

## NELLES vs. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

We have been exceedingly amused by the correspondence between the Rev. Mr. Nelles and "A Member of the University of Toronto." The University Senate, by that extraordinary piece of legislation, known as the Rolph Act, and by the outrageous appointments of the government, is to a large extent composed of avowed enemies of the institution. Mr. Nelles is one of these; happening by some extraordinary fatality to be the head of an educational institution, he sits in the governing body of the University, takes £25 a year as an examiner, and yet rails at its government, sneers at its success, publicly aims his enmity to it, and strives unceasingly to compass its overthrow. The Methodist body established a college at Cobourg, and have liberally supported it; and it is to their credit that they do so. But in spite of the effort the injudicious rulers of that seminary make to conceal it, Victoria College is a denominational institution, supported by a sect and governed by their Conference. Mr. Nelles desires to share the spoils with the University. He cares little about the other denominational Colleges, so that Victoria comes in for its share.

Victoria College now receives £750 a-year, but looks with covetousness on the £16,000 which belong to its unsectarian neighbour. Let us look at the matter. Mr. Nelles would hardly be satisfied with less than £3,000. If the Methodist College is to get £3,000, Trinity should surely get an equal sum; Knox, albeit, quite unconsciously of the injustice done it, has an equal right in this matter, and may claim its slice; where would the matter end save in the entire spoliation of the noble institution into whose liberal halls, the rich and poor, the orthodox and the heterodox, may meet undisturbed by the petty bickerings of a wretched sectarianism.

Ah! but retorts Mr. Nelles, we do not make students subscribe to creed or test. It is true our institution is governed exclusively by one denomination; it is true that none but Methodist dogmas are inculcated therein; yet we are not denominational, for though we teach but one creed we do not make the students sign their names at its foot. Did it never strike Mr. Nelles that this is miserable sophistry, unworthy of a man of education and intelligence? The "Member of the University," giving way in rather a dastardly manner, proposes to constitute the Senate entirely of parsons, so as to secure a religious character to the national University.

Why pray? are laymen so devoid of religion, and morality, that they cannot secure the Christian character of the institution? Is all the sanctity of the Province, bound about the neck with a white neckcloth? Mr. Nelles seems to think that no one but one of his own denomination, can even teach with profit. The Episcopalian laymen, whose duty it is to unfold the riches of the earth, is quite unable to point out in the rocks their Maker's glory. The Unitarian clergyman, is so vile, in Mr. Nelles' eyes, as to be unable to raise the students' eyes from the plamage of the bird, or the gaudy hues of the butterfly, to Him who formed the one and adorned the other.

Nothing but the guiding eye of the Conference, or the fatherly supervision of the President of Vic-

torias is sufficient for these things. There never was a more miserable failure than the attempt to degrade the noble institution which should be, and is, the pride of this young land. Mr. Nelles may praise himself and his colleagues, and vaunt their superior moral worth as they please, but "the people of this province," to whom he appeals, have long ago settled for ever the question he attempts to raise, and look with displeasure upon the appointment of Senators, who take the money of the University and sit at her council, board to decry her name and plot her overthrow.

## THE THEATRE.

Mr. Barry Sullivan commenced his engagement on Wednesday under rather unfavourable circumstances. The extreme heat of the weather and the terrible pressure of hard times combined against his engagement. We are happy, to say, however, that though by no means properly received, he met a more generous patronage than any of the artists who have lately visited Toronto. Miss Elise de Courcy, who has been engaged with Mr. Sullivan, is an extremely pleasing and promising young actress, and will make her mark in the profession. We were much pleased with Barry Sullivan's *Richelieu*. It was a master-piece of acting, and only required a more respectably sized audience to have made it a thorough triumph. Mr. G. S. Lee's *De Mauprat* was, as usual, very excellent; we are sorry, however, that some of the other parts were very imperfectly filled. Without particularizing, we must say that it is an extremely disagreeable thing for both Mr. Sullivan and the audience to see actors thrust into parts for which they are by no means fitted, and betraying the greatest ignorance of the text of the drama in which they act. We have every consideration for the difficulties under which the worthy manager labours in sustaining the Lyceum; but we cannot, consistently with our duty, be silent when an artist like Mr. Sullivan is compelled to carry on systematic prompting during the whole of so common a play as *Richelieu*, or to protract a fainting scene to an absurd length for lack of some one to drop the curtain at the proper time. Mr. Sullivan concludes his engagement this evening, and we trust that he will have a good bumper at parting.

### Highly Important.

—We stop the press to announce that the *Leader* is even yet increasing! Two subscribers gave in their names yesterday. Truly this is the "people's paper;" 9782 in three months! Prodigious!!

### Wanted:

—Any happy individual who has had more than five minutes' conversation with Angus Morrison and Sergeant Blazes who has not been bored with a tale of their deeds and sorrows on the "Ploughboy."

### Important Announcement.

Sidney Smith has given us to understand, that in two weeks he will issue a full, faithful, and final history of the "Ploughboy" shipwreck—written by himself, illustrated by Angus Morrison, and exaggerated and magnified by John Duggan. We hope it will be the last that we shall hear of it.

## RIVAL REPORTS.

The *Colonist* says that there were 7,000 present on Thursday, when Blondin crossed Niagara River on a tight-rope. The *Leader* says that there were 20,000 persons present on that occasion. The difference is only 13,000! We have heard of people "seeing double," but the *Leader* would appear to have "seen treble."

The *Colonist* says that when Blondin arrived at the Canadian side, after walking from the American side backwards, he was cool. The *Leader* informs its readers that when he arrived, he was "in a tremour from head to foot." Here again the *Leader's* nervous system would seem to have been badly shaken.

The *Leader* apologizes for Blondin's not having rested while wheeling the barrow over the rope, on the ground that it would have been inconvenient for him to sit down with the barrow "lashed to his sides." The reason may be sufficient. But the fact is, according to other authorities, Blondin did rest while crossing with the barrow. The *Colonist* made the same mistake as the *Leader*, which, however, only shows that *Old Double* cannot see single at times.

The following gem is the *Leader's* conclusion of the description of the feat:

"When he, [Blondin] reached the shore, the subdued silence gave way to a mighty cheer, which rose in one loud hurrah, as if involuntarily, from the great throng of assembled spectators."

"A mighty cheer "rising" in one loud hurrah," is just the sort of thing to break a "subdued silence" with the greatest effect. If the "mighty cheer" rose in two loud hurrahs, the effect would have been completely spoiled. Therefore we are glad the Americans have shown themselves people of taste.

## THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY PIC-NIC.

Those of our readers who desire to take part in the best excursion and pic-nic of the season should not miss the opportunity offered by the St. George's Society for Tuesday next. They purpose starting for Bell Ewart by the Northern Road; thence by the steamer *Morning* on Lake Simcoe to Jackson's Point, where the party will spend four hours. The steamer is then to proceed to Barrie, where a dinner will be given at five o'clock. A more delightful trip could hardly be taken; and the opportunity any not again be given this season for enjoying a day's sail amongst the delightful scenery of Lake Simcoe for so reasonable a sum as the price of this excursion ticket. The proceeds of the trip are to be added to the charitable fund of this benevolent Society, and excursionists will thus, in addition to the pleasure they will themselves enjoy, aid in assisting the distressed sons and daughters of Old England. The excursion starts from the Union Station at 7 a. m. on Tuesday, and we sincerely trust that it will be entirely successful.

### Probably.

—It is rumoured that the Hon. J. H. Cameron is about to take holy orders. His manner of reading the prayers on board the *Ploughboy* having convinced his friends that he is a loss to the Church.