

were urged onward ; and no wonder : for the roaring of the flames, the dense volumes of smoke, and the crash of falling trees, formed a combination somewhat alarming, even to wiser animals. The heat was so great as to be almost unbearable, and the state of the axles, through friction and the heat of the atmosphere, became such that one of them was welded to the box of the wheel.

Winter travelling in those days was scarcely as pleasant, although agreeable enough when the ground was well covered with snow, and the roads well broken. Such was rarely the case, however, through the whole route ; and it was a common thing to have good wheeling for the first stage out of Halifax, sleighing for the next two stages, and then wheeling into Windsor. These changes from one vehicle to another did not add to the comfort of the travellers. On one occasion we commenced the last stage to Windsor on runners, but before we had gone more than two or three miles we found it impossible to proceed by the main road, which had become bare of snow through the rapid thaw. The driver thought it advisable to turn into a side road, in the hope that there would be more snow there ; but before we had gone much farther one of the runners broke, in going over some rough ground, and we were brought to a stand-still. It became necessary to send to Windsor for a spare coach, and as the driver could not leave the horses, and there was no other equestrian among the passengers, I had to mount one of the leaders, and gallop off for the required assistance. On the whole, perhaps, travelling by railroad is the pleasantest, especially in the winter.

But all this, some will be ready to say, has very little to do with College life. Stop a bit, my friends. I can assure you that to the Matriculant at least the journey was a most important part of his College course. Every turn of the wheel brought him nearer to the object of his hopes and fears. For the first time in his life he possessed the privileges of manhood, enjoyed the notion that he was now his own master, and was prepared to view with approbation every incident that befel him in that capacity. Every thing was invested with a halo of romance that gave an exaggerated importance to the commonest events.