

quite willing to acknowledge our error, but any charges made must stand until satisfactorily refuted. We have not written unadvisedly, and have been careful to substantiate our statements by evidence that has seemed to us conclusive.

Canon Smith states that the Bishop did not initiate the organization of the Western University. We are quite willing to accept his statements on this point, but we still believe that whoever initiated it, the Bishop took the leading part in carrying out the scheme, and through his energy alone the institution has made the progress it has.

Our correspondent gives us a statement of the cost of the Hellmuth College property, certified by men of unquestioned integrity. We must, however, regard this as irrelevant to the question in point. Every business man knows that the cost of a building is no criterion of its value. We stated that we believed the Hellmuth College property was sold to the University at a price largely in excess of its present value. If Canon Smith can give us the names of some of the gentlemen he mentions as certifying that the property could now, in their opinion, be sold for the amount named first, this, and this alone, would disprove our assertion.

Our correspondent further states that he received the moneys paid by the Western University on account of the purchase of the property and distributed them *pro rata* among the shareholders of the Hellmuth Boys' College. It is satisfactory to know this, but until he can also show that the Bishop was not the chief stockholder of the Hellmuth Boys' College our argument based upon this point remains unanswered. We are aware that, as a matter of fact, overtures were made by the Bishop to at least some of the stockholders of the Boys' College, and that the shares were sold to him at fifty per cent. of their face value.

We have been in error on one point. A hasty reading of a clumsily worded Act gave us the impression that, by the amended Act, all graduates of the University must be members of the Church of England. The amendment, however, only provides that this must be the case with all graduates who are *members of the corporation*. Notwithstanding this, however, the institution is strictly sectarian, as all members of the governing body must belong to the Church of England.

Some have accused us of waiting until the Bishop left this country before making these charges. The simplest answer to this is, that in our issue of October 28th, 1881, the charges were substantially made. They were repeated in April 21, 1883, and again with some additions on December 1st, 1883. The first two appeared long before the Bishop left the country, and we published the last on the appointment of the new Bishop, as we believed that the crisis in the life of the University had then arrived. We have not gone out of our proper sphere to make a personal attack on the Bishop, we have been exceedingly loth to criticise his conduct at all, and have only done so in its relation to the University. We shall be as glad as anyone to know that the charges are unfounded.

On broader grounds than the special objections we have mentioned do we oppose the University. Every new University charter granted is an additional obstacle in the way of one national University, and is therefore to be opposed. We have always entertained the hope that those interested in higher education in Ontario would see their way clear to joining in establishing such a University. We are pleased to observe by the recent utterances of Principal Nelles, of Victoria, that the scheme is beginning to receive favorable consideration from the outside colleges. We trust the day is not far distant when our educationalists will agree that the only way to secure a uniformly high and efficient standard of education is on this plan.

Meanwhile we cannot but think that the continuance of such a University as that established at London is most inexpedient. It is not necessary to repeat our objections to Universities established on the principle it is. We believe, however, that their multiplication or continuance will be fatal to the best interests of education in the country.

Editorial Notes.

At a recent meeting of the Directors of the 'Varsity, Mr. H. Langton, B.A., was elected to fill the vacancy in the staff caused by the resignation of Mr. A. H. Campbell, B.A. Mr. Campbell's resignation was received with much regret. No one has been more indefatigable in the cause of the paper, and no one has done better work.

Friday, February 15th., will be a field-day among University men. The Executive Committee of Convocation will meet in Moss Hall at 12 o'clock, and Convocation at 3 o'clock; and the Banquet will take place in the Pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens at 7.30. At the meetings of both Convocation and the Executive Committee important business will be discussed; and it is expected that the occurrence of the Banquet on the same evening will cause an increase in the attendance of country graduates. A meeting of Convocation in the afternoon is a new feature, and ought to be a successful one.

The members of the Glee Club at present have their hands very full. They sang at Streetsville on Friday last, they give a concert at Brockton on Tuesday and one at Richmond Hill on Friday, and they will of course perform at the *Conversazione* in the week following. The Club shows a most laudable degree of energy in undertaking so much, but it is to be hoped that the concert in Convocation Hall will not be made to suffer by their numerous outside engagements, and that due attention is being paid to the selections there to be presented.

The Residence having established its name for giving a most successful dance in connection with the *Conversazione*, the committee find themselves besieged with demands for tickets. The dance is held in the dining-hall—a room altogether too small for the purpose, and the authorities find it necessary, accordingly, to limit very strictly the issue of tickets. There are those who think that the cloistered seclusion of Convocation Hall should not be disturbed by such frivolity. If their objections could be got over, and the dance held in the Hall, we are sure that the Literary Society's entertainment would be a much livelier and more enjoyable affair. At present, only a very small proportion of the guests of the Society can partake in the festivities provided, and a promenade through draughty corridors, with an occasional snatch of music, is certainly a small inducement to offer to those invited. The concert in the Hall need prove no obstacle; it is over in time to allow dancing to commence at a reasonable hour. Altogether, we think that such an addition to the programme as is suggested would be most advisable.

Some time ago we referred to the somewhat unsatisfactory state of the Literary and Scientific Society. Our remarks elicited considerable correspondence, and a number of remedies were suggested. Under the circumstances, it was decided to set aside the first meeting of this term for devising means of bringing the Society into a state of greater efficiency. Among the numerous schemes of amendment, one, introduced by Mr. Cosgrove, was finally adopted. It provides for the division of the Society into two parties, one always supporting the affirmative of the set subject of debate, the other the negative. The difficulty of hitting on a principle of division was obviated by exhibiting a list of subjects; those whose principles and sympathies placed them in consonance with the affirmative view of all or the majority of the subjects, attach themselves permanently to the party designated 'Affirmative.' Similarly, those taking the negative view. No member of either party, however, is debarred from advocating the position that seems best to him. All that is required is, that on the whole he be in accord with the party to which he is attached. Four leaders are appointed on each side, one from each year. Their duties are to ensure a good attendance, to bring out all available debating talent, to collect and disseminate information on the subjects of debate, and in general to further the in-