunate bard knew nothing, death being the penalty for non-fulfillment of the royal command. To-night, Mr. President, you with your mandate, stand in the place of the haughty monarch, holding terrible threats over my devoted head, while I—but alas the analogy ceases there, since about the collection of dry facts which lies before me, there lurks not a suspicion of anything poetic. That it should fall to my lot to speak upon the subject of Anæsthetics seems, Mr. President, like the irony of fate, in view of the quasi brilliant remarks which I made upon this same subject at a recent oral examination. Indeed it appears like a further verification of the well-known and hackneyed truism, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." While my paper may not of itself prove an anæsthetic, yet there is a strong probability that it will result in a grand practical demonstration of the action of a hypnotic. Vain and utterly fruitless have been my attempts to worship at the shrine of the silver tongued Apollo, for the unpropitiated diety only turned a deaf ear to my entreaties and denied me the inspiration, though I "sought it long and with tears." During the course of the evening, you will be at a loss to know what greivous sin you are expiating in enduring so severe an infliction as that to which you are about to submit. History, at most, is dry and uninteresting, and the history of anæsthetics is no exception o the rule.

Two of the greatest advances of modern surgery are the introduction of Antiseptics and the discovery of Anæsthetics. Strictly speaking, however, we are in error when we look upon the underlying principle of the latter as a modern idea, for while the administration of anæsthetics, as is at present in vogue in surgical practice, is comparatively modern, yet the idea of lessening pain by the administration of some drug is in reality very old. The word anæsthetic comes to us from the Greek words *a-not*, and *αισθησις*, I perceive, and we find such authors as Diocordes, Pliny, and Apuleus mentioning the fact, that even at that early date it was customary to administer the root of the mandrake steeped in wine in order to produce insensibility in persons who were about to be cut or cauterized, and that so long as the influence of the drug lasted, the limb might be cut or bruised without causing much pain to the patient. Pliny also tells us that it was no unusual thing for the seeds of the rocket, steeped in wine, to be taken by criminals about to undergo the lash, in order to induce recklessness and hardihood of feeling. Just how much of the efficacy of this treatment may have been directly due to the anæsthetic power of the seeds, and how much to the spirit of bravado and abandon induced by excessive indulgence in wine is not clear; since, and it is almost fair to suspect, that in addition to the reeds being steeped, the persons themselves were more or less soaked by repeated draughts from the flowing bowl. This, Mr. President, was, as you know, before the conception of the W. C. T. U., and the discovery has not yet been made of the one thousand and one nauseating elements which enter into the composition of a glass of wine. Another instance of this same idea may be gleaned from Biblical lore, and it is highly probable that the "wine mingled with myrrh," which figured at the crucifixion, is but another instance of this primitive idea of lessening pain by the production of a state of anæsthesia. Bang, or the extract of Indian hemp, still used in India, was employed at a very early date for the same purpose by the Chinese, Egyptians and Scythians, while in the twelfth century the famous confection of Hugg di Sween, composed of henbane, opium, manchagovia and hemlock was used as a narcotic vapor to alleviate suffering. Sir James Simpson shows that the inhalation of narcotic vapor before surgical operations was a procedure in vogue as early as the thirteenth century, and, according to Dr. Snow, the vapor of sulphuric ether was employed by Porter, at Naples, in the sixteenth century.

The early history of Anæsthesia is, however, exceedingly meagre and fragmentary, and it is not until the end of the eighteenth century that the authentic history of modern anæsthesia begins. A house surgeon to the St. George's Hospital conceived the idea of lessening the sensibility of a limb before amputation by compressing the principal

nerves. This was effected by an instrument very similar to Signorini's tourniquet, consisting of a horse-shoe shaped piece of steel with a pad at each extremity, and a thumb-screw to act upon one of the pads. This, however, resembled somewhat the homœopathic form of treatment and was soon abandoned, since it was found that in many cases the pain of the tourniquet was even less preferable to the pain of the operation.

At the end of the last century a fresh impetus was given to chemical research by the brilliant discoveries of oxygen and other gases by Priestly, Black, and Cavendish. This led to the creation of a new branch of chemistry, pneumatic chemistry, which in turn led to the creation of a new system of therapeutics, pneumatic medicine. The votaries of this system fondly hoped to cure all kinds of diseases, pulmonary consumption especially, by the administration of venous gases. But though clinical experience dampened the ardor of the promoters of this system, and the practical application of the theory proved its utter fallacy, blasted the fondest hopes of its sanguine originators, and branded the entire idea as chimerical. Yet it is to one of the devotees of this theory that modern anæsthesia owes its being. While vainly struggling to find some gaseous combination that would prove the panacea for all the "ills that flesh is heir to," Sir Humphrey Davy incidentally discovered that nitrous oxide relieved him of the headache caused by intoxication from drinking wine in order to contrast the different action of the spirits and the gas, and he furthermore found that the same gas relieved him of the pain of cutting a wisdom tooth. Elated by his discoveries, and like all true scientists, actuated by a desire to benefit humanity by his researches and information, Davy threw out the hint that "nitrous oxide appeared capable of reducing physical pain and might probably be used with advantage during surgical operation." Englishmen, however, are proverbially conservative, and it hence remained for an American to make a practical application of Davy's suggestion, and, in 1844, Horace Wells, a dentist of Hartford, Conn., inhaled nitrous oxide previous to the extraction of one of his own teeth. This, practically, was the discovery of modern anæsthetics. Two years later, ether was first used at an operation. The honor of this discovery is a matter of dispute between Dr. Chas. T. Jackson of Boston, and his pupil, Mr. W. G. T. Morton. This opened a new era in the history of surgical practice, and in a short time the news of the discovery was carried to England. Liston, on December 22nd, 1864, tried ether at the University College Hospital, amputating a thigh and tearing out a toe-nail painlessly. In less than a fortnight ether had been tried by almost every surgeon in the kingdom, and for a long time the various medical journals were filled with instances of its power to alleviate

suffering, and page after page was devoted to the detailed description of the apparatus employed in its administration. Evidently so simple a form of inhaler, as employed in the Victoria General Hospital, never occurred to the astute minds of that day. In 1847, Sir James Simpson discovered the anæsthetic power of chloroform. Another form of inducing anæsthesia, viz., by mesmerism, was advocated and practised by Dr. Esdaile. By means of certain passes the patient was placed in a mesmeric sleep, and while in this condition could be operated upon without suffering pain. The results obtained from this anæsthetic were, however, too uncertain, and the practice never gained the confidence of the profession, but was soon dismissed as altogether ineffectual and fanciful.

No discovery, not even excepting that of antiseptics, has done more toward the revolution of surgery than the discovery of anæsthesia and anæsthetics. Nothing has proved a greater boon to both patients and surgeons alike. The length of time required for the performance of operations, once measured by minutes and seconds, is now measured by half hours or even hours. Not only is the excruciating pain now a thing of the past, but the absence of suffering, induced by anæsthesia, enables the surgeon to make more careful and thorough examinations, and by this means to effect a more effectual and radical cure.

The *modus operandi* of general anæsthetics has been determined with sufficient clearness to warrant its classification under two heads, direct and indirect. Indirectly anæsthesia is induced by stopping the circulation in the brain thus producing a state of anæmia, and arresting the processes of oxydation and tissue change in the nerve cells which are necessary to their functional activity. This result may be partially produced by draining the blood from the brain into other parts of the body, thus in some of the hospitals of Paris, before the introduction of anæsthetics, it was customary to render a patient partially insensible before an operation, by laying him flat upon his back, and then very suddenly lifting him to a standing position. This, however, was an exceedingly crude method of procedure, and its results could be naught but uncertain and frequently unsatisfactory. A similar example may be seen upon taking a few deep breaths in rapid succession, slight anæsthesia accompanied by some giddiness resulting. Nor is this method simply valuable as a matter of experiment, since by this means the mutability of the pharynx becomes so much diminished as to render laryngoscopic examinations much easier. Directly anæsthesia may be caused by the action of drugs upon the nerve cells themselves. Chloroform, ether and other allied substances belonging to the alcoholic series appear to act in this way. Although their action is generally exerted through the blood, by which they are conveyed to the brain when inhaled, yet they will also produce a similar action if weakly applied to the nerve centres themselves. Provost found that chloroform applied to the brain of a frog narcotizes it, when the artery is tied. When the artery is again untightened, so that the current of blood can again wash away the chloroform, the narcosis disappears.

Anæsthesia may conveniently be divided into four stages:—
(1) Stimulant stage; (2) Narcotic and Anodyne stage; (3) Anæsthetic stage; (4) Paralytic stage.

The action of chloroform and ether in the first two stages is very similar to that of alcohol. In the first stage the circulation becomes accelerated, and owing to the increased supply of blood the action of the nerve centres becomes more marked. Gradually, however, this excitement passes away, giving place to a condition in which sensibility becomes more and more diminished, though reflex action still remains, and a wild delirium takes place, a condition which corresponds to what is known in popular vernacular as "fighting drunk." In the third stage, in addition to the abolition of the functions of the brain, the reflex action of the spinal cord are placed in abeyance, the petillas reflex disappearing first, and that of the conjunctivæ last; hence if on touching the conjunctivæ no reflex contraction of the eyelid takes place, the anæsthesia is complete.

In the paralytic stage, the respiratory centre becomes paralyzed, respiration ceases, and the cardiac pulsation becomes slower and slower, and finally may cease.

I am aware, Mr. President, that it does not fall to my lot to speak in any way upon the physiological action of the various drugs which are employed for the production of anæsthesia, since, according to your programme, my hunting ground was confined strictly to the historical element, or, in other words, to introduce the subject in a general manner, leaving the more detailed remarks for those who are to follow me.

THE GREAT BAR TO TRUE MEDICAL PROGRESS.—For one competent and conscientious worker there are ten who are incompetent and unconscientious, and who in divers ways hinder our progress and spoil our present possessions. Intolerant of the patient and painful toil of the true worker, acute in the power of superficial observation, gifted with a certain showy versatility, quick at catching hold of new ideas, ingenious in guessing, crude in experiment, loose in therapeutic trials, hasty in speculation, strong in dogmatic assertions, accomplished in the transfiguration and use of other men's work, finding what they want wherever they seek it, unhindered by difficulties, facile in speech, ready in writing, thirsty for notice—such men, now, alas, not uncommon in medicine, beget papers so quickly they have no necessary relation to time; observation, or thought, and flood our literature with their unworthy, if not unveracious, lucubrations. The favorite hunting ground of such men is therapeutics, and their favourite sport the catching of remedies, the putting of them to new uses, and the setting forth of their successful results. These men discern no difficulties, have no failures; they can illustrate their successes by scores of cases, and explain them by the most ingenious theories. There is scarcely any limit to the extent and variety of their achievements, and as they flaunt along in the fullness of self-satisfaction, they look down with pitying condescension upon those who, in the straight and narrow way, conscientiously toil with small success in seeking after truth, and find strength and solace in their chosen task.—
Sir Andrew Clarke.

MEDICAL BRIEFS.

THE gentler sex seems to have *strong* attractions for one of our athletic Juniors.

PROF. OF CLINICS : "Mr. Fr-s-r, you will destroy the argument for the co-education of the sexes."

THE Sops. say they *be(a)t* he will *mak(e)* loud demonstrations the next time he, the Freshman, is caught at it.

PROF. : "What is the origin of the accelerator nerve of the heart?"
Mr. B—t, (with great assurance) : "The last cervical and first dorsal vertebræ."

FOUND, in the dispensing room of the hospital, a neat little missive which affords conclusive evidence that Payzant was favored with the young lady's company on June 6th.

THE unsanitary condition of the water in the pond in the Public Gardens is attributed to the fact that a Freshman was recently seen there diligently engaged in removing the summer's accumulation from his celluloid collar.

SUDDEN DEATH IN BICYCLISTS.—At a recent meeting of the *Academie de medecine*, an account of which appears in the *Journal des praticiens* for September 5th, M. L. Petit reported three cases of sudden death due to bicycle-riding in patients affected with heart-disease. The first case had been that of a man, sixty years old, who had appeared to be healthy, and the second that of a man who had recovered from an attack of typhoid fever. Dr. Petit thought that old people, and those affected with cardiac troubles, should not indulge in bicycle-riding, as it might be attended with serious and sometimes fatal results.—*New York Medical Journal*.

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