

NEWS ITEMS.

When the American regiment formed a line of battle in the sham-fight at Montreal last May, Sir Edward Selby Smythe told Col. Austin he would inquire into the movement, having never seen it done so quickly.

YESTERDAY the prizes won at the last examination were presented at the Collegiate Institute. The presence of the Mayor and others made the ceremony more imposing. Among the recipients of prizes were the gentlemen from the Institute who obtained first class honors at the Matriculation Examinations in June.

NOTHING struck the Americans at Montreal so much as the way the Canadian bands played the 'British Grenadier.' The furious flourishing of the bass drum stick amused them exceedingly, and one part of the programme at Dodworth's concert in Gilmore's Gardens used to be 'British Grenadier a la Canadienne.'

IT is a curious fact that the day the first number of THE WHITE AND BLUE was issued, the little aperture in the fence between the College and the School of Science was closed by order of the authorities. May the paper ever be attended with the same success in calling attention to things that are out of order. The students may look forward immediately to the righting of certain abuses mentioned in another column, which might include the need of a gymnasium and a side-walk leading to the Society Reading Rooms.

One of the most fortunate things that happened the undergraduates of University College is the transference of the Logic lectures to Prof. Young. Already a renewed interest is felt in the study. Pass-men particularly express their satisfaction. Among his listeners at a lecture on Kant recently, this accomplished gentleman had Mr. Justice Moss, who at the close declared himself justly interested. *The Globe*, in commenting on this change, proposes that the Professor of English Literature should include rhetoric in his course. Certainly no more capable lecturer could be found than Dr. Wilson.

AT A MEETING of the General Committee, held on Tuesday, the homeless condition of the Society was discussed with groans that grew more agonizing as item after item was presented calling for expenditure of funds that are not. It was a sad vision, that of the warrior who carries the scars of a hundred fights, seated on an enormous throne, the only seat in the room, his myriads weeping about him. And who can reproach them? Is it wonderful that one should brush away a tear when he told of drains, of paint, of bad air and indiscriminate spaur? Is it surprising that souls should shake the breast of him who spake of doubled fees? It was found impossible to have a meeting of the Society last night for want of seats and light. Such a meeting was thought of, but several members opposed the plan of making the Society sit cross-legged on the floor, on the ground that such a posture was undignified and un-English. Again, others threw cold water on the idea of employing for illumination the gas which forms so large a component of the proceedings of literary societies in general. A proposition which met with more favor was to apply to the Ontario Government for aid in fitting up a reading room and hall. It was thought that there could be no reasonable doubt of success if the first vice-president were despatched to give the Local House his famous speech containing the *Omnium-regina-remum-oratio* clause, with his celebrated metaphor of the 'snow-queen.' A more effective method was thought to consist in sending the Ministry photographs of the General Committee in their present disconsolate condition. These motions were laid on the floor, (no table being on hand.) Despite these melancholy circumstances, arrangements were made for writing the editors of THE WHITE AND BLUE, imploring their support in the great works to be undertaken by the General Committee. The meeting then adjourned.

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

ONE of our professors is as hairless as St. Paul, and tells a great many stories at his own expense. He was walking near a house in the North-west, where he had once staid some time and where he flattered himself he was pretty well known. The young ladies were playing croquet on the lawn when he entered the gate, and they told him the garden was not open to the public. At this he took off his hat, when they immediately recognized him.

An individual at Cambridge was anxious to get a degree in Music. It was necessary for him first to graduate in Arts, and here his difficulties were almost as great as his perseverance. At one examination in which he was rejected, Lord Royston, a clever fellow, but whose time was all spent in cricket, failed to obtain the requisite marks, tho', as a peer, he, of course, received his degree. The musical gentleman took great delight in telling his friends that "Me and Lord Royston was plucked."

There was once a professor at Oxford who believed in spiritualism and wrote a book on the subject. While occupied on the work he went down one morning to London. There, at a corner he came face to face with a student and recognized him at once. Now the student had no business to be anywhere but at Oxford, and he knew it, so he conceived the happy idea of working on the professor's credulity. He walked straight up to that dignitary, whirled his umbrella round three times very near the learned man's nose and then disappeared down a lane. He took the first train for Oxford and reached there before the professor. The same evening he called on the spiritualist and told him that he had a most amazing experience to relate; he knew he said that the professor had gone to London, but that day at a quarter past eleven (the hour of the London meeting) a manifestation of the gentleman appeared to him suddenly, swung his umbrella round three times in silence and vanished. The professor enthusiastically noted down the occurrence, which appeared in his book.

A new and more stringent code of regulations has recently been printed for the guidance of students attending the University of St. Petersburg. It re-affirms the statute of 1863, and prohibits the students from holding concerts, as also dramatic, reading, and other public assemblies. Besides his residential ticket, the student will receive a ticket of admission to the lectures, which he will be bound to carry always with him, and show, when required, to either of the university inspectors or members of the city police force. The university police may from time to time visit the students' rooms, particularly in the event of their failing to attend lectures punctually. The students are prohibited from having in their possession books or prints of a seditious character and printed matter of an indecent kind; out of regard for their good name, they are to refrain from visiting improper localities; they must be present in the lecture-room before the professor arrives, and remain till the conclusion of his lecture. If a student is absent more than three days from his class the cause of his non-attendance must be notified to the inspector.



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CORRIGENDA.

It has been said, among numerous adages relating to British rights and splanetic wrongs, that the one thing that renders the college residence tolerable, is the privilege of grumbling. There can be no doubt that even where grievances are not actually removed, open discussion makes them easier to bear, as people reduce fever and inflammation when they have the courage to groan. Undergraduates, having now the columns of THE WHITE AND BLUE open to them, need be no longer 'voiceless in their woe;' and the sooner they make known their needs the better. That they have grievances, and deeply-rooted ones, is proved by looking over a list prepared as long ago as 1875, every item of which has augmented force in 1879. Thus: (1) Increased residence accommodation is required; (2) a thoroughly equipped gymnasium; (3) as well as a better stock of books to choose from in selecting prizes; (4) a course of university sermons, appealing to a cultivated and thoughtful audience, would be much appreciated during the winter months; (5) a Professor of Law is sadly wanted; (6) some variety and interest should be introduced in the proceedings of Convocation and other public occasions (not a decent cheer has been heard for ten years); (7) means should be devised for keeping up graduates' connection with the college; (8) To which may be added: (8) the farce of caps and gowns as too expensive a joke for a poor country in hard times; (9) the inhuman practice of withholding overcoats from the University company, and (10) the difficulty in getting books from the library over night. No doubt 'To be continued.'

FIAT JUSTITIA, RUAT CÆLUM.

REVERSING the order found in *rerum natura*, national traditions seem to grow more imperishable through age, and frequently the legends of associations outlive even these. Such has certainly been the case with Masonic and other observances; but perhaps the condition of early society was more favorable to their transmission than the irreverent to-day. At least I have such a theory, and intend some day to send THE WHITE AND BLUE an essay on the subject, accompanied by diagrams, and apodictically prove the position. However, for the present it is enough to notice that certain customs held sacred about University College have lately been subjected to a most destructive revision. Residents used to point with satisfaction to a mound in the quad, said to rest over the bones of fourteen neophytes, whose early death was due to cheek. With tears of pride they used to recite those weird ballads of wild work in the 'Lightning Express.' Shades, whose presence turns light green (instead of blue as other ghosts), will haunt the vaults beneath the tower in *seculum seculorum*. But the heroic age is past. The era of civilized initiation and semi-human treatment of first year men has commenced. The ancient *Societas ad Initiandos Tyrones* has been organized on a hard money basis; an elaborate constitution adopted; the ritual re-written in more elegant language, though less adapted perhaps to the comprehension of novices. The old inscription over the door, *Lasciate ogni sberanza voi ch' entrate*, is retained, but shorn of half its meaning. Verily, these are degenerate days. SAU.

DURING the summer, the daily papers announced the death of an undergraduate, called Mc—. Now this is not an uncommon name about the College, and every body had the picture of Mc he knew laid out and buried and wept over. Some students of the —th year were discussing the deaths that had taken place, and expressed their sorrow at the demise of the Mc of their class. One declared that he did look very ill in May, and the rest remembered that he had a very broken down appearance; when to their dismay Mc is seen approaching (he's rather tall) as well as ever, only a little provoked with the Examiners.