

order of creation"! Does Mr. Collins not see a very large bull in this sentence somewhere in addition to the one referred to in the hackneyed simile?

Mr. Roberts must have felt pleased when he read that Mr. Collins considered him not only "virile," but also "manly." But it is no doubt quite a surprise to Professors Bailey, Hind and Macoun to learn that it was merely their "names" and not they themselves that have been "industriously garnering and putting to the general stock of English literature."

In conclusion, however, to give our new critic the praise to which he is justly entitled, I have no hesitation in saying that he displays a much better knowledge of many other things than of plain, old-fashioned English Grammar.

Toronto.

SIGMA.

WET GRASS.

Like Herr Diogenes Teufelsdröck or the Roof Philosopher, I have a watch-tower overlooking a great city; from its windows I can see every hour of the day, if I choose to look, the waters of a mighty lake. I have looked so often that I know it as a lover knows the face of his mistress, with its every fitting shadow, change of feature, phase of expression. I never weary.

"Age cannot change, nor passion stale
Her infinite variety."

The clouds that hung above thee all yesterday, heavily even and grey, making thee but a dull-coloured ribbon on their skirts, have dropped down to-day and blotted out thy face in a mist of rain. Oftenest thou art a broad wall of deepest blue, rising against the last houses threateningly. All thy changes bring new delight. Once I looked and saw thee seething in a white fire, all thy waves molten and glowing, marble snow moved by a welling life within. The next day thou wert all one steely glitter, like unto transparent glass; the next, the wall was down, thrown flat, and thou looked the living troubled sea thou art, long lines of white-caps rolling to the low beach and breaking there so plainly in the bright sunlight. I could almost hear their thunderous roar.

I could not stay apart from thee, and so in midwinter I made a pilgrimage to thee across long plains of snow, swept by fierce winds. Nothing but drifted snow underfoot, hard and white, moulded and carved in all manner of curious devices by the sculptor-wind that came driving his long snakes of snow along the glaring levels. Still I could not see thee. I came nearer and nearer till the snow rose in a huge drift before me. Crossing the rounded hillock I beheld thee! crisping dark, green and mysterious above the white snow.

Thalasse! Thalasse! as the Grecian vanguard cried when from the summit of the lofty hill their land-wearied eyes first caught the distant flash of their beloved sea. I stood and feasted my eyes on the beauty of thy winter waves, green under the fateful sky, and thy mimic Greenland coast with its ice-burys, its glaciers and wave-eaten cliffs.

Then I had to say farewell and I turned from thee with a promise, a longing and a dream of the days of summer. Then my Lake, I shall bathe me in thy waters; in stormy afternoons heaving shoreward on the back of some huge billow to the lonely beach of sand; in the stillness of fresh mornings when the spirits of the air as the old Greeks dreamed, caress the naked body; in breathless noons when all things quiver in the heat, plunging from the granite step of some little island, down, down into the transparent coolness, and leaving the hot day and the fevered earth-life behind.

BOHEMIEN.

CONVOCATION HALL AND THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Visitors to the College on Convocation Day would have looked in vain on their programmes for an announcement of one part of the proceedings. That part was the music furnished from the gallery by the performers on horns, kazoes, and other such instruments. The manipulators of these instruments succeeded admirably in preventing the audience from hearing much of the President's address. One can hardly say that this loss was compensated for by the strains of sweet harmony from the gallery. Whether a suitable return was made to the President for his unvarying kindness and courtesy to every student of University College, is at least questionable. It is most certain that few of the audience were enchanted with the music referred to.

The same kind of entertainment has often in the past been furnished to those who have attended the public meetings of the Literary and Scientific Society. It is beyond question that such conduct is prejudicial to the success of our public meetings. Difficulty enough must in any case be found in carrying on a series of public meetings. It is rather too bad that this difficulty should be increased by any member of the Society. The reception given him by the occupants of the gallery does not much conduce to awaken enthusiasm or inspire confidence in one appointed to assist in the carrying out of the evening's programme. The music of tin horns is not likely to attract to these meetings large or interested audiences.

Those who indulge in this amusement on such an occasion are doing a great injustice especially to the speakers. I do not say that this injustice is intentional. I do not assert and would be slow to believe that any member of the Society deliberately sets himself to render the attempt to speak a failure. Still, since those appointed to this duty are not usually so well-trained as to be able to speak in spite of constant interruption, failure is likely to be the result of such interruptions as speakers at our public meetings meet with. When we consider that one selected to represent the society at a meeting of this kind, has a good deal of labour to perform, it does not seem unreasonable to expect that he shall be treated with common courtesy while endeavoring to perform the duty assigned him.

If our public meetings are to be of any real service to the Society or the College they must be conducted in such a way as to attract people of culture and taste. It does not seem to me likely that such an audience will very often submit to the torture inflicted by the instruments most highly esteemed by the musicians of the gallery. The fact is that people of even ordinary cultivation look upon such conduct as a species of rowdyism, and resent it as such.

The Society owes the use of Convocation Hall for its public meetings to the courtesy of the Council. It is surely due to the Council that no conduct disagreeable to its members be exhibited at these meetings. And the President has expressed very distinctly his disapproval of the horn-blowing usually heard on such occasions.

It is becoming more and more evident both at the public and ordinary meetings of the Society, that a species of rowdyism is thought by many to be the correct thing. Those who wish to keep untarnished the reputation of the Society ought to make it clearly understood that any such conduct will not be tolerated. The Society has for its aim the cultivation of the powers of thought and expression in its members. If it is allowed gradually to become a sort of substitute for a bar-room, the sooner it is abolished the better.

The above remarks are offered with a sincere desire to advance the interests of the Society. It ought certainly to be one of the most important agents in the student's training. Loyalty to the Society, true *esprit de corps* demands that every member shall strive to keep it free from anything that will prevent the attainment of its end.

J. McD. DUNCAN.

MUSICAL NOTES.

The prospects for a very successful year in musical matters in University College are most encouraging. The Glee Club, numbering already over fifty carefully selected voices, is practising a part song, "The Rose of Woerthersee," by Th. Koshat, to be given at the coming public debate, on Friday evening, the 14th of November. Prof. F. H. Torrington has consented to take charge of the Club this year, and it goes without saying that if properly supported by the members, he will be able to produce excellent results. Last year, it must be confessed that the Glee Club was not a success. The music was not carefully selected; a good deal of it had been given before, and the Club had, on more than one occasion, to fall back on such pieces as 'Kemo Kimo,' 'Litoria,' and other sadly familiar selections, in order to keep going at all. The Club practised almost exclusively for concerts held outside of Toronto, and evidently thought that anything would do for the public debates. In view of this, it is remarkable that the Club got the annual grant of \$50 last year without any opposition. Really the performance of the Club at the *Conversazione* was a lamentable and humiliating exhibition.

This year when the officers of the Club interviewed Mr. Torrington in reference to his taking the position of conductor, he frankly stated his opinion of last year's performances, and told them that he could not accept the position until he was assured that the Club would undertake some serious work—Cantata, or *versazione*. In short, if the Club wished to endanger its own reputation, and that of its conductor by repeating last year's performance, he would have nothing to do with it. With these views the Club entirely acquiesced, and the matter was brought before the Literary Society with the hope of getting the promise of pecuniary assistance from that body. The result, as reported in