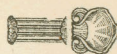


## EXCHANGES



Due to the controversy that is at present taking place concerning the merit of humor in college publications, we would like to express briefly our unbiased opinion upon this subject.

Of course, each college is at liberty to set a standard for its respective magazine. If the aim is to develop a purely literary spirit among the students, perhaps all humor should be excluded. But in order to increase the interest of many readers, a certain amount of humor is advisable, because, sad to relate, many students always look first for the humorous department, and not finding any such department, are tempted to throw the magazine aside, whereas if there had been some small space devoted to the lighter side of life, they might have continued to read the magazine throughout.

Now if we admit humor in our magazines, we must try to use the preferable form. Perhaps comedy playlets are the most desirable, but these are rather difficult to write and, consequently, not many are found in present day publications. If jokes are used they should be original, spontaneous and not too vague; the number of these should be limited. Another form of humor that is sometimes used is comic verse. This is also admissible to some degree.

In conclusion, although, in our opinion, a moderate amount of humor is appropriate, we strongly warn against too much humor, because nothing tends to lower the standard of a magazine more than an over-abundance of remodeled jokes copied from other publications, or page after page of trashy comic verse.

### THE COLLEGE TIMES.

This magazine, as usual, contains an abundance of jokes, humorous poems, and imaginative stories which are interesting. But when you have within your college, minds which are capable of such work, you surely must be able to produce some stories and poems which would be true to life. The article, "Newfoundland," is well written and rightly corrects many of the false conceptions that are held concerning this very important British Colony. "Are We Sportsmen?" is a worthy appeal for greater interest in college athletics. The various departments: "Doings of the Alumni," "In and About the College," and "In the Realm of Sport," occupy an appropriate space in your magazine and fully acquaint graduates with various college activities, thereby retaining their interest in their Alma Mater.



By utilizing for poems, essays or stories some of the space devoted to jokes, which we must say are original and mirth-causing, but which must not occupy too prominent a space in a college publication, you would greatly increase the literary value of your magazine.

#### THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE.

The Gazette is one of the best weekly papers which occupy a place on our exchange shelf. Each week we look forward with pleasure to its coming, carrying with it, as it does, all the news of a busy university. The numbers since Christmas contain many articles and editorials which are of real literary value. We notice that the sport editor gives a very full account of all games played by Dalhousians. In fact, all college activities receive due attention in the Gazette and this is what makes your paper so interesting. There is another thing which we must not forget to commend you on, and that is poetry. Although the poems are not long, they furnish the reader with subject matter for real genuine thought. Taking the paper as a whole, we feel that we may safely say that The Dalhousie Gazette is accomplishing the end for which it was instituted.

#### PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ALEMBIC.

We have on hand the January number of the Providence College Alembic, and consider it a very well-arranged and well-balanced magazine. Of course, in a monthly publication we should not expect any great quantity of material, but of what there is, good quality is an essential requisite. We find that the present issue of The Alembic fulfills this demand in a high degree. The one story, "Clouds," tells in a stirring manner of a conflict between love and duty, with the two finally reconciled, due to the strong characters of the persons involved. We commend especially the poem, "A Church in the Mart," and the article on "The Poetry of Gilbert K. Chesterton," as being the best contributions along their respective lines. "On Wings of Silence," is abrupt in form as well as obscure in thought, the poet having left too much to the imagination.

The remaining half of the magazine is composed of the usual departments, at the end of which we think should be placed the "Residuum," an excellent humorous section of moderate length, which seems to have usurped a position of importance in front of the Editorials. The latter are of admirable character and written



in a brisk style calculated to hold attention. We think the Exchange Editor is rather severe in his comments and would suggest that he couch his constructive criticisms in more diplomatic language. The Chronicle, Alumni and Atheletic sections are, of course, of interest only to students of the institution, but we were, on the whole, very well pleased with the number, and hope that future issues of The Alembic may often grace our shelves.

#### FORDHAM MONTHLY.

The February issue is certainly up to Fordham's high standard. If we should offer any criticism of the magazine as a whole, we would say that it lacks some of the spontaneous humor we find in other exchanges. Remember the old slogan, Fordham, "Laugh and the world laughs with you." We must say that the articles and poems in this issue are unexcelled among our exchanges in literary merit and in purity of English, though we believe more interest might be created by a better variety of subjects. We must compliment the writer of "Portraits in Grey" on the interesting settings, original subject matter and vividness of details, but above all on the power and conciseness with which he writes. We were very much interested also in W. R. White's story, "The Yankee Princess." The story itself would not have been remembered had it been told in a less interesting way. The characters are especially interesting because they are so true to life and yet so extraordinary, so strong and so human.

#### ACADIA ATHENAEUM.

Your January issue is a well written number. The stories and articles though short are interesting and show a well-developed life of thought. We liked especially "Seeing Kashmir in a Boat House," and "Sunset on the Prairie." They are splendid articles. The poems "Hope" and "Just Pictures" are also worthy of commendation. May we suggest a little more attention to your exchange department? We would say that criticisms are too short to give the exchanges justice.

While admitting that a fine Joke Department is attached to this magazine, we are obliged to take exception to two jokes contained in your January issue—one referring to St. John the Baptist, the other to the Pope. Such slurs against men honored and respected by all mankind are far too crude a form of humor to be printed in a college magazine—and especially a magazine of such high standard as the Athenaeum.



"Red and White" gratefully acknowledges the following:

The Fordham Monthly, Fordham University, New York, N.Y.; The Abbey Student, St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kan.; Green and White, De La Salle College, Manila, P. I.; King's College Record, University of King's College, Halifax, N.S.; The Oracle, Fort William Collegiate and Technical Institute, Fort William, Ont.; Canisius Monthly, Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y.; The College Times, Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; The Brunswickan, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B.; our Missions, The Mission Press, Techny, Ill.; China, China Mission Seminary, Scarboro Bluffs, Ont.; Tech Flash, Nova Scotia Technical School, Halifax, N.S.; Acadia Athenaeum, Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S.; St. Joseph's Prep. Chronicle, St. Joseph's College High School, Philadelphia, Pa.; Providence College Alembic, Providence College, Providence, R.I.; The Cliftonian, The Clifton Park Junior High School, Baltimore, Md.; Argosy Weekly, Mt. Allison University, Sackville, N.B.; Dalhousie Gazette, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.; Xaverian Weekly, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S.; Western U. Gazette, University of Western Ontario, London, Ont.

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One golden day redeems a weary year. —*Thaxter.*

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Music is the poetry of the air. —*Jean Paul Richter.*

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A pleasing figure is a perpetual letter of recommendation. —*Bacon.*

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Riches may enable us to confer favors; but to confer them with propriety and with grace requires a something that riches cannot give. Even trifles may be so bestowed as to cease to be trifles. —*Colton.*

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Health and good humor are to the human body like sunshine to vegetation. —*Massillon.*

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The fate of a nation has often depended on the good or bad digestion of a Prime Minister. —*Voltaire.*

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The heart of a wise man should resemble a mirror, which reflects every object without being sullied by any. —*Confucius.*