

The Varsity

Published weekly by the students of the University of Toronto. Annual subscription, One Dollar, payable strictly in advance. For advertising rates apply to the Business Manager. Address all communications for publication to the Editor-in-Chief, University College.

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TORONTO, February 14th, 1900.

The Chancellor's Resignation. The resignation of the Hon. Mr. Blake as Chancellor of the University is lamented by all friends of our University. Not only was his active connection with our University as its head a great strength in itself, but that connection had ever during the 26 years of chancellorship been characterized by a most active service in the University's behalf. His liberal gifts to the University, much over \$30,000; his 1891 report, which analyzed the state of the University funds, and his suggestions regarding the staff and University equipment—since greatly carried out—these by no means cover what the University owes to its last chancellor. The Hon. Edward Blake, while honored by the University, conferred honor on that institution. His zeal and love for educational interests in our province was ever true and keen, and in his letter to the Registrar he expresses what has been through life his heartfelt wish for Toronto University: "May God of His mercy grant that she be well and wisely guided to prosperous issues."

The Literary Society Elections. Again the button-holing is going on in the corridors and even in the Library—again the small companies of two are wandering around the city in the evenings disturbing the studies of the non-committal freshmen—again the main hallway is crowded to the full between lectures, and again a small bulletin board has round it from early morn till eve its quota of interested readers. The prospect of an election puts an additional zest into college life; it makes a change so real, but yet now so customary, that many students consider it of little moment. The present campaign bids fair to be not less exciting than the famous one of '98, when the "Old Lit" and "Alma Mater" parties tried conclusions. An election by party in the Literary Society commends itself for many reasons. With only two large factions, both alive and in their war-paint, both alert to trip up their opponents, it is almost impossible to have petty cliquism. An election introduces men to one another and increases intercourse between them, even if it is the intercourse of canvasser and canvassed. It may make enemies, (not however of necessity, but it certainly does make

friends. It gives an opportunity for the latent energy in a man to show itself, and for his impromptu speaking powers to develop. The interest in the Literary Society is increased—both sides strive to introduce into their platforms planks that will be popular and if adopted will be benefits to the student body. The funds of the society are increased and the executive can leave office with a surplus behind them instead of a debit sheet. No matter with which side students identify themselves, let all take an active interest in the election—the person who remains indifferent can neither feel proud of himself nor is he to be admired by his fellow students for his disinterestedness.

We are very pleased to publish a contribution to Canadian history by one of our Halifax undergraduates in the form of a short original monograph on Nova Scotia and the expulsion of the Acadians.

The letter by "Shades" brings us face to face with a demand which seems to be urgent and necessary, and one which can well be considered.

Mr. Henderson's sketch of Track Athletics should throw much needed light on a part of our Athletics that seems to be considered only during the first half of October. We sincerely hope that the reference to student support will be taken to heart. His proposal re a Spring contest is worthy of discussion. THE VARSITY invites such.

"SOCIAL EVOLUTION."

Prof. Geddes' address before the Political Science Club on Wednesday was a treat indeed. He spoke on the Evolution of Society, dividing its history thus: (1) The Prehistoric Stage—Primitive, Matriarchial and Patriarchial; (2) The Classical Stage—Greek and Roman, Mediæval and Renaissance; (3) The Modern Stage—Revolutionary, Empire and Commercial, and (4) The Incipient Stage which we are just entering—Neo-technical (where men do things), Geo-technical (Organization of Environment, Organization of Cities and Countries), and Evolutionary (where man by living and making beauty, verily realizes the Utopia, and where man bears not only the burden of the past but also of the future).

A REFLECTION.

And all my hopes have fled,
The ambition of my youthful breast,
Warm-blooded ardor, and the zest
For worldly name and fame are dead.

But shall I mourn for this—
The offspring of an impassioned brain
By senseless dreaming, and insane
With the deceitful world's treacherous caress?

No! Memories' ashes with the seed
Lie buried; and with purer, loftier love
The mind, from worldly bondage freed,
Delights in noble actions born of God above.

—JUNIOR, '01.