

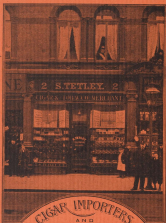


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The Anatomy of Mirth.

By J. R. HALLAM, M.D.

To deal worthily with this subject a new *Astoria* must arise; but, until his rising, bear kindly the limitations of a lesser man. The commonest things in the world are some of its greatest wonders, only we are so familiar with them that we do not realise this. We do not wonder at the sight of a man or a whole crowd convulsed with laughter, but if an intelligent stranger should suddenly arrive from a planet where no one is ever amused, and should for the first time in his life see a man in a fit of laughter, our extra-terrestrial visitor would certainly be filled with astonishment and confused with various alarms on behalf of the laughter. The notes which he would make in his journal might be somewhat as follows:—

"Observation made upon Earth.—The people of earth are subject to attacks of a singular and most alarming disease. It seizes them suddenly, at will, at a fit, and is very infectious. I have seen many hundreds of people thus attacked at once. The first symptoms of a seizure is a slight twitching of lips, then the corners of the mouth are drawn outward and slightly upward, and the whole face is thrown into wrinkles, especially round the mouth and round the eyes. The mouth is often opened widely and the head nods. As the board is made to wry. The patient also utters loud, inarticulate sounds, arranged in a rapid series of short interjections, which may be partially imitated by pronouncing the syllables 'Ha! ha! ha! ha!' &c., as rapidly as possible in a single breath, till a marked degree of hoarseness is produced; and if the attack is a bad one they shake their sides, wry their bodies to and fro, slap their thighs, and stamp their feet. Some have even to hold their sides, some even

roll on the ground, the children begin to dance, while the little boys throw their caps in the air and stand on their heads. So that the fit seems partly like convulsions, partly like whooping cough, and partly like the ways of hiccups. When I asked them what ailed them, they replied that it was mirth, and I have not myself discovered what are those things which excite in man the emotion of mirth."

Closing the stranger's note book, we will take up his enquiry. A quotation from "Gleanings at Truth" will give us our first answer. "It is the perception of incongruity, flashing upon us when unaccompanied (as Aristotle observed) by pain or by any predominant moral disgust, that provokes laughter and excites the feeling of the ridiculous." While Addison tells us that mirth is excited by incongruity when the elements of delight and surprise are added. It is not hard to find at once a hundred examples to illustrate the fact that things which are incongruous will excite mirth under the conditions given. Sixty-one has only to walk down the street with *livestockmanusculapures*, or the very tall wife to take a walk with her very short husband, to set the opposite muscles twitching. When the absent-minded Scotch professor went to early lecture in knee breeches and stockings, one of the stockings being his own and black, and one his wife's and white; when a donkey presented himself in the aisle of the village church on New Year's Eve at a midnight service, the same cause produced similar phenomena. So also it is the suggestion of the incongruous that is the pith of the saying of Dr. Johnson's Ghost in "Rejoiced Addresses"—"Parturient mountains have ere now produced monstrous abortions, and the plume hawks of Constantinople parade its streets crying, 'In the name of the Prophet, Figs!'"

It is said that when the representatives of the Great Powers met at Vienna to discuss what should be done with Napoleon Bonaparte, there happened to be a prisoner at Elba, a message was suddenly brought to the council chamber that Bonaparte, escaped from prison, was collecting an army in France, and that the first effect of this startling news was to evoke a burst of laughter. Here was incongruity together with "surprise," but surely "delight" was wanting!

The place of the element of surprise in well men is the treasure of very serious jokes, their rapid sliding into repetition, and the absolute disgust evoked by them in their gray old age. Incongruity may be painful as when the wedding procession meets the funeral train, or disgusting as when a pig enters the house and reaches the hearth, but as a rule it tends to mirth. And it is a most beneficent provision of nature that such is the case, and that the small mistakes and misadventures of life, instead of exciting pain like a labor note or a musical discord, throw us into laughter and become a source of positive enjoyment, and exorcism of a most healthy function.

In seeking further for the cause of mirth, it occurred to the writer to take some honest volumes of French, and, neglecting the political caricatures, to study the remaining sketches in order to see whether one could make any generalizations as to the manner in which they appeal to our sense of humor. Very much of the ground is covered by the principle of incongruity already explained. The next thing that strikes us is that mirth is excited by anything that hits off the weakness of our common human nature, that reveals the horse traits we usually cover up with conventional phrases and euphemisms, and especially in the revelations of such traits made by the coarsest realities. This we have not space to illustrate. But chiefly such a study emphasizes the striking fact that our mirth is excited by the misbehavior of other people. Not the great misfortunes, but the small ones. Here, for instance, is a scene at an hydra. A gentleman dined in a bath robe, "Hullo, come quick someone. I have turned on the hot water and cannot turn it off again!" A gentleman, bathing by the sea, has set his dog to guard his clothes. As he emerges from the sea, the dog fails to recognize his master, and refuses to give up the garments. Here are an endless series of boring

subplots.—Gentlemen spring over their horses' heads, or sliding back over their tails; of hapless sportsmen dropped on Scotch moors, of tourists in tribulations various, of luckless lovers, of domestic misfortunes and family jars, and so on *ad infinitum*.

If instead of French we take the most popular humorous work in the language, the immortal "Pickwick Papers," we find the same thing. Mr. Pickwick and his friends are involved in one long series of amusing misfortunes, of ludicrous catastrophes. Now why should misfortunes ever be amusing, or catastrophes ludicrous? If, leaving the pages of fiction, we watch in the street the incidents of real life, we find the same thing there. Why should we smile to see an elderly gentleman shading a walk but in a high coat which rolls in in the wind? If, when an umbrella (belonging to someone else) blows inside out, we are to share emotion at all, why not shed tears? Umbrellas cost money, foolish inversion undermines their constitution, why on earth should we laugh?

The source of this is found in the laughter of the primitive man. He laughs at the overthrow of his enemy, the discomfiture of his rival. "They laugh that win." Such laughter and mirth is essentially egotistical. It is childish. It is a selfish plea, a childish evasion. Now the great tendency of the moral evolution is the suppression of egotism and the development of altruism, so that man becomes unselfish in his mirth. So that if we are fairly well civilized, while we still laugh at slight misfortunes, we feel nothing but pure sympathy for the man who is really hurt. We smile at a train of misdeeds precipitated one over the other in a heap of struggling humanity; but one who breaks his leg is home tenderly to the bank, and there is no more fun that day. So that we propose the following as a ready practical test of any man's degree of moral evolution.—At what things does he laugh? There is not space to expand this theme fully. Take a few illustrations. The writer took the opportunity some three days ago of asking a missionary who had long worked amongst the Hindoos of South India whether they showed much sense of humor. He answered at once that the only thing which seemed to amuse them was to see another man in a ridiculous position. If a man trips up and falls with a good bump on the floor they are greatly moved to mirth.

We read somewhere of the King of one of the South Sea Islands, who had had an old-fashioned English cupping-boutement given him. This furnished His Majesty with a source of intense amusement. He would call up one of his unimpeaching subjects, strap the instrument on his back, rubbin' the spring loose, and watch the subject jump. The King roared with laughter, and relays of subjects were brought in for the operation of the painless. This is a somewhat pronounced example of epidemic mirth. Boys are relatively much more thoughtless, and less cruel in their jokes will they become as their mental and moral faculties develop. The rough practical joking and horse-play of the school at the country lads in older days was deficient in subtlety, and the days of the reign of the "Lord of Misrule" to the "merry-making" of Christmastide were open to similar objections.

As races and individuals rise in their stage of evolution much of their mirth must be improved away, but it by no means follows that they enjoy less mirth, for they gain more than they lose. It is a small thing to have relish his gross buffoonery and puerile delights, if it is our Shakespeare, Addison, Lamb, Thackeray, our Lamb and Trollope find a new world of subtlest enjoyment. We do not believe, and certainly do not hope, that we shall ever cease to laugh at the small misadventures of life. A humorous man will laugh at his own misadventures and tell jokes against himself. Unchecked laughter and the ecstacy of selfish exultation may cease, but kindly genial fun will grow proportionately abundant; and man will develop that keen intellectual enjoyment of pure humor, and that delight in the varied manifestations of our common human nature, which British intelligence can never appreciate, but which is fed by ever-increasing measure by the cultured and unselfish mind.

Notes on a few Pictures in the Leeds Art Gallery.

By F. Brewsters.

It has been suggested that a short aside on the permanent collection of our Leeds City Art Gallery, as it appeals to the professional artist, may be of interest to many readers of *The Gryphon*, and in response to this suggestion I propose to refer to

a few of the paintings which the collection contains, selecting only those works which give me, personally, special pleasure and which—judging by what I know of the opinions of other Leeds painters—appear most forcibly to the instincts and sympathies of the artistic community of the neighbourhood.

At the outset I must remind our readers that a work of art must not be judged either in relation to the superficial area of canvas covered over by its power of appeal to popular favour; for, indeed, many of the pictures which are specially noteworthy as examples of the best art are either comparatively small in size (and, therefore, too often passed over as being of secondary importance) or very colorful in character—and, therefore, ignored by the great majority of visitors, who, after all, look first of all for what is dramatic, pathetic or humorous in the subject, and care little or nothing about the more purely artistic or poetic sides of the painter's work. It may, then, serve a useful purpose to draw attention to a few of these less popular—but not less artistic—creations, and to point out, as far as this is possible without having the pictures themselves to refer to, what the qualities are which make them specially attractive to the artistic temperament.

The principal room of the permanent collection contains several works which I shall mention, and the first of these, as one proceeds, is a very quiet and unobtrusive picture by Mr. A. Wandle—"The Deer-Stalker," two legends painted in combination with landscape surroundings, the whole being composed as a harmony of browns in a few keys. The animals are imbued with life and elasticity of movement—every curve and line makes its giving the impression of alertness and that reserve of force which, as in the runner ready for the starter's word, only seems to wait for the signal to go. These are not the matter-of-fact and commonplace deer stagers of Windsor Park, but something of an inherently more natural and at the same time more poetic character; there is an appropriateness, too, in the subdued and somber landscape which forms the setting of the picture, and a sense of mystery is given by the fact that much of it is judiciously veiled by atmospheric effect. The almost gloomy nature of the landscape harmonizes entirely both in colour and character with the animals, and although to those who look for realism in art this picture may not appeal, it possesses in very strong degree the much higher artistic qualities of invention and poetic imagination.

The Gryphon.

Art has been divided by Ruskin into two classes—the lower and higher. The former “merely copies what is not before it, whether in portraits, landscapes, or still life; the higher artist entirely imagines his subject or arranges the materials presented to it so as to manifest the imaginative power.” In the latter class the picture of “*The Deep Stillness*” must be all justice be placed, and so also must the picture by Edward Scott—“*The Snow Storm*,” in which the artist has manifested his own imaginative power by the arrangement of his materials, and has succeeded also in doing what is the province of all great art—in stimulating the imaginative power of the spectator. It is almost impossible to place Edward Scott in any particular class—for it is a class in himself—but he certainly owns a good deal to the modern teachings of the Impressionist school. The most distinctive feature in most of his work is a certain beauty of broken colour, which can best be compared with the charming varieties of brilliant colour seen in the opal; but the picture of “*The Snow Storm*” is less remarkable for its colour than for its successful rendering of one of the more uncommon and poetic aspects of nature, and the impression which the artist received of the same is reproduced in such a way as to forcibly convey the same impression on the mind of others; the sense of stillness and desolation—coupled with a sympathetic feeling for the two horses huddling together for warmth and the comfort of companionship—at once forces itself upon the mind of all who are possessed of any imagination. The aim of the artist has not been to copy everything that he knew actually existed within his range of vision—the minute detail, for instance, that an instantaneous photograph would give—but to convey to the mind the appearance of the whole when the eye is centred on the leading feature as idea which attracted him towards it. He has made every part assist in presenting this idea to the spectator; the effect of driving snow and sleet under the conditions of semi-darkness, the solitary aspect of the snowed landscape, the sluggish, deliberated, and unceasing appearance of the horses—all these parts assisting in giving value to the one all-important impression which the artist desires to transfer to canvas, and all details which are unnecessary to achieve this aim are carefully omitted.

The influence of Impressionist theories of art

may also be noticed in several other works in the Gallery, but it will suffice to mention two works under this head—“*Swedish Waters*,” by Herman Flyvantsen, and “*The Golden Valley*,” by Alfred East; they are both instances of nature moulded and modified by the artist's temperament, and both have an intensity of poetic feeling. The picture by East is one of the most important works of that well-known landscape painter, and is remarkable for the rich and subtle scheme of colour in which it is realised; it possesses a balance both of colour and form which is very agreeable, and there is also a sense of atmosphere and an absence of hard edges which bring it out in strong contrast with the adjacent picture by T. Sidney Cooper, a picture which, considered good in its day and generation, possesses a hardness and absence of texture that is rarely found in the work of more recent times.

“*The Golden Valley*” is probably not topographically accurate in relation to any particular place, but it is realistic in the larger sense, in the sense, that is, of being true to one of the ever-recurring phases of natural landscape beauty; it is an effect in nature which—poetic in itself—has lost none of its poetry, but rather received an added touch of poetry by the imaginative instincts of the artist in the process of being painted.

Perhaps one of the least understood pictures in the Art Gallery is “*The Red Silk*” by Miss London, and yet it is by artists very much admired, not from any poetic quality which it possesses, but simply from its merits as a technical performance and from its colour. So far as the subject is concerned there is little to attract one—it consists simply of a young girl sitting demurely on a red sofa patiently enduring the noxious of making while her mother makes no afternoon call. Even with this poverty of subject, however, I find that the attraction of the young maiden grows upon me every time I re-view her acquaintance, and I never fail to enjoy the picture—but this pleasure is doubtless due mainly to its technical merits, to the beauty of the colour scheme, to the skillful way in which the parts of the picture are in due relation to each other—the subordinate parts taking their appointed places relatively to the more important features, to the absence of hard edges and the feeling of atmosphere and space.

Artists, being workmen, naturally enjoy work which shows skillful craftsmanship, and so this pleasure of "The Red Sofa" gives a certain pleasure which may perhaps be only appreciated fully by those having some practical knowledge of the painter's craft. Another work having technical merits of a high order, though of a somewhat different kind to the last example referred to, is "Shadows," by James Clark, a painting of an interior, with forelight effect; it possesses the quality termed by artists "chickness," and shows a piece of very direct masterly handiwork, in which a maximum of result is obtained with a minimum (or an apparent minimum) of labour. Another masterpiece of technical skill—one of the strongest works from that point of view that may be seen anywhere—in Mrs. H. S. Tuke's "Bathers." It is remarkable for its force and for its truth of colour and tone; the warm harmonious colour of the flesh seems brought out against the distance of sky and sea must have been obtained by painting—*as, indeed, all this painter's work is, I know, painted—direct from nature out of doors.* There is a freshness, a sense of light, and a feeling of downright truth to nature about it which, although not constituting the highest form of art, is naturally attractive to the craftsman's side of the artist's nature.

The seven pictures to which I have referred constitute only a very small portion of those which might very profitably receive appreciative comment, but perhaps a more useful purpose may have been served by the careful consideration of a few works than by a rapid survey of a much larger number, and a visit to the Art Gallery with the view of carefully studying the pictures named in the light of what has been said about them, may, perhaps, have better results than many casual and some positively objectionable views.

The Furious Speedy Test.

My dear Benson-Mas,

I have not forgotten our last conversation, when you complained to me of the nervousness which overcomes you after much study of your valuable books. There was a student at this College two years ago, now worthily engaged in the education of youth, who used to go into

ecstasies of delight in contemplation of the Periodic Lane. But you soon become tired of such things; you ask for advice as to some lighter reading. I cannot but sympathise with your feeling of dissatisfaction with many of our present-day writers, nor am I surprised at your denunciation of the Scotch school. They are certainly become tiresome; we can afford, I imagine, to hang the Harp of the North once more upon the witch-stem, to give the poor thing a rest. No book of recent years has so cruelly hit me the ancient man as "Flagrant Ogilvy," the "beautiful spirit" of which so many good people are admiring. A promising young minister in Woodhouse Lane has even taken it as a text, but, I should add, he holds from over the books. However, as the book has probably done little harm, and perhaps some good, I will say little, and that with restraint. The author must have been hard up for a subject when he chose to violate, for base profit, the holy sanctities of private life. Who can think any the better of Mr. Harle for boasting to the world how perfect a son he was? Bigotism may be excusable in great natures; modesty in becoming in little men. You can no longer believe in Scotch restraint, after all this self-glorification. The book, moreover, is full (as far as it can be said to be full of anything) of a morbid sentimentalism which, unhappily, appeals to many well-meaning people.

You should avoid such books. You require something of a healthier and sturdier nature. Never mind the current books. Have you read Hall's Essays? "I hate to read new books," says that charming writer. "The dust and smoke and noise of modern literature have nothing in common with the pure silence of immortality." His essay on the conduct of life is delightful, as good as the Bible, almost, although his sad experience of married life does make him say bitter things of the fair sex. You can read these essays again and again, just as you can Lamb's. Few, indeed, are the books of which this can be said. I know a minister in Halifax who has read "Lorna Doone" fifty times, a fact which may help to explain the goodness of his sermons. I have just read the second time a book which I am going to recommend to you. It is "The Bible in Spain," by George Borrow. Oh! the freshness and brightness of this book! I remember walking across the grassy high-lands between Kilmorye Craig and Middlethorpe on a bright spring day. As a rule, I am but a dull person;

yet the cheer and bounding air of those parts made me sing and cry aloud in my joy, and find an uncreated pleasure in chasing my fugitive cap before the wind, with many a hop, skip, and jump. Strange to say, Barrow's book produces upon me something of this same exhilarating effect. He has a wonderful and romantic style. His adventures in Spain often showed that truth can be wilder than fiction. Three ago, when I first read the *Waverley Novels*, I was seized with a strong desire to become a rider of horses, like Scott's cavaliers; and the sight of a well-equipped huntsman today never fails to excite the old romance. Barrow does but blow the fire of my ardour; for surely he is the prince of huntsmen. If he is ever so affecting as when he is discoursing of the gypsies and their "crabbed language," it is only when he is describing his Andalusian horse, or the brave make of Spain, that land of old renown. What can be braver reading than the story of his adventures with his gypsy servant, Antonio? or what more extraordinary than the mysterious "affairs of Egypt?" It was this Antonio who provided his master with the famous horse described in Chapter IX. This somewhat unusual was "of a spectral white, short in the body, but with remarkably long legs."

"He is the wildest horse in the Chén del Muero, brother," said Antonio; "at the gallop, and at the speedy trot, there is no one to match him; but he is eighteen years old, and his joints are stiff, especially of a morning; but his legs were become heated, and the spirit of the old man comes upon him, and there is no holding him in with bit or bridle. I bought that horse for the affairs of Egypt, brother." The next chapter describes how this curious beast was put to the test. It was on a clear part of the moon. His dormant spirit was not to be aroused by jolting the bit; only with a loose bridle, and at a word with the whip. Then at last "the animal set off at a trot, which gradually increased in velocity till it became a downright furious speedy trot; his limbs were now thoroughly lithe, and he bounded his forerages in a manner perfectly monstrous; the make of Antonio, which was a spirited animal of excellent pace, would have compared with him, but was panned in a twinkling. This tremendous trot endured for about a mile, when the animal, becoming yet more heated, broke suddenly into a gallop. Hurrah! no horse ever ran so wildly or madly."

Hurrah! hurrah! the book is simply full of such things. Just the book, my dear Scientist, to cure you of your despondency. Read it when you have been tackling the dull hours of science, or struggling with the problems of life. It will rid your soul of care; it will take you, at a furious speedy trot, straight into the magic land of hope and cheerfulness; your brow will be all the smoother for the Friendship of the brave Don Jago.

ANTONIO.

Kenny Lab.

There is a certain region within the College, where the atmosphere is generally cloudy, and where strange and fantastic ideas predominate. This region is locally known as "Kenny Lab." For the benefit of those who don't know what this tenacity of the Queen's English means, I may say that it is "Chemical Laboratory," "with short." Here this curious expression arose, we know not, and the chemical antiquaries possessed no written evidence of its existence until the beginning of last session, when an article in the *Tyberishire College* appeared in a certain dissent theological journal, and the new name has come to stay.

Now "Kenny Lab." enjoys a popularity apparently limited only by its capacity for accommodating students. At present the attendance lists show a total of 128 students in attendance on the day classes, and a class of 24 teachers on Saturdays brings the total up to 152. Professor Smithells and his able staff, consisting of Mr. Ingle, Dr. Paterson, and Dr. McCrea, have a busy time of it in catering for the wants of this motley throng, and I should fancy it is sometimes a very difficult task. Yet all the difficulties are successfully surmounted, and the popularity of "Kenny Lab." is in no small measure due to the way in which this little kingdom is governed.

But this is not the only reason. Chemistry is nowadays a *chose* and not both for scientific and technological work. Hence it is that undergrads in the Faculties of Medicine and Science, together with men from the Trade, Law, and Agricultural Departments, all find themselves in "Kenny Lab." And it goes without saying that

we run upon a galaxy of talent not to be found in any other single department.

The Long Vacation ended, October brings a crowd of new people. Chapman, our indelible Lab. Steward, is in great request at this crisis. With a previous baggage of great practice, he will make you up a set of apparatus, enter you in his book, and from henceforth will keep his eye on you. The Lab. is a scene of confused hurrying to and fro. The caving him of the "blast" near the door jars on your nerves if you possess a highly-developed nervous system. If you don't possess nerves, so much the better. Then every "teacher" is busy bending glass tubes in the flame of a "burning burner," and not a few are burning their fingers in the operation.

Shortly after this come various small "pops." These proceed from all quarters, and finally a deafening detonation is heard, and every eye is strained in the direction of the man who has made the "dumpleen bang off." A few days pass, and other developments follow. Intensely glaring lights are seen, there are sulphurous fumes, and the peculiar smell of burning phosphorus polluting the atmosphere. But they do not remain long, for the admirable venting arrangements soon sweep them away. Later on, the men begin to tackle the analysis of "salts," and soon everybody is eloquent on "group separations," etc. Curiously enough, one's life in "Kenney Lab." is one of almost perpetual motion. No high stools are provided, and if they were, they would not be used much, for you can't open drawers and cupboards, and run up and down after reagents, whilst sitting on a stool. Occasionally, third men have been known to make a raid on the Physics Lab., the last in this case being high stools, but such raids are largely attended with stakes, for the stools in the Physics Lab. behind the Lecture Theatre are almost always in use, and it is a somewhat difficult maneuver to get a stool up the narrow stairs from the Lab. to the basement. Sometimes, too, the third men, having obtained their high stools, provoke the jealousy of sturdy others, with the result that when Third Seat No. 1, having descended from his perch, is rummaging in his cupboard, Third Seat No. 2 "fills" the high stool, walks off, and the Physics Lab. stool goes quite a dance round "Kenney Lab."

After a fellow has shown good capabilities in making preparations, and has shown that he understands the general principles of qualitative analysis, he is sent to the "quantitative side." The atmosphere in this place is very quiet. The folk here don't look about much, for delicate work demands all one's attention, and a solitary habit of life is more conducive to accuracy than the somewhat variable influence one finds on the other side of the Lab.

Some men, however, do not take up quantitative analysis. These bender themselves in a place downwards, where they make the acquaintance of Dr. Cohen, who initiates them into all the mysteries of organic chemistry, with its wonderful range of substances and additive products, and with its apparently endless number of possible compounds. Here one sees combustion apparatus, arrangements for distillation, etc., and the atmosphere here is frequently radiant with nerves, and sometimes with rusty smells also.

And now a word about the designs of "Kenney Lab." An one might expect from a society consisting, as it does, of all sorts and conditions of men, there are great diversities of talent, and many shades of opinion. And truly "Kenney Lab." is the College Parliament. It is here where the life of the College shows itself, and the public opinion of "Kenney Lab." is of a very high order. "Kenney Lab." therefore has a reputation for greatness, as we should never see so much of the necessities for subscription lists as we do.

October term has hardly commenced before the officials of the Athletic Union visit you with the object of persuading you to join their ranks. Then the Secretaries of the Scientific Society manage to rub in their "sales," the Secretary of the Chess Club, who is a fanatical enthusiast, grabs you, and you patter out. I have someone say "Another victim," as the Secretary, with fully charged fountain pen, scribbles off a receipt and slips away to pasture new. Then the Secretary of The Gryphon runs on the war path, and I hope the "Kenney Lab." people have satisfied The Gryphon's huge appetite for "buns."

THE PHILETOS.

All contributions for the next number of The Gryphon should be sent in by March 1st.

Hans Breitmann at de Yorkshire College.

Hans Breitmann come to England
 To learn de English tongue.
 He come to Yorkshire College
 (He do not study dere long)
 He go up to de Principel,
 Who shoke de bust to him,
 And aske him questions. Den he say:
 "You study for Profis."

He go to all his classes;
 He date come by de yard;
 But ven he try to learn dem—
 Ah! de work is very hard.
 At first he try to study,
 But den he start to stide.
 He think dat he is stultish,
 And den he work.

He go into de Common Room,
 And dere he sit in a shankie,
 At vices de oder students
 Commence to cough and choke.
 Day keep on for some minutes,
 Till he ask dem mit a shup;
 "You for you go and cough like dat?
 It's de coldest Sherman gup."

Den Hans breaks him down de shankie
 To de Refectore.
 He orders meat at vices o'clock;
 It's brought to him at tree.
 And den he say: "I'll wash it down
 Wit Sherman Lager Beer,"
 But ven he drink—*drif! Damsel! Shit!*
 How de bottles disappare!

And dat's de way he spend his time;
 At last dere come Exams.
 And ven his friends say "How'll you do?"
 He say: "I never cruse."
 Exams begin at two o'clock;
 At half-past he decamps.
 Ah! you should see his pooty grin,
 Ven all de students stumps.

Ven he come out in Class de Fourth,
 To de Principel he go,
 And ven dere happens is dat scene—
 Ah! dat we'll never know.
 But dis ve know—dat very day
 He left at express speed,
 And dat's dat de End
 For dis Hans Breitmann's End.

Geological Scrambles.

Most students not yet familiar with all de complicated mechanism of our College may have been astonished, as they were going peacefully to lecture or lab on Saturday morning, to see, marching along the corridors, a band of noisy, burlesque-looking individuals, armed to the teeth with hammers, pickaxes, and other deadly weapons.

I will hasten to rescue my third person, by stating that these are not being sent forth, like the knights of old, to win honour and fame by severing fair ladies from fiery dragons or doing other daring deeds; they are going out ever more and plain, through valley and glen, there to hunt and scratch, in a most useful manner, the face of their Mother Earth, and so to compel her to tell them another chapter of her wondrous story.

The Bolton Abbey district was chosen for our first excursion. At Doughton we found a huge limestone block, packed with fossils. Instantly there was a great outcry, and up came Mr. Kendall with the sledge hammer, and with a few mighty and well-directed blows, such as can only be struck by a master of the art, he reduced that block to fish-bone lumps. He then stood smilingly on one side to watch us attempt the fossils. With our geological appetite duly whetted, we next inspected the various fields in Doughton quarry, and the grand fanfold, perhaps the finest in England, in Hambleton quarry, near Bolton Abbey Station. After lunch, the rest of the day was spent in studying the physiographic features of this lovely bit of West-India.

It was a typical autumn day. The river, rushing along as a foaming torrent after the heavy rains, the trees, seeming to spring out of the water, were touched as with bright gold, deep brown there in the shadow, the surrounding hills covered with red and purple patches, and on one side a forest of pines rising majestically to the sky line—all combined to make a scene of surpassing loveliness.

As we went home in the evening, we were persuaded that our first excursion had been a great success. The day had been very enjoyable, and a good deal of solid work was done.

TENNIS.

College News.

The Yorkshire College Lads' Club.

This Club continues to flourish, and although the attendance dropped off during one week, owing to the establishment of a penny show in the neighbourhood, the more solid advantages of the Club have prevailed. A football team has been organized by Mr. F. S. Barlow, who is acting as secretary.

A fund which was started among the students for the purchase of a legatable table has been so liberally supported that, with the sum of ten guineas which has so far been collected, it will be possible, not only to obtain a good table, but in all probability to rent a field for cricket and football.

We are requested to inform our readers that a listers has now been provided in connection with the above, and that the loss of slides, humorous or otherwise, would be highly appreciated.

Those willing to lend slides, kindly communicate with Mr. D. F. Goldsmith or Mr. P. J. Wood in the Dying Department.

Medical School Notes.

There is little of the first importance to record. Since the first appearance of *The Gryphon*, the daily round and the common task have received but slight interruption. The most notable event of last term was, of course, the 17th annual dinner, which was held at the Queen's Hotel, on Thursday, December 2nd, under the presidency of Dr. Chadwick. This year a record was established in more ways than one.

On no former occasion has the attendance been so great, the exact number present being 117—a result due, mainly, to the indefatigable exertions of the secretaries, Messrs. Cross and Thompson. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and, if this may be taken as a criterion, the dinner could be voted a huge success. During the evening songs were given by Messrs. Cross, Scott, and Wilson, the last named earning much applause by the delivery of his gesture and intonation. Mr. Williamson accompanied.

It can hardly be said that the speakers were heard to the best advantage. Possibly suffering from nervousness, they were able to thoroughly appreciate the force of Kipling's words, "An' the silence 'ung that 'eavy you was 'ell afraid to speak." After the loyal toast, proposed by the President, Mr. Taylor made a speech, remarkable chiefly for its length. Dr. Jamieson followed, and was brief but to the point. Subsequent speakers were Mr. Joseph, Mr. Croft, and Mr. Ross, and it is said that Mr. Morrison and Mr. Keeling also spoke, the former proposing "The Victors," and the latter "The President."

The Medical Society continues to pursue the even tenor of its way. On November 14th the evening was devoted to the discussion of "Insanity." Mr. Keeling introduced the subject by reading a paper, and the speeches which followed were marked by more than average excellence. Mr. Martin defined "insanity" as "lapsed intelligence." He described Mr. Keeling's paper as "heavy and too long." Mr. Collinson, however, thought otherwise. He even went so far as to propose a vote of thanks—a proposition subsequently seconded by Mr. W. F. Ellis. Mr. Holroyde, in an interesting speech, drew a comparison between his own brain and that of the ant, somewhat to the advantage, as he thought, of the former. He defined "insanity" as "pure casualness." After a few words from Mr. Coupland on the Anarchia, Mr. Greenwood, in a very able speech, clearly showed that on matters Darwinian and post-Darwinian he is an authority of no mean order. Mr. Greenwood's remarks, based on Weismann's theory of heredity, were delivered in the form of questions addressed to Mr. Keeling, a method of procedure which earned that gentleman much consideration. After a large number of questions had been asked and answered (P), Mr. Thompson, who took the chair in the absence of Mr. Sutton, declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Society was held on December 14th, when Mr. Shesley read a paper on "Cremation." The attendance was small, but a most enjoyable evening was spent, Mr. Shesley's paper being greatly appreciated. After dealing with the subject from an historical point of view,

Mr. Mosley discussed the different methods employed for the disposal of the dead, and gave an interesting description of the Manchester Crematorium. Mr. Mosley asserted that, although the prices of cremation is advancing but slowly, the time must come when cremation must will triumph over inhumation. A short discussion followed, in which Messrs. Atkinson, Ellis, Sayer, and Thompson took part, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Mosley.

Lyddon Hall Notes.

Almost every department of the College is represented at the Hall this term, and several of the men stand out prominently in athletics.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Patterson to the Hall in the office of Sub-Warden. We hope that his stay with us may be long and pleasant.

An interesting billiard handicap was arranged towards the end of last term. The games were gay and, and the handicapping being good, some of them proved highly exciting. Butterworth (scratch) ably proved the winner, Ballantyne (50) being a good second. The Warden very kindly presented two prizes for this event, the first being a handsome cigarette case and the second a can. The second came as a surprise to the runner up, there being only one prize last session, which was won by Butterworth.

In addition to the handicap, however, a great match of 1,000 up between Findlay (representing England) and William McGill (representing America) for the championship of the world and half-a-crown a side was commenced. The match, after proceeding at odd moments during the term, was unfortunately brought to a rather unsatisfactory finish by the departure of the American representative for his native land, the scores then being McGill 111, Findlay (in play) 0.

A proposal to visit one of the pantomimes, although received with surprise, obtained some support, and is at present under consideration, it being generally agreed that some mental relaxation during the term is an absolute necessity.

Reunion of Yorkshire College Students.

THE 11th annual Reunion of past and present students of the Leeds Day Training College took place in Leeds on Saturday, January 19th, when Mr. F. F. Kitchin presided over an assembly of about 850 gentlemen. After dinner there was the usual social evening, when in addition to the customary toasts, songs were given by various members, those of Mr. Parker and Mr. Bainforth being especially well received.

It was arranged that in future the Reunion should be a function of an Old Students' Club, of which the following were elected for officers:-

President—Jas. Wilson, B.A.

Secretary—H. E. Rogers, B.Sc.

(Honorary)

Ward, Whaley, B.Sc., Egly, B.Sc., and Whitsett, B.Sc., representing the old students; and Mess. Jackson, and Hargreaves, with Johnstone as Assistant Secretary, representing the present students.

H. E. Rogers.

Victoria University.

DECEMBER, 1907.

Ordinary Degree of B.A.

First Division.

FRISWELL, A. W. — — — — — Vices.

Second Division.

ANDERSON, J. D. L. — — — — — Vices.

FORBES, MAUR. C. G. — — — — — Vices.

ELDER, W. S. — — — — — Vices.

ROBERTSON, A. L. — — — — — Vices.

Ordinary Degree of B.Sc.

Second Division.

ANDERSON, HARRY — — — — — Vices.

ARMSTRONG, J. S. R. — — — — — Vices.

CUNNINGHAM, EDWIN — — — — — Vices.

McKAY, J. G. — — — — — Vices.

MURRAY, J. H. — — — — — Vices.

STEWART, R. A. — — — — — Vices.

STEWART, C. W. — — — — — Vices.

Smoking Concert.

A SMOKE concert was held in the College Smoke Room on the evening of Wednesday, 26th January, at which Professor Stoddart occupied the chair. The concert was voted a great success by those present, and the utmost good-willingly prevailed. Everybody was of opinion that the entertainment deserved a much better attendance, and it is hoped that at the next concert students will show their interest in the movement by attending themselves and taking their friends.

Editorial Notes.

From our last issue, Mr. R. N. Hartley, M.B., B.A.Lond., who has hitherto been Lecturer on Public Health, has been given the title of Professor—a change justified both by the importance of the subject and the work that Professor Hartley has done in the past. We announced in our last number that a separate Lectureship in English Literature had been instituted by the Council. Mr. F. M. Shawman, Ph.D., has been chosen by the Council to be its first occupant. He comes to us from the University College at Aberystwith, where he had been doing work similar to that in which he will now be engaged. He had previously studied in Germany under Professor Bruns. We welcome his appointment in every way, especially as tending to strengthen the Arts side of the College.

Meanwhile, very important changes have been taking place in the University. Both Owens and University College, Liverpool, have lost their Principals. Only those who are well acquainted with the past history of the University can know what an important influence has been exercised by Principal Ward and Principal Randall. Principal Ward's is a well-known name wherever English Literature is studied, and if he has done nothing in history quite so excellent as his "History of English Dramatic Literature," his small books show that he has only been prevented by lack of time, and various ways that he is going to apply his well-known leisure to historical writing and research. His administration of Owens College has been in every way successful, and it has had to grapple with many very difficult problems. Principal Randall has been at the head of the Liverpool College since 1881, and under his guidance the College has made very remarkable progress. The January number of *The Sphinx*—a very excellent number—devotes two articles to his career. In the first, written by a Professor, some very mighty words are quoted from his address to the students of the Yorkshire College. The second article, by a student, gives a very pleasing picture of his force and charm as a teacher. He goes from Liverpool to become Head Master of the Charterhouse School. The good wishes of all who are interested in the Victoria University follow him.

The birth of *The Gryphon* has received a good deal of notice in the press—as such an important event deserved. The organ of Owens College is not altogether satisfied with our size or our price or our manner; but for all that, gives us a welcome. *The Sphinx* is altogether flattering. The longest and the warmest notice comes from "The University Correspondent." We hope to profit by both encouragement and criticism. Meanwhile we wish that the officers of the organ of our sister College would consider the possibility of sending us a letter occasionally summarizing the doings of each College. It would be very welcome to our readers, and it might strengthen the bond between the Colleges, which is at present somewhat strong.

The Editorial Committee meanwhile is too modest to blow its own trumpet. It believes that a certain measure of success has been achieved, and is encouraged to further efforts. The lady students do not give us as much support as we had hoped; with their pens, we mean, for we are not thinking of subscriptions. We are cordially assured that the ladies' common room possesses plenty of literary talent, and that especially there are poets in plenty. And yet we feared that we should have to go to press a second time without a Poet's Corner. That disgrace is avoided, and yet the poem which we print was written, our expert in handwriting tells us, in a male hand. Might it be listed, too, by an essay that our columns are just a little ponderous? Have we no Lamb, no Thackeray, no Arden in our midst to call for as the chosen flowers of conversation from the corridors, the smoke-room, and the refectory?

The news of the Boys' Club, which we print on another page, is extremely encouraging, and we fancy the scheme has prospered beyond the hopes of its founders; as father of its founder, for its inception was due to Dr. Cohen alone, and we decline to support the constitutional fiction that it is managed by a Committee. Our only fear was that the idea would not "catch on" with the students themselves. It has "caught on," and its future is assured.

We cannot advance it, as a piece of news, that active operations have commenced on the Eps-

house attendees; for the sights and sounds that accompany building operations have been sometimes a little too violent. We hear that there has been a great controversy about the situation of a boiler. It seems that one member of the staff has planted it in one place and, when his back is turned, another member of the staff has carried it off elsewhere. We don't profess to understand the ins and outs of the controversy, but our readers may be sure that we shall keep our collective eyes and ears open; and the assurance will give them a sense of safety. Other items of College news are the holding of a smoking concert on Wednesday, January 25th; and the establishment of a gymnastic class for the staff. We have no detailed information on either point.

We regret that our athletic news is so scanty this time. It is not our fault, but the fault of our correspondents. It would help us very much if contributors and correspondents would let us have their "copy" as punctually as possible. Our next number will appear in about a month, and all contributions should reach us not later than the first of March. We hold over for that number an article on Greek mathematics by Mr. Stanford, and a Student's Notes on the Physical Laboratory.

We should like to call attention to a letter in our correspondence column urging the formation of some society on the Arts side, corresponding to the Scientific Society, of whose meetings we again give a long report in this number.

College Societies.

The Athletic Union.—Important Meeting.

Ever since its foundation the Athletic Union has been hampered in its work by insufficient funds, and the Committee have now come to the conclusion that something must be done to improve the income. It is suggested that either the subscription for membership should be increased, or that it should be reduced and made compulsory on all registered students.

With a view to having the subject fully discussed, a meeting of all students has been summoned for Friday, February 24th, at 10.15, in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre.

Resolutions and amendments may be proposed at the meeting, but it is requested that anyone desiring to move a resolution will, if possible, send a copy of the motion to the Secretaries of the Union not later than Thursday, February 23rd.

Scientific Society.

Ten third ordinary meeting of this Society was held on Thursday, Nov. 15th. Prof. Smithells handed round a specimen of meteoric iron for inspection, and then called upon Mr. Cooper to read his paper on "Astronomical Predictions." Mr. Cooper commenced by disclaiming any intention to discuss astrology, and after a brief reference to the "science," embellished by extracts from "Old Moore," he passed on to astronomy proper, showing how predictions in nearly a sequel of observation and of a true knowledge of the laws which govern the motions of the heavenly bodies. Tracing out the discovery of Kepler's laws and their mathematical development by Newton, he pointed out that their joint results, including the universal law of gravitation, form the basis of modern exact astronomy. Mr. Cooper next drew attention to the use of the celestial sphere, and describing the routine work of predicting the positions of stars, dealt with some of the more interesting phenomena. Comets were briefly dealt with, it being pointed out that their orbits are elliptical, parabolic or hyperbolic. Eclipses next received attention, the possibility of predicting these being due to the fact that the same series of eclipses occur there after time. Passing on to consider the tides, Mr. Cooper showed how tidal friction is causing a lengthening of the day and an increase in the distance of the moon from the earth.

After stating that the sun is very probably gradually shrinking, and that the work done in the process is supplying the energy necessary to sustain the present condition of the solar system, Mr. Cooper concluded by an account of the discovery, by calculation, of the planet Neptune, which vindicated triumphantly the truth of those laws which astronomers consider the basis of the

mations of the heavenly bodies. Prof. Seabolt and Messrs. Wood and Moss took part in the discussion.

The fourth ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, November 19th. Mr. Barlow brought before the meeting a communication stating the differences between boiled and unboiled milk. A short discussion followed, and Mr. Starr then read a paper on "The Water Controversy." He introduced his subject by a few remarks on the "phlogiston theory," as this theory pervaded the scientific atmosphere during the period of which he was about to speak. After dealing with the experiments of Priestley and Wadsworth, Mr. Starr passed on to the work of Cavendish. Some further experiments by Priestley were then described. Water now appeared on the scene as a theorist, drawing conclusions from Priestley's experiments, which were repetitions of some previously performed by Cavendish. Lavoisier's work was next dealt with, the manner in which he came to conduct his experiments being given. From his experiments Lavoisier concluded, first, that the product of combustion of hydrogen was not an acid; secondly, that water was a compound; and lastly, that it was a compound of hydrogen and oxygen united in a certain ratio. Having thus described the work of the various chemists, Mr. Starr proceeded to discuss the claims of each.

Warr's claim was easily disposed of, and by an examination of two subsequent papers by Davy and Cavendish, Mr. Starr showed that Cavendish had no clear ideas on the compound nature of water, and therefore Lavoisier must be regarded as the first to understand, and, to that extent, to have discovered the composition of water. The subsequent history of the controversy was given, special attention being drawn to the outbreaks of 1830 and 1836, and Mr. Starr concluded by expressing the opinion that Cavendish first conducted the experiments by which Lavoisier was enabled to prove the compound nature of water.

In the discussion which followed, Prof. Seabolt spoke of the national character of the controversy, and Messrs. Brittain, Barlow, Silvers, Pilgrim, and Culvert took part.

The fifth ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, December 2nd. Dr. McGraw exhibited

some glasses from the banks of the Mississippi opposite Kosciusko. They consisted of quartz and chert, and contained crystals of selenite and dolomite. Various theories were put forward to explain the formation of these specimens.

Mr. Barlow then read a paper on "Space." The infinite extension of space being the chief point which the lecturer wished to impress upon his hearers, he commenced by first reviewing the ideas of length and the older conceptions of space, of which the Earth as a flat disc was the centre about which the Sun and Stars revolved. He then passed on to consider the matter which is distributed throughout space. The Sun and Moon, as being most influential upon our Earth, were each with in a detailed manner, and our solar system received a general survey. Comets and meteors next attracted the attention of the lecturer. Passing from our own system to a point midway between the Sun and Sirius, Mr. Barlow stated that from such a point our Sun would appear of much inferior magnitude to Sirius. The facts revealed when the disk of a spectroscopic is caused to receive some light from various points in space were referred to, especially Herschel's discovery that our solar system is travelling with a velocity of two hundred thousand miles per hour towards the constellation of Hercules.

The following took part in the discussion, viz., the President, Dr. McGraw, Messrs. Brown, Cooper, Doubleditch, Silvers, Starr, and Wood.

The sixth ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, December 9th. Mr. Crawley brought forward a communication to the effect that the membrane surrounding the fat globules in milk can be stained red by picric-acid. The President then called upon Mr. Wood to read his paper on "Textile Fibres."

Textile fibres may be divided into two classes, animal fibres, including the various kinds of wool and silk, and vegetable fibres, including cotton, flax, jute, hemp, and other-grass. Mr. Wood described in detail the cotton plant and the physical structure, chemical composition, and properties of the cotton fibre, drawing special attention to those which have received industrial application in such processes as scouring, the manufacture of viscose, artificial silk, etc. The Ram fibre next received the lecturer's attention, the various processes which the Ram-plant under-

gons before one obtains the lines themselves being described, and the general properties and microscopic appearance of the film being exhibited by means of lantern slides. Hemp, jute, and other-greens were dealt with in a similar manner, and then Mr. Wood passed on to the animal fibres. Wool received the first note, and slides of the various animals from which this film is obtained were exhibited. The chemical and physical, as well as the dyeing properties, were exhaustively illustrated by means of experiments and lantern slides, and the silk fibre received similar treatment.

The following took part in the discussion:—Prof. Smithells, Dr. Patterson, Messrs. Pilgrim, Lambie, Brown, and Goldsmith's.

The seventh ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, December 11th. Mr. Brittain laid before the Society an account of a research carried out in the Organic Laboratory by Dr. Cohen and himself. This had relation to the formation of addition compounds with caustic soda and acid anhydrides, and Mr. Brittain demonstrated by experiment the formation of such a compound with para-nitrobenzoic anhydride.

There was a short discussion, and Miss Findlay then read her paper on "Recent Attempts in Colour Photography," of which the following is a brief summary:—

Since the earliest days of photography the possibility of recording in a permanent form by the direct action of light, not merely the outlines and the gradations of light and shade, but also the colouring of natural objects, has presented itself as an interesting but almost insoluble problem. During recent years, at least two indirect solutions have been arrived at, resulting in the production of what, so far as the eye is concerned, is the equivalent of a colour photograph. The one of these is based on the three-colour theory of vision. The light emitted by an object is analysed by coloured screens into the three primary colours, and on separate photographs the proportional intensities of the three kinds of light are recorded. By suitable apparatus these photographs, each illuminated by its appropriate kind of light, are superposed on the retina, as producing a naturally-coloured image of the object. The application of the resources of modern photography to the development of this method is due mainly to Mr. Ross.

The second process is that employed by Prof. Lippmann, and depends on the principle of interference in the light reflected from a bright surface at the back of a photographic film. The silver salt in the film is thus acted upon in a series of parallel surfaces, whose distance apart is comparable with the wave length of the incident light.

Within the last twelve months two gentlemen, M. Chassignon and Mr. Benoit, have separately exhibited coloured photographs, while keeping secret the explanation of their production. In the former case, the colouring is obtained by the selective adhesion of coloured liquids to the positive, while the latter claims to be a greater instance of colour photography.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. Patterson, and Messrs. Smith, Goldsmith's, Pilgrim, Fowler, and Wood took part.

The Debating Society.

It is no easy thing to settle the relative claims to greatness of two important literary ages; and the task becomes especially difficult when one of these ages is the time in which we live. It is scarcely possible, for instance, to say as yet whether the present age can be considered to surpass in literary excellence the Elizabethan period; but there is no harm in making an attempt. At the fourth meeting of the Debating Society, Mr. Goudge championed the latter period, and presented some sound considerations in support of his view. After stating the difficulties attending any attempt to settle the question, he laid down two criteria by which we ought to judge what constituted a great period. These were quality of subject and quality of treatment. He laid great stress on the Elizabethan drama, the sonnet, and the Spenserian stanza. He thought there was a possibility that the Victorian era would be looked upon in time to come as an age of mediocrity, in spite of the greatness of the Victorian novel. In opposing the motion, Mr. Whitaker argued that the question ought not to be decided by the predominance of a single genre, and although the greatest writer of this age, Robert Browning, would, perhaps, never be regarded as equal to Shakespeare, yet our drama

work characterized by a large number of novelists, prose writers, essayists, and poets of the first rank.

A spirited and interesting discussion was opened by Mr. Cooper, who predicted successful things concerning the short-lived glory of our immigration which were nearly dealt with by Mr. Mass.

The President (Prof. Grant) gave an excellent summary of the whole question without taking either side. Miss Emerson drew attention to the scientific literature of the present reign, and interesting speeches were also made by Mr. Fyfe (who has evidently read the "Millennium Night's Dream"), Mr. Jewett, Mr. Corrie, and Mr. Scholer. The motion was lost by a minority of four.

It is impossible in the space at our disposal to do anything like justice to the meeting on December 19th, when the subject of "Strikes" was discussed. There were a dozen speakers, besides those of the opinion and opinion. Mr. Fyfe has often been more consistent, but never so fully as on this occasion. He condemned Trades Unions on all kinds of moral grounds, and painted a most realistic picture of all the ill consequences, near and remote, of a great strike. At one time he would bring his audience almost to tears by his pathos, at another he would work them to excitement by his patriotic ardor, and ever and anon he would pain them with a pun. Really, Mr. Fyfe ought to consider his audience more, for sudden and violent changes of feeling cannot be good for the constitution. He concluded his speech by giving some valuable suggestions for the settlement of labor disputes.

Mr. B. B. Brown then supported Trades Unions in a very interesting speech. He traced their development from medieval times, showing the necessity for their existence and the objects of their endeavors. He combated the claims of the workmen, and made light of the ideal of the average employer, in reference to which he read an extract from an old speech of Ruskin's, delivered at Bradford. After describing in an easy broken manner, the kind of workman the British employer would like, the extract continued:

"In this nation are to live the favored varieties of the golden: the English gentleman, with his graceful wife, and beautiful family; he always able to have the bubble and the pearl

for the wife, and the bull-dog for the daughter, and hunters for the sons, and shooting in the Highlands for himself. At the bottom of the heap is to be the mill, not less than a quarter of a mile long, with one steam engine at each end, and five in the middle, and a chimney gayly high. In this mill are to be in constant employment about a thousand workmen, who never drink, never strike, always go to church on Sunday, and always express themselves in respectful language."

Mr. Brown contended that the check to the onward march of British trade was due to a want of enterprise in our manufacturers, to a lack of the highest technical skill, and to a disinclination to expend money except for quick returns. A strike would disorganize an industry just as a revolution would disorganize a government, but both might be steps in the evolution of better things. Mr. Alden maintained that Trade Unions, but not strikes, should be encouraged; and Mr. Shackmarie, who can always command the attention of the House, made some pointed remarks in favor of the principle—"United we stand, divided we fall."

It is only lack of space which prevents our commenting on the speeches of the following gentlemen, most of which were well worthy of reproduction: Messrs. O'Brien, Corrie, Smith, Sloan, Hunt, Scholer, Sugden, Tilling, and Fells. The motion was carried by 18 to 15.

At the first meeting of this term, Mr. Ridge proposed that "Alien Immigration should be restricted." His arguments were based on the inadequacy of our food supply, the over-crowded state of our industries, and the unlikelihood of pauper and crime. He quoted an ancient authority on alien immigrants, remarking that there was no essential change in the modern type. "They did work silly, and took old marks, and wine bottles old and rust and bound up; and old shoes and slanted upon their feet; and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was mouldy."

Mr. Shackmarie took up the opposition on broad humanitarian grounds. He was proud that England was a refuge for the persecuted. He noted the good effect of aliens on trade, referring to the Flemings and Huguenots. He claimed that the mixed blood of the Englishman had much to do with the success of our country, and ended by relating various common errors on the subject of immigration.

Mr. Figgins spoke against the motion, and Mr. Moss, in supporting it, pointed out that the proposer had not indicated the character of the restrictions necessary to keep out the worst classes of immigrants. Mr. Scholten contended that no system of restriction was workable. He would offer open arms to all. If they were fit, he would wash them on arrival. This gave Mr. Goodwin's the opportunity to suggest that the first speaker should be appointed State-master, and there were several other pleasantities of a like nature. In his reply, Mr. Ridge made several good points, but the motion was lost by a minority of five.

Women Students' Christian Union.

The first meeting for this term was held on January 17th. Miss Robinson took the chair, and gave a short account of the work of the British College Christian Union, of which this is a branch. She was followed by Miss Peritt and Miss Hield, who told something of the work which is now being done by the Christian Union in the British and Continental Colleges respectively. Miss Peritt dwelt especially on the advantages which accrue to the individual Union from their connection with the central organization, and the stimulus afforded by inter-collegiate relations.

The Bible Circle will meet fortnightly on Monday and Tuesday, and it has been decided to continue the study which was taken up last term.

M. G. FENNELL.

The Education Society.

The third meeting of the present session was held on December 17th. Jas. Wilson, Esq., M.A., was in the chair, and Miss Hughes, Principal of the Cambridge Training College, gave an address on "The Study and Teaching of Literature."

In introducing the subject, Miss Hughes considered the position that English Literature should hold in education, and was of opinion that its proper place was the centre of secular education—the place corresponding to that held by the literature and language of the Greeks and Romans in the more classical schools.

In considering the educational value of the different subjects of a school curriculum, Miss Hughes divided the subjects into two groups; first, those subjects the study of which is not confined after school, e.g., Latin in case of boys, and mathematics in the case of girls, where the educational gain is in the habits of thought; and second, those subjects confined after school, e.g., history and literature and geography, without which no one can live an educated life. The purpose here is to develop keen desire for good literature so that the development of the mental and moral powers may continue in the right direction after school-life is over.

The next point dealt with by Miss Hughes was the form and content—which is most important to indicate and study?—the content. If the writing is appropriate it increases the value of the thought, but emphatically the thought is more important. "There is a great difference in our own lives between our best and worst moments. . . . In literature we get the best men at their best moments. . . . If we appreciate literature we can pass from the narrowness of our own environment to that of the best men at their best moments."

Literature is an art. The essence of art is restraint. An artist sees so much more than other people, chooses so much, and puts aside so much; restrains himself from putting in what others would have put in. Hence the study of literature is intellectually and morally stimulating.

Miss Hughes then dealt with the power of literature to develop the imagination, and its preponderance in this over history; and then passed on to the question of ethics, and demonstrated how literature taught ethics by means of concrete examples.

The second part of the address was on the methods of teaching literature. For this purpose literature was to be divided into three stages:—(1) Pre-Book Stage, (2) Book Stage, (3) Illustrated Stage. In the first stage—the very young children—the powers of imagination and expression are cultivated by means of fairy stories, which the children are asked to relate as well as listen to. In this stage also, the strong dramatic instinct of the children is appealed to and exercised.

In the second stage—the Book Stage—the children should first hear the poem read, so as

to get the music of it. Then by vivid descriptions get the children to form mental pictures. Miss Hughes then gives a short outline of a lesson on "The Village Blacksmith" . . . "The moral should not be touched on . . . Behave with respect and reverence towards literature."

The Historical Stage—here first trace out the author's development, and then pass on to that more complex thing, the tracing out of the development of a period.

In the previous stage much more should be read than in this stage, but here the study should be more in detail. The music should be studied more consciously, and the reason of the beauty and pleasure in certain paragraphs thought out as far as possible.

T. W. C., *Nes. Inst.*

Yorkshire College Chess Club.

RESULTS.

Win.	Draws.	Losses.
Nov. 2nd.—Hart and Dumb 2	1	1
Jan. 17th.—Y.M.C.A. . . .	3	1

FIXTURES.

Win.	Draws.
Feb. 26.—Christ Church . . .	Home.
Feb. 12th.—Hart and Dumb . .	Home.
Feb. 26th.—South Parade . . .	Away.
Mar. 26th.—South Parade . . .	Home.

The Club is now without a secretary, owing to the resignation of Mr. H. L. Smith.

The Tournament is not yet complete, but shows a very exciting race for first place between no fewer than five members, viz., Messrs. Groom, Broadbent, Stone, Vasey, and Hatch.

Athletics.

Results of Second Eleven Matches.

Dec. 10th. Second Eleven v. Leeds St. Aidan's. Lost; 2 goals to nil. On St. Aidan's ground.

Dec. 16th. Second Eleven v. Leeds Cammeron. Lost; 4 goals to nil. In spite of the assistance of four members of the First Eleven, the Cammeron's team were too good for our men, who were rather hampered by the heavy ground.

Jan. 17th, 1897. Second Eleven v. Bradford A. Lost; 7 goals to 1. On the Bradford ground.

The College only played two more, including several reserves, and, unfortunately, the goalkeeper, although he played very well at first, made two or three fatal mistakes.

The reason for the poor unsatisfactory record of the Second Eleven is that several of the players take a delight in reviving off at the last moment, or, what is still worse, saying they will play, and then not turning up.

Of course, without practically the same team every week, we cannot expect proper combination. It is hoped that we shall be more fortunate in our endeavours to form a regular team this term.

[We regret that we are unable to publish any account of the matches played by the other College teams, owing to the absence of reports from their representatives.—Ed.]

Correspondence.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

Sir,

It is, I am sure, a matter of regret to all our students that the work of the College is seriously impeded by the heavy debt on it, and I believe that the students themselves would be willing to do anything in their power to place the College finances in a more satisfactory condition. Of course, there are many ways in which this might be done. My own suggestion is that a grand concert should be held in the College Hall. There is, I know, quite sufficient talent among our students for a really good entertainment if only our musical friends (of both sexes) will combine for this object. If the House Committee would allow the use of the hall for the intended purpose, the expenses of such an entertainment would be very slight, while the subscription money ought to amount to a considerable sum. In this way the College funds would be increased by an effort of the students themselves, while the social life of the College, which there are at present so few opportunities of developing, would be greatly improved.

Turning this suggestion into being carried out,

I believe me to be,

Yours faithfully,

FRANK STONE.

Leeds, December 26, 1896.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

On your request to print our shortcomings of your esteemed paper, allow me to remind you, that the largest Society of the College has been completely overlooked. The Engineering Society may not be so influential as the Debating Society, to which you devote

in long article (I noticed a considerable thing in literary share in the social prospect of the paper itself being abolished, and the Lord Mayor of this venerable city at the workmen's door), but it is the only association the College has which keeps members of old students, even in responsible positions, in touch with the present generation. I should advise you to make good the error, as otherwise the engineering students might indicate, back out The Gryphon from their laboratories, and leave it to the tender mercies of—the printer's K&I!

Wishing you paper money success,

I remain, Yours faithfully,

SOMERSET.

[We shall be very pleased to report the proceedings of the Engineering Society if the Secretary or some other member will kindly furnish us with the material.—Ed.]

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

SIR,

As a fairly regular player in the second Association team, and a constant participant in their many debates, I should like, for the sake of the team, to point out the fact, that every match we have played for the past two seasons has been against a first team of the opposing club. Would it not conduce much more to the credit of our club, and the pleasure of the players, if we could arrange to play a few more school or college teams (even second eleven) rather than local first eleven to whom our first eleven will not grant a fixture? I do not object, for my own part, in playing an uphill game, but inevitable defeat has sometimes a tendency to become monotonous to even the long-suffering.

I am, Yours truly,

"SOMER."

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

SIR,

May I lay before your readers a project that has been in my mind for some time?

It is, briefly, the formation of some society on the Arts side of the College, corresponding to the very successful Scientific Society. I should be extremely unwilling to suggest the creation of another society if it were to be sustained with effort; for it is a platitude that civilization grows under the banner of its enemies already. But the example of the Scientific Society encourages me. It believes that that society is successful in every way; the atmosphere, I am told, is entirely spontaneous; papers are readily forthcoming; the opportunity for social intercourse is welcome to both students and staff. I can see no reason at all why a similar experiment should not be equally successful on the Arts side of the College. The members would probably be smaller, perhaps much smaller, than those of the Scientific Society; but that is not an important point. As risk of the editorial committee of The Gryphon, and in other ways, I have convinced myself that there is no lack of talent for the production of papers; and I am much desirous

if there would be any lack of interest in literary or historical topics.

What form would such a society take? What function would it perform? That would, of course, depend on the members themselves. I can only offer suggestions. Obviously it should be open to all members of the College, whatever their line of study, and I have been assured that many Science students would give as valuable assistance. It should imagine that fortnightly meetings would be found sufficient (perhaps alternate Mondays, so as not to clash with the Debating Society, would be found convenient. The meetings would begin, as I think, in the case of the Scientific Society, with "tea and talk"—perhaps at five o'clock. A paper might be read at a quarter to six. The whole meeting should be over by seven. Such meetings would fill the programme for the two winter months. In the summer, it would be easy to arrange expeditions to places of historic interest which are continuously common in the neighbourhood of London.

Such, perhaps, could not be done this session, but a beginning might be made. I should be much obliged if any ladies or gentlemen who are interested in the scheme would communicate at once with me; and we could then arrange for a preliminary meeting. We might have a couple of meetings this term, and arrange for expeditions next term.

Yours truly,

A. J. GARDNER.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

SIR,

Will you grant me space to mention a matter which I am convinced is of the utmost importance to the comfort of all the students of the College. At the present time, the only rooms at the disposal of students for reading or conversation are the Union Room and the Senate Room, and these are solely for members of the Athletic Union or of the Debating Society. The student who is not a Member of the Union is therefore compelled to seek refuge in the dark and dingy corridors.

The Union Room and Senate Room are not as comfortable as an average railway waiting-room. The Union Room is used as a cloak room, and consequently there is a continuous stream of men entering and leaving. This quite precludes any semblance of comfort, and prevents students reading or writing.

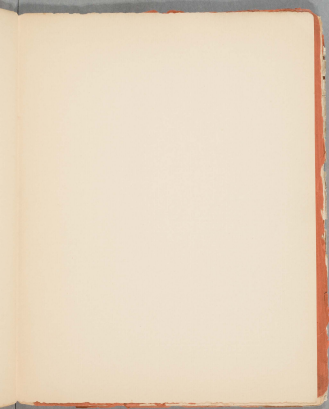
Another great want is hot water in the students' lavatories, in being quite impossible to remove a coating of chemicals, etc., with the cold, hard water, and still harder soap, at present provided.

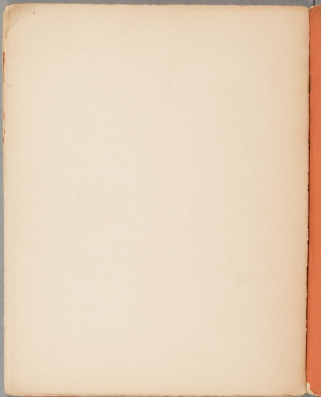
I understand that there is a movement on foot to make the membership of the Union compulsory, which, I think, would be desirable, provided that the election of the committee be so arranged as to make that body thoroughly representative.

Such a representative committee, with the additional monetary resources arising from the compulsory membership, would be able greatly to increase the comfort of the students' rooms, and generally to promote social life and good fellowship amongst the men attending the College.

Yours faithfully,

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