

of "the outside vote." Even in the Dominion Capital, "so cosmopolite and so non-provincial," the ambitious alumni and the critical alumnae rallied to the concert and cried "encore" even to a student's satisfaction. The local Alumni Association pulled itself together—for an afternoon—and royalty, or rather vice-royalty, entertained their honored guests. The enthusiastic and withal dignified manner in which the latter partook of this entertainment has made the citizens of Ottawa to know that Ottawa College is not the only Varsity, wide-famed as it is for athletics in general and football in particular. The Harmonic Club tour should be recognized as a missionary one tending to prepare the way for a still more personal University propaganda.

Such another might be a tour of the Athletic Clubs. We venture to believe that, if the University of Toronto Rugby Club were to appear at least once in every ten years in each of the cities and larger towns of Ontario, many a gray-haired graduate would cheer—aye, even against his own burg—for the "Royal Blue and White," who hasn't seen a strip of the hunting for perchance a generation. Such cheering may seem but enthusiasm for the nonce and all "in the air," but the air is oxygenated, and if it ever reaches the heart and lungs of the body, University will breed that in the bone of its children which will not down until their revered mother has "food to eat and raiment to put on." Until that time comes it belongeth to her "sons and daughters after the flesh" to see that respiration is made as easy as possible by the removal of whatever tendeth to blanket her from the wind of popular favor. This duty can perhaps best be undertaken by those of the family as yet unweaned, for truly many of the weaned, being nourished on popular favor, must needs often sail to windward of their mother. And thus 'tis the undergraduate, so safely critical and independent, that should anticipate all such jockeying, 'tis he who should force the jockeys to leeward ere he too, "having an axe to grind," must needs catch some wind himself for the process. Let him but see to this for a few short years, and once more in her lusty womanhood, "foursquare to every wind that blows," his Alma Mater "will rise up and call him blessed."

With profuse apologies, if entering another's sphere, the writer here takes the liberty of asking what the present undergraduate body is doing towards earning the blessing. Is it doing anything to attract the wind upon the sails? Talking is often a poor magnet, but has it ever even talked? A provincial election is almost at hand and the University question is, or as least should be, one of the issues. Unless it is all the "wind" is going to blow upon others that are. The prohibitionists and the anti-prohibitionists are using no small amount, but their magnetic power will be according to their horse-power, and in affairs of State so many horse-power means so many votes. The undergraduate body of Toronto University represents at least a thousand votes, and if it had acted in a certain direction during the present session of the Ontario Legislature, this entire vote might have been polled in one of the Toronto constituencies, and necessarily holding the balance of power, could have rendered him, for whom it was cast, to be practically the undergraduates' M.P.P. That such action has not been taken would tend to show that the policy of the "unweaned" as well as "weaned" section of the greater University Party is one of *laissez faire* and that such a policy is the primary cause of a similar policy on the part of the two great secular parties in their relations to the Uni-

versity issue. Faith in the constitution and principles of our party leads us to hope that more than "cold charity" will yet come, but we cannot but think that its *long coming* is partly due to the *short comings* of those who should ere this have carried the war into Africa for the honor of their party and the glory of their Alma Mater.

The VARSITY of January 21st contained an editorial upon the examination system. The *Westminster* (Toronto) of February 1st contained an editorial upon the same system. The editor of the latter paper has been recently accused of writing his leaders after consultation with his friend, the Premier of Ontario, but hitherto he has not been suspected of hobnobbing with Editor McFarland. Such a suspicion might possibly contain more truth than the accusation. At any rate the clerical editor is probably approaching the student view when he says that "the bookish character of our public school education is the inevitable outcome of our examination system." We venture to add that the lack of much original and practical leadership among University students is the equally inevitable outcome of the aforesaid bookish character. We have yet to hear that any representative body of Toronto students has publicly expressed its opinion and action upon certain questions which are of essential import to intelligent students and deserve expression at their hands. If any such body exists, pray what has it to say on all those debatable questions which should be so much implied in any decent discussion upon "The Trend of Education?" Let it not so conceit itself as to believe that it can any longer thrive "far from the maddening crowd." 'Tis not sufficiently "pregnant with celestial fire" to do so. Its thrift is now conditioned upon the earthly limelight of public opinion, and the surest way to acquire some of the latter is to show oneself pregnant with ideas. A student body should be a most fruitful thing. It should bring forth ideas. The mercantile world, the world of capital and labor, of rich and poor, is sadly in need of such offspring and stands ready to welcome their birth, for 'tis not a mere theory, but a nation's experience that in the trend of education lies the happiness and misery of our fellow Canadians. To thoroughly grasp the intricate problems of this work-a-day world—and in such grasping alone lies a satisfactory solution—both the capitalist and the laborist must be more or less educated, ideas. The work-a-day world of Ontario is that upon which the University of Toronto, as at present constituted, is dependent. It is to such a world that it must justify its existence; it is before such a world that it must plead its salvation; and the writer, true to his Presbyterian forbears, throws up his hand with the remark that justification must precede salvation.

Ottawa, Feb. 4th, 1902. ALEX. I. FISHER, '01.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB.

Mr. J. A. Cooper, editor of the Canadian Magazine, will address the club on "Journalism of the Future," at their regular meeting on Thursday Feb. 13th, at 4 o'clock in room 2. Members and friends of the club are cordially invited to attend.

MASS MEETING.

A mass meeting of all the undergraduates will be held in the Students' Union on Tuesday afternoon at 4 p.m. to discuss the probability of Mr. Brebner's resignation of the office of Registrar.