



EXCHANGES



“VIATORIAN”

About this time of the year, reading and writing Exchanges provides the one, great grey spot in our existence. However, we feel that we were more than repaid for our labour on the Viatorian, by the one poem “Life.” The workmanship is a little uneven in parts, but the idea is very good and in the main is well handled. The Literary Department is large and well written. The department entitled “Sports” is very well conducted. In the May issue, are several short stories which evince unusual care in preparation. “In Her Memory” impressed us favourably; “Drawin’ Nigh T’ Port” is also deserving of mention. This magazine boasted quite a number of poems and essays. Poems add to the literary merits of a book and balance the style, while essays, in the analysis of their topics, often afford education in an enjoyable manner. “Antidotes” is novel and a deviation from the usual departments. Your exchange is large and well handled. Continued Success!

“DIAL”

We greet you with pleasure. It is indeed pleasant to review a splendid, well developed periodical like yours after casting our eyes over so many petite sheets. Although this edition was splendid, it struck us (we forget whether the day was cloudy or we had indigestion), that this issue was a trifle below the high literary standard of its predecessors. We view with enthusiasm, the result of your short story contest. It has been the crying need of most of the present school papers to have more good short stories, and your plan seems to have fulfilled that need. No less than six short stories are contained in this issue. Of them, “Pleasure” took our fancy. This author develops his plot rather well. He writes vividly and interestingly. His description of Gordon holding six men at bay was a trifle too imaginative. However, we enjoyed this story very much. “Revenged” was well done, but the plot was not sufficiently original. The essay on Wordsworth was excellently written. The writer displayed an appreciation of Wordsworth’s character. We agree with

the writer's opinion concerning the poem "Woods." "Galerie" is an interesting column containing several beautiful pictures or word paintings. Your poetry, we thought was not on a par with the rest of your magazine.

"ST. JOSEPH PREP"

The St. Joseph Prep. is always among the best of our exchanges and to say that the April number measures up to the magazine's usual standard is to say that it is indeed a pleasant task to review it. To read "Today in Palestine" is almost like taking a trip to the Holy Land, and the author gracefully carries us through the country of our Lord. Besides being a most instructive article, it possesses genuine literary value. The description is vivid and the choice of adjectives is exceptionally good. "College Spirit" is a brief essay which points out the correct love of a school for its student. Articles of this kind do much to improve the loyalty of those attending the college. The first paragraph of "Behind the Scenes" won our interest, but we were disappointed to find it a story with a hackneyed plot. The style is good, but the article is spoiled by its oldness. "Fatality" is poetry and that means much.

"THE ABBEY STUDENT"

The Abbey Student was so pretentious looking that we wondered what its contents were like. Well, they don't read quite as they look, but this isn't such adverse criticism, for this magazine is a triumph of the printer's art. "Women" is interesting, not so much for its plot as for the daring stand which the author takes in regard to women and intelligence. Perhaps he aired his views so strongly as a defence during leap year. We tried hard but couldn't warm up to "Jim." The hero is such a spineless character, that the life he considered such a great gift is not worth throwing away.

"THE ALVERNIA"

The April issue of this very interesting magazine contained several short stories that were quite good and could, we think, have been made excellent had their plots been worked out to fuller length and the details chosen more accurately. "Keep the Gate" was perhaps the best. The incidents led on, one after the other, in a not unpleas-

ant way to the point where the here was tried and acquitted ted. "Honesty" and "The Broken Rule" are two of the other short stories we read with interest. We deplore the fact that not one attempt at poetry appeared, nor even a trial at the essay.

"THE FORDHAM MONTHLY"

Your February number was attractively prepared and well edited. "Winning Against Odds" presented an original plot well developed. The conclusion was a pleasant surprise. Among your poems "Dawn" claimed our praise.

The author skilfully depicted the beauties of nature wove them together. We note the absence of essays. There are two ways in which the student is enabled to express his literary talent. The first, the convincing expressions of his views, and the second the interesting development of that which often appears a dull subject, stimulates thought and develops powers of expression that will help in years to come.

"LABORUM"

The Easter issue was certainly permeated by the spirit of Easter. Scarcely an article that did not bear on this beautiful season met our eye. One thing alone was lacking, we think: an editorial on Easter. We take exception to one remark in your Exchange column. We should rather compliment a periodical with a large number of advertisements than one with none at all. Besides the fact that papers with advertisements are generally run by the students, there is a certain practical resourcefulness and business training to be had in this department of a paper.

"THE WAG"

Truly delightful was the March issue of the "Wag." The articles are of uniform excellence and instructive, particularly "Spiritism." There should, however, be an editorial or two.

"ATENEO DE MANILLA"

The March number is notable for one very good short story, "Cured," but it is the Staff Number which shall be commented upon because it is one of the best college magazine numbers we have read, both from the standpoint

of "make-up" and of quality. The poetry is appropriate for the month in which the magazine appeared. "Adventure" is a tale which contains an original brand of humor and evinces a command of language. "The Human Touch" is an old plot but clothed in a pleasing diction, forceful and descriptive. The manner in which the incidents are treated redeems the lack of plot. Decency in books is a commendable editorial.

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