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A LAY OF ANCIENT ROME.

Oh! the Roman was a rogue,
He erat was you bettum ;
He ran his automobilis,
And smoked his cigarettum ;
He wore a diamond studibus,
An elegant cravattum,
A maxima cum laude shirt,
And such a stylish hattum !

He loved the luscious hic-haec-hock,
And bet on games and equi ;
At times he won ; at others, tho'
He got it in the nequi ;
He winked (quo usque tandem ?)
At puellas on the Forum,
And sometimes even made
Those goo-goo-oculorum !

He frequently was seen
At combats gladiatorial,
And ate enough to feed
Ten boarders at Memorial ;
He often went on sprees,
And said, on starting homus,
"Hic labor—opus est,
Oh, where's my—hic—hic—domus?"

Altho' he lived in Rome
Of all the arts the middle—
He was (excuse the phrase)
A horrid individ'l ;
Ah! what a different thing
Was the homo (dative, homini)
Of far-away B.C.
From us of Anno Domini.

—*Harvard Lampoon.*

ORATORICAL CONTEST.

The audience which assembled in the Students' Union last Friday night to listen to the candidates for Dr. Thompson's gold medal deliver their orations was not very large, although the undergraduates were fairly well represented. Those of the latter who brought ladies regretted it for a few minutes while they were making their triumphal entry. Dr. Thompson called the meeting to order about half-past eight, and after a few remarks called upon the Glee Club to commence proceedings. This they did with a double number, consisting of a Varsity chorus and a selection entitled "The Chafers." Mr. Adam Dockray, Mus. Bach., followed with a very pleasing rendition of "By the Fountain."

J. A. Soule, '02, was the first speaker, and his subject was "Militarism." His views were strongly against

war with its attendant evils. He said that we pride ourselves upon our present-day culture when we are clinging to a relic of barbarism in our method of settling international disputes. It is said that war is the only method of preserving international justice, but the Hague Conference was an admission that that object is not being fulfilled. The speaker dealt with the effect of war on society, and the misery and desolation which are characteristic of it. He spoke lastly of the subject from an economic standpoint, and closed with a hope that the war at present being carried on may have a salutary effect.

W. H. Ingram, '02, followed Mr. Soule, and spoke on "Our University Problem." He said that this was a live question, and one which should receive our careful attention. He gave a general summary of the aims of education. What Canada wants to-day is leaders, and they should receive their training at Varsity. He dealt with certain difficulties which have to be surmounted in the solving of the University problem, of which the chief is lack of funds, and closed with a dissertation on the advantages of a university education.

The instrumental sextette from the Harmonic Club, consisting of Messrs. Lucas, Rolph, Darling, Wagner, Abbot, and Klotz, followed with a selection which was much appreciated.

D. B. Gillies, '03, was the next speaker, and his subject was "Canada a Field for College Men." He dealt at some length on the general resources and prosperity of the Dominion, and predicted a very bright future for commercial Canada. In that future the college men must take a prominent place, since they are fitted to grapple with the problems which may present themselves in its process of development. He touched on the subject of Trusts, and closed with a picture of the struggle carried on by our forefathers, of which we are now reaping the results.

W. M. MacKay, '02, followed on the subject of "The Message of the Ophir." He dealt with the ancient civilization of Babylon, and touched on the benefits our education system had derived from the ancient Greek and Roman systems. He described the voyage of the Duke and Duchess of York around the Empire. They saw the greatness of Canada, and were very much impressed thereby. We can take a message from the "Ophir," which, if we heed it, will bring us to a high position among the nations.

J. E. Roebuck, '02, was the next speaker, and he took for his subject, "Our Christian Civilization." This speech was in the nature of a tirade against wealth and the possession of it. The speaker compared social conditions to-day with those of ancient times, and claimed that all our social abuses are due to the possession of the wealth by the few.

Miss McCullough followed with a contralto solo "Calm as the Night," which was beautifully rendered, and evoked an enthusiastic encore.