

Rouge et Noir.

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TRINITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.

LENT TERM, 1882.

Before outsiders take upon themselves the responsibility of criticizing Trinity, they should at least have some knowledge of her, otherwise they cloak their prejudice in presumption. We pride ourselves upon our morality as a body of young men, and challenge comparison with any similar institution. Let our enemies confine themselves to facts.

Whether or not we can claim the credit of having been the cause of several salutary changes in the statutes and improvements in collegiate matters we care little. When we notice anything which needs alteration we take pleasure in suggesting it, and have had the satisfaction of seeing nearly all our suggestions carried out. Amongst others, the Telephone will soon be a *fait accompli*, and the degree of B. C. L. has been made a competitive instead of an honorary one.

The following revisions in the Statutes may be of interest to our readers: The degree of B. C. L. is no longer honorary; but to obtain it a candidate must be a matriculant of three years' standing of Trinity College, or of the Law Society of Upper Canada. Three examinations must be passed, called the First, Second and Final Examinations in Law. In the case of barristers, who are graduates in arts of the University of Trinity College, or any recognized University, or in any case of three years' standing since their call, the first two examinations are dispensed with, and the degree given for the final examination only.

French has been made optional at matriculation. This is the case at all other Universities, and although it counts for scholarships, yet the object in the change is the desire not to keep any away by a requirement nowhere else expressed.

The subject of the Prize Poem chosen for this year has caused considerable comment among the litterati of the College, the subject: "The Nor' West Passage," while opening a wide field for the display of poetical talent might, and we venture to say, will from its very width deter many from contesting the prize. If a poetical

description of the Arctic regions generally and of the heroes and their deeds in particular who have taken part in the various attempts to discover this extremely visionary eldorado yecept the "Nor' West Passage" is intended to form the substance of the poem, as we conceive it is, we have no doubt the subject might be well treated in a poem of somewhat formidable length, but we think that it could hardly be done justice to in one of from 50 to 60 lines, and any attempt to do so must needs be a most superficial one. We do not hesitate to say that if a subject more within the range of a prize poem were to be substituted that there are many who would gladly contend for the laurel crown.

WE are sorry we are unable to give a report of the meeting to be held in Convocation Hall next Tuesday night, 14th February. Invitations were issued to the friends of the College, and speeches will be made by the Bishop of Montreal, Toronto and Ontario, the Rev. Canon Carmichael of Hamilton, the Chancellor, Chief Justice Hagarty, and others upon the History, Needs and Prospects of the College. It is a step in the right direction, and ought to be followed up by similar departures. Until some of the old lethargy is shaken off, and Trinity makes an effort to assert herself, things will go on in the same sleepy way, and she will be the same lazy, self-complacent college she was under the old regime. With our new Provost we expect a new influx of energy, and confidently look forward to the day when extensive alterations will have to be made, not only in the capacity of the building itself, but also in our curriculum. It is a crying shame that people professing to belong to the Church in Canada should not educate their sons at the Church University which, in addition to a secular education quite equal to other institutions of the kind, combines the advantage of a liberal instruction in fundamental religious subjects. A purely secular education is fraught with innumerable dangers as is becoming more evident every year by the increased immorality and lack of religious fervour. Infidelity and skepticism are fashionable, and every shoulder should be put to the wheel to check their further advance. What our church needs most is an intelligent laity, and such will never be the case as long as church people send their sons for their education to a University where nothing religious whatever is taught; but where all religion is scoffed at, and everything sacred is the object of sneer and ridicule. It is dangerous to play with sharp tools, and our founder (Bishop Strachan of respected memory) recognized that fact when he so strenuously insisted upon the combination of education in things temporal with things spiritual. We have heard it said that Trinity College is a "hot-bed of Ritualism," and such insane remarks. We do not propose to enter into a discussion upon the orthodoxy of Ritualism or Calvinism, but assert most positively that no such doctrinal questions are ever introduced into the Divinity lectures. Good sound