

UNIVERSITY GAZETTE,

*Published by the Undergraduates of McGill University,
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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

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The GAZETTE requests contributions of tales, essays, and all suitable literary matter from University men. It will open its columns to any controversial matter connected with the College, provided the communications are written in a gentlemanly manner.

All matter intended for publication must be accompanied by the name of the writer in a sealed envelope, which will be opened if the contribution is inserted, but will be destroyed if rejected. This rule will be strictly adhered to.

All literary matter must be in the hands of the committee on the 15th of each month, unless special arrangements are made with the committee before that date.

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W. B. DAWSON, TREASURER, J. S. HALL, SECRETARY.

A "Canadian."

In the *Montreal Gazette* of the 23th ultimo, appears a letter in reference to the University Literary Society, and one of its critics, who, in a preceding issue of that paper, finds fault with the Society for allowing Mr. Edward Jenkins to lecture under their auspices; the reason being that Mr. Jenkins made some remarks derogatory of Canadian education. Our "Canadian," constituting himself the guardian of the reputation of the University Literary Society, defends Mr. Jenkins from this charge, at least such is his purpose, and he wanders along in a maze of meaningless adjectives, and unemphatic italics with this object in view, until the end of his first paragraph is reached. Then he makes the following extraordinary statement, extraordinary at least as coming from a member of a society which admits only members of our University to its numbers: "I acknowledge Toronto University produces scholars of a polished education that might excite the envy of Oxford, and am sorry the same lustre has not yet been shed around the students of McGill." The remark may be out of place, but it is irresistible, that if his letter is the production of a mind which has received a polished education, the only institution of learning of which he could "excite the envy" is a village school.

McGill men are not so sensitive to remarks of this kind as to rush into a defence of their College. If any one thinks with "Canadian" that McGill is inferior to Toronto, let him compare the curricula of the two universities, and we will abide by the result. What we wished to call attention to, was the officiousness of "Canadian," who, rushing into print in answer to a letter which might better be passed over in silence, takes the opportunity to insult the institution to which he belongs. He may in letter be a member of the University, but in spirit he is not, and therefore has no right to write as the exponent of the views of the Society, which, as we said before, admits to its membership only the students and graduates of the University. Were 'his views those of the Society? We are confident an exposition of them would result in the withdrawal of the names of our undergraduates from the Society. Once there were two societies in the College. On the solicitation of the graduates who were unable to keep up meetings without some help, the undergraduates united with them under the name of the University Literary Society. What

University? Our friend "Canadian" says not McGill—*o puer ingenuus!* If he expresses the opinions of the graduate members of the Society (we are sure he does not), the students had better once again form an undergraduate society. We can have one without outside assistance. If we should withdraw, the University Literary Society, even with the literary talent of "Canadian" to support it, would soon degenerate into what its enemies say it is now—a Lecture Bureau.

A Proposition from Harvard.

A late number of the *Harvard Advocate* argues in favour of an Inter-University athletic contest, similar to the Oxford-Cambridge meeting in England.

The writer shows that such a scheme could easily be carried into effect,—in fact, the success of the annual Collegiate Regatta is sufficient proof that a meeting of the students of American colleges can be carried out without any considerable difficulty; and that the competition would be severe, the large number of entries at Springfield last season, shows beyond dispute. Our Athletic Meeting last fall shows, too, that with moderate expense, an athletic meeting can take place at one college, and not a very large one, a most enjoyable day can be spent, and the performances be equal to those achieved at more promiscuous gatherings. The inter-collegiate meeting, of course, presents somewhat more difficulty, but not of an insurmountable character. It would give us great pleasure to see such a meeting come off, and if a Canadian college could be allowed to compete, McGill could send down some men who, if not so successful as Bowie was at Springfield, would show that the being on a different side of a boundary line from most of the competitors, does not interfere with the development of strength or swiftness.

While we write this we remember that in an American college paper there appeared an account of the Bennett Cup Race, reflecting on Bowie's *status* and his performance, in so ungentelemanly a way, that it reflected rather on the character of the writer than on our College. A correction was sent to them, but never acknowledged. This, however, was an exception to the way in which Mr. Bowie was treated; still it left an unpleasant impression in regard to the treatment we might receive in endeavouring to promote a friendly feeling between the colleges of the United States and ourselves by joining in their athletic contests. We believe, however, should an athletic meeting take place, and McGill send representatives, that they would be treated with the same courtesy as Mr. Bowie was at Springfield by the students. We trust that it will come off, and if not for the first time on Canadian ground, that future years will see it occur at McGill.

Review.

"MCGILL COLLEGE AND ITS MEDALS."—Alfred Sandham, Montreal, 1873.

The absence of any particular interest in the book on which he has to pronounce his verdict is indispensable to the successful performance of the duties of the literary critic. He should neither be prejudiced against the productions of a particular writer or school, nor should he be blind to the faults of others to which his sympathies may extend; in other words he should not be influenced in his criticisms by any of those prejudices or predilections in which ordinary readers may, without censure, indulge. We must confess that our mind was not in that unbiassed condition when we took up the book, the title of which stands at the head of this article. We had heard that it was to be published, and we looked forward with some expectation to its appearance, for we understood that both in literary and mechanical execution, it was to be a credit to the University. There were some objections to the appearance of any book on the subject, and others to such a book by its writer, but these were not then considered important, nor perhaps under other circumstances would they have