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Trinity College

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**Trinity College**  
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

THE

# TRINITY TABLET.

VOL. IV.

HARTFORD, CONN., DECEMBER 29, 1871.

No. XII.

*THE DEPARTING YEAR.*

Sad, and weary, and slow,  
The old Year wanders on,  
But his feet are clogged with snow,  
While his breath is short and low,  
And his cheek is pale and wan.  
The cold winds colder grow,  
But the World is filled with cheer,  
For the Christmas-tide is near,  
And men as they come and go,  
Think naught of the dying Year.

Far up above looks down  
Each calm and peaceful star,  
And their radiance from afar,  
Makes him think of the golden crown,  
Of the glory and renown  
That shall hail his well-fought war.

“With halting step,” he thinks,  
“Does mankind expiate  
The long neglect, that slowly drinks  
The life from those who vainly wait,  
And knocking, die at Justice’ gate.  
Even I, whom men despise  
Because I am held in the hand,  
Shall be great one day in their eyes,  
When the World shall understand  
That the year is gone like a prize,  
Like a blessing in disguise,  
Because so vaguely grand.

“Once, a laughing child I played,  
In the sunshine and the shade,  
(’Tis not many months gone by)  
And with smiles, and eyes tear-wet,  
Kissed the rose and violet,  
Flowers younger still than I.  
How the kind World praised me then,  
Called me fair, and pledged their love,  
All the earth bowed down—and yet

Here I wander mocked of men,  
Mocked by winds, and skies above.

“Poor despised, derided thing,  
Didst Thou think thy youth would last?  
Thou art but a sorry King,  
And thy life is fading fast.  
Say, where wilt thou be when Spring  
Shall again those flowers bring?  
Know, O Fool, thy Past is past.

A white-haired train of ghosts  
Are the myriad ages gone,  
And I must join those silent hosts  
When the young New Year is born.  
And ever ceaselessly fresh, and gay,  
Shall follow the coming One;  
He shall mock our age in his joyous play,  
Nor know that steadily, day by day,  
He is growing old and wan,  
Haggard and feeble and gray.

“Mean, deceitful, and proud,  
Bowing to power and gold,  
O Man, Thou too shalt grow old,  
And cry in thy age aloud,  
For a shelter from the cold,  
And a hand to make thy shroud.  
Yes, Thou too shalt learn like me  
Of the curse of failing strength,  
While the leaf is on the tree,  
Ere the love of life at length  
Hath waned and ceased to be.”

*COLLEGE INFLUENCE.*

Doubtless the great end of a collegiate education is to effect a “full, and harmonious development of all our faculties, corporeal and mental, intellectual and moral.”

But, admitting and passing over, this fact,

we desire to speak of the advantages of a college education, apart from the mental and moral training which it offers, of advantages which are seldom considered, and yet which form an important element in insuring the success of a young man's future life. We refer to that peculiar knowledge we acquire, from intercourse with our fellow-men, which enables us at the time, and also in after life, to form a true estimate of character. And we think that this is an advantage peculiar to college life, for in no position are we intimately connected with so many men of different temperaments.

In the professional world a man's most intimate friends are professional men, and the same can be said of the mercantile world, so that, as a general thing, after leaving college we are thrown with those who have like pursuits as ourselves, consequently with those who have similar tastes and common interests.

But in college how different! There, embryo clergymen, lawyers, politicians, physicians, merchants and machinists, are thrown promiscuously together, and we soon learn that our profession cannot boast of all the good men, nor another accused of harboring all of the bad ones. The ministry, in our minds, is no longer a cloak for the vicious; nor the law a poison to the virtuous.

But especially, at the present day, does college life afford a good opportunity for judging character. Almost every student is more or less a politician, and party spirit, in college, as in the world, "runs high." Prejudices increase, and alas! too often a lofty standard of honor and justice is a thing unknown. We cannot look, then, for a more opportune time for observing the motives, and action of men, than the four years of college life. In the world we can judge a politician only by his actions, because his character as a man, is seldom known to us; but in college we can consider both aspects of one's character, the public and private, and hence we learn that action is not always a true index of motive, and that often

an unfortunate, and apparently a malicious, act, is prompted by a pure motive, and a generous heart.

Every man ought to be a philosopher, in the sense of the word as used by Pythagoras in his reply to the enquiries of Leon.

We ought to observe the actions of men not so much for their effects, as to understand the motives by which these actions are prompted.

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#### SHORTHAND.

If it were not that the subject of Shorthand is one which to college students ought to be of especial interest, as being in so many ways useful to them, we would not take up the valuable space of the TABLET in discussing the subject; but since many in college seem to be interested in the matter, we will venture to say a few words about it.

Seeing a pamphlet in the reading-room a short time ago, advertising "Scovil's Shorthand," and being much interested in the whole subject, we took the pains to read it through, and then to thoroughly examine the book professing to teach the system. Part of the results you will find below.

Now, in the first place, as every one knows, the style of shorthand which prevails in this country is "Phonography." In fact its use is so universal, that the word has become almost a synonym for "Shorthand." It was first published to the world in England, in the year 1837, by Isaac Pitman, and improvements have gradually been introduced since that time, until in 1866, James E. Munson, himself longtime a practical reporter, brought it to a state as near perfection as mortal man can hope for any of his works. And it is this "Phonography," with the strong presumption in its favor, caused by an almost universal use for thirty-five years, which the author of this little manual tries to overthrow. Let us glance now at the history of Scovil's Shorthand, and then at those points in which he claims that it possesses a great advantage over the established system.

The author, the Rev. W. E. Scovil, A. M., found, as he says, "while preparing for the ministry, that there was no method sufficiently simple to be relied on for pulpit purposes. The rudiments of this were therefore compiled." He used it himself in Canada for some years and taught it to others, and W. E. Scovil, Jr., A. B., is now attempting to introduce it into this country. Now notice, phonography has been worked upon and improved by many minds, for a long space of time, but this system comes to us directly from the author. It resembles in many respects, those systems which were used 50 years ago, but have long since been discarded by all practical reporters.

Now for its "advantages." He objects, first, that the vowels in phonography are dots and minute marks, disjoined, when written, but in this new method, they are signs resembling the consonants, and joined to them. Well, in the first place, in phonography the vowels are seldom necessary, their place being supplied by writing the consonants in three different positions, above, on and partly below the line. As to positions, Scovil uses *five* of them; (think of discriminating between signs a good ways above, a little ways above, upon, partly below, and entirely below the line,) and worse, he recommends that the writer use *unruled* paper. And then he calls his system "legible as the plainest writing." Then again as to the vowels, he himself leaves them out in most cases, and doesn't denote them by position, and when they are put in, they of course make the outline of different shapes, according as more or fewer of them are used, rendering it necessary to learn each of these separately, so as to recognize them at sight.

In the second place, he objects on grounds of legibility to using signs of two different thicknesses in phonography. Now apart from the fact that he himself thickens a sign to add "*d*," thus weakening his argument, we may state that in the course of our experience in using such distinction in shorthand

writing, *we have never had the slightest difficulty in that respect.* And just here he introduces a *non sequitur* which we commend to the careful examination of those who are interested in logic. He says, "The same mark, as that for *ks*, varying only a little in length or thickness, stands on, above and below the line for more than fifty words, *out of which we must pick the one the sense requires.*" (!) In the last phrase he entirely ignores what he said before, as to length, thickness, and position. Supposing the words to be divided equally among these different forms, we shall have about sixteen in each position, eight of which are long and eight short, and four of each of these heavy, and four light; so that we need not choose from 50, but only 4. Besides, if the context will not decide as to the right word, the vowel may be easily inserted. We would add, that it is not as difficult to distinguish in writing or reading, between a light and a heavy stroke, as between a straight line and a curve.

In answer to his third objection, that "it is a great task to learn the long list of words represented by only one or two of their middle letters," we say, that it is much harder to learn the *arbitrary* signs and *arbitrary* contractions which he employs.

The last objection which he urges is against "phonetic spelling," as being likely to corrupt the writer's orthography. But this is no more likely to teach a person to spell wrong than the practice of leaving out letters from words, which he favors. The writer of this has used different systems of phonetic shorthand for eight years, and has never had the slightest inclination to spell phonetically in longhand, even when writing at the swiftest rate. The reason of this appears to be that in phonography we use for a particular sound a particular character, which has no connection whatever with any longhand letter, so that we no more write *k* for *c*, than we write *x* for *e*. Besides, Scovil's system spells phonetically in the reporting style.

We think that we have satisfactorily an-

to the present. It is sheer nonsense to say that a person has not time to gain a wide range of history while he is passing through his college course. No person can plead lack of time; for there is most assuredly abundance of time and countless opportunities for any one who will set himself assiduously to the task. All the prescribed studies of a college curriculum do not by any manner of means wholly employ the student. Numberless hours are totally wasted in loafing laziness. We are sorry to say that a great body of students think that if they get their lessons they have done all that is necessary. We admit that they have so far as the curriculum but most certainly not so far as the cultivation of self is concerned. A vast deal of historical knowledge can and ought to be accumulated during a four years course.

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#### MINOR MATTERS.

The first of a course of lectures instituted by the Phi Beta Kappa society was delivered by our President, Dr. Jackson. He took for his subject the English Language. He began by giving an elaborate description of the various elements which were fused in the crucible of time into our mother tongue. The power, strength, comprehensiveness, and flexibility of the language were treated of in a highly interesting and instructive manner. Grimm, the celebrated comparative philologist, was quoted as showering praises upon the beauty and energy of our language. The lecturer spoke, at some length, on the prevalent ideas which favor the use of Anglo-Saxon words in preference to those derived from the Latin. The Dr., for the sake of illustrating the effect of Latin derivatives, cited several authors whose styles are saturated with vocables taken from the queen of languages. He then paid an eloquent tribute to the productions of English authors as occupying a high position in the realm of literature. The lecture was brought to a close by some prophetic remarks upon the strong tendency of our language to usurp the place of

almost all other languages and become to a great extent universal. The second of the series of lectures thus auspiciously begun will probably be given very soon after Christmas vacation.

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At the commencement of the Christmas term a dramatic spirit seemed to have inspired some of the students, who agreeably to the impulse formed a dramatic club. After choosing a piece and going over the tread-mill of rehearsal several times they produced, on Thursday evening December the fourteenth, the fine old comedy entitled the "Poor Gentleman"—a play well-known to all those who have ever seen the inimitable John Owens impersonate the principal character in it. Tickets in the form of invitations were issued and distributed gratuitously. The amateur actors enacted their respective parts exceedingly well. Indeed we were agreeably surprised to see so much latent dramatic talent evolved. A taste for the histrionic art was fully displayed. Although the drama was not brought out as forcibly and as vividly as it might have been, yet when we consider that it was the first appearance of the corps in public we cannot but express our sincere admiration of the manner in which the comedy was presented. Among the dramatis personæ we would especially mention Ollapod, Sir Robert Bramble and Humphrey Dobbins. The students who took the characters surpassed all anticipations. Their excellent acting was frequently and deservedly applauded. They entered into the spirit of their parts and manifested a keen sense of the humorous. We hope this successful entertainment will soon be followed by another.

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On Monday evening, the 11th, the Gymnasium was dedicated by a formal, imposing, brilliant, and *strictly select* dance. Of course our readers can imagine all the little embellishments of "tripping feet," "sparkling eyes," "rosy cheeks," and a "galaxy of beauty," so that we shall omit them here, being for the first and only time, with the assurance that they were all present in full force, and lent their

usual powerful aid to make everything pass off pleasantly. Judging from what other college papers say, we have reason to think ourselves particularly favored in enjoying several of these delightful dances every year. It is not usual, we understand, for the authorities to grant such indulgences, and, if it was, probably not one other college town in the country could produce such "beauty and grace combined" as adorned the gymnasium floor the other evening. To the faculty our thanks are due for their kindness in granting the use of the building, and their courtesy in being present during the evening. Although we do not expect that any of them will ever go so far as to try their hand (we should say *foot*) at the "Boston," yet it is pleasant to see their faces in the room, and know that they are in full accord with the "*genius loci*." We do not see why such delightful gatherings are not more frequent in all colleges which are able to secure the presence of a sufficient number of ladies. Certainly the fiercest of opponents of the proverb, which alludes to continuous labor having a peculiar effect on "Jack," could not deny that the influence of such occasions on the student is not bad, however he may doubt the absolute amount of *good*, which the result brings to light. As for ourselves, we think that a college party now and then is a real help to both professors and students in enlivening the daily routine, which sometimes drags rather heavily, and in freshening up every one for a longer and stronger pull. We hope that they will be commensurate with the existence of Trinity, for they help to make our life here what we now find it, a pleasure and satisfaction to look back upon.

A stupid lesson put me to sleep, and my brain, getting the better of my will, took me off to dream-land and through scenes of such seeming reality that I am perforce obliged to jot them down, for perusal at some future time when I may be better able to account for them. I, a student, sat in a Professor's chair,

listening to a recitation from my own class; it was evident they did not recognize me, and it was with the oddest feeling that I marked myself absent on the roll. "What a noisy set!" was my first inward ejaculation. Those two fellows in the corner haven't an idea that I can see them, and I've good a mind to tell them to leave the room; but I no sooner lift my head than some one else whispers audibly or shuffles his feet, and I forget the first annoyance and frown awfully, but it don't have any effect I imagine, for some one giggles. What a wretched recitation, and I know that fellow has the whole of his lesson written interlinear for I remember helping him to do it, and the audacity of imposing such a fraud on me! There are two men (?) amusing themselves by kicking each other, I'd like to go down and help them along. And that fellow with a seal ring fidgets altogether too much. There goes a skin, I saw it as it was tossed under the bench. I'll stop that. Buzz-z-z! I should think I was in a hive of bees, and I can't remember for the life of me how that last man recited. Oh dear me! how did I ever get into this dreadful place. There! I knew if those fellows went on they'd break down the bench. Now here's a fellow that don't know a word of his lesson, and he won't take a hint, and I can't help him; well, sit down, that is sufficient! This is the longest hour I ever knew in my life, and if I have to bear this every day, I shall be in the Insane Retreat in a month. I won't stand it! I pound on the table with a book, I shout "gentlemen we must have quiet!" The more I shout the greater is the noise, till unable to sit still I hurl my book and pencil at the man reciting, and rush screaming from the room, I slip and tumble the length of the stairs and land on the floor of my bed-room.

My dream induced moral reflections, and I crept into bed again with good resolutions, thinking to myself that to sympathize fully with another, one has to really and truly, as certain novelist says, "put yourself in their place."

# THE TRINITY TABLET.

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by the Students of

TRINITY COLLEGE.

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## NOTICE.

Subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions for the current year, or who are in arrears for the year past, will confer a favor upon us by settling their bills at once. All communications, either concerning subscriptions or advertisements, should be sent to THE TRINITY TABLET, P. O. Drawer 20, Hartford, Conn.

## COLLEGE AND CAMPUS.

Time and change, one and inseparable in their companionship have accomplished but little, since our last production on this subject. The established routine of the college has been disturbed only by the advent of Prof. Russell, and the halls still resound with the voices of the students exemplifying the "explosive" and "effusive rotund," whence our readers may argue, that his departing foot-prints are still fresh. Time, and some of the lower classmen, and the faculty, mutually co-operating are in process of effecting a transformation of startling character on the front of Brownell Hall. Time and the lower classmen rendering it necessary, the faculty, being the executive branch of this mutual aid society for the painting of Brownell Hall, and if report speaks true, the under-graduates managing the financial branch of said association, though not perhaps in accordance with their desire. The Inaugural Hop, owing to the non introduction of gas at the time expected, was postponed from the evening of Monday the 4th, to that of Monday the 11th, and passed off admirably, the gymnasium being well heated and lighted, and cleared of apparatus. The facility of access to the hall, as it may be properly designated, and its excellent floor renders it a much more convenient and suitable place for college dances than the cabinet, and a precedent having now been established in favor of the gymnasium, except for literary exercises, the cabinet will probably fall into disuse, as regards student-entertainments.

With the close of this number, we become ex-Editors of the TABLET. We remember with what aspirations, and stirred by what emulative spirit we took possession of our chair at the beginning of our editorial term, and how quickly our feelings of self-sufficiency evaporated, when it came to the practice instead of the theoretical performance of the duties entailed upon us by virtue of our office. We have endeavored to do away with the petty strife, which seems to have existed, we are sor-

ry to say, in most college periodicals, and to profit by the criticisms of our exchanges, when they have been kindly meant, and courteously expressed, and have not been dictated by a malignant and invidious disposition. And, we hereby adjure our successors, in this respect, to carry out our policy, believing it to be for the best interests of the TABLET, and unless they wish to be continually embroiled in quarrels, which will in time necessarily cause more or less unpleasant feeling. We have striven faithfully in the pursuance of our duty, and to raise the standard of the TABLET has been our leading aim and desire. Whether we have succeeded in our aim in any respect, is for our readers to determine. Wherever we have failed, or fallen below the mark, we trust that the charitable feeling of our friends will make allowances for us, and smooth over our imperfections.

Ere we close, we tender our hearty congratulations to our successors of '73, and wish them all success in their editorial capacities. Wherever we have failed, may they succeed, and wherein we have succeeded may they excel. The welfare of the TABLET will ever be a subject of interest to us, and although the time is not far distant when an active participation in college affairs will be denied us, still we shall ever cherish the pleasant memories of our college life, and far from the least of these will be, that of our connection with the TABLET.

#### *THE ORATORICAL PRIZE CONTEST.*

The origin of the custom of selecting six contestants from the three upper classes, for a gold, and a silver, medal, given by the college dates back to the last year of the Athenæum, and Parthenon, literary societies.

It had been thought desirable for a long time that, the literary societies should have some representation among the customs of Trinity, and also that, the cultivation of oratory among the students should be encouraged. Up to that time, it will be remembered, there was no celebration for which students were appointed

according to their merits as writers, and speakers, exclusively; but were appointed as they were found proficient in some special branch of study. It was therefore agreed upon by the Athenæum, and Parthenon, that two speakers should be appointed from each of the three upper classes, and that, such appointments should be made according to the relative stand of students as writers, and speakers.

The appointments were made; the appointees met with marked success; and it was pretty well decided that, similar appointments should be made every year. But the dissolution of the societies occurred soon after, and thus any special resolutions providing for the future were not agreed upon.

Another consideration of weight, which led to the institution of the custom was that, it would relieve the monotony of the Christmas term, as the first Thursday in December was the day appointed for the contest. The dissolution of the Literary Societies, unfortunate though it was, did not prevent the continuance of a custom after it had once been instituted. Accordingly, speakers were again chosen, by a committee appointed by the college, but the arrangement was temporary, and as before no definite resolutions were made providing for succeeding years. But this term, after some discussion, it was agreed upon by the college, that, the competitive speaking should become a permanent custom, and consequently resolutions were adopted, relative to the manner, and time, of the appointments.

It will be seen that in the resolutions a request was made that, the Professor of English should make his appointments on the basis of the mark for orations for the Christmas term, and that as has been said above—the contest should take place on the first Thursday in December. But as the resolutions were adopted after some of the orations were delivered, it was impossible to make the appointments this year, for the Christmas term, as it would not allow the speakers enough time to prepare for the occasion. The



appointments have been made therefore, for the first Thursday of the Trinity term, at which time we trust that we will find our usual appreciative audience. It would doubtless have been better, if the contest had taken place at the time specified in the resolutions, as in accordance with the present arrangement, only one month will elapse between the contest and the celebration of Washington's birthday. Our readers will readily understand, however, our reasons for the postponement.

This custom is one which ought to have been established long ago, for the prize version declamation is the only thing we have of a similar nature,—similar, however, only as regards the number of appointees,—it differs widely, when we consider the basis upon which the appointments are made. Besides the prize version declamation is associated with the Trinity term, while the Christmas term has nothing of a like character to relieve the dull monotony of college life.

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“IN FUTURE.”

The future of the TABLET has been a matter of interest to the students of Trinity for a long time.

In looking over the Sept. number of the TABLET of '68, we saw an article—“In Future”—in which an appeal was made to the Alumni of Trinity for substantial support. Since that appeal, we are gratified to find that the circulation of the paper has been greatly increased, and our hopes of the future rest upon a surer foundation to-day, than they did four years ago.

But as then, so now, without a hearty co-operation of the students and alumni, the editors of the TABLET can accomplish nothing; and this fact, though a self-evident truth as it must appear to every one, it would not be amiss to mention here, for there seems to be a want of sympathy with the TABLET, among many of the graduates and undergraduates of our college.

To account for this apparent coldness, would

require a deeper knowledge of human nature than we now possess, for arguing *a priori*, we would think that human nature would account conclusively for the opposite effect, if this last were the question under consideration. For certainly it is not human to forget one's *Alma Mater* after graduation, nor to think little or nothing of her interest, before graduation.

It has often been said that, college days form the happiest portion of a man's life; that they are days which, in after years, are referred to with eager enthusiasm; and which, however unprofitably they may have been spent, are constantly remembered as

“The true old times

When every morning brought a noble chance.”

So to forget the mother who has reared and trained her sons for the long warfare of life, is to show a want of the most natural principle of the heart,—the love of the olden times, the season of budding manhood. Human nature then, cannot account for that apparent coldness manifested in Trinity's welfare by many of her graduates. Much less can it account for that manifested by her undergraduates.

If, in this latter class, there were nothing to look to but the natural glow and enthusiasm of youth, we ought reasonably to expect from them encouragement and support, encouragement to urge on to duty, support to enable us to perform that duty. It may be objected that, forgetting the TABLET is surely not forgetting Trinity, and that it has not yet been decided whether the TABLET is a true and faithful exponent of the sentiments of Trinity.

In reference to the first objection, we are not so egotistical as to suppose that we would be required, by sensible men, to give an answer; but a college paper is, doubtless, a *part* of a college, and an important part too, as it is supposed to represent the views of all undergraduates—but we are running into the second objection, which, being a reasonable one, requires a reasonable answer.

If by the sentiments of the college, is meant

the sentiments of every member of the faculty, or of every student in college, we acknowledge the weight of the objection; but if the TABLET could arrive at such a state of perfection, there would surely be some doubt as to whether the days for miracles were past, for such perfection would be nothing less than a miracle, and one of a wonderful nature. Such a position we cannot and do not claim. But we believe the TABLET does coincide with the views of the majority—and a large majority too—of the students, and we trust of a majority in the faculty. And besides, when we remember that the TABLET is the only medium through which college news is communicated, and college custom commemorated, we are surprised that many of the alumni and students are so indifferent to its contents.

It does not originate then from any real objections against the TABLET that its circulation is not more extended; therefore, the only way in which we can account for the fact, is to admit, however contradictory to human nature it may appear, that a lively interest for Trinity cannot be found in the hearts of many of her alumni and students. Indeed, with the students we fear that there is not only this negative reason to be assigned for their indifference, but that there is also a positive reason.

It is very remarkable sometimes to observe, now eagerly many students read the TABLET, but how few read their own,—why forsooth? because they have none.

We were surprised a few months ago to find that not one-third of the students subscribe for the TABLET. We do not profess to give the public any learned exposition, or any elaborate and elegant essays, but every TABLET contains matter which ought to interest every one who is, or has been, connected with Trinity.

We trust that after the above it will not be necessary to make any direct appeal to Trinity alumni and students for substantial support in carrying on the pleasant, but sometimes discouraging, editorial work of the TABLET.

#### PARTICLES.

The first of the K. B. Φ. lectures will be delivered by Prof. Jim on *Bell Lettres*.—Is Prof. Russell a second adventist? He has been here only twice this term.—*Instructor*: “Gentlemen, you have no idea how completely one may be absorbed in a study like Entomology. I can remember going ’round with my head full of bugs and”—Uproar.—The ‘Musical Union’ of Hartford intend to hold several full dress rehearsals in the gymnasium this winter.—First snow of the season on Wednesday the 13th.—Christmas recess extends this year from December 20th to January 18th.—The “72” painted by the present Senior class, when Freshmen, on the college front, is still legible after five coats of paint.—The “Ben Lomond” bull in Metaphysics was made again this year. We have heard before of students when absorbed in “meditation” mistaking a lamp-post for a “peeler,” but never of their taking a mountain for a man.—Several students cut recitation to see Alexis as he passed through the city, and then swore at him for not shaking hands, and refusing to be “stirred up.”—We recommend anybody who wishes to find out how Trinity is progressing, to read the *Hartford Times* for Dec. 13th.—The Seniors have been studying machinery at the engine houses, “to see how the old thing works.”—Emulative Africans are now employed in attending to the halls, so that everything looks neater than in the “days that are no more.”—We chronicle as interesting to old graduates, that Franklin has lately been married, and Adams has another baby (total 2n.)—The Oratorical Declamation appointments are as follows: Seniors: G. W. West, A. M. Smith (resigned), E. Snyder. Juniors: C. P. Parker, L. W. Richardson: Sophomores: H. E. Cotton, J. D. Hurd.—With this number of the TABLET, the last of the fourth volume, we extend to all our readers the compliments of the season, and wish them a “Happy New Year.”

## BOOK NOTICES.

LEGENDS OF THE CHRIST-CHILD, FOR CHRISTMAS TIME :  
De Witt C. Lent & Co., New York.

A well printed and finely illustrated book—just the thing for a holiday gift for a little child. The legends are new settings of the old, old story, and cannot fail to be entertaining.

## COLLEGE CLIPPINGS.

## AMHERST.

Ladies are to be excluded from the college.

The *Student* thinks it would be better to have prayers before breakfast, say at seven o'clock.

The Faculty have at last decided to let the students take dancing lessons.

One of the Eds. of the *Student* has lately visited Trinity, and draws a striking comparison between the two colleges and the Insane Retreat, making out the inmates of the latter much more orderly and polite than those of either of the former.

The following has been added to the blue laws of South Hadley:—all young ladies visiting Amherst will be deprived of their pocket-handkerchiefs, immediately on entering the town, by the accompanying teachers.—*Student*.

## COLUMBIA.

A correspondent favors the abolition of class offices.

The *Cap and Gown* complains of the failing strength of the Literary Societies.

## CORNELL.

"It is understood," says the *Era*, "that a single unexcused absence from recitation is sufficient to exclude the student from the privilege of examination."

Cornell has lately had two negro janitors who did not scruple about taking whatever they could lay their hands on. They have been discharged.

## DARTMOUTH.

The "Chandler Building" has been refitted at an expense of about \$8,000.

## EDINBURGH.

Eninburgh is to have a professorship of Celtic.

## GLASGOW.

In the recent election for Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow (Scotland,) Disraeli was chosen by a majority over Ruskin.

## OBERLIN.

Oberlin has one thousand students.

## WESLEYAN.

The fiftieth section of the twenty-second book of Livy is, of course, indicated by a large L. The words beginning this section, are "Haec," &c. A dozen members of '75 lately spent an hour trying to find out who *Lucius Haec* could be.—*Argus*.

## WEST POINT.

The Secretary of War has exwelled four West-Pointers for hazing.

## WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF PENN.

There is a great demand for a Law School in connection with this institution.

## WILLIAMS.

They don't stop for trifles at Williams. They send to Albany to get their "two college papers" printed, and they discuss everything in them, from the advantages of fall ploughing to the metaphysically infinite.—*Harvard Advocate*.

The Sophomores amuse themselves during prayers in chapel by throwing hymn-books at each others' heads. The *Vidette* objects on the ground that it injures the books, which are college property,—and besides, it's a little out of place there.

## YALE.

The *Independent* denies the rumor which has been going the rounds of the papers that Yale was to become the *Alma Mater* of thirty students from the Celestial Empire.

SCENE.—Freshman recitation room.—*Professor*. "What instrument would you use in the construction of this geometrical figure?" *Freshman*, (after looking thoughtfully at the floor, ceiling, and Professor.) "A piece of chalk, Sir."—*Courant*.

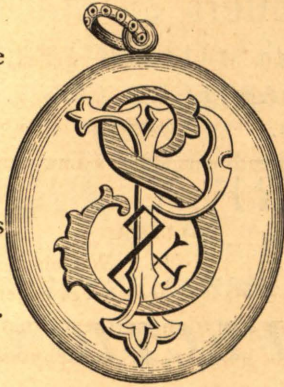
## EXCHANGES.

College Exchanges received since our last—*Amherst Student*, *Orient*, *Cap and Gown*, *Cornell Era*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *Dartmouth*, *Harvard Advocate*, *Madisoniensis*, *Kentucky Wesleyan*, *Western Collegian*, *Qui Vive*, *Virginia University Magazine*, *College Argus*, *College Journal*, *Williams Vidette*, *College Courant*, *Yale Courant*.

From the outer world:—*The Long Islander*, *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, *Protestant Churchman*, *The True Woman*, (opposed to Woman Suffrage), *Real Estate Register*, *Newspaper Reporter*, *The Calais (Me.) Times*.

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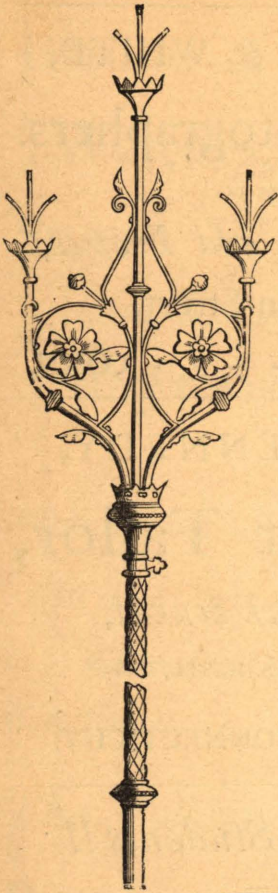
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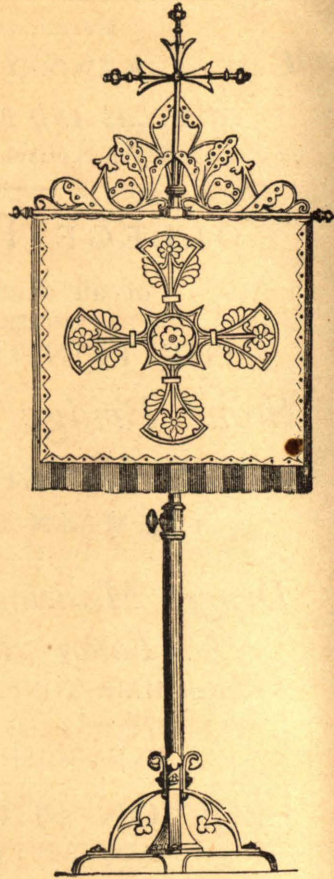
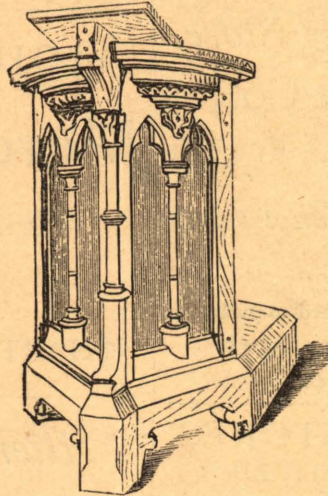
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