

tree in the ravine, will testify, while several beautiful elms have had fires built at their roots. And what is a greater crime than the maiming of such mute though stately witness of the flight of time? When the college authorities stopped the Queen street youngsters from playing football in the ravine, they might have just as well excluded the young barbarians who drive away the birds, and mar the beauty of such grounds as ours. There are signs too, posted at each gate, yet people daily tramp over the cricket crease, newly clothed in tender green, and still soft from spring rains. The grounds are not open, neither are they a short cut for a time-saving populace, who heed no signs unless clothed in the majesty of the law. Oh, mighty faculty, clothe them thus, we pray thee!

RADICALISM.

The sea of progress and of evolution has been rising higher and higher upon the sands of humanity, washing away and reforming them at the beat of its waves. But, alas! the billows seem to rise too high and to beat too hard upon the shore. We can compare the toppling crest about to break to radical thought, the burst of the wave is the final collapse of the exaggerated ideas, and the receding wave the reaction which invariably follows. Then the waters close in, finding their level and ever rising higher upon the sands. Mark the wave of scepticism, that growing for ages reached its climax in the last century. It has burst now, the flood has ebbed back and returned to its level again in the form of the scientist who no longer rails at the church nor calls it a relic of barbarism. He recognizes its influence in the moulding of ages gone, and feels more than ever its presence in the world of to-day, even though he rejects the supernatural and strives to place the Religion of Humanity on the pinnacle of faiths, making self-sacrifice the cardinal virtue and selfishness the deadly sin. To our infinite joy, a billow lately gathering, has burst about us and is sweeping back from our shores. It is the radical in literature, beauty and drama. The miserable school of literature which caters to unhealthy tastes, the distorted ideas of the beautiful, and maudlin drama, which exposing the sores of social life to the morbid view of humanity offers no cure for them. All three are going and may they never return. Another wave has been gathering through the centuries, it is the emancipation of woman, but the thought growing more gradually and reasonably has slowly evolved the woman of to-day—and who of us grudges the change? But let her keep in check radical ideas of dressing, of social relations and of personal freedom, lest she over-topples the wave, and the bursting billow sweeps her progress back for years with the undertow. This constant beating of the sea on human sands has washed away whole classes, and cast new ones upon the shores. The aristocracy has changed from one of blood to one of wealth, a step down in the fact that the plutocracy of to-day have the powers of the old aristocracy, without any of the tribal or family feeling which held society together in the days gone by. Beneath the glittering crust of nineteenth century advancement there are loud murmurs of discontent, which augurs the advancement of the few at the expense of the deterioration of the foundations of society—the working classes. How is this to be remedied? Surely not by radical ideas, nor in new or untried experiments in government, but instead by the same slow evolution which has raised us from barbarism.

Guelph Herald.—"The house was more than fair considering that this is the fag end of the season."

THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

It is hardly to be expected that the members of a university in Ontario should be indifferent to the proceedings of the recent Commission in regard to the trouble at the University of Toronto. It is with no unfriendliness that we approach the subject, and with no exultation over the troubles of our greater neighbour. Whatever hurts the University of Toronto must hurt the cause of education in this country, and specially in this province. That incidental advantages might result to other educational institutions can, with us, in this case, hardly come into consideration.

We have not yet the report of the Commission, but the public sentiment on the subject is pretty well ascertained, and is not likely to be much affected by the coming report. On many points of interest we cannot here touch. We must content ourselves by referring to some matters of collegiate interest, and therefore of special interest to ourselves. If our first thought is, that those universities have reason to congratulate themselves which are not under the government of the province, this reflection is made in no ungenerous spirit. We believe it is equally the conviction of those who have the interests of the University of Toronto most at heart. In more ways than one, these troubles have arisen from, or have been fostered by, the sense of the connection of the university with the Government.

Another thing on which there seems to be no difference of opinion is, that the Commission was altogether a mistake and a confession of weakness. THE REVIEW has never been slow to advocate the rights of students, if there has been any hint of the invasion of them. But, so far at least, we have not adopted the plan of having the discipline of a college managed by the undergraduates. We believe, on the contrary, that a firm and decided rule in a college is a benefit to all concerned. Of course we hold that the regulations imposed and enforced should be of a reasonable character—in fact, should be of such a character, that all undergraduates, having any claim to be called gentlemen, would adopt them, even if they were not enforced by authority; and we do not believe that any other regulations will permanently work. But it was a monstrous request, when the students demanded a Royal Commission for the purpose of inquiring into the merits of the professors. And it must be confessed that the ministry showed great weakness in practically granting this request. This would, of course, be denied. It would be said that it was not the Commission asked for by the students, but a Commission appointed by the Government; but this is mere moonshine. It was the same thing, and it was worked in the same way as that must have been.

The outbreak of—shall we say?—the rebellion was not quite pleasant. If Mr. Montgomery behaved well, then Mr. Tucker and the committee did not behave quite well. Mr. Montgomery, it may be said, yielded under constraint. He did not aspire to the crown of martyrdom, and made what amends to the authorities it was in his power to make, handing over the fulfilment of his engagement to Mr. Tucker. Whether the latter gentleman would have satisfied the authorities, we can hardly tell, as, in what he did, he was acting under the instructions of the committee—with whom, it was supposed, martyrdom could have no connection, seeing that, according to the old saying, "a committee has neither a soul to be saved, nor a body to be kicked." Under these circumstances, we can hardly blame the authorities of the college, if they dealt with them individually.

It would be a serious task to appropriate the amount of blame to students on the one hand and to the authorities on the other. Neither party comes out with flying colours