

with library dust and the ashes of hopes consumed, and all his existence is as "dreary as a twice told tale, vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man." The value of theme work is undoubted, but it will wear the student out and bring on nervous prostration quicker than any any thing else in the curriculum. N. B. Ye, powers that guide our educational destinies!

ONE fact is to be noticed in the comparison of our courses in this school which may be—but probably is not—to the credit of the classical course as compared with the literary. This fact is that in the classical course the required studies of the senior year treat almost entirely of subjects differing from those that have made up the body of the course. Philosophy, Geology, Political Economy etc. come as an agreeable change, amounting almost to a rest, to those who have been grinding for three years on mathematics and the dead languages. In the literary course on the other hand, the senior studies in history, Ancient Law and the Constitutional history of England, are the severest studies in that line which the course contains, and are in exactly the same line as a large share of the previous work. The same is substantially true of the senior Literature, and so the unfortunate rascal who has expected to loaf during his final year finds it necessary to grind away harder than ever until the final vacation sets him at liberty. Is it well?

WE would modestly suggest that when our Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. are arranging their next list of subjects for weekly prayer they do not forget to set aside an evening in which to pray for good sense. Not that they are more, or even as much in need of it as many other people, but simply because it is a thing that so many forget to make definite efforts to attain. In organizations where the improvement of character in themselves and others is the main object the members endeavor to attain, it would be peculiarly fitting that efforts looking to the attainment of a baptism of common sense should be put forth. Prayers for a growth in grace, or an increased faith, or a spirit of forgiveness, or a spirit of all self-abnegation, or "a broken and a contrite heart" are all excellent in their way, but even the splendid trio of attributes faith, hope, and charity will make a very wishy-washy kind of citizen unless they are bottomed on the rock of sound judgement. It was a Frenchman of course who shrewdly observed that many complained of having a poor memory, but none of being afflicted with a lack of sense. This omission in the estimate of a man's own intellectual make-up is almost exactly paralleled by the oversight of most Christians in their moments of introspection, and the recollec-

tion of this fact will perhaps clear up some "dark spots in their religious experience."

COLLEGE enmities are one of the most disagreeable features in student life. "Men," says Gail Hamilton, "are pretty much of a muchness," and wherever human beings are drawn together in considerable numbers, there will be found in operation the laws of social crystallography. A great ocean of washy eloquence to the contrary notwithstanding, man is a distrustful animal and one that it is often necessary to distrust. Even if one feels sure that those about him are disposed to act fairly he still remembers that a given action appears so different as viewed from varying stand-points and that good sense and good back-bone are essential to a character that shall be in any way reliable. Without believing in the total depravity of our enemies we yet find excuses for believing that they are depraved enough to play some very mean tricks, and we accordingly impute wrong motives to the most innocent actions, inevitably, clanship thus tends to intensify and perpetuate itself. A mutual hatred will often do more to unite a set of persons than anything else combined as is seen when societies, literary or other, thrive only when vigorously opposed. But one who always seeks for the inevitable good resulting from each evil will not have in this instance to look in vain. The practical difficulties that lie in the way of being charitable may just as well be encountered at one time as at another. There are such things in this world as befogged brains, stretchy consciences, and weak backs, and the sooner we learn to make our calculations accordingly the less likely will we be to make mistakes.

CRITICISM

If authors were wise they would never be so rash as to write quotable sentences. Could they fairly realize the fate which is to befall these, unquestionably they would be withheld. For once launched forth they are consigned to a pilgrimage the horrors of which are too awful to speak of. They are made to serve all classes, high and low. Many times they are brought into such degraded society that they are in danger of losing caste themselves. They are tacked upon all sorts of compositions, County Newspaper editorials, college orations, the poetical effusions of some sentimental maniac. Finally we become so weary of hearing them played upon by all sorts of instruments that we at last conclude they themselves are detestable.

It is amusing to see how men seize upon every semblance of greatness, imagining that this is the road to the real possession. Some suppose that attention to particulars is the all-important thing, and spend their life quibbling about trifles. Others think the goal is to be attained by certain courses of study, perhaps the Classical or Scientific. Again per everance is credited with the desired result, and holder of this doc-