

though he was an admirable English scholar now, that his acquaintance with English was insufficient to enable him to understand his text-book, so he resolved to memorise the whole book. In the course of his examination he had a question the answer to which he knew lay in a certain page but he was uncertain what portion of the page was relevant, so 'ex abundant cautela' he wrote out the whole page. For this he obtained fewer marks than he thought he was entitled to. On remonstrating with the examiner he was told that his answer contained so much irrelevant matter that it was clear that he did not rightly comprehend the question. I think this piece of evidence illustrates the defects of our present system. I would ask you and I ask myself as a university man how should we have fared in our education if it had been wholly through the medium of a foreign tongue. I doubt whether we would not have abandoned the attempt in despair and I am lost in admiration for the grit of those boys who make a gallant attempt to surmount the difficulties imposed on them by a vicious system. The remedy seems to me to lie in one or two directions. Either we must teach in vernacular as long as we can and put off to the latest possible moment the use of English as a medium of instruction or we must concentrate our attention more closely on the teaching of English. Or can any middle course be suggested which is based on sound educational lines?"

OUR EXCHANGES.

Dacca Review for October 1916. Anandamohan College Magazine for November 1916. D. A. V. College Union Magazine for December 1916. Hare School Magazine for December 1916. Rajshahi College Magazine for December 1916. C. H. C. Magazine for January 1917. Scottish Churches College Magazine for January 1917. Presidency College Magazine for January 1917. Chittagong College Magazine Vol. II No. II. Mahamandal Magazine for January 1917. *Pratibha* for Poush.

We welcome two more College Magazines that have been recently started—the B. M. College Magazine (Barisal) the first

number of which, though dated September 1916, has reached us, lately, and the Ravenshavian (Organ of Ravenshaw College, Cuttack) the first number of which was issued in December 1916. The former is expected to appear nine times in the year and the latter thrice in the year. We wish our contemporaries a useful and prosperous career. The first issues are replete with readable matter and we may fairly hope that they will be able to keep up to this level in future issues.

The January issue of the Presidency College Magazine just to hand deserves something more than a formal acknowledgment. 'It has been attempted to give a special character to this number to commemorate the Centenary of the College'—says the Editorial Note and we may add that we have derived great pleasure and profit from the articles especially written for this object by Mr. Wordsworth, the present Principal and Mr. James the former Principal as well as by Sir Gooroodas Banerjee Kt., Dr. P. C. Ray, Mr. Shyamacharan Ganguli (late Principal, Utterpara College), Mr. Abdur Rahim—old alumni of the College and a writer who signs his name as D. G. These articles on the Centenary Celebration deserve a wider circulation among old students of the College and we may take the liberty of suggesting that they should be reprinted in the form of a neat little pamphlet instead of being confined to the pages of the College Magazine.

ROMANTICISM.

Of the various aspects of Romanticism, only the literary one concerns us here. But it is interesting to note that the love for truth, for Nature which stimulated the *Lyrical Ballads*, stimulated no less the root-motive of the French Revolution. The first impulse of the Romantics was to free the human chord from the rust of classicism under which it had long remained 'cribbed, cabined and confined.' The heroic couplet had a long tyrannic rule. Literary praise—the ever-guiding factor of the "Correct Poets"—was what Wordsworth wished to be freed from and he adopted his strange 'diction', not because it was the vehicle of natural feeling and common thought but because it gave the most