

# The Varsity

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## EDITORIAL.

IN our last issue we made a few remarks concerning Residence, which may have been capable of misconstruction. It was not our intention to attempt to show that the number of occupants of Residence was very small, but rather to deplore the fact that it was not very much greater. We attributed the small number to two causes—first, a seeming lack of appreciation on the part of the students for a life in Residence; and, secondly, its expense. It was hinted that it would be a good thing if some means could be devised to remove the latter, which, to our minds, is the greater of these two causes. It was not implied that the students in Residence wanted to get out; but that a large number of students who are not in Residence, and who believed it to be such a respectable and properly managed establishment as made it a desirable and ideal home, could not get in.

The expense of a life in Residence is often very much exaggerated beyond what it really is. We are assured that it is by no means unreasonable and that Residence is scarcely self-supporting. Yet, in the popular mind, the expense is still too high. It may not be much higher than is absolutely necessary. It may not be much higher than that in private boarding-houses. But it is just high enough to debar students who are compelled to live carefully from entering. Were this not the case, Residence would be filled to overflowing from year to year. The students are by no means slow to recognize a "good thing," and as such they esteem Residence. A great many regret, however, that they cannot avail themselves of its advantages, except at a cost incommensurate with their resources.

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Our correspondent from the Ontario Normal College is about the first one of its students to say a good word for that much-maligned Institution. Perhaps the change in

its name may have changed its character somewhat, and may go to show that there is something in a name after all. For, in past years, its students always seemed to imply by their conversation that they dreaded a term in the School of Pedagogy with much the same feelings as they would a term in Kingston or a year across the Don. We are glad to notice a change of opinion, as we have never been able to see or understand very clearly why it should be regarded with so much horror.

It is almost natural that the graduates of a university should imagine themselves competent to teach, with perfect satisfaction, subjects in which they have successfully passed advanced examinations from time to time. But this is seldom the case. We have seen too many cases of men who can imbibe knowledge and cannot impart instruction. They themselves may be able to learn well enough, but they cannot teach others. There are some, of course, who can do both. To those a course of special training in teaching may be unnecessary, but, in no sense, superfluous, and for the first class it is highly essential in order to maintain the high standard of perfection and efficiency in teaching aimed at, though but seldom attained, in the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes of the Province.

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Saturday's game was the finest exhibiton of Rugby ever witnessed on the Varsity grounds. Its result could scarcely have been more favorable for Varsity. Notwithstanding the vituperations of the Kingston press, the Varsity team demonstrated to a certainty how a good, clean game of Rugby could be played, and played to win. There was no interference on the part of the spectators, as the Kingston men and the Union feared. From start to finish there was not a man crossed the line on either side. The arrangements for playing the game were therefore perfect, but the arrangements for seeing it were not the best. The campus was not large enough to accommodate such a tremendous crowd as the prospect of a game between such evenly matched teams and such avowed rivals drew together. The committees in charge left no stone unturned to utilize every means at their disposal, and must be congratulated on succeeding to satisfy the importunities of the Ontario Rugby Union. It is to be hoped that the Kingston press will call off their dogs after this from the heels of the Varsity team, for such shameful conduct as was indulged in during the past week indicates too well the soreness of their heads and their intense jealousy of a better team than their own.

## ONTARIO NORMAL COLLEGE.

"Extremes are dangerous, the truth generally lies between," is an old saying and one well worthy of weighty consideration. Accustomed as we have been in the past to hearing people in general, and students in particular, criticize such an institution as the above, has it never occurred to us that it is possible to go to an extreme here as well as elsewhere? Not only has the staff been severely criticized, but the institution as a whole has been scoffed at. Yet, so far as we know, no attempt has been made by those who criticize, to look at the facts of the case fairly and squarely, and to see wherein the trouble lies. We have heard of excellent students being plucked, and we do not hesitate to affirm that such is the case. But whose

If you are the homeliest man on earth and want to be tickled half to death, we would advise you to be photographed by Frederick Lyonde.—*Hamilton Times.*