

tution of Greek. As the curriculum stands at present, a graduate who has begun with French and German, and ended up on Greek, is too likely to know little of the former and much less of the latter. Greek cannot be mastered in a day, or a year; the so-called modern languages, to an Englishman, are not difficult to forget. A thorough knowledge of one language is of infinitely more value than a superficial smattering of a number. The restoration of Spanish does not seem to be much called for. If it ever is, and there is no strong financial barrier to overcome, it will no doubt be restored with little opposition.

To PROF. LOUDON we owe the abolition of several intermediate university examinations. The abolition of the scholarships formerly attached to those examinations necessarily follows. This is a step in the right direction. This question of examinations takes us back to an analysis we once made of the true character of a University. One by one we are seeing the features of that analysis appear more real and more definitely worked out. We are seeing our University made an institution for men, and are promised a Matriculation that will be a pledge of manhood. The curtailment of examinations continues, and only one remains necessary to be lopped off. What is to be done with it, is now a subject of discussion. Scholarships are disappearing. Only a few, and a few medals, remain. These will soon be granted on a different basis, or disappear. In other words, the proper work of the college is being relegated to where it belongs,—to the colleges in affiliation with us; and our University is beginning to confine itself to the attainment of the objects for which it was founded,—objects to which the work of the college is only ancillary and secondary.

### Editorial Notes.

We are pleased to notice the appointment of Mr. G. H. Robinson, a graduate of Toronto University, to the editorship of the *Canada Educational Monthly*. It is particularly fortunate that so prominent a journal among American Educational reviews should be under the control of a gentleman so thoroughly versed and interested in University matters.

A sufficient testimony of the faithfulness with which the *Grip* Publishing Company have fulfilled their contract, is the issue of this number at the regular date, although a number of their presses were destroyed by the fire last Thursday evening (and here we enter a protest against vicious exchanges ascribing the origin of the fire to the dryness of our jokes).

We publish a third communication from A. Stevenson on the subject of Co-education. In a clear and logical way he presents the arguments which he has collected from a study of the views of those who have made a practical essay of the system. We consider his letter worthy of careful consideration, and do not desire to hastily comment on it. In a future issue we will return to the subject.

We desire to call attention to the letter of *Universitas* in another column. We are sure its calm and dispassionate tone will commend itself to our readers. The claims of University College to state aid, are fairly set forth, and satisfactory reasons are given why private liberality has not hitherto been available to any appreciable extent. On both points very erroneous notions have been prevalent. We believe our correspondent has done much to set the matter in its true light.

Since our incumbency we have been vainly searching the exchanges for some recognition and criticism of our journalistic labors, and for those suggestions, the adoption of which would tend to elevate the standard of the 'VARSITY. But at last, comes a most acceptable hint from the Editor of the *Rouge et Noir*, that our editorial insufficiency is attributable to physical incapacity, and evidently believing in '*mens sano in sano corpore*,' sends us an invitation to the annual dinner of Trinity College. We recommend those exchanges who give us, to no purpose, repeated advice, and have abandoned us to our fate, to propose a simple remedy.

Elsewhere in our columns reference is made to the dilatoriness of the students of McGill University in officially signifying their approval or disapproval of the scheme proposed by Toronto University for intercollegiate sports, to take place the same day as the annual football match between these two institutions. Meanwhile, our probable contestants in such sports, most of whom play football, remembering the adage of the bird in the bush, &c., are training for what they know to be a certainty, and every athlete knows that for honors on the cinder-path a quite distinct course of training is required than for ninety minutes hard Rugby. As there is not time enough now for proper fitting, we are forced to the lamentable conclusion that the splendid suggestion of annual intercollegiate athletic contests remains but a suggestion.

The color question often comes to the front in the States in educational affairs. There, owing to the comparatively large proportion of the colored people to the whole population, it is much more a living question than here. An attempt was made recently at Asbury Park, N.J., to force all the colored children in a certain district to attend a particular school. Naturally, the colored people claimed the right to send their children to other school-houses in the district, and considerable ill-feeling was created. The action of the public-school authorities at Windsor, Ont., in refusing admittance to a colored girl, has brought the whole question into discussion in Canada. Though the existence of a colored school, and the then over-crowded state of the public school, form the defence of the school-board, there can be little doubt that the question of color was the real objection. The matter has found its way into the courts, and we have no doubt but that the pupil will receive justice. This is a free country, and one of the essential principles of our educational system is the absence of all class distinctions. Even distinctions of sex present no obstacle to the acquisition of a liberal education—up to a certain point.

Convocation Day, just passed, witnessed the crowning of the athletes of the mind, amid the sounding of horns and the shouts of applause which rightly greet the intellectual victors; but the setting sun saw neither laurel wreath nor pickle-jar brought forth to reward the athletes of the body, no blare of trumpets, no victorious shriek arose to announce the winner of a Residence prize. We visit the Literary Society in the evening, and are emphatically assured that this is an age of progress. No one would be so narrow, so insane, as to deny it; but the pace is fast, and since the forensic meetings in 'an upper room' on Yonge-street have begun again, the gait seems to tell even on the Society that announces the doctrine of progress. But the holding of College sports has taken its rank among Ancient History, and as age wears down the 'records,' too, like everything else, it cannot all be considered even authentic. In the corner of the College notice board, where athletic items used to hang, the announcement of the University College Temperance League—which looks as if it had been drawn up with a corkscrew instead of a pen—reminds the erring undergraduate that the convivial cup and the running shoe must now hang together from a lofty peg behind his door. In other College and University papers we read of successful College sports, and from the next page goes forth a devout congratulation after the Pharisee of old, 'that they are not such as other men are.' It is bad enough to have one-horse universities, as they are called, point the finger of athletic scorn at us, but it is much worse to deserve it, especially when we consider—as the man said when the donkey kicked him—where it comes from; we possess beyond doubt the largest number of undergraduates of any university of Canada, and unquestionably the finest facilities for out-door sports; still, to say that the undergraduates are too studiously inclined would be base flattery to themselves and a shameful imposition on their friends. A large portion of undergraduate energy seems at present to be directed in the formation of Societies, Unions, Parliaments, Clubs, and even Leagues, so much so that we are encouraged to look forward to the establishment of a 'Confederation for the General Advancement and Extermination of Everything.' It is an astonishing fact that in the last couple of years almost a dozen of these organizations have sprung into being. The un-