

fireplace. A pathetic allusion to the mother bending over her sleeping babe called forth a series of tearful wails from the big infant at the back of the hall. In summing up, Mr. Bull bravely tossed his opponents' arguments. This part of the proceedings was enlivened by the discovery that a sheep and a pig had entered the hall disguised as freshmen. The big animal at the rear of the room, which is itself an authentic —, heard their plaintive cries, and lovingly folded them to its shaggy form. Truly,

A fellow feeling made it wondrous kind.

Professor Ramsay Wright then gave his decision in favor of the affirmative, and his charming wife presented the prizes won at the recent Games and Cross-country Run. Again and again Orton and Porter, Hamilton and Grant, Langford and Agnew went up and down; and again and again the association applauded its sinewy sons. The enthusiasm over George Orton, who is a clever student, a modest man and the greatest long-distance runner in the world, justly reached a lofty level, and the boys lifted George on their shoulders to reach it. Then, giving one last grand halloo, they tumbled downstairs, and let the proud and happy audience go home. Q.

### THE POET.

In the forests tall and stately,  
With their solemn, mystic silence,  
In the pleasant sunny meadows,  
In the woodlands by the rivers,  
In the little streams that murmur  
Through the sunshine, through the shadow,  
In the songs of birds that hover  
Poised in air so far above us  
That they seem like other beings  
From some other world beyond us,  
From some spirit-world above us,  
Come to view this land of mortals,  
Come to see what we are doing,  
In all nature there are lessons,  
That are thoughts of truth and beauty  
If we would but stay to read them,  
If we would but stop and listen.  
But, like naughty wayward children  
Always chasing after bubbles,  
After bright and glittering playthings,  
That are lost to us in getting,  
We neglect our Father's teaching.  
All His words of truth and wisdom,  
All His words of love and kindness,  
Go unheeded, go unanswered,  
Till we cease to know their meaning,  
Till like wild fantastic music  
Bring us nothing, only longings,  
Only wild and wayward longings,  
After what we comprehend not.  
Indistinct yet full of beauty,  
Comes back to us from afar off,  
From the woods and from the meadows,  
From the songs of birds about us,  
Something of that inner meaning,  
Of the message they bring to us.  
If we would but understand it,  
If we could but know and heed it,  
Even dark and dreary landscapes,  
Even wild and barren moorlands  
Would be full of light and beauty,  
Would be full of interest for us.

EMMA SCHILLING.

The following extract from a letter written at Peking by Sam. R. Jacobs, a starred student of '93, now travelling in China, may be interesting to VARSITY readers:—

"The University of Peking is without doubt the greatest in the world. I say this without fear of contradiction. In all the broad dominions throughout the thousand populous cities over which floats the glorious Chinese flag there is no greater institution, and none so worthy of a universal renown as the great and progressive National University of Peking. Thither flock the noblest youths and most promising intellects of the mighty Confucian Empire, as to the one fountain from which they may drink a lifelong inspiration and a lasting hope. Nor, whatever future centuries may bring, can its glory fade or its popularity wane, for not only does the broadest educational spirit pervade its trivial affairs, but all its actions are characterized by a Christian watchfulness which cannot but result in the highest welfare of all concerned. It will be necessary to cite only a few particular cases to satisfy the ordinary observer of the truth of the statements I have made:—

"(1) The curriculum of the Peking University is splendidly adapted to the needs of the student-body at large. The study of the European languages is wisely confined, in as far as possible, to a consideration of the mediæval and pre-mediæval forms; for a study of nineteenth century masterpieces, with their dangerous ideas of progress and reform, must inevitably lead to the disintegration, downfall and destruction of the great Confucian Empire.

"(2) The finances of the University are wisely protected. An additional contribution, equivalent in English currency to about £1 sterling, has this year been added to the students' yearly fee. The student is at the same time strongly encouraged to devote his attention to one particular course of study alone, lest by any mischance he might happen to become more learned than the Confucian dons themselves, or lest he should by any means derive too great a benefit from his few, alas! fleeting years of educational life.

"(3) But should the student have the misfortune to be the son of a poor Chinese tea-drier, from whom the necessary amount of filthy lucre is often not instantly forthcoming, this great and magnanimous corporation, which champions freely and voluntarily the cause of the forlorn student upon the gala hustling days, exhibits a further evidence of its kindly care and consideration by fixing—Shylock-like when the bond is not paid at the appointed hour—the extra amount to be paid at the insignificant sum of 5s. English currency; or by exacting, in other words, only the moderate rate of 50 per cent. interest on dues unpaid.

"(4) An additional mulct of about 10s. English currency is this year exacted from each student for the royal permission to investigate the archives of the empire. The most interesting of these archives are, however, still enclosed in concealed Chinese tea-chests for fear that the student by getting at them too early in the year would get more than 10s. worth of information, and thus inflict an irreparable injury on the integrity of the University.

"(5) The observance of the Christian Sabbath is rigorously enforced, and for fear some chance student of this long-suffering body should presume to examine some of the State archives on the day of rest he has been this year wisely forbidden to remove any of the said documents, on any evening whatever, to his home where he might examine them with comfort and with profit by the smouldering ashes of his own 'hearth-stane.'

"There are many other features which attract my attention, whereof—if the joss who sits on my mantle be gracious—I will write thee anon; but for the present I must practise with my chop-sticks lest I be unable to eat my soup gracefully in the eyes of the lordly waiter."

Senator Stanford has offered to build chapter houses for all Greek letter fraternities at Stanford University.

It is a noticeable fact that the 94 Universities of Europe have 1,723 more professors, and 41,814 more students than the 360 Universities of the United States.