

The Irving Literary Gazette.

VOL. III.

WESTMINSTER, MD., DECEMBER, 1883.

NO. 9.

Poetical.

From Harper's Magazine.

ADVISE TO A COQUETTE.

From the French of Alfred de Musset.

BY AN EX-EDITOR.

Were I a woman lovable and fair—
Yes, Julie, yes—I'd do what you are doing;
Without remorse or mystery, thought or care,
I'd ogle all the world and set it wooing.

I would not have a trouble on my mind,
Save what would suit my face and figure best;
No doll, from Rome to Paris, should they find
From top to toe so well got up and drest.

Of all I've learned I only would retain
Your charming listlessness in all its moods:
Like you, uniting to a madcap vein
The seeming reverie that o'er nothing broods.

Life in a round of fetes for me should run;
Pride should be forced to follow in my train;
Of ice and flame—two beings merged in one—
Love in the eyes, and in the heart disdain.

But above all things I should loathe to wear
That vulgar tint of meretricious rose.
My face should beam from out my dark brown hair
As through a hood of clouds the moonlight shows.

For 'tis so charming, and of such avail,
That languid air, that mask in vogue to-day.
Ah, how delightful is it to be pale!
What's in the heart that looks should ne'er betray.

Still, your capricious ways—that novice sigh,
That knowing glance—have such a charm for me
In, short, my heart so clings to you, that I—
Just for a year or two—yourself would be.

There are some points, however, where, I own,
Your worldly wisdom can not be avowed.
You dare not boldly show your heart of stone
Your pride restrains you—yet one must be proud.

Neither, in medley of the country-dance,
Should my bare arm be waved without my leave
Nor, in quadrille, should my white hand by chance
Trailing repose on this or that man's sleeve.

Should too robust an arm unseemly press
My closely fitting corset, in your place
A mortal fear would seize me, I confess,
Lest in the grasp I lost one shred of lace.

Waltzers in turn have o'er your shoulder bent,
Feigning with rapture to be overcome.
At least my woman's senses would resent
Such love as this, if self-respect were dumb.

I would not, were I Julie, have my friends
Call me but pretty. With your charms endowed
I would be Duchess to my finger-ends;
As I were wealthy, so would I be proud.

Note well one fact, my dear: in this our age
Few men regard inconstancy as crime;
Of all your doting lovers I'll engage
That half make love to while away the time.

Flirts must of passion prudently beware;
The bird of passage where he lists will fly,
Not hovers indolently poised in air;
Brushed by his wing, a flower may droop and die.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL And the Rectorship of St. Andrews.

BY PROFESSOR REESE.

The election of Mr. Lowell, our minister to Great Britain, as rector of the University of St. Andrews, in Scotland, is an academical event which calls for more than a passing notice in an academical journal. The Institution which, by the vote of its matriculated students on the 22nd of November, is to have an American scholar and poet for its rector for the next three years, is the oldest, though the smallest, of the four Scottish universities. These universities—Aberdeen, St. Andrews, Glasgow and Edinburgh—have been working since 1858 under a uniform constitution. In accordance with a statute passed that year each has now three governing bodies, a senatus academicus, a university court and a general council. The first has charge not only of the instruction and discipline, but also of the property and revenues of the University, thus performing duties and bearing responsibilities which with us are divided between the Faculty and the Board of Trustees. The decisions of the senatus are subject, however, to review by the university court, while the general council seems to be merely a deliberative body, having the right to discuss, but not to legislate upon, any questions affecting the interests of the University. The chief officers of each university are a chancellor, elected by the general council; a vice-chancellor, appointed by the chancellor, and a rector, elected by the matriculated students. The rectorship is an honorary office, held for the period of three years, and is usually conferred upon distinguished non-residents, but very rarely upon a foreigner. The position, academic as it is, is coveted by the leading statesmen and literary men of the United Kingdom, as it gives the holder of it an opportunity of delivering, on his inauguration, an address which is looked forward to with interest and afterwards discussed in almost every journal of note printed in the English language.

The University of St. Andrews, which has just chosen Mr. Lowell for rector over his competitor the Right Hon. Edward Gibson, a leading conservative statesman and the ablest speaker of his party in the House of Commons, was founded in 1411 and consists of two colleges, one of arts, called the United College of St. Salvator and St. Leonard, (formerly distinct but consolidated in 1747), the other of theology, called the College of St. Mary. The Principal of the United College, J. C. Shairp, LL. D. who is, also, Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford, and the author of an able work, called "On the Poetical Interpretation of Nature," has under him ten Professors respectively of Humanity, English Literature, Greek, Mathematics, Logic, Moral Philosophy and Political Economy, Natural Philosophy, Natural and Civil History, Anatomy and Medicine, and Chemistry. The divinity college of St. Mary is presided over by Principal John Tulloch, D. D., who is, at the same time, Professor of Systematic Theology. His three assistants have control of the departments of Biblical Criticism and Theology,

Ecclesiastical History, and Oriental Languages. The Chancellor of the University is, and has been for several years, the learned Duke of Argyll, LL. D., K. T., K. B., the father of the Marquis of Lorne, late Governor-General of Canada, and the author of "The Reign of Law." Principal Tulloch is Vice-Chancellor; the Rector since 1880 has been Sir Theodore Martin, K. C. B. and in the British Parliament the Representative is the Right Hon. Lyon Playfair, C. B. LL. D., F. R. S., who has been Postmaster General and is now Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons.

The rector from 1877 to 1880 was the Right Hon. Lord Selborne, better known as Roundel Palmer, who has been successively solicitor general, attorney general and Lord Chancellor, which last named office he now holds in the Gladstone administration. On the historic occasion when in 1872 the Court of Arbitration met at Geneva, Palmer (then Sir Roundel) was the counsel of the British government and not long after was raised to the peerage under the title of Lord Selborne. He is a fine classical scholar, a profound jurist and a devout Christian.

Sir Theodore Martin, the rector whom Mr. Lowell succeeds, is an accomplished and versatile writer. He was born in Edinburgh, in which city he practised law for several years, but in 1846 he removed to London and became a parliamentary solicitor. His best known original works are, the "Bon Gaultier Ballads" and "The Life of the Prince Consort," which was written at the request of Queen Victoria, and, in fact, under her own supervision. His literary reputation, however, is principally founded upon his grace and skill as a translator. From the Latin he has given us, in very happy English verse, the Odes of Horace and the Poems of Catullus; from the Italian he has translated Dante's Vita Nuova and from the German Goethe's Faust. The Horace in "The Ancient Classics for English Readers" series is, also, from his pen.

Mr. Lowell has nothing to fear from a comparison with any of his predecessors in the honorable office for which he has been so flatteringly chosen. He represents his country in England not only as a diplomat but as a man of letters, a scholar and a poet; and it is no surprise to his admirers to learn that his election has elicited renewed tributes from the English and Scottish press of all parties to his character, abilities and peculiar fitness for an office of academical dignity. It is a striking coincidence that Mr. Lowell succeeded Longfellow as professor of modern languages and belles-lettres in Harvard College nearly thirty years ago, and that to-day, while the memorial of the latter is being placed in Westminster Abbey, the former is preparing his inaugural address as Rector of one of the oldest universities of Europe. When one thinks of this, to how remote a past seems to belong the sneering question of the British reviewer: "Who reads an American book?"

Prof.—"Now, gentlemen, we will represent the earth by this hat, which—" Small voice from the corner, "Is it inhabited?"—*Ec.*

Rich Dunces and Poor Scholars.

There is one thing worse than ignorance: It is to despise knowledge.—Ignorance may be a misfortune, but the man who reviles the knowledge he does not possess shows an ignoble nature.

An article is going the rounds of the newspapers, entitled "Results of Education," the object of which is to show how much better it is to be a rich ignoramus than a poor scholar. The author selects cases to prove his point. A rich cattle king, who had a year's schooling, and who still thinks William the Conqueror and William the fourth were one and the same persons, is worth two millions, and has three clerks in his employment who were college graduates.

Another man, whose doting parents scrimped and saved to send him to college, and who graduated with honors, is now forty years of age, and makes school-books for a rich publisher for fifteen dollars a week.

Imagine a long string of such examples, given to show that he who would thrive in this world must abandon his school, throw aside his books and go into the street to struggle for pennies! Every statement in this article may be true, and yet the article itself be falsehood, for nothing lies with such force as truth. This is, truth perverted and misused, can be made to convey an impression completely erroneous.

Now, there actually was a college graduate employed by a publisher of school-books at a salary something like that named above. That is truth.—But not the whole truth—for the reason why the man worked in an inferior position was not because he graduated from college but because his habits were bad. He was an occasional drunkard. In his subordinate position he was safer and better off than he had ever been when working for himself.

Colleges do not teach young men how to buy cheap and to sell dear.—*Education is that which makes success worth having.* It cannot impart the quality of mastership, which makes one man go forward and take the lead, and the want of which makes it far better for most men to follow.

In New York there are many of these wealthy ignorant men, whom unfortunately our youth are advised to imitate. As a class, they are well known to be both ridiculous, reckless and coarse in speech and habits. They do not know what to do with themselves or with their money, unless it be to go grinding on, adding to their preposterous burthens. Some of them try to conquer *ennui* and to place themselves above the position their lack of education assigns them, by building beautiful palaces, or by making art collections, of which they really appreciate nothing but the cost. Others parade their littleness in the harbors of the world, protected by a flag to which their lives have added no lustre.

One of the absurdest, nay, one of the most threatening and terrible spectacles which our imperfect civilization affords, is an ignorant, common vulgar man, with millions of dollars at his command—millions which spoil him, corrupt his relations, and blast his children.

WOMAN.

There are many things we meet on our path of life which we can neither understand nor account for. Now the very presence of some things unquestionably accounts for their being. But woman is one of those things which nobody can understand. We can readily see what is and what always has been the station of man. His course of action is plainly and satisfactorily laid out. It is man's duty to bear the brunt of both civic and martial strife. It is his allotment to accomplish the skillful and arduous work of a mechanic. It is his right and privilege to take upon his shoulders the responsibility of making and enforcing the laws of a government. But what are a woman's duties? What tasks are rightfully hers? She is ever changing her opinion of what is a just apportionment of privileges. If one were able to conceive of a multitude of several millions of chameleons, each changing its color as it willed, he would have a discord which might be compared with the opinion of the gentle sex upon their rights. In fact, taking the comparative degrees of importance into consideration, she would change her mind as often in naming her station as she would in choosing a spring bonnet.

In ancient and classical times she was regarded as an ornament, but of very little service. She was, as it were, wrapped up in cotton like a precious gem, and hidden from the sight of all save the household and a few chosen friends. She was allowed to learn such as music and fancy needlework, but in all other things her knowledge was limited and deemed unnecessary. She was at all times considered the inferior of man, and was taught to obey his every command. When he was absent from home she sang his praises; when he remained at home she flattered, entertained and was obedient to him.

When he came in exhausted from battle or from chase, she eagerly and attentively listened to the recital of his adventures; and then she lulled him into sweet repose with the seductive, magic strains of her instrument. O! thrice and four times beatific age of man!

In these days, when a student peruses the tales of those heroes of antiquity, he is led to emphatically pronounce his opinion that the ladies were not the only ones who played the lyre. Be that as it may, it is certain that she was held fit only to amuse and entertain the lords of creation.

Coming down now to the early history of England, we see that woman has advanced out of her babyhood and is now able to toddle about. But she is still regarded by man much as a little child, and is adored on account of her dependence. He is still her master, but she is a little less dependent. She can now say a word or two for herself, and causes more wars and conflicts than the most ill-grained monarchs. However, her trouble-making is neither new nor an advancement. She is kept under strict government by her relatives, and is never allowed to go upon the street unattended. She is allowed to enter neither a business nor a profession. During the middle ages she made some marked progressive steps. She in many ways showed a marked progressive mind, but was allowed to cultivate no practical talent. The female characters on the stage were taken by youths and effeminate men. The good resulting from this was the relief of stage managers from the complaints of officious, capricious and very conceited stars. This plague of managers was instituted at the private dramas of Charles I. Some of these amateurs received a great deal of praise. We take the following from the diary of Samuel Pepys, written 1660. It is descriptive of one of the court

plays: "The truth is there is a part done by Nell, which is Florinell, that I never can hope ever to see the like done again by man or woman. * * * But so great a performance of a comical part was never, I believe, in the world before as Nell did this. * * * It makes me, I confess, admire her." Now as to who Nell was, or what her talent, we know nothing more. But this marks the start of woman as an actress.

These exhibitions of merit give occasion for the question whether woman is or is not naturally such a weak and dependent creature as she is accredited. Is her mind fit only to struggle with delicate nothings and light domestic duties? Or is her mind dwarfed by the oppressive measures of domineering man? (Speakers on woman's rights are warned not to use the last question.) There were some cases in those times in which woman took a man's position and discharged the duties with great credit. But were we living then we would have hesitated to say whether these were only exceptional minds or were the outgrowth of the free and healthful action of a woman's will.

Joan of Arc most creditably helped to prove on the battlefield that man is not superior to woman. This poor, weak, dependent female led her men where the bravest commanders grew fearful of chances; delivered France when she was already in the power of England. Then she died at the stake—put to death by noble man.

In the civic battles she was worthily seconded by Mary and Elizabeth. The one showed as much cruelty and bigotry, and the other as much foresight and good judgment as any male ruler. Their titles—Bloody Mary and Good Queen Bess—are sufficient evidence of their capabilities.

These examples of what woman could do so inspired them that their sex have continued to aspire to greater independence and glory each day since.

Her position in the present day is so complicated that it is difficult to describe. In the different countries she is treated differently, according to the state of civilization. Where man is most barbarous, woman is treated with greatest rigor; where men are enlightened, woman is respected, and she takes advantage of the lenience to assert her equality. In the savage states in the northern part of Africa she is not treated as a free mortal. She is not allowed to show more of her face when on the street than one eye. If she recognize an acquaintance it is dangerous, but if she converse with him it is fatal.

I have received from a friend who resides in Brazil a description of a ball, which well sets forth the subjection and seclusion of the gentle sex in that part of the world. The folks are invited by written invitations. The ladies are escorted by their fathers, mothers or brothers. The young gents escort their sisters or themselves to the dressing room. When the music struts up they all cluster around the entrance of the ball room and gaze with fear and longing at the row of cruel fair ones who decorate the sides of the festive hall. Finally one becomes desperate and makes a daring sally at the line of dancers and selects his partner. Then comes into play the horrid rules laid down by custom.

1st. You must not say more than ten words to your partner during the set.

5nd. You must not under any circumstances smile upon her.

3rd. He who shall break the above rules is considered engaged.

4th. If any one shall by his actions violate the first or second, or shall contradict the third, he shall be tabooed and cast out of society as a shameless flirt.

5th. You must not, unless engaged, dance more than one set with the same lady.

If you take two smiles and a talk, and don't marry the recipient or doner, as it may be, you are a disgrace to the community. We think that if about ten of our girls were imported, that empire would soon see the futility of trying to coerce talk and smiles into silence and straight faces.

England allows her young ladies to receive their acquaintances at option, during the hours of afternoon and evening. She may go out walking or riding with young gentlemen; she may go to the opera without a chaperon; and, in fact, she is perfectly free and independent in her actions. In the United States we have still more independent species of the class. We have lady lawyers, lady doctors, lady professors, and all the species.

Now, let any intelligent man look at the successive positions which woman has occupied, and tell what it is leading to. The plainly evident climax will be reached only when woman becomes, in the most business sense of the word, a man. The likelihood and probability of our reaching this state of affairs is by no means faint, as some people say. Even now the weak sex have able men and strong-minded women orators battling for the recognition of the equality of the sexes. Is it right that it should be so? Shall we allow home to be robbed of its dearest attraction in order to fill public duties? We must acknowledge that woman has been treated unjustly and cruelly in the past—that was the time of her extreme suppression. Shall we now have the other extreme? By a play of words her condition was first woe-man, next it was wo-man, now it is whoa-man, or whoa woman, and if the women don't whoa, it will become woe to man. Let every true man fight against the confiscation of his rights. Let every youth stand up for the laws which make his sweetheart so tenderly dependent. Let every true woman defy this call for them to leave their children and sever domestic ties. As long as woman is the goddess of domestic affairs, as long as she is dependent on her male relation, as long as she gives her whole time to her family, she will be respected. A woman's kingdom is her home. While she rules this only, man will love her; but let her leave this fortress, and she will become weak, but to be pitied and despised. A. C. W.

GYMNASTICS.

By this art we mean a performing of something to give relief and pleasure to the weary mind and overburdened body.

A means of imparting pleasure and tranquility to the mind that has been actively engaged in performing its various functions, and at the same time giving more strength and vitality to the different parts composing the body.

In fact, the etymology of the word itself suggests to the scholarly mind its true meaning and significance. We get it from the Latin gymnasticus, which is derived from a Greek word very similar in its orthography, meaning one fond of athletic exercises, such as boxing, fencing, running, exercising with Indian-clubs, dumb-bells, practicing on the trapeze, swinging-rings, parallel and horizontal bars, &c. All of which are good examples of gymnastic exercises.

Now many persons object to such exercises, as they think it is folly to indulge in such sports—they seem to think it is time wasted; time that may have been better used, and would have been more profitable if otherwise spent.

But this is a great mistake. The advantages of such exercises are great and lasting. In the first place, it is a rest to

the mind, which has had duties imposed upon it that almost amount to encroachment. For it finds ready relief by a few moments' exercise with the dumb-bells or a swing on the trapeze; but even a greater benefit is to be derived by due indulgence in such sports as I have mentioned, it helps to build up the body, to develop the muscles and limbs, to increase in strength and activity, its act as a stimulus both to body and mind.

We are taught by physiologists that by exercising the body we not only strengthen it, but also add greatly toward the improvement of the mind. It imparts to it more activity, more freedom of thought, and it is capable of grasping facts more readily.

It should be the daily duty of persons who are accustomed to sedentary habits, to devote several hours each day to exercising on the bar, trapeze, rings, or indulge in some of the advantages gymnastic exercises offer them.

If they wish to enjoy the life which God gave them, they should not neglect to duly exercise their bodily organization in the promotion and elongation of it.

Do we not all wish to enjoy life as long as possible? If so, then why should we confine ourselves so closely to our duties, even to injure our health and impair our mind by close application? For such is the case. We know of many persons who have thus been hurried on to the grave, by too close and assiduous application to their vocations. Life is short in the fullest, and we should use every means to best enjoy it while we do live.

I say this because a person does not really enjoy the blessings of God, who is imperfect in mind, whose health is destroyed, and heart sorrowful, and we know from references that over-work and taxation upon the mind, without any exercise or means of rest will result in speedy death or insanity.

We find in the annals of history that gymnastic exercises were practiced to a great extent among the Ancients. That was the first thing that was taught to the youth. The parent watched over the education of his child in athletic arts with as much anxiety as regards to it becoming expert in the profession, as a parent, even now watches his child growing into familiarity with the learned professions.

And it was by the advantage the Greeks took of such exercises, for developing the parts of the body, and giving to the mind more activity, that they produced so many heroes.

Gymnastic exercises are of special importance to a student, and he should devote several hours each day to such exercise.

He then would feel his mind growing brighter, his mental faculties increasing, and his body developed into full vigor, perfect in all its parts.

Do not understand me to have deprived the ladies of enjoying these exercises, no indeed, they should be instructed in these arts, for the same reason as the boys. Certainly there are some of these sports too laborious for them to practice, but they should take advantage of the opportunities offered them for increasing their gracefulness in body, by exercises which are less wearisome.

We are glad to note that the practice of calisthenics has been introduced, into our school, among the ladies, and may they advance in this are, as in the language of Tennyson, "Until she be an athlete bold."

McC.

It isn't a great ways to the end of a cat's nose, but its fur to end of its tail.

It is easy to see that there is always a man in the honeymoon.

Edgar Allen Poe.

After reading the records of some of our literary characters, how sad are the impressions left upon the mind; those unhappy geniuses, gifted but selfwilled. Endowed with high creative faculties, but revoltingly sensual; possessed of powerful minds and brilliant intellects, but faithless and prejudiced: and particularly mournful is the contemplation of the life of Edgar Allen Poe. Richly endowed, yet with a low carnal appetite; a poet of high order, but without faith or steadfastness of purpose. His productions, wierd and unnatural, reflect in no small degree, his wandering, dissipated life, and for his own sake I would fain help to cover it up, but it is right, painful as it is, that it be known as a beacon, to warn susceptible youths from the horrible chains of intemperance, as much as anything else.

The brief facts in the life of the poet are as follows: Edgar Allen Poe was born in Baltimore, Md., sometime in the year 1811. His father was a lawyer of an old and respectable family, his mother being an English actress. Both his parents died while he was very young, and with two other children. There being three in all—he was left almost entirely destitute. He was rescued from the work-house, where, ere long, he must inevitably have gone, by a kind hearted, wealthy gentleman named Allen. After receiving for his second name, the surname of his benefactor, he was, it was understood, adopted as his son and heir. In his fifth year Mr. Allen took him to England with him, placing him at a boarding school near London. Here he remained until his eleventh year, when he returned to America. For his dissolute habits he was expelled from the Charlottesville Va., University in 1825. Notwithstanding the liberality with which Mr. Allen supplied his purse, Poe was constantly running into debt; and the refusal by Mr. Allen to honor his bills when presented for payment caused him to sever his connections with his family, and, after writing him a most ungrateful letter, to enlist in the Greek Revolution. Very little is known of him during the year that follows, though certain it is that he never reached Greece. But when he returned, Mr. Allen was still willing to recognize him as his son, and sent him to West Point. His conduct there was just a repetition of that practiced at Charlottesville and ended in his expulsion.

About this time a final rupture took place between him and his benefactor. Having quarreled with Mr. Allen's second wife, a very young woman, scarcely older than himself, he was expelled in anger from his house and cut off without a farthing.

Before his eighteenth year he had published a small volume of poems, which were quite favorably received; and through the influence of Mr. Kennedy, the judge of certain prizes offered by the Baltimore Visitor, for the best poem and the best story, in both of which Poe was successful, he was appointed joint editor of *The Lutheran Literary Messenger* of Richmond. But he remained in this honorable position only for a short while.

The fatal habit of intemperance had become so rooted in his character, that he was utterly unable to fight against it, and, alas! soon succumbed to its power. His dismissal followed; and upon which, going to Philadelphia, he wrote his "Tales of the Grotesque and the Arabesque."

Poe, determined drunkard that he was, shortly after married his cousin Virginia Clemm, a lovely young woman, spoken of very high for her Christian virtues, but possessing none of those persistent, persuasive powers, so much needed in this case,

to overcome her husband's awful desire for drink.

His beautiful and most popular poem "The Raven" raised him, though only for a short while, from the misery and want, into which his sinfully reckless course had dragged him. Soon again he was as destitute as before; his troubles multiplied; his domestic difficulties augmented; his wife, worn-out by the strain of suffering and destitution, sickened and died; and even his few friends turned from him in disgust. Thus he proceeded, like a leaded cork, now rising to the surface of gifted scholarship, now sinking to the depths of drunkenness and sin; now professing total abstinence from drink, now relapsing into his old habits of debauchery and dissipation.

While in New York he delivered a lecture on the Cosmogony of the Universe, with the proceeds accruing from which he succeeded in issuing a few numbers of a new monthly magazine; but again intemperance was the cause of failure.

Just the year before he died, he dared again contemplate matrimony. Meeting a brilliant New England woman, who had herself attained considerable celebrity as a literary character, he offered his hand and fortune (?) to her, and even the day of his marriage was fixed. His biographer thus relates the breaking of the engagement:

"Poe said to a female acquaintance in New York, who congratulated him upon the prospect of his union with a person of so much genius and so many virtues. It is a mistake; I am not going to be married." "Why, Mr. Poe, I understand that the banns have been published! I cannot help what you have heard, my dear madam, but mark me, I shall not marry her!" He left town that same evening, and the next day was reeling through the streets of the city which was the lady's home; and in the evening that should have been the evening before the bridal, in his drunkenness he committed at her house such an outrage as made necessary a summons of the police."

A short while before his death, when it was too late he made pretensions to have reformed, but going to New York, preparatory to his marriage, and also to fill a literary engagement, he met some of his old acquaintances and the passion for sociability caused him to drink. He drank until he was insanely drunk, and was afterwards found dying in the streets. He was carried to a hospital, where he died October 7th 1840 in his 38 year; and his remains are now interred at Westminster (Presbyterian) Church, corner Fayette and Green streets Baltimore, where a handsome marble monument has been erected to his memory through the liberality of the pupils of the public schools of that city.

J. H. C.

Snow, pure snow. It comes unheralded and silently down without boast. It comes to spread a rich mantle of white over the dust and refuse of earth. Its glittering whiteness brightens all that it touches, and though it hits everyone, it hurts nobody. It laughs and springs and sparkles the more when trodden on. It deadens the babel of noises, and is an antidote to earth's chaos. It is jolly. We like it. Snow, pure snow.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

There are at present four large and about a dozen small companies in California engaged in the distillation of borax, of which about 3,000 tons are annually produced. The borax fields are nearly three hundred miles from any railroad, and great expectations are entertained of the yield when the iron horse penetrates that section of the country.

The law is the centipede of civilization. It has more limbs than body.

Our High Schools.

Inasmuch as the public schools belong to the people and are designed for the people, every man seems to consider it his right and duty either to find fault with the present system, in order to demonstrate that right, or else with a view to making some change which he fancies will better promote the end for which they were established. I am not one of those who think that the present system is all wrong; that those who are at the head are unfit for the duties devolving upon them; that the course of study is too high or too low, or that the teachers belong to the list of martyrs. Affording, as they do, an opportunity for every child, no matter what his condition to obtain at least the rudiments of an education, whereby he is fitted to take his place as a member of society and intelligently perform the duties devolving upon him, and is given the key with which he may unlock the vast storehouse of knowledge and explore it to depths limited only by his own industry. The public schools are a grand institution. Too much cannot be said in their praise. Progress and improvement are plainly to be seen, and there can be no doubt that they will yet accomplish all the splendid results that their founders foresaw, and probably some of which they never dreamed. Still, whatever they may be destined to become, they have not yet reached a state of perfection; and I may be pardoned if I give expression to a few thoughts which my limited acquaintance with the public schools, and particularly with the high schools, has suggested.

It is a general and well-known proposition that this system was devised for the masses. Therefore a course of study which will best fit the masses for their daily avocations and intercourse with one another is the course of study that should be adopted in our public schools. So far as our primary schools are concerned, I have no complaint to make, except, perhaps, that English Grammar is begun much too early in the course; but of this I may take occasion to write some other time. But, when we come to the high schools, something seems to be wrong, in order to the proper understanding of which it will be necessary to look somewhat into their history.

Before the general introduction of public schools every town had its academy, which was designed especially for the wealthier classes, since a tuition fee was charged, which put it out of the power of the poorer classes to educate their children. As those who were able to patronize the academy were generally able to send their sons to college, the course of study was naturally made preparatory to this end. The object being to give the pupil a start in a classical course, and not to prepare him to enter any business pursuit, Latin and Greek were made prominent features, and such other studies as are usually pursued at college. When the public schools became more general and it was seen that they were conducted on a better plan, the academy found that its days were numbered, and that it would have to give way to the young giant that was making such rapid strides into the favor of the people. Finally our academy disappeared, and the high school, under the same general management as the primary schools, took its place. It is much easier, however, to change a name than to change a nature. To this day our high schools partake very largely of the nature of the old academy, and are suited rather to the few who intend to take a college course than to the many who expect to enter the arena of active business. While, no doubt, Latin and Greek are useful as affording excellent mental training and opening up to the stu-

dent the learning and wisdom of the ancient Greeks and Romans, still the great majority of our youth never get further than the high school, and in the busy scenes of a living, bustling present soon forget what little they there learned of the dead and buried Romans and the Greeks long since crumbled into their original dust. In the place of Latin, which is almost unanimously taught, I would substitute German, for several reasons; first, because the same mental training would be obtained as by the study of Latin; second, because it is a living language, and our country contains so many who are able to speak no other without difficulty; that a clerk, who can speak and write German, is always in demand, whereas no business man ever knows or cares whether his clerk knows anything about Latin or not. In the third place, the pupil, knowing that he is studying a language now spoken by some of his fellow-men, and that can hardly fail to be of some practical use to him in after life, will apply himself much more diligently to understand its construction than those of a dead language, which he studies merely because it is in the course. In the place of Greek, if a second language is deemed desirable, I would recommend French, for about the same reasons as were given for the substitution of German for Latin. And with the three leading languages of civilization our young men would be able to converse and transact business in almost any part of the world.

Book-keeping is already in the course, but is generally neglected, although one of the most important and necessary studies in the whole course. Our commissioners would do well to rigidly insist that every graduate of a high school should have at least a moderate acquaintance with this important branch of mathematics. To accomplish these changes many of our teachers would have to go, since, trained in college, Latin and Greek is their stock in trade; but better that they should go and their places be filled by men who are better able to impart the knowledge to our children which will help them most in their struggle for an honorable place in the world of to-day, than that those for whom the public schools were intended should waste the bright years of their youth in deciphering inscriptions on tombstones so old as scarcely to be distinguished from the unhewn rock, buried away in some long gone age before man ever had an existence on the earth.

NIGEL.

Never too Late to Learn.

Socrates, at an extreme old age, learned to play on a musical instrument.

Cato, at eighty years of age, learned the Greek language.

Plutarch, when between seventy and eighty, began the study of Latin.

Sir Henry Spellman neglected the sciences in his youth, but commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian and lawyer.

Ogiby, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek until he was past fifty.

Franklin did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached his fiftieth year.

We could go on and cite thousands of examples of men who commenced a new study, either for a livelihood or amusement, at an advanced age. But every one familiar with the biography of distinguished men, will recollect individual cases enough to convince him that none but the sick and indolent will ever say: "I am too old to learn."

THE
Irving Literary Gazette

IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT
WESTERN MARYLAND COLLEGE,
BY
IRVING LITERARY SOCIETY.
TERMS—75 Cents per year, in Advance.

Entered at the Post Office, Westminster, Maryland, as
Second Class Matter.

MOORE & TODD, - - - EDITORS.

WESTMINSTER, MD., DECEMBER, 1883.

THIS is an age of invention and improvement. We are beginning to feel that we are indeed moderns. New things are being brought forth in every branch of knowledge, and perfected more and more as thought develops. Things put on their new garbs as time flies swiftly by. The thought that once was only ideal and imaginary now assumes a reality. Men die and other men slip quietly "in their shoes." Taking the place of the old invention, some new one comes, whereby labor for man is made easier and his daily sustenance more easily gained. Hundreds of patents are daily entered in the Patent Office at the Capitol by our countrymen.

We stand off at a distance and look upon these rapid changes; admire, praise, wonder at them; but upon none of modern changes do we bestow such unfeigned surprise and astonishment as upon those that are being made in our colleges throughout the land. Faculties, trustees seem to be determined that they also will not be left behind in this age of change. With this spirit of modernism in their minds they begin to work upon our curricula. They take out here and put in there such studies and laws as they deem advisable, and nine times out of ten make grave mistakes. While it cannot but be admitted that some of the changes are beneficial, yet concerning others it appears doubtful. Among the latter is the proposed change, which has been and is yet agitating the college world so completely, that of leaving out Latin and Greek from the course, and substituting modern languages in their place. While we humbly beg leave to add our names to the opponents of such a change, nevertheless our opinions are *positive* and *emphatic*. Although the advocates of the proposed change are firm in their opinions and strong in their influence, it is still to be hoped that their opponents may prove foemen of good steel. The former class tell us that we are behind the times in the study of the Ancient languages, and that we should devote the time spent in such employment to the learning of the modern French or German, which will be of use, important use, to us in the race of life. From this we must appeal. The practical use which we have in this life of the French language will not pay us for the time we devote to it. Even if there was an opportunity for us to put to practical use a knowledge of this language, such a thing would be almost impossible, owing to the difficulty of pronun-

ciation. You will scarcely find two students from different American colleges or under the instructions of different tutors, who will be able to understand each other when conversing in this language. Taking this view of it, which we think will be admitted without controversy, there is only one advantage gained by its study, and that is the training of the mind. But this is comparatively little, as the arrangement and construction of the language is so simple that the youngest pupil in our schools can easily comprehend it.

But enough about the French; let us turn our attention to the German language. This is the more practical of the two in this country. If a man be cultivating himself for a profession such as a lawyer or a doctor, then he must needs have some little knowledge of the German language, or else be occasionally perplexed by its brogue; but yet for practical use he is not compelled to go deep in the study of it, for he will find out that the acquired pronunciation, like that of the French he has learned at college, will be of little use to him till he has modified it to suit the man (high or low Dutch) with whom he is dealing. Such indeed is the ease of acquirement attached to the study of this language that a man may profitably put off the studying of it till he is so situated in his profession as to learn it by practice and immediate contact with the German himself and his native pronunciation.

But let us compare the study of these languages with those of the ancients, namely: Latin and Greek.

We know that for practical purposes these languages are of little moment, for they have long been ranked under the name of "dead." And indeed this term might be applied to higher mathematics. To the ordinary student, fitting himself for a profession, or for the common pursuits of life, the study of the *higher* mathematics is of little importance. But who shall say, discard advanced mathematics from the curriculum? If it does not benefit us practically, the question may be asked, How then does it benefit us? and we readily answer by the reasoning power it develops in us. Reason is one of our most important faculties. By it we hold communication with our fellow-man. By its employment man convinces man, the orator sways his hearers.

The study of the ancient languages is almost parallel with the study of higher mathematics. There is as much arrangement and neat construction about a Latin or Greek sentence as about a theorem in the Euclid. Not only does its study cultivate an ability to construct and arrange neatly, but it develops the faculty of memory, without which man's past life is a blank, but with which he is enabled to cope with man and derive benefit from his teachings.

A prominent writer says: "They (the ancient languages) hold their position against the advancing knowledge of the age through the power of tradition, through the blind veneration of things ancient, because they represent a conventional culture

and are conserved by old and wealthy institutions."

Things ancient are deserving of veneration, when they consist of such gems of thought and beauty of expression as the ancient Iliad and Æneid, and it requires no power of tradition to lend enchantment to such productions in the eyes of an intelligent student under the instruction of an intelligent professor.

But space will not permit us to pen further our poorly-expressed feeling on this subject; but suffice it to say that we sincerely hope that our faculty and board of trustees will never make the change that will substitute in the place of Latin and Greek two new studies, between whose usefulness there can be no comparison.

AS THE careful mariner scours the distant horizon for some token of future treachery before committing his destiny to the insidious caresses of the angry surge, so do we, about to venture upon the stormy gulf whose angry billows have enveloped so many, and whose course flows on with no mark of commiseration or pity for those who, with no signal of "Danger Ahead," have been launched into an endless eternity, scan with eager eyes the record left by those who have explored its mysteries, hoping to discern the load-stone whose mystic charm can guide us to a clandestine retreat, where the gentle zephyrs and ever-green verdure proclaim "peace." But, alas! this cannot be. Each must work and strive with some object in view, or each one's efforts will be as naught. As one of our writers said, "What we need is not genius but direction." What every one should do is to concentrate his ideas and intellect upon some one thing. I do not advocate being a man of one idea alone. Let your common sense and judgment have full play; let your mind be enlarged by contact with other men and other ideas; but let not your talent be wasted and spent upon every thing and in every direction, when, if brought to bear upon one subject, you would be of some use in the world and that subject would be edified and illumined. As by a telescope the rays of light are concentrated as to enable us to behold the mysteries of the stellar world, so by concentrating the rays of thought and the beams of genius, which would naturally be diffused through many subjects, upon one subject, that theme will be so magnified and illuminated as not only to shine forth before the minds of the thinking public with the lustre and beauty of the noon-day sun, but, as true as the needle to the pole, will redound with credit to its promulgator and he will go down to posterity wrapped in a halo of glory. Surely "this is a consummation devoutly to be wished." But how can we obtain the result if we do not comply with the promises? It is a noble thing to achieve an object and obtain an end; but it is a nobler and happier thing to work and strive for it. Often there are obstacles in the way which prevent our progress; oftentimes our feet grow weary and we would fain sink by the wayside, but in such moments of distress and despair there

comes to us from afar the glimmering of the beacon-light of success shining o'er the dark waters of adversity and trouble and illuminating with its own silver radiance, and we hear in our mind the sweet, pure tones as of an angel chorus as they whisper to our fainting heart, "Press on." And in this struggle with adverse fate there comes to us through its influences a mellowing of spirit and a purity of soul which this world cannot otherwise give, nor can it take away. It teaches us to appreciate success when at last it folds its restless wings upon our banner, and there percheth in rest and quiet. But oft when this end is never achieved, oft when one here and one there drop out the ranks and lay down by the roadside in silence to die, let us shed a tear for his demise while nobly pressing onward with own shoulder to the wheel, and chant with solemn fervor o'er his weary departing spirit, "Requiescat in pace."

THE FACULTY of our college are now debating the subject of direct co-education, and we wish to state, without any disrespect either to the ladies or to our faculty, that in our humble opinion such a course would be detrimental to our college interests, as well as to our own. And here in the beginning we wish, in the name of the male portion of the students of Western Maryland College, to enter our solemn protest against such an action. It is now being begun in the department of Natural Science, and is directly against the express declaration of the catalogue, and the cause of irregular attendance on the part of the male portion of the class. In the first place by so doing, the ladies and gentlemen would lose that respect for each other they should have, and which is detrimental to both to be without. In the second place, the curriculum would have to be lowered, or, at any rate, the classes would be behind their usual progress. Such a result is greatly to be deplored, and should, under any and all considerations, be guarded against. We speak plain because the occasion demands it; the voice of the students demand it; the welfare of our institution is at hazard, and the faculty will do well to heed the mutterings of the coming storm.

Recently Prof. H. endeavored to illustrate the obscurity with which some of the Germans write, by saying that a man one day called on the author of a Greek book, which he was reading, and modestly asked him the meaning of a certain sentence, to which the author made reply: "Only the Lord and myself knew what that meant when I wrote it, and it has been so long written now, that only the Lord knows."

Enthusiastic Prof. in Physics, discussing the organic and inorganic Kingdoms: Now, if I should shut my eyes—so—and drop my head—so—and should not move, you would say I was a clod! But I move—I leap—I run—then what would you call me?" Voice in the rear: "A clod hopper." "Dismissed!"

"Why," asked Pat, one day, "why was Balaam a first-class astronomer?" The other man gave it up, of course. "Shure," said Pat, "'twas because he had no trouble in finding an *ass to roid*."—*Ex.*

College Locals.

Oscar! Oscar! I love thee.

Mr. S's favorite expression: Oh! Darling don't delay.

Dick says that one of our waiters is a mighty slippery nigger. He speaks from experience.

Mr. Slifer displayed his knowledge of the Dictionary by exclaiming with reference to a certain lady, "Oh! her mouth is so lustrous."

Miles, a last year's graduate, visited college a few days ago, and was cordially received by his old schoolmates. We wish him much success in the profession he has chosen.

Why does Mr. Richard Moore always get excused from the dinner table when the meal is only half over and cast such languishing glances over at the ladies as he leaves the room?

A Freshman by the name of Stock—amuses himself by smiling at the ladies. We are sorry to chronicle that his attentions are not very well received, which fills his heart with sorrow and remorse.

On last Thanksgiving night the Ladies gave a very enjoyable entertainment in the College Chapel. The stage was tastefully decorated and the whole entertainment was a decided success, particularly the vocal duet of Misses Duval & Newman.

The Laboratory of our College has had extensive improvements made under the supervision of Prof. Simpson. He has fixed one room entirely for chemicals experiments, and also has put in a hood for the conveyance of poisonous and unpleasant gases up the chimney.

Prof. Simpson has been trying the experiment of having the Junior Ladies and Sophomore Boys to recite together in Chemistry. He reports it will be satisfactory if the Ladies will quit giggling and the Boys stop smiling so much. In short, better order and less flirting.

Mr. B., an infatuated Sophomore, on account of delay in posting a letter, was not able to meet his lady-love at the train on her return after Thanksgiving. As he was always, after her departure, singing "In the sweet, bye and bye," we deeply sympathize with him in his distress, and hope they may have better luck in their plans for Christmas.

One of our Professors went to sleep in church recently and the next day the Ladies presented him with a second-hand baby. He has named it Nellie C. Merrill, but he says it is rather dyspeptic and choleric in its nature. The Professor informs us that he is forced to use a rattle to keep it quiet, which useful instrument was also gratuitously supplied by the Ladies.

Christmas will soon be here, and all are thinking of this coming week. Most of the students will go home by the 18th, although the school does not stop properly until the 21st. Who will remember the GAZETTE at that time and send on their unpaid subscription? We wish all our patrons and subscribers a merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

There has been going on a great revival among our students lately, and we report with pleasure many conversions. The roll of the Christian Association has been augmented by the addition of Messrs Brown, Willison, Henman, Melvin, Denton, Dumm, Bennett, Burgee. Many of the ladies also have been converted. We wish both ladies and gentlemen success, and hope they may hold fast to their profession.

At the ringing of the quarter-bell on Thanksgiving the gentlemen repaired to the chapel (why not to the parlor?) where the ladies were already assembled and there

escorted them to the dining-room where, instead of the ordinary beef and *strap*, they partook of turkey of questionable age and ancestry. However they all enjoyed it, and perhaps it was very well that they ate what was set before them and asked no questions.

A Junior with a three-decker brain recently was so absorbed in the demonstration of a problem in General Geometry by Prof. Hering that he was soon wrapped in the arms of Morpheus. When recitation period was ended, Prof. Hering startled him by the remark "young man! you should have left her house sooner last night and gotten a good night's sleep so you would not be compelled to slumber in my recitation."

A few days ago three of our students attended a ball given in town. When they returned in "the wee' sma'" hours of night, one found his furniture had taken to itself wings and flown away. So he wrapped himself in the blanket of discontent and reposed his weary bones on a piece of unused carpet; another found waiting for him a billet-doux from the Faculty telling him in terms polite that for his imprudence he had received over fifty demerits; the other came off with only a broken heart and a sore foot.

Every evening at about 7½ o'clock Dick can be seen practicing his locomotive powers on the public school ground near college. All that is needed to start the performance is to shoot and he immediately starts. Over fences and through yards he goes till he arrives at the Lutheran Church. There he ponders a while and walks very sedately back to college trying to look very innocent. We would advise those who wish to kill ennui to try the experiment. To never fails.

One of our Juniors, who is possessed of tendencies rather bashful, undertook to go through the looking-glass figure of the German a few nights ago at a ball in town. Upon being refused by the lady in front of the glass, which was so small that she was enabled only [to see the tails of his coat, and not our schoolmate's beaming countenance, he suddenly bade adieu and wended his way, with a deep feeling of wrong committed upon him, to his room, and there breathed out his sadness in restless sleep. She meant no harm, young man; that's custom.

success, her sincere belief in divine inspiration, and the envy created in the minds of many men, and ended by drawing the inference that jealousy does not alone exist in the woman's heart. After a vocal duet by Misses Duval and Newman, Mr. Benson took the platform with an oration on "Dudes." He spoke of the sunflower being the means of attaining aestheticism. After describing dudes in general, he drew a moral from their habits and closed by saying that the "beau ideal of fashion was represented by a dude." We have only one thing to say about Mr. B.'s production and that is, his criticism on the fair sex was too rigid, taking into consideration the fact that about half of his audience was composed of ladies. But on the whole the exercises were enjoyable and very commendable.

Our last paper went to press just in time to miss the Senior Quarterlies which were held on the 16th of November. Although we have but a small Senior Class this year, the exercises passed off very pleasantly to the listener, being opened by an instrumental solo by Miss Newman, during which the participants, Misses E. Wilson, Edelin, and Mr. Frank Benson took their seats on the platform. Miss Edelin led the programme with a neatly written essay on "Contentment." After speaking of discontent as a goad to success with some and a hindrance with others, she spoke of being

discontented with our personal attainments and pronounced it uncalled for. Miss E. Wilson followed her with a well prepared essay on "Joan of Arc." After making a general sketch of the career of the French heroine, she went on to speak of her untiring devotion to her country, her wonderful

"RICHARD'S" SOLILOQUE.

To get or not to get—that is the question; Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to stand The pistols and bullets of outrageous students, Or to take heels against a sea of dangers, And by running end them? To run,—to stop,— No more; and by flight to say we end Our passions, and the thousand natural shocks That (this) pocket is heir to,—'tis a consummation Devoutly to be ignored. To run,—to stop;— To stop, perchance to think—ay, this the rub; For in those contemplations what thoughts may come

When we have fled from this dreadful tumult; Must give us pause; For who would bear the shouts and cries of night, The schoolboy's wrong, the freshman's pride, The pangs of fear, the loss of money, And the spurns that patient merit of the junior takes, When he (or I myself) himself might make the College Within a half hour? It puzzles my mind, And makes me fly to others I know not of Rather than bear those sorrows I have.

A school bicycle has been received by some of the students on which they are learning to ride. It is amusing to see a certain Freshman whose initial is M., and whose height is 6 feet 2 cramp himself upon a 46 inch machine; and when he takes a header, which event transpires regularly every two minutes, the effect is terrific, and the applause, especially from the ladies, is tremendous. The machine was procured from S. T. Clarke & Co., corner Baltimore and North streets, Baltimore, Md., and gives entire satisfaction. Willison procured his bicycle from the same firm and is very much pleased with it. However he has had the misfortune to break his collarbone. Todd also now has a 54 inch Sanspareil, which came from the same firm, and which could not be better for lightness, durability and beauty. We would advise those who intend to procure a bicycle to patronize this firm, as they will find them clever business gentlemen and manufacturers and importers of the finest wheels in America.

The answer to the letter in our October issue has by means dark and foul fallen into our hands, and we publish it for the edification of those who read the epistle that elicited this loving answer:

My Dear: I read in the columns of the last issue of the Gazette a copy of one of your letters which you told me you wrote to me and laid in the grove but Fate decreed it differently. But nevertheless I have seen it and this is my answer. Your sentiments meet with my most heartfelt approval. Already have I waited since the last parlor night to hear from you the sentiments which you express in the lost and found letter. O Dearest H! Long have I waited to look upon you as one who will always appear at the front bearing a banner whose color is true blue and having the large, beautiful letters A. B. Hoping to hear from you soon, and before long to be served as you said in the 4th and 5th lines of the Gazette and also that this may reach you through the fatality of the winds.

I remain as ever your truest and most loving and dearest.

B. Under the management of T. H. Lewis, President of the Theological Seminary, a literary entertainment was given at the Odd Fellows' Hall, of this place, on Saturday evening, December 7th. It consisted of readings by Prof. A. H. Merrill of our college, and music by Mr. and Mrs. Spurrier, Miss Bollinger, the Smith Bros, of Westminster, and Mr. E. A. Warfield, of the Seminary. The programme was opened by the Professor's recitation of Magdalena,

or the Spanish Duel, and Old Robin; then followed in regular order the following:—Anthem, entitled "Rejoice;" The Brake-man at Church and Poor little Joe, by the Professor; Instrumental Duet; Instigation Scene (Julius Caesar) and The White Squall; by Prof. Moore; Solo, entitled "Beautiful Bird Sing on," by Mrs. Spurrier; The Boys and Red Jacket, by Professor Merrill; Pro Fundo Basso, and upon encore Mr. and Mrs. Spurrier sang an instrumental Duet, entitled "A. B. C.;" Buck Fashhaw's Funeral and Sim's Little Girl by Prof. Merrill. After the regular programme was ended, Prof. Merrill, upon request from the audience, recited "How Ruby Played" and "Agnes I love thee." This was Prof. Merrill's first appearance before a Westminster audience, and it can be safely said that he has made an impression for elocutionary ability that will not soon wear away, and which reflects great credit upon our college in her selection of him as one of our Professors. Prof. Merrill, as a consequence of the best teaching this country affords, enjoys a reputation in the State of Maryland, and in other States as well, second to no elocutionist. We congratulate him upon his rapid and signal success. We would also speak of the pleasure afforded us by the music of the Smith Bros., and singing of Mr. and Mrs. Spurrier; both of them have excellent voices and deserve the reputation they have gained in this place.

St. John's College Notes.

Our foot-ball team went to Baltimore on Saturday, Dec. 8, to engage in a combat with the Johns Hopkins team. The weather was unpropitious, and the consequence was our team was badly beaten by a score of 36 to 0. We admit that our team is the weaker of the two, but we would have done more credit to our college but for the rain. But you ask, how could your opponents play in the rain any better than you could? The solution is easy. They had rubber soles on their shoes and could keep their feet, while we fell at every twist and turn. Hence the result. However, we have not retired from the field yet, and will challenge the Johns Hopkins eleven to meet us on our own grounds in Annapolis, and there hope to regain our laurels. We also met with a slight reverse at the Naval Academy a few days ago.

The Laboratory, which has for some time been greatly out of order, has been amply furnished by the generous gift of Prof. Monroe, and under the supervision of Prof. Day conveniently arranged.

Mr. W. W. Cockran, of Washington, D. C., has given the Athletic Association \$200 to be expended in ornamenting the college ground. He was a warm friend of the late Bishop Pinkney, a graduate of St. John's College, and made this gift to perpetuate the memory of his friend in this city.

The editors wish to extend their thanks to Mr. B. P. Truit, of St. John's College, for his invitation to the anniversary of the Philomathean Society, and would have been pleased to attend, but for official business at home.

Jones asked his wife: "Why is a husband like dough?" He expected her to give it up, and he was going to tell her that it was because a woman needs him; but she said it was because he was hard to get off her hands.

Voltaire said: "Prejudice is the reason of fools." He might have added, and fools with gold can easily overcome prejudices, while genius is crushing up its ideas.

Typhoid fever has broken out among the students of Yale College.

Scientific Miscellany.

Alcohol has been found by Mons. Muntz to be very widely diffused in nature. It exists in nearly all water, including rain and snow, and it is probable that the air contains much of it in the state of vapor. Poor soil yields traces of it, and rich mould has a considerable quantity.

Lieut. Diek, of the Russian army, has discovered a new illuminating powder, which has attracted the favorable attention of the German Government. It causes any objects to which it may be applied to become luminous, and water in glass vessel may be converted into an illuminating fluid by the addition of some of the powder. The new illumination consumes no oxygen, which fact makes it desirable for use in mining operations. Its illuminating power lasts eight hours, when a new supply of powder becomes necessary.

The Paris Society of Agriculture and Insectology, whose exhibition of preserved insect specimens has just closed, proposes establishing a menagerie of living insects, and the city of Paris has contributed a considerable sum in aid of the project.

The now famous fossil footprints found last year at Carson, Nevada, and supposed to have been made by prehistoric human giants, are regarded by Prof. O. C. Marsh as probable tracks of a large sloth. It is stated however, that Dr. Harkness still insists that the impressions were left by a species of man, and that he finds his theory strengthened by a fresh discoveries of tracks.

A Vienna scientist has perfected a remarkable modification of the microscope, to which the name of gastroscope has been given. It is to be used for looking into the interior of the human stomach. It consists of a tube about 26 inches long and half an inch thick, bent at an angle of 150 degrees at about one-fourth of its length from the lower end. At its lower extremity is an incandescent electric lamp for lighting up the stomach, and a microscope objective. Prisms are arranged to reflect the image-bearing pencil of light along the tube and past the bend to the eye-piece. Provision is made for a circulation of water about the lamp to prevent inconvenient heating.

Photography of the stars now forms an important part of the work done at the Harvard Observatory. A region of the heavens 15 degrees square is photographed at a single exposure; and eighteen of these pictures may be taken on a single plate. A map is thus made of a section of the stellar vault 90 degrees long by 45 wide; showing stars down to the fifth and sixth magnitudes. Smaller stars, down to the eighth magnitude, are shown in photographs of smaller areas. The magnitudes indicated by the photographs do not always correspond to those recorded as the determinations of eye observations. This is due to the effects of different colors among the stars. A red star, which may appear very brilliant to the eye, produces only a faint impression on the photographer's plate.

Late observations made at Lausanne, Switzerland, have shown that an intimate connection exists between the electrical condition of the atmosphere and the weather; and it is thought that an intelligent use of registering electrometers may enable meteorologists to forecast the weather several days in advance. The electric tension of the air is strong during fine weather, but its rapid weakening indicates the approach of a storm.

Prof. Edward Hall considers that throughout the early geological epochs known as Archalan, Silurian and Carboni-

ferous, the sea covered North America, the British Isles and Western Europe, while a large part of the North Atlantic area existed as dry land. He urges that if his conclusions prove to be well grounded the doctrine of the permanency of oceans and continents, as tested by the case of the North Atlantic, must be discarded.

A method of adulterating milk by adding to it a solution of commercial glucose has been exposed by Mons. Krechel in a communication to the French Academy of Sciences. As the solution has the density of good milk, the adulteration is not detected by the ordinary testing instruments.

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Said a pompous individual to a young hopeful, whose parents he was visiting:—"Little folks should be seen and not heard." The small boy came to the surface immediately with: "Yes, and big folks, too, when they don't know any more than you do. Pa says you haven't got sense enough to know when to go home." Sensation.

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Seminary Notes.

Prof. Lewis, during his visit to the South, attended three M. P. Conferences—the North Carolina, the Alabama and the Georgia. At each he presented the interests of the Seminary and College. He met with one young man who expects to come to the Seminary after Christmas, and several more who are likely to come next September.

Last Saturday afternoon the Stockton Society held in the Seminary Chapel its first regular meeting. During the session a motion was made to the effect that the Society procure a large picture of its prototype, the Rev. T. H. Stockton. The motion was carried, and the work of procuring the picture was put in the hands of a committee.

Considering the postponement from Friday to Saturday evening, and the unfavorable weather, it is thought the entertainment given in the town hall by the Seminary students was quite a success. Prof. Merrill's rehearsals evinced unusual elocutionary power, and were highly enjoyed, while the music, under Prof. Spurrier's direction, was of an excellent character. The financial result was about \$38.

The semi-annual examinations begin next Monday, the 17th.

There is at the seminary a new student—Dyott's cat. This young theologian spends the day in his chum's room, but disposes of the night in paroling the halls, where, when all around is still, he begins his recitations and the practice of elocution. Most every night for some time past the writer has been wakened from refreshing slumber by the voice of this young ministerial aspirant, and has been forced to the conclusion that there is more noise than theology in what the young fellow says, and that nothing else entitles him to the honor of being called a theologian but his name, which is Moses. Mr. Moses is much better at elocution than at theology. When he begins this part of the programme Prof. Merrill is nowhere. The way he sings out a-e-i-o-u cannot be surpassed. Of course it is not meant that a sleepy man would enjoy the notes of this midnight elocutionist. One must be wide awake, with no desire for sleep, to thoroughly appreciate and enjoy them. We learn that the ladies of the College think a great deal of Moses, and have furnished him with a studying cap and slippers. Would that they could furnish him with brains!

In the last issue of the GAZETTE the names of several of the theologues were the occasion of some puns. Our poetical theologian—Rymer—was forgotten. We believe he is a poet, however, only in name, since we have not as yet had any poetical effusions from his pen. Perhaps his midnight adventures on the night of his arrival among us destroyed his poetical turn of mind. "I am here, boys!"

The theologues, like all hard-working people, are joyful at the near approach of the holidays. Though sorely pressed by examinations, still dreams of turkey, chicken, nuts, cakes and all other good eatables that they have not tasted for four months, will steal into their minds and make them feel like sticking old Time with a pin to hurry his steps.

Of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these: "I've flunked again!"
But 'tis well for us all that some deep thoughts lie
safely buried from the tutor's eye;
And in examination ponies may
Roll the stone from their graves away.—*Ex.*

Timid Freshman—"Mr. President, I rise for information." A bold Soph—"Glad to hear it, sir; nobody needs it more."—*Ex.*

CORRECTION.

In our regular edition an error occurs in the College Locals. It should be as follows:

Our last paper went to press just in time to miss the Senior Quarterlies which were held on the 16th of November. Although we have but a small Senior Class this year, the exercises passed off very pleasantly to the listener, being opened by an instrumental solo by Miss Newman, during which the participants, Misses E. Wilson, Edelin, and Mr. Frank Benson, took their seats on the platform. Miss Edelin led the programme with a neatly written essay on "Contentment." After speaking of discontent as a goad to success with some and a hindrance with others, she spoke of being discontented with our personal attainments and pronounced it uncalled for. Miss E. Wilson followed her with a well prepared essay on "Joan of Arc." After making a general sketch of the career of the French heroine, she went on to speak of her untiring devotion to her country, her wonderful success, her sincere belief in divine inspiration, and the envy created in the minds of many men, and ended by drawing the inference that jealousy does not alone exist in the woman's heart. After a vocal duet by Misses Duval and Newman, Mr. Benson took the platform with an oration on "Dudes." He spoke of the sunflower being the means of attaining aestheticism. After describing dudes in general, he drew a moral from their habits and closed by saying that the "beau ideal of fashion was represented by a dude." We have only one thing to say about Mr. B.'s production and that is, his criticism on the fair sex was too rigid, taking into consideration the fact that about half of his audience was composed of ladies. But on the whole the exercises were enjoyable and very commendable.

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Our Exchanges.

The Pennsylvania Western had an interesting issue, albeit some of its subjects were rather dry.

The American Press Association send us a very creditable and interesting paper, to whom we extend praise and greeting.

The Undergraduate does very well, or at least as well as could be expected. Keep on, and you will do better bye-and-bye.

The Ariel is always appreciated, for it is full of pleasant, profitable reading, well edited, and is worthy of the institution it represents.

The Ewing Student heads its issue with the query, "How do you like the Student?" We would state that we are on the negative side of the question.

The Lutherville Seminarian is very enjoyable, and reflects credit upon the ability of the weaker sex to edit a paper, but we would suggest less humor and more solid reading.

The Delaware College Review is not as creditable as would be expected of a paper that claims so large a circulation. The "African Ghost Story" is not suitable for a literary college review.

The Campus, if it does give one an unfavorable impression at first sight, has some very choice reading, and we would advise those who have \$1.00 left, after paying for the GAZETTE, to subscribe for it.

The Roanoke Collegian makes a mistake in printing advertisements on the front cover, and also has too many short disconnected productions, so that it gives one the idea it is composed entirely of clippings from exchanges.

The Simpsonian was even better than usual in its last issue. The article on "In and About Naples" deserves special credit, and the editorial and local departments are particularly well filled, although the whole paper deserves our commendation.

The Volante has a fine cover, but when you examine the contents you are disappointed. Better have less show and more worth. A fine cover will catch the eye but when you are disappointed in a paper's productions, you will not be tempted to look again.

Our Journal is one of the best, spiciest, and most enjoyable papers it has ever been our pleasure to peruse. It is always well filled with good reading matter, and we have never yet seen an issue that was not worth the time and money of any one to obtain and enjoy it.

The Heidelberg Monthly Journal had a better issue than usual the last time we perused its columns. It, however, devoted too much space to the article headed, "Euripides and His Times," although it was finely composed and deserved notice, yet too much space was devoted to it.

We humbly beg the pardon of those exchanges we have omitted; but our space is so occupied we are compelled to exclude them. They will receive notice the next time. So fellow pen-slingers we make our bow, bid you all God-speed in your noble work, and say Adieu!

Be anxious when you relate anything to tell it just as it occurred. Never vary in the least degree. The reason why our ears are often saluted by false reports is because people in telling real things add a little to them, and as they pass through a dozen mouths the original stories are turned into something entirely different.

What depth there must have been in the remark of a young lady made regarding her intended when she said: "He isn't much for looks, but he has a great big heart, and that's what I am after."

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