self to work, studies two hours on lessons that should be learned in less than half the time, spends his evenings in forcing into his mental system those truths that should have been absorbed in the lecture-room, and, having no time for dissipation or innocent enjoyment, is looked upon by some as a model young man and scholar; he goes forth into the world equipped with formulae, — physical, mathematical, and chemical, — with books, with tables, and with instruments, and, above all, with that magic wand, a degree, — with everything, in fact, except that one faculty that no digging will ever bring to the surface or Institute confer, — ability.

His fellow, however, blessed with more brains and more ability, finds more time at his disposal, expends his superfluous energy in athletic sports, dances, and other amusements, which, in the eyes of some, arc beneath the dignity of an old man of eighteen years, and finds too late that the powers that be frown upon these methods of amusement, and recommend as a source of pleasure the turning of a grindstone, a picture of which useful instrument was carried by the Institute in the political campaign of 1876 to represent the Russian system of education.

Does the Institute fear that it shall recommend men of astuteness who are not workers? Let it also fear that it shall indorse men who are plodders merely.

Let it so construct its examination papers that the ground covered is not that which has been harrowed again and again in the class-room to fit it for slow-growing intellects. Let not the questions be such that judicious examining of certain formulae and dry data will be reasonably certain to pass the student, as now too much the case, but let them be of such a character that some original mental effort shall be required in their solution with a comprehension of the principles of the subject.

The older colleges are demolishing what have been called the college fetiches, — the studies of Greek and Latin. Let not the Institute rear new idols in the form of a spade and a grindstone.

STEELTON, Jan. 4, 1884.

H. H. C.

Noticeable Articles.


Dartmoor illustrated.


"The Soudan and its Future," by Sir Samuel W. Baker. This is not the Englishman in the service of the Khedive, who is called in the newspapers Baker Pasha, but the distinguished African traveller.

NINETEENTH CENTURY. January. "Religion: A Retrospect and Prospect," by Herbert Spencer. "Amid the mysteries which become the more mysterious the more they are thought about, there will remain the one absolute certainty, that man is ever in presence of an Infinite and Eternal Energy, from which all things proceed."

"Daily Life in a Mediaeval Monastery" (with a plan), by the Rev. Dr. Jessopp.


[In the last number the name of the distinguished Belgian economist, Emile de Laveleye, was misprinted.]

W. P. A.

List of Publications, M. I. T.

Baldwin, Thos. W. ('76). Annual Reports of the City Engineer and Superintendent of Sewers of the City of Bangor Me., for the years ending March, 1882, and March, 1883. Two pamphlets, 8vo.


The following titles should have been noticed earlier:

