

Place-aux-Dames.

The Merrill Prize of \$800 at Colby, was won this year by a lady.

Miss Alice E. Freeman, now president of Wellesley College is but 28 years old.

She—I don't think I shall go rowing with you again. He—Why not, pray? She—Because you only hugged the shore.—*Rutgers Targum.*

It is expected that the presidency of Girton College will be given to Mrs. Fawcett, the widow of the Postmaster-General of Great Britain.

Dean Burgan says: "God has forsaken Oxford University since women have been admitted to its examinations."

A petition for co-education was presented to the trustees of Adelbert College, Cleveland. It was seventy-two feet long and contained 4,000 names. The trustees decided in favor by a vote of 12 to 6.

A circular recently issued by Cornell College says: "Young women bear the strain of mental work quite as well as young men, and there is no more sickness among them; moreover a large percentage of them complete the course and graduate; and the average scholarship among them is higher than among young men. This fact does not necessarily imply mental superiority; it results, doubtless, from the greater regularity with which they apply themselves to their work."

Communications.

MR. GRANT ALLEN.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY.

SIR,—I am sorry to see in the last 'VARSITY a repetition of the "regret that Toronto University, through some inconceivable short-sightedness, failed to secure the services of such world-renowned men as Huxley and Grant Allan." About the former name there can be no doubt, but is it so of the latter?

We wanted a first-class Professor of Classics to succeed Dr. McCaul. Mr. Grant Allen not only took only a second-class standing at his final Oxford examination, but Classics is not his speciality. He went out to Jamaica as Professor of Mental and Moral Science to a College for training colored youths. He is the avowed disciple of Herbert Spencer, to whom one of his books is dedicated in very strong terms; and it is as a Spencerian student of Darwin that he chiefly writes. He may therefore be the right man to succeed Professor Young or Professor

Ramsay Wright; but the graduates of Toronto University are surely not prepared to say that a Second Class Oxford man, who does not make Classics his specialty, is to be preferred to a First Class Oxford man, and a Fellow of his College there, merely because the former happened to be born in Kingston. Δ.

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY.

SIR,—The project for the construction of a new Y. M. C. A. Building originated last fall has taken definite direction and now bids fair to be successfully accomplished. The support which has been received by friends of the College and the Association has been most encouraging. About \$1200 has already been subscribed outside of the College.

It must be apparent that if persons not connected with the college are to be expected to give aid in carrying out this plan, undergraduates and especially members of the Association must be willing to do their share. Unless we help ourselves, we can scarcely expect to receive aid from others.

Nearly \$100 has already been subscribed by undergraduates, though no regular canvass has yet been undertaken. Is it too much to expect \$1,000 from 350 students of University College for what will be a permanent benefit? The liberal response made by all who have been asked for subscriptions leads me to hope that there will be no difficulty in obtaining the above sum from the students of University College. It would be quite unlike their liberality and enthusiasm in supporting College institutions to allow this enterprise to fail for want of support from them.

If it is true that "he gives twice who gives quickly," it is certainly true that those will give twice who do so without waiting to be solicited. Those in charge of this enterprise are men whose time is very valuable, and those who do not wait to be solicited add to the value of their contribution by saving the time of hard-worked men.

I do not wish to say anything concerning the benefits arising from the erection of this building. These have already been sufficiently discussed—and by no one more fully than by the last year's President of the Y. M. C. A. I only desire to ask undergraduates to find out the man appointed to receive subscriptions from members of their own year and inform him of the amount they wish to contribute.

February 11th, 1885.

J. McD. DUNCAN.

VENTILATION.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY.

SIR,—In your article in the last number of the 'VARSITY, you omitted one very important want, viz., ventilation. The ventilation, or rather the lack of ventilation, of the College is simply detestable. There is no provision whatever for continuous ventilation, and that sometimes afforded by opening the windows cannot be obtained on stormy or rainy days. Hence, on a moderately mild day, the air of the reading room is redolent with classical savours of the very worst kind, so that study is rendered nearly impossible and health becomes injured.

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