

UNIVERSITY SPIRIT.

An article appeared in a late issue of the *Red and Blue* which treats of the subject we referred to in the editorial column last week. It has the true ring and is well worthy of perusal by our readers. We hope in a future issue to again deal with this subject.

"There is one thing that all Pennsylvania men should always do what they can to foster, and especially to guard carefully from all inroads of factional prejudice—and that thing is their *University spirit*.

"Class, party, and departmental spirit is all good enough in its way and place, but is best secondary to University spirit, and whenever it occasions manifestations inimical to University spirit it must be frowned on.

"Pennsylvania men of all departments must remember that when simply a representation of class against class, or department against department is involved in any event or organization, class and departmental spirit is a praiseworthy thing; but when it is a question of any team or organization representing the University of Pennsylvania before the outside world, all class and departmental spirit should and must be merged into that higher spirit every true student feels for his University. We guard against saying *college* here, for that is a distinction which the *Red and Blue*, as representative of the students of Pennsylvania, is careful to make. The college is simply a department and the *Red and Blue* is not simply a *college* paper, but a paper for all Pennsylvania men, and it wishes in all ways to further, not college or class spirit, but *University spirit*."

The following letter on the same subject from one of our own students is in line with the above:—

Travellers who reach our city and seek to become acquainted with places and institutions of interest are invariably directed to Toronto University, as the pride of our province and city, and as one of the finest specimens of collegiate architecture on the continent. Scattered throughout, not only our own province and Dominion, but throughout almost the wide world, are the graduates from the halls of "Old Varsity."

No Englishman is prouder of the Union Jack, and of the past glories of the British Empire, than the alumni of our college are of their beloved Alma Mater. No patriot is more anxious to hold up the land of his birth and the places associated with all that his heart holds dear, than are those who go forth from our corridors to hold up before the people among whom they sojourn copies of what Toronto University seeks to make her sons and daughters, the best citizens, men and women of culture, of character, of courage, of honor, of devotion to all that is noblest and best.

I have said none are—I will rather say none should be—more earnest to exhibit such characteristics of fidelity to their college, and of loyalty to her training, than those who have had the privilege of being associated in Academic relations with the noble minds who have guided, and still do guide, her destiny. But this is by no means sufficient, nor is it sufficient that we shout "Old Varsity, we love thee." No college can be prouder of a record, than we of that over which we can look back. No College gives promise of wider developments and more glorious possibilities, than those which we feel lie before ours. But Mr. Editor, I am firmly convinced, from my undergraduate experience and from tolerably careful observation, that the same danger menaces the University as that which menaces our and every other country, viz., the danger of the disappearance of patriotism in mere sentiment, the evaporation of lofty feelings and lost capacities of achievement through exclusive confinement to the influences of mere emotion. At the present moment of our University life, when we see her rising in more stately grandeur than ever from her ruins, and when we delight to imagine the future which is gradually unfolding itself, three things need special emphasis and earnest consideration, especially on the part of the student body.

(1) Our college, while not simply an imposing pile of architecture, has through it great influence.

(2) The University is but beginning in what we hope is to prove a grand process of evolution.

(3) For this purpose she needs the assistance of each and every student as much as the efforts of her venerable President or of the Faculty.

Mr. Editor, it is not my intention to ask for space to show the relation and importance of these propositions; although I believe such space would by no means be wasted. What I wish to point out is that the bearings of all this, seen in many ways, is especially evident from a glance into one of our modern lecture rooms. Each one can for himself compare the conveniences supplied for us in our restored building, with those in the days when some of us were modest and unassuming freshmen. To-day the authorities with commendable liberalism have sought to make everything as comfortable as possible, and have furnished our class rooms in a way that should have touched our sentiment of pride and aroused a purpose that, in return for the care of those who provide for us, we would seek to second their efforts to make our college a greater source of satisfaction and centre of devotion than ever. Such might have been expected, but we look into some of the class rooms and see there the beginning of a thoughtless vandalism that should lower in the estimation of every loyal son and daughter of Varsity the stupid creatures who are serving the purpose of embarrassing our authorities in their good measures and of hurting the University whose praises we are so loud in howling.

Mr. Editor, I protest against the whole miserable business. There are none who object to innocent fun and none who wish to banish from our halls the proverbial student life and a great many of these time honored customs that help very greatly to make up the sentiment surrounding what are called "college days." We love those customs. We want the fun and life. But away with the contemptible means sometimes adopted to show a wit which is witless and a humor which is humorless. Away with the vandalism which destroys University furnishings that we were beginning, some of us, to take pride in. For those who delight in this, would that the days of ye Mufti were restored with the "sulphurous smoke and muffled groan."

Members of '92, '93, '94, '95, our college is in need of more endowment; it needs increased support; its usefulness though great is but beginning, and for its future triumphs it needs the pride, loyalty and devotion of its students, the pride and sympathy of the citizens, and, from all directions, the interest and support of friends of culture and of the intellectual and moral power which we believe can be obtained within our walls. Let us help to secure it. Let us do all in our power to preserve its material furnishings. Let us seek to show to the people of our city and province that Toronto University has not only a glorious past but a triumphant future, and that its students are alive to the demands of the age for men and women trained, not only in some departments, but equipped in every way for the duties of life. Believing that our beloved Varsity is the place of such preparation, will we not stand by her and present a body of students who do honor to her traditions and of whom all our country may be proud. Whether this is always done, I leave my readers to judge.

E. A. HENRY, '93.

CARPE DIEM.

"Carpe Diem," Horace said,
Soon the rose its bloom will shed.
Taste the sweets of every hour
Doomed to perish like the flower.
Time the ever subtle thief
Steals your moments—asks no lief—
If the leaves and bloom he'll get
You'll just have the thorn—regret
"Carpe Diem," Horace said,
When it's withered go to bed.

JAY KOB. B.