

board, etc., may be "necessaries," but as a general rule they are not so considered. One of the most extravagant of the young gentlemen whose acquaintance I have made in the course of my investigations is Mr. Walker, in *Jenner v. Walker* (19 L. T. N. S., 398). The very comfortable income of £1,000 per annum (during infancy) seems to have been quite too small for his many pretty tastes. This is not altogether surprising when we find in his jeweller's bill such items as the following:

	£	s.	d.
"Blue velvet betting-book.....	4	14	6
Blue morocco betting-book, patent frame.....	3	13	0
Blue velvet cigar case, gold frame.....	23	2	0
Making gold and enamelled coats-of-arms....	12	12	0
&c., &c., &c."			

There is no doubt about this case. The judgment reads: "I have no difficulty in laying down that betting-books cannot be necessaries for a young man under age, and certainly not betting-books so rich and costly." I shall have occasion to refer to Mr. Walker again, but this extravagance has been sufficiently established for the present.

Education is, of course, a "necessary" for an infant, but it would seem that, in the United States at least, a good common school education is deemed sufficient, and a college course is not a necessary (*Middlebury College v. Chandler*, 16 Vert. 683). Nor is it necessary to learn to glide through the mazes of the "Boston," or to tread the "heel and toe." (Vide 1 Sid. 446.) It is laid down in *Rainsford v. Fenwick* (1 Carter 216) that "Balls and Serenades at night must not be accounted necessaries;" but of all the cases in this connection the one most appropriate for the consideration of the students of University College, which has gained for itself the epithet of "godless," is *St. John's Parish v. Bronsden* (4 Conn. 75), which supports the college system of dispensing with religious instruction. This case establishes that religious instruction is not a "necessary" for an "infant."

And now, before I close this imperfect and, I regret to say, hurriedly prepared article, I wish to say a word of warning to those of the "infant" students who may have become entangled in the meshes of love. If you are about to marry, consult Mr. Punch. His advice is, "Don't." However, if you have been fool enough to become engaged do not imagine, as our friend Mr. Walker seems to have done, that you cannot make a binding contract for presents to your beloved. At the time of bringing the action of *Jenner v. Walker*, above mentioned, the defendant was nineteen, married, and the happy father of a healthy infant. Among the items in his jeweller's bill was £12 12s. for amethyst and diamond earrings, a present to his wife (given, if I remember rightly, before marriage), and the Court held that such presents were "necessaries." Remember this, ye sweet girl students, and stand up for your rights. It would also appear that, where an infant marries it is necessary for him to present himself at the altar in proper bridegroom's attire. (*Sams v. Stockton* (14 B. Mour. 232), but, contra vide, *Rainsford v. Fenwick, supra*). On the subject of marriage, however, *Punch's* advice is better than that of all the judges in England, and the following case may help to strengthen it: "If a man under the age of twenty-one contract for the nursing of his lawful child, this contract is good, and cannot be avoided by infancy no more than if he had contracted for his own aliment or erudition." *Turner v. Frisby* (1 Str. 168).

The subject might be pursued much further, and many more curious cases discovered, but I trust I have said enough to show that there is some little amusement to be derived, as well as instruction, from the dry study of the law.

C. C. M.

## COMMUNICATION.

### ANTIGONE.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—Notwithstanding the many gloomy prognostications of prophets of evil it may be considered as settled that the Greek Play will be presented at University College. The question now lying before us is, shall this play be brought out in a style that will do credit to our University, or shall it be a miserable failure? Shall we present it in a manner that will show the world that there is life and energy in a Canadian University as vigorous and efficient as exist in Harvard or Oxford? or shall we by a slovenly and ill-prepared representation give evidence of a dead-and-alive spirit animating—or rather *inanimating*—us, and thus bring disgrace not only upon ourselves as a University, but upon our country as well? The only point where failure may be feared is in the rendering of the choruses, and it is to this department I would like to refer. We would be far from seeking to belittle the difficulty of the choruses, on the contrary we would remind ourselves that success can only be won by earnest and systematic work, and this is where the shoe pinches. One man is as brave as another till the danger approaches and so it is that circumstances of trial bring out a man's principles.

When the *Antigone* music was begun the only trouble felt was in supplying copies to all who were eager to take part. The Glee Club was popular, the music grand, everything went swimmingly. But a "change came o'er the spirit of this dream" when the Greek words of the chorus were first attempted, and some of the weaker spirits dropped off. The difficulties increased, the practices became more frequent and the whole affair changed from mere pastime to work. This change in *Antigone's* complexion had a most chilling effect upon the ardor of some of her admirers and they gracefully retired. Of the remainder some are attending half the rehearsals, thus doing more harm than good, while others, we are happy to say, are sticking by their part and doing their work like men. Let us not run away with the idea that this undertaking is something tremendous, for it certainly is not so in the estimation of Mr. Torrington, who declared the other day that four good rehearsals *with all the members of the club present* would put us over the difficulty. If we have no time to spare let us make time. If we look at this matter in the proper light we will readily devote ourselves to it with all our energy, make other things give way, spend the odd and often wasted minutes in practising our parts, and make it a business to be at every practice. Surely we should be prepared to sacrifice our ease, pleasure, everything in fact except duty, for the honor of our Alma Mater. Do we need the stimulus of example—we have a most powerful one in that of our professors, who may be supposed to have as little time to throw away as any Undergraduate. If we make this play a grand and sweeping success we may imagine the rejoicing of the friends of the University, the confusion of her enemies, the personal satisfaction we shall feel, the lustre that will be shed on our Alma Mater. We shall not attempt to portray the woeful results of failure, the exultant sneers of enemies, the indignant shame of friends, the "grinding torments," we shall be compelled to endure as the triumphant "I told you so" falls on our ears; worse than all, the knowledge that no opportunity of retrieving our character will be given us and the painful remembrance of what might have been, but imagination fails us in depicting the direful consequences of—not attending rehearsals.

C. W. G.

March 8th, 1882.

## NOTICE.

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## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

### THE ANTIGONE.

The representation of the ANTIGONE has been fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11th and 12th, next.

On the 15th of March the box plan will be opened at the University in Prof. Hutton's rooms in residence, for those Graduates and Undergraduates who have applied for seats prior to February 28th.

On the 17th of March the plans will be open for all Graduates and Undergraduates without distinction.

On the 25th of March the plan will be transferred to Messrs. Nordheimer's, and tickets will be sold to the general public.

All seats (reserved or unreserved) must be paid for when they are taken. Graduates who want the Secretary to take seats for them should send the amount, and their addresses, and instructions regarding the choice of seats, to H. S. Osler, Esq., University College, not later than March 15th.

Professor Lewis Campbell's translation will be sold with the tickets and mailed to all who desire it. Price, 25 cents.

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