

STUDENT'S CORNER.

This column will be open for the publication of questions, answers, discussions and original articles of an educational and literary character. Our readers who are or have been students are requested to contribute.

Books and Reading.

P. A. POGUE.

In our day, very few men are born great, or "have greatness thrust upon them." It is by hard toil, by steadily and s'lently climbing the ladder of achievement, that success is won. Almost every man of eminence, who has risen from a humble station in life, has owed in a large measure his education and knowledge to good books. They were the rounds by which he climbed to greatness; and it is interesting, therefore, to read the testimony of those who with Wordsworth could say: "Books are a real world." Gibbon tells us that, "Every person has two educations, one which he receives from others, and one, more important, which he gives to himself."

The modern press has revolutionized matter, and books which have stood the test of time, and outlived hostile criticism, are now to be had for so small a consideration that it is almost criminal to let "the spring of love and youth" pass, without giving ourselves so pleasant an education as books afford. People are only beginning to realize what all along they have been carelessly missing, the value of these silent, ever welcome, always agreeable companions—books.

Carlyle says: "May blessings be upon the head of Cadmus, the Phœnicians, or whoever it was that invented books;" and again "The true university of these days is a collection of books."

"I am a bookman"—

James Russell Towell

"They prize books who are themselves wise."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

"Good books, like good friends, are few and chosen; the more select the more enjoyable."

—A. Bronson Alcott.

Victor Hugo says of one of his most famous characters: "He was fond of books, for they are cool and sure friends."

"True books have been written in all ages by the greatest men—by great leaders, great statesmen and great thinkers. They are all at your choice, and life is short. Will you jolt with the common crowd for entry here, and audience there, when all the while this eternal court is open to you, with its society as wide as the world, multitudinous as its days, the chosen and mighty of every place and time?"

—John Ruskin.

"He that loveth a book will never want a faithful friend, a wholesome counsellor, a cheerful companion, an effectual comforter. By study, by reading, by thinking, one may innocently divert and pleasantly entertain himself, as in all weathers, so in all fortunes."

—Isaac Barrow.

"There is a choice in books as in friends and the mind sinks or rises to the level of its habitual society. Cato's advice, (consort with the good), is quite as true if we extend it to books, for they, too insensibly give away their own nature to the mind that converses with them. They either beckon upward or draw down."

—James Russell Towell.

"The crowning merit of a book must always be its practical usefulness... If it makes you more cheerful, or more amiable, or more sympathetic, or more appreciative of what is beautiful, or more resolute to follow what is good and noble, then the highest purpose of a book is gained."

—David Pryde.

"No man should think so highly of himself as to imagine he could receive no light from books, nor so meanly, as to believe he can discover nothing but what is to be learned from them."

—Samuel Johnson.

"Efforts should be made by parents and teachers before perversion has had a chance to set in, to instil into the young a liking for solid reading."

—Rev. George C. Lorimer, D.D.

"No book is worth anything which is not worth much; nor is it serviceable until it has been read and re-read, and loved, and loved again; and marked, so that you can refer to the passage you want in it."

—John Ruskin.

"The poor man who has gained a taste for good books will, in all likelihood, become thoughtful; and when you have given the power or habit of thinking you have conferred on them a much greater favor than by the gift of a large sum of money, since you have put them in possession of the principle of all legitimate prosperity."

—Robert Hall

"Books are a part of man's prerogative. In formal ink they thought and voices hold. That we to them our solitude may give, And make time present travel that of old— Our life fame pleth no longer at the end, And books it farther backward doth extend."

—Sir Thomas Overbury.

I say we ought to reverence books, to look at them as useful and mighty things. If they are good and true whether they are on religion or politics, farming, trade, or medicine, they are the message of Christ, the teacher of all truth"

—Charles Kingsley.

"There is no companionship more delightful and helpful than that of good books... Literature is the sum of human thought, the record of all that is best in the world's progress. That which has come down to us in the form of classic literature is of more value to us than any material civilization which has survived the wreck of the most famous kingdoms of the earth. The works of Plato and Aristotle, of Homer, Horace and Virgil, are of infinitely more worth to the world than all that has survived of Greek art and Roman conquest. How poor the world would be if by a stroke the accumulated literature of the past ages should be blotted out! We should be reduced again almost to a state of barbarism."

—Rev. George F. Pentecost, D.D.

"There may possibly be books without a polished language, but there can be no polished language without books."

—Samuel Johnson.

"A person who has made friends with the best books is a ways welcome in the best society, and can hold his own; he can support himself, too, by their aid, for the world is always on the lookout for genuine scholars"

—Kate Sanborn.

"Books, we know, Are a substantial world, both pure and good; Round which, with tenders strong as flesh and blood, Our pastime and our happiness will grow."

—William Wordsworth.

"Some books are edifices to stand as they are built; some are hewn stones ready to form a part of future edifices; some are quarries from which stones are to be split for shaping and after use."

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

There are books that should be read through; but these are the books that have a beauty of form or of structure, which you read for their beauty, and not for the information they give. Such a book is like a work of art—a beautiful statue, or painting—which of course, cannot be fully understood or fully enjoyed if seen only in part."

—Herbert Putman.

"Books of the heart must be read by the heart."

—Rev. Francis E. Clark.

How I felt it beat Under my pillow in the morning dark. An hour before the sun would let me read! My books!"

Mrs. E. B. Browning.

"In a word, read with a keen relish, but read about the things that will nourish, not the things that will lower your moral or intellectual tone. Read with a purpose, a purpose worthy of yourself as a citizen as a citizen and a thinker; not to while the time away, but to make yourself more intelligent."

—Rev. George H. Hepworth.

"There is no calamity in this world which literature cannot in some measure contribute to alleviate."

—Ludwig Holberg.

"There is no frigate like a book To take us lands away, Nor any coursier like a page Of prancing poetry. This traverse may be the poorest take Without oppress of toll; How frugal is the chariot! What bars a human soul."

—Emily Dickinson.

"It is a duty every young man owes to himself and to the world to begin as early as practicable the collection of a library."

—The Golden Rule.

"The great books of the world, like the stars, shine only here and there, but the zenith has them as well as the nadir."

—Dr. Geikie.

"The pleasant books, that silently among Our household treasure take familiar places,

And are to us as if a living tongue Spoke from the printed leaves or pictured faces."

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

"Books are a guide in youth and an entertainment for age. They support us under solitude, and keep us from being a burthen to ourselves. They help us to forget the crossness of men and things; compose our cares and our passions; and lay our disappointments asleep. When we are weary of the living, we may repair to the dead, who have nothing of peevishness, pride or design in their conversation."

—Jeremy Collier.

Add Student's Corner

"Read in the literature of power; read in the literature of knowledge; read in the literature of recreation. But, when you read, read; don't skim, read! And read the best, the best! Life is too short and crowded to be misoccupied with the merely passing and the poor."

—Rev. Wayland Hoyt, D.D.

"Read not only the best poetical, but the best prose writers of all ages."

—Will Carleton.

"A little library, growing larger every year, is an honorable part of a man's history. It is a man's duty to have books. A library is not a luxury, but one of the necessities of life."

—Henry Ward Beecher

"Learn the place of books; know what to do away from them as well as in their presence; if you think only of the latter you miss more than you gain."

—Thomas Tapper.

"Books are not seldom talismans and spells, By which the magic art of shrewder wits Holds an unthinking multitude enthralled."

—William Cowper.

News of the Week

—Dominion parliament prorogued Friday.

—\$60,000 of the \$62,000 stolen from the Molson's Bank, Winnipeg, about a year ago has been recovered, and J. W. Anderson, a former clerk in the Bank, arrested on suspicion. An amateur detective named Davis, whose father is publisher of the Mitchell Advocate, ingratiated himself into the confidence of Anderson and wormed the facts out of him. The reward offered was \$10,000, which has been paid over.

—While walking on the beach, Sandy Island, Lake Nipissing, one day last week Messrs. H. McCormick and C. J. Kerr, of Orlia, were attacked by a large black snake, which was killed by Mr. D. McCormick, fire ranger of Georgian Bay limits, after a vigorous fight. The reptile measured 4 feet 6 inches and was 15 inches in circumference. Old settlers say this was the largest snake ever killed on the island.

—The British torpedo gunboat Leda Thursday morning found a French fishing boat, the Etoile de Mer (Star of the Sea), belonging to Boulogne Sur Mer, fishing within the three-mile limit. The fisherman attempted to escape, and did not stop when a blank shot was fired. The Leda then fired a shot which disabled the Etoile de Mer and killed the latter's helmsman. The commander of the Leda says the chase lasted five hours, under searchlight, and that he discharged thirty blank rifle shots before resorting to bullets.

—Mail advices from Japan states that a terrible flood has swept over the sub-prefecture of Warehow, where 1,850 houses were destroyed and thousands of poor people rendered homeless. A band of thousands of robbers is ravaging the country. Ten junks full of soldiers, to head them off, were captured, arms taken from the soldiers and the junks burned. Hundreds of the soldiers were drowned. Seven hundred native who resisted the onward march of the enemy were killed while 2000 saved their lives by joining the robbers.

—Mr. J. C. Rogers, principal of the Bradford High School, is at present attending Harvard University, New York. In a letter to the Bradford Witness he tells this: "Harvard University is only about four miles from Boston, and at one time it became quite a customary thing for the students to come over into Boston and carry off gates, shutters, etc., till the police put a stop to the practice by arresting several of them. But the boys were not to be outdone, so one evening three of them went to a barber, bought his sign pole, and took a receipt for the money. Then in high feather they started down street with the pole, but the first policeman who spied them gave chase, and after overhauling them, at once took them to the police station. As they were about to be locked up, their leader produced the receipt, and the astounded policeman had to set the trio free. (Of they went rejoicing down another street, but before they had gone more than two or three blocks, they were dragged back to the station. Ten

times that night they were arrested and taken to the station, until at last in desperation, the police superintendent telephoned to all his districts that if three men were seen carrying off a barber's pole, they were on no account to be arrested. That stopped the fun, but there was no doubt in the minds of the boys as they travelled back to Harvard that they had received full value for the money invested.

—Coroner Dr. Corbatt of Port Hope has just held an inquest into the cause of the death of Mrs. Robert Graham, the 17-year-old wife of Robert Graham, Lake Shore road. After hearing the evidence the jury returned the following verdict: "That the said Mrs. Robert Graham came to her death from a dose of the oil of cedar, taken with her own hand, but not with suicidal intent. We also recommend that druggists be more careful and comply with the Pharmacy act in regard to the sale of poisons." Mrs. Graham had been married a year.

—On the evening of Aug. 15th, in the middle of the street in front of the Memorial United Brethren church, Toledo, Ohio, the elegantly-bound volumes which composed the library of Marshal O. Waggoner, formerly one of the most pronounced agnostics in the world, were burned. He was recently converted to Christianity and made a public declaration a few weeks ago and became a member of the United Brethren church. The library in question is valued at several thousand dollars. Nearly every author of note who wrote in defence of infidelity and agnosticism found a place for his works in Mr. Waggoner's library.

—Two months ago William James Gliddon, son of William Gliddon of Barrie accepted a situation in a stone quarry at Sault Ste. Marie a couple of weeks ago his parents received the sad intelligence that he had been killed by a locomotive engine which was engaged in shunting cars at the quarry. On Saturday the remains of the unfortunate young man, who was only in his twenty first year, were brought to Barrie for burial, and particulars were received as to the manner of his death. Deceased was assisting to load the cars at the quarry and essayed to mount the engine while it was in motion and ride on it down the track. The step of the engine however, was broken, the young man missed his footing, and fell beneath the locomotive, between the rails. The ash box struck him and he was turned over and over in his narrow prison before the engine was stopped. His back was broken and he was otherwise mangled. Three hours elapsed, during which he was fully conscious, before death relieved him of his sufferings.

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TO THE DEAF.—A rich lady, cured to be Deafness and Noise in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, has sent £1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply to Department A.T.E. The Institute, "Longcott," Gunnersbury, London, W., England.—22-1yr.

H. HOLTORF CONTINUES HIS UNDERTAKING as usual at the old stand. CHARGES MODERATE. UPHOLSTERING AND REPAIRING Odd Chairs and Lounges in stock: TWO PIANOS in first-class order for sale cheap.—19-3m

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