

## THE VARSITY.

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### THE UNIVERSITY AND THE PROFESSIONS.

As intimated in last week's issue of THE VARSITY, we have arranged for a series of articles on the University and the Professions. The publication of the series will probably be commenced next week. The articles will deal with the following professions: Law, Medicine, Theology, Journalism, Teaching, and Engineering. Mr. Thomas Hodgins, M.A., LL.B., Q.C., Master-in-Ordinary, will write on Law; P. H. Bryce, M.A., M.D., Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, on Medicine; Principal Sheraton, D.D., of Wycliffe College, on Theology; W. G. Eakins, M.A., of *The Mail*, will describe Journalism; John Seath, B.A., High School Inspector, will write on the Teaching Profession, and John Galbraith, M.A., C.E., will probably write on Engineering. Next week's VARSITY will contain the first part of a poem, "Dryburgh Abbey," which lovers of Scott will doubtless appreciate.

### NATIONAL OR PROVINCIAL?

There is a great deal of truth in the remark made by Mr. Steen in his essay on "Daniel Webster," and emphasized by the President of the Literary Society the other evening, to the effect that the study of American history is too much neglected now-a-days. In using the term "American" one is apt to be misunderstood, since the word is popularly used as applying exclusively to the inhabitants of the United States. Though we are not ashamed of our birthright as Canadians, nor tired of our connection with the British Empire, yet the distinction continually being drawn between Canadians and Americans is apt to be emphasized too much, and is prone to produce a provincialism and antagonism of feeling which should be very carefully guarded against. All the inhabitants of this northern continent have a right to be called Americans, and in so far as history concerns itself with America at all it may, not inappropriately, be called American history. We are too much inclined to forget, or else we wilfully refuse to remember, that Canadians and Americans are of the same ancestral stock, of the same Anglo-Saxon origin, have a common language, and if not a common destiny, commercially or politically, should be allies not enemies, friends not foes. The social problems which perplex the people of the United States are the same which we in Canada must face and must solve with equal courage and determination. Thus it is that the history of Canada and the United States has been, must be so similar in character, though it may be diverse in detail. And thus it is that the truly great men of Canada or of the United States belong in reality to neither country, but to the great Anglo-Saxon confederacy of this continent. Whatever is noble in the history of the one or the other, whatever has made or makes for liberty and enlightenment, whoever has a title to the respect and honour of his fellow-countrymen, no matter on which side of the forty-ninth parallel he may dwell, are all alike common objects for patriotic pride and are all alike worthy of imitation and of being kept in national remembrance. Truly great men are citizens of no nationality, but of all, and while they may be the peculiar glory

of one nationality, belong to the world. Therefore, whether we study the history of Washington or Champlain, of Lincoln or Joseph Howe, we lose sight of the immediate surroundings of the man, and concern ourselves with his character, the great movements he was engaged in, and the good which he accomplished. An intelligent study of American history, with a due regard to the local details peculiar to Canada and the United States, should have a prominent place in the curricula of our educational institutions, but to our shame be it said it finds really no place there at all. It is, if taught at all, done most indifferently in the public schools, and in our universities and colleges is altogether lost sight of. No wonder we are in danger of becoming provincial, and sectional, and narrow, when in the national university of Ontario not a single lecture is given, not a single text-book is prescribed, in American history!

### THE FACULTY OF LAW.

The joint committee of the Senate and the Law Society presented a report to the University Senate on Thursday night which seems to place the scheme in a practicable and attainable shape. For the benefit of our readers we recapitulate the principal portions of the report. 1. The Law Society and the Senate are to have joint control of the Faculty, entrance into which will be obtained by passing a preliminary examination. 2. The course in Law will extend over four years, and students will be required to attend lectures during that period, and pass all the usual examinations before proceeding to the degree of LL.B. 3. The first two years of the course are to be strictly confined to university work, the student being absolved, during that time, from articles. The last two years' work, however, is to be taken in conjunction with practical work as an articled clerk in a law office. 4. Upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence of having attended lectures, passed all examinations, and of having served two years under articles, the candidate, upon receiving his degree of Bachelor of Law, will thereupon be entitled, upon payment of fees, to be licensed by the Law Society as a barrister and solicitor. Candidates, however, who present their LL.B. diploma without having served two years under articles will only be admitted to practise as barristers. 5. The University will appoint the examiners, prescribe the curriculum, and receive the fees for the first two years; the Law Society will have the same privileges for the two final years. 6. The joint committee to be charged with the management of the Faculty is to be composed of nine members, four to be chosen by the Senate and five by the Law Society, annually in May. Each body shall fill vacancies as they occur, and the committee shall appoint its own chairman. 7. The University is to provide for and maintain a course of practical instruction in Jurisprudence—having regard to Civil Law, Constitutional Law and History, and International Law. These are the sub-departments which are to be required of the new Professor of Political Economy, so that upon his appointment the University will be in a position to discharge its share of the practical work of the new Faculty. From the above it will be seen, that while there are points open to discussion, the report is satisfactory and encouraging. A practical teaching Faculty of Law will greatly strengthen the University, and the arrangements made with the Law Society will tend to attract students to take a university course, and will render possible the joint pursuit of a university and strictly professional training in Law—a thing much to be desired.

### UNIVERSITY EDUCATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

The author of the article on this subject in the November *Contemporary*, is Professor William Garnett, D.C.L., Principal of the Durham Science College at Newcastle. Last week we briefly reviewed his summary of the University Extension Scheme. This week, as we promised, we shall follow him more into detail. He contends that if "the University Extension Scheme is to do the highest work open to it, it must, before long, lead to the formation of permanent institutions in the great towns, to serve as centres for the further development of its work." In fact, the idea is to gradu-