

"OH FROSH."

"I trust in Heaven we are green."—Tennyson.

It is with this delightful epithet that the energetic Soph. in my native town meets the raw, innocent Freshman. To the Freshman at Toronto more respect is paid, at least our class got more, and far be it from any purpose of mine to advocate the introduction of the term at Varsity; but it has generally gained the attention of our green friends in the past—perhaps it may be successful yet once again.

When the Freshman commences his College course at Varsity he naturally feels a little bewildered. If he did not, he would belie his name. He, of course, takes the Seniors for classmates, calls the Beadle the janitor, and generally displays his ignorance. He will do well, then, to take the advice that flows from a Sophomore pen, which stoops, not to conquer, but to aid him.

The first and greatest mistake that the Freshman makes, and the mistake that he is most likely to make, is that he forms his conception of Varsity from the Calendar. Now, the Calendar, as a text book, is really carried out in a masterly fashion, and to the Registrar, or whoever composed it, much praise is due. But the Freshman gathers from it that his work is quite the only thing worth living for, exams. the chief end of the Freshman, and that these attended to, he is free to leave Varsity to herself. Nothing could be more untrue, nothing more foolish. Real College life is largely outside of lectures, outside of books. You are enjoying it, not when you make the acquaintance of Cicero or Dante, but that of your fellow-students. At Varsity, young men gather from all over Canada, perhaps from other countries; and during your brief stay here, Oh Frosh! it is your first duty to get to work and know these fellows.

The Freshman will find his task a hard one if he thinks he can complete it at lectures. While he will make some acquaintances there they will be less lasting, less valuable. No! he must look for friends outside of lecture hours. Naturally, if he belongs to a Frat., the fellows in his own Frat. will be his strongest friends. But at Varsity, unlike the American Colleges, where practically everybody belongs to some Fraternity, it is unfortunately granted to comparatively few of us to be thus honored. The Freshman, however, who has the sense to take up sports—and Gym. work should be compulsory in the Freshman year—will be richly rewarded; the athletes are, by reputation, a jolly crowd, and the friendships he makes there will be most enjoyable as well as most valuable.

Out of football, hockey, cricket, tennis, golf, lacrosse, baseball and Gym. work, the Freshman may take his pick; in some, if not in all, he will certainly find congenial friends.

On the other hand, to the Freshman, the Chess Club will hardly appeal so strongly; chess requires a little thinking.

The Harmonic Club will, perhaps, prove more enjoyable. It includes a Glee Club, a Mandolin, Guitar and Banjo Club, and a lately-organized string Orchestra Club; and on the Christmas tour even the Freshman may expect to be lionized for a whole week!

To many the Y.M.C.A. Building will be a good place to meet men. The Association represents a movement worthy of the united support of Varsity.

Nor must the Freshman forget to attend all the receptions—the Rugby and the Dinner. Besides being Varsity functions, they constitute the social department, at present somewhat restricted in the absence of a Residence, of our College life.

To enumerate all that "Pious Aeneas" must do, would quite destroy our Freshman's mental capacity, if he is not already at his wits' end. He should faithfully attend all the Lit. meetings, where, under a bi-partizan Executive, he will hear discussed the future of the Country, of the Empire, and of the World; he should go at least twice a week to the meetings of his departmental association (known, Oh Frosh! as the dry bones, up-to-dates, lovers of wisdom, or chiefly males, as the case may be); he should take a lively interest in his Class, and, of course, be on the Executive Committee; he must be sure to turn out to all patriotic demonstrations, and he must never miss a football match; he should go to the Dining-Hall very regularly—we eat three times a day at Varsity; and, lastly, he ought to contribute ferociously to VARSITY in anything but poetry.

If the Freshman has thus far survived this whirl of instructions, let him remember, in conclusion, that it is from the new comers that the Upper Class men and the Alumni hope for invigoration; to be frank, we expect you to be fresh. The Freshman year is the year in which a Class reputation is made or marred; if '04, which celebrates with its entrance an important turning-point in the history of Varsity, and the end of the nineteenth century, aspires to make a name for itself, let it see that it sets to it early, and let its members come forward as true Alumni of our devoted Alma Mater!

SOPHOMORE.

CAPS AND GOWNS.

It will, no doubt, be of interest to all the VARSITY readers to learn that the agitations of last year, re the Cap and Gown question, have resulted in a practical movement. It will be remembered that the Second Year made a brave endeavor, through its Executive, to secure this feature in University life; and that a petition was liberally signed by all the Years to that effect. During the vacation about one hundred neat and handy lockers were placed in the main basement for the use of those who wish to see this idea proceeded with. This action, we understand, has been taken by the Trustees of the University, at the intimation of the University Council; and is to be a sort of "feeler," to see just how far the popularity of the scheme has advanced. A committee, J. C. Ross informs us, has been enquiring among the city tailors regarding prices; and we may expect to hear of some very tempting offers whereby all can easily help along a movement that has for its aim a revival and creation of College life and sentiment within the walls of our Alma Mater. A nominal fee will be charged for the use of the lockers.

LAURIER MEETING.

We are requested to say that arrangements are being made by which the top gallery of Massey Hall will be reserved for the students on the evening of Oct. 16th, when Sir Wilfrid Laurier will address the meeting.