

re-appearance, relapsed into their study-chairs as if their sociality had been frozen by the recent cold or they had left behind them that important part of their anatomy, their organ of cheerfulness.

We gladly welcome to our Alma Mater Jno. McKay, B.A., of '82, Toronto University, and J. R. Campbell, B.A. of '82 Queen's University, who have entered the classes of 1st year theology; also Mr. Rogers, 1st year University.

The Glee Club are busily practising for a concert to be given at Weston Jan. 17th.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

DEAR 'VARSITY,—As I concluded my last letter by leaving you to pass judgment upon the principles which Mr. Morris had been advancing at Oxford, it will not be out of place this week to commence by telling you that Mr. Morris is soon to deliver a lecture at Cambridge on the same subject, "Art under the Plutocracy," in which, no doubt, his Socialistic principles will again be advanced. The lecture is to be given on Monday next, at our 'Union,'—an excellent reading and debating club, which takes its name from the fact of being a united Oxford and Cambridge institution.

Socialism naturally leads to *sociality*, which brings to my mind a most delightful *reunion* of the Australians and their friends (from both Universities) which took place last week. The occasion was the second annual dinner given by the Cambridge Australasian Club. This Club, which has only been in existence for about a year, was formed in order to afford men coming up to the 'Varsity from the Australasian Colonies a better opportunity of becoming acquainted with one another than they had previously, and the scheme has been so successful that Oxford is discussing the advisability of following our example.

The seemingly unbounded dramatic zeal which I mentioned a week or two ago as having broken out among the undergraduates has now extended even to the colleges of the fair sex. On Saturday last the students of Girton (a young ladies' college which is familiarly known as 'Girton') performed the *Electra* of Sophocles, in their gymnasium, before an audience which alas! was restricted to 'ladies, fathers of students, and classical lecturers of the College. The music written by Mendelssohn for the *Antigone* was adapted to the *Electra*, and the whole performance is said to have been most successful.

I must conclude this letter by telling you a very good joke which originated at the Oxford 'Union.' At the last weekly debate one of the members made a very rhetorical speech in support of his motion; whereupon the opposer got up and said that his opponents speech reminded him of Euclid's definition of a line—that which has *length* without *breadth*, and *lies* evenly between its *extreme points*.

Yours as ever,

T. C. S. M.

General College Notes.

Matthew Arnold lectured at Berlin, Jan. 16.

A Latin play is contemplated for next term at Princetown.

The law against secret societies at Vanderbilt University has been removed.

Texas University has the largest college endowment, namely, \$5,250,000 and 1,000,000 acres of land.—*Ex.*

Judging from the number of plays recently produced by the English Universities, the dramatic element must be in the ascendant.

The December number of the *University Monthly* wisely advocates the establishing of a residence in connection with Fredericton University.

A large swimming tank will probably be added to the Harvard College gymnasium, which will enable the students to cultivate the useful art.—*Ex.*

Miss Alice Freeman, president of the Wellesley College, is described as slight and girlish in figure, with a youthful face. She is a doctor of philosophy.—*Cornell Sun.*

There has been going the rounds of the College newspapers the following, 'There are no papers edited by students of English

Universities.' What about the Oxford and Cambridge *Undergraduates' Journal*?

'Mamma, you should avoid extremes,' remarks a philosophic boy, when his mother boxed his jaws. 'Very well, my son, I shall strike a happy medium,' and she forthwith stretched him across her knees.—*Ex.*

At Oxford, the Philothespian Club has successfully produced the *Merchant of Venice* and at Cambridge, Girton College has played the *Electra* of Sophocles, the music of 'Antigone' being adapted to it. It is proposed, also, to present the "Birds" of Aristophanes shortly.

Amherst College has a gymnasium, over which is placed a special professor who oversees the drill of each class, and whose duty it is to examine privately every member of the college once a year, and take statistics of his condition, growth, etc. Attendance is compulsory.

The fourth year of the Harvard Annex has demonstrated that the undertaking may fairly be regarded as no longer an experiment. The success of this form of collegiate education for women is said to be assured. A fund of \$67,000, has been obtained by the ladies of the Executive Committee.—*Scholastic.*

The new edition of 'Students' Songs,' comprising the *twenty-first thousand*, has just been published by Moses King of Cambridge. The collection comprises over sixty of the jolly songs as now sung at all leading colleges in America. It has the full music for all the songs and airs, compiled by Wm. H. Hills, (Harvard, 1880).

Apropos of the recent discussion in the 'VARSITY' on the modern languages, we noticed at a meeting held in New York, the professors of modern languages refused to pass a resolution, setting forth that it was the sense of the meeting that colleges should introduce a system of conversation in German and French, practical, instead of the theoretical study of the languages.

FOOTBALL IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Five years ago and previously the only football played by University College was a sort of go-as-you-please game. It consisted in hitting, kicking, bouncing, throwing, in fact in forcing the ball in any possible way, except carrying, towards the opponents' goal. To make matters a little more lively the players were allowed to indulge in the pleasures of hacking and tripping, and this too quite irrespective of the whereabouts of the ball. The number of players on each side was unlimited, the more the merrier. Off side was unknown, every player was supposed to be on side. Such a game, though a capital method for getting exercise, was entirely devoid of all skill. Accordingly a general feeling of dissatisfaction began to gain prevalence about five years ago. The trouble was what rules to select. There were the supporters of the Rugby Union on the one hand, and of the Association on the other, each desirous of the adoption of their own rules. Knox College and some of the outsiders went Association. The rest of the outsiders, the Toronto men almost to a man, supported Rugby Union, while the Residence was divided. On the whole, as far as regards numbers, the Association having the best of it. Such was the state of affairs at the close of the season of '75. In the spring of '76 a football convention was announced, to be held in Toronto. A meeting was held at College, and Messrs. Harstien and Aikens sent as representatives of University College. The general impression among Rugby Unionists was that this meeting had been hurried through so as to prevent them from representing their views. The convention adopted the rules as played by the Scottish Association, but as this meeting was held in the spring nothing was done until the following autumn, when a notice was put up in the Hall calling the usual meeting of undergraduates for the purpose of electing officers for the football club. The day for the meeting arrived. Rugby Unionists turned out in full force, but only a few of the Associationists put in an appearance. Accordingly an adjournment was made till a later date in order that there might be a more representative meeting. The adjourned meeting took place, the Associationists this time being in the majority. The adoption of the Association rules was moved and carried, and the club organized with Mr. Dodds as captain. The feeling on the subject, which had all this time continued to run very high, was increased by a knowledge of the fact that the defeated party would have to play the game adopted by their more successful opponents, as the number of football players was not then sufficiently large to form two clubs. Accordingly when the Association Club was started some of the Rugby Unionists refused to have anything to do with it, and withdrew in a huff. During the