

## NEWS ITEMS.

THE Society should at once adopt a name for their building, hitherto known as the old Medical School. An irreverent freshman suggests that it be called Hades.

A CONSIDERABLE number of improvements have been made about the college and grounds during the vacation. The old reading room of the Society has been turned into a reading room for the library, thus doubling the accommodation in this respect. The chemical laboratory has been entirely transferred to the School of Science, and the space devoted to the new apparatus of Professor Loudon's department. The vestibule has been improved by the addition of two stained glass windows, containing the coat of arms. The paint work has also been freshened up. Outside the change is still more marked. The college grounds have been fenced in from the park, the pond has been drained, new walks have been laid, etc.

THE general committee of the University College Literary and Scientific Society meets this afternoon at five o'clock. The Society will meet on Friday evening at 7:30 sharp.

THERE was an unusually large number of men rejected at the examinations of last May, and a correspondingly large number up for supplementals in September. As one of the unfortunates remarked, "This is a sad business, this coming up in September."

SOME universities measure themselves by the number of men they put through. Perhaps a better test is the number of men they reject. The record of the University of Toronto in this latter respect shows a good rising number.

ONE more such shock as that sustained by the class of '81 in the examinations of last May, and the undertaker may be sent for. The slaughter was terrific.

THE School of Science is about completely organized. The departments of chemistry and mineralogy and geology of the College are now wholly quartered in the new building. The collection of the latter department has been augmented during the summer.

IF A STUDENT has casually given expression to some *jau desprit*, or has happily translated some Horatian stanza, let his fellows get the benefit of it through the college journal, not because he has done it, but because it may prove interesting to them. Herein lies the success of such a journal.

THE University Company, Q. O. R. is hardly in fighting condition as yet, though Lieut. Manley has returned from Wimbledon in excellent health and is laden with honors. At last battalion drill the Co. turned out to the number of about ten men. Several members took their places at the review last month, and each of them has informed us that the eyes of Her Royal Highness were fixed on him at every march past; while one is confident he saw the Marquis speak to some one and indicate him. There are but two sergeants and one corporal left in the Co., but appointments to the vacancies in non-coms. will be made in a few days.

IT is very desirable that men of all the years should be present at the games' meeting to-morrow, to elect representative men to the committee.

IT seems that University College is not to be behindhand in any of the arts. A glee club is no uncommon feature of American Colleges, but a sketching club is a comparatively rare and certainly an admirable one. Such an association has been formed here and it is doing good work. There is no deficiency of free studies in the immediate neighborhood, but about such there is a good deal of sameness, and the general opinion is that the Park is a rather unpalatable place. What is of more interest to us is, that some members have promised to furnish an occasional illustration to THE WHITE AND BLUE.

THOSE who dreamed that the Literary and Scientific Society were to return to inhabit a palace deliciously warmed, carpeted, ventilated, etc., are doomed to a sickening disappointment. In many respects the building appropriated to the Society last year, is worse than it was in May. The sidewalk leading to it has been carried some distance by children playing in the Park and used as a seesaw. The reading-room is dark, and even the paint on the floor has become so disgusted that it has peeled off and left the place, revealing the purposes to which it was once applied as the body-snatchers' den. In the room in which the Society is to meet, the scene is one of desolation, desolation without the addition of picturesqueness. The seats have been nearly all removed and the photographs of former Committees are smeared with the tears they have shed over the fate of their unhappy successors. It is estimated that several hundred dollars will be required to make the building habitable. The coal will be an enormous item, seats must be procured and a drain put in. One, indeed, who is not noted for Zoological learning has recognized in it a 'white elephant.' However, the Society is not to be discouraged. He who has long been its guide, mentor and friend, though nominally severing his connection with the Society, has magnanimously promised it that mild but impartial criticism, and that unobtrusive but ever-welcome advice which has so long been its reliance and support.

HE was an honor man, and in the examination hall, while at Latin prose, his mind was occupied with the following train of ideas: Crab-tree, how'll I render that? *Cancer*=crab, *arbor*=tree, *cancer-arbor*=crab-tree. No, let's see, *arbor* is feminine and *cancer* is a noun, and you can't make them agree. I'll have to paraphrase. Oh! yes, this is it; I've got it. *Crab-tree* *arbor cancer ferens*. And his face became illumined.

PROFESSOR CHAPMAN has an average of half a dozen callers daily, all anxious to get his opinion on some 'find' that they have made. When it is known that he is in any particular locality, the settlers flock from all quarters with their specimens. Recently he was back in the County of Victoria on an excursion. A few hours after his arrival at Fenelon Falls he received a telegram from a member of the Ontario Assembly telling him to hold on till he could catch up to him. The law-maker arrived post-haste, and at once took the Professor into his confidence. He had discovered a great bed of iron ore, pure magnetic iron ore, and had traced it for over a mile. Besides a local 'expert' had gone over the ground and had confirmed that opinion. As soon as the professor heard the word 'expert,' he drew out his little magnet and asked to see the specimen. The supposed iron exhibited not the least trace of magnetism, and the too confident M.P.P.—he had already a bill of incorporation for a large mining company in his mind's eye—was assured that it was only pyroxene that he had discovered. He telegraphed for the 'expert' to come on and explain, but that gentleman was too busy to answer the message.

ONE of our professors related the following story to his class the other day: During a recent visit to Germany he was fortunate enough to fall in with an old fellow-student now like himself, a professor. They shake hands, and with surprise gaze at each other. 'Why,' says the German, 'we have gone different ways—you have grown to a lath.' 'And you replied the other, as round as a tub.'

'THE Homeric controversy, treated from a philosophical basis.' Freshmen are warned to avoid writing such articles for this paper, as they can in no wise be received.

THE College convocation comes off on Friday, the 17th of this month. Dr. McCaul will be in the chair.

AN undergraduate who wishes to keep his friends posted of the doings at college should subscribe for two copies of this paper, one for his own information, another to be sent to those at home.

THE rooms in the College Residence are all engaged and most of them occupied. Of course all the freshmen turned up the first day, and strutted about with that puffed up mien that a new gown is said to give to women and children. The number of these gentlemen, so welcome at this time of year, when they mingle the verdure of Spring with the gold and crimson of Autumn, is said to be seventeen. These, with five more arrivals will give the old residents their hands full, especially as they are reputed to be somewhat obstreperous and very ignorant. Most of the ancient inhabitants are engaged at present in extensive resortorial operations, viz.: mending their gowns; and lay critics have pronounced the work wonderfully good for amateurs, while several of the more enterprising professional tailors have been so amazed and gratified that they have resolved to give all their sons a university education before introducing them to the goose. These rather unexpected labours—which it seems are not prescribed in the curriculum—are necessitated by a strange fastidiousness on the part of the Dean. He is said, however, to be acting under the direction of higher authorities. The criticism of attire seems a new role for College Professors, who are generally supposed to be occupied about graver matters; but no doubt the N. P. has inspired even these with the spirit of progress and abhorrence of rags.

THE College Council have shown commendable enterprise in the many improvements that have been made of late about the grounds and buildings. But in one direction they have gone perhaps too far, seeing that two of their members have broken out in open rebellion against the Council in its corporate capacity. That body decreed that none should walk across the lawn in going from the College to the School of Science; the board-walk must be used even if it is a somewhat roundabout course. Moreover, the gate of the School has been located to suit the board-walk and those who do make the bee line course find that they have still to go quite a piece to one side before reaching the door. Now the two professors already mentioned have their headquarters in the school, and they are both warm partisans of the straight line. Notwithstanding the frequent warnings of the caretaker, they continue to break the regulation, and one of them especially may be seen many times a day skipping across the lawn like a young colt, then darting through a hole made with his connivance in the new iron fence, and so straight up to the school door. The Council will have some difficulty in dealing with this incorrigible member, seeing that they are unable to take him in the act of trespassing. However, if the whole Council were to turn out and the members duly post themselves, some lying in ambush in the tall grass, others secreted behind the trees, and all armed with clothes-lines, they might be able to lasso the said incorrigible and run him in. True, the difficulty might be overcome, and the Council saved the pain of making an example of one of their own members, by modifying the regulation in question.

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