

Trinity University Review



VOL. I.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CHRISTMAS, 1888.

No. 9.

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THE KEEPERS OF THE PASS.

Now heap the branchy barriers up,
No more for us shall burn
The pine-logs on the happy hearth,
For we shall not return.

We've come to our last camping-ground,
Set axe to fir and tamarack,
The foe is here, the end is near,—
And we shall not turn back.

In vain for us the town shall wait,
The home-dear faces yearn,
The watchers in the steeple watch,—
For we shall not return.

For them we've come to these hard straits,—
To save from flame and wrack
The little city built far off ;
And we shall not turn back.

Now beat the yelling butchers down,
Let musket blaze, and axe-edge burn,
Set hand to hand, lay brand to brand,—
But we shall not return.

For every man of us that falls
Their hordes a score shall lack.
Close in about the Lily Flag !
No man of us goes back.

For us no morrow's dawn shall break,
Our sons and wives shall learn
Some day from lips of flying scout
Why we might not return.

A dream of children's laughter comes
Across the battle's slack,
A vision of familiar streets,—
But we shall not go back.

Up roars the painted storm once more,
Long rest we soon shall earn.
Henceforth the city safe may sleep,—
But we shall not return.

And when our last has fallen in blood
Betwixt these waters black,
Their tribe shall no more lust for war,—
For we shall not turn back.

In vain for us the town shall wait,
The home-dear faces yearn,
The watcher's in the steeple watch,—
For we shall not return.

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THE INTELLECTUAL ASPECT OF POLITICAL DEPENDENCE.

No one will affirm that the intellectual life of Canada, represented by its literature, bears any reasonable relation to the activity manifested in its material concerns. It may be said, and no doubt justly, that in a young community we must not look for that degree of intellectual life which finds expression in the flower of a grand literature, or in the expansive and varied forms of a distinctively original and rich creative work. What we might look for, at least, is, that in some regions of intellectual labour—in politics for instance—Canada should show some well-defined marks, not only of breadth of culture and power of vision, but of high achievement and ardent aspiration in a nationward course. Do we find this, or is it possible to find this, in a political dependency ?

In considering this question, briefly, we shall doubtless run the risk of classing ourselves not only with the increasing number of those who are ill-content that Canada shall accept indefinitely the *status quo*, but with those who, at the possible risk of preparing their necks for the noose of ultra-loyalists and treason-hunters, seek with a saner patriotism a future for their country beyond the ignoble one of a fast-tethered and spiritless colony. This risk, however, we are willing to run, not only in the interest of