



JUNIOR FOUR-OAR CREW OF THE ARGONAUT ROWING CLUB, TORONTO.

The last occasion of the distribution of prizes at Upper Canada College drew together a brilliant assemblage of ladies and gentlemen. Many of the old "boys" made it a point to be present, several coming from a considerable distance. Dr. Henry Scadding delivered the address, and it is needless to say that the interesting reminiscences that cling around a foundation such as Upper Canada College were treated with the sympathetic grace and wit for which the aged speaker is renowned. Hon. J. B. Robinson, Hon. G. W. Allan, Hon. S. C. Wood, Dr. Bergin, M.P.; all U.C.C. boys; Rev. D. J. Macdonell, Sir Daniel Wilson, Prof. Goldwin Smith, Col. G. T. Denison, Dr. Sweatman, Bishop of Toronto, Hon. G. W. Ross and other gentlemen occupied the platform. C. A. Moss took the Governor-General's prize, as well as several others, thus becoming the hero of the occasion. Next year the college will enter upon its new and handsome buildings at North Toronto, erected on the site of the W. R. Baldwin estate and homestead, Mashquitch, at the very head of Avenue road. It is said that the old college is to be turned into a public recreation ground and the buildings used as a museum.

### Points.

By ACUS.

"To point a moral and adorn a tale."

Johnson: *Vanity of Human Wishes.*

To those who may, rightly or wrongly, have sympathized with the unfortunate man Birchall, it may be some comfort to hear once more reiterated the old truism that all the people are wiser than any one of the people, or than any few of the people. The verdict of the people, in addition to that of the jury, with the concurrence of the judge,—the verdict of the people, I say, was simply overwhelming. If the judge had not concurred with the jury, it would be different; if the people differed from both, it would be different. To a vast and overwhelming number of intelligent minds the evidence, though circumstantial, has seemed conclusive. The presumption of the truth of so unanimous a conclusion is very strong indeed.

Strange things, we know, are often done, if not in the name, at least under the guise of liberty. The "sweet land of liberty" has just returned a Democratic majority, only to remain manacled with an ironclad Republican administration, contrary to the voice of the people and which cannot be ousted. For the present the situation startles one with a resemblance, however slight, to despotic government; certainly it is not responsible government. To the victors, in this case, belong neither the spoils nor the power which is the fruit of victory. Such a turn of affairs in Canada would oust a government instantaneously. It is beginning to dawn upon us that, perhaps, after all, it is we and

not they who are the freest nation upon the face of the earth.

The harvest of Canadian subjects waiting to be garnered into literature is truly plenteous; but the labourers are few. Longfellow saw it and reaped "Evangeline." Parkman saw it and reaped "Montcalm and Wolfe." One or two novels have already made a modest appearance; but their bearing was rather social than popular. Essays to the point appear now and then in the current magazines; but it is questionable if there is anything very permanent in magazine literature. It was not until lately, however, that Canada made her *début* on the dramatic stage. Credit is due to Mr. McKee Rankin, first for being bold enough to introduce an entirely new character, and secondly for making that character a "Canuck." Now what we want is a popular, good-natured novel, built on a similar plan. It is contended that the limitations of the Canadian literary market do not render it inviting to the author. A good work, however, will always have a large constituency; its market will be the world.

Since the completion of the C.P.R., this country has received many compliments upon the greatness of her railroading achievements. This great railway has simply drawn attention to such achievements, because prior to it obstacles very great indeed were overcome here by railroad men. With a thinly settled country, a small travelling public, little capital to be had, and with comparative inexperience in railroading, the achievements of the earlier railroads are proportionately greater. The later railroads have been able to profit by the mistakes of the earlier ones, and by the great advance which the world has made in railroading in the meantime. Let us be proud of our great modern achievements; but let us not forget the pioneers, the early heroes, of Canadian railroading. People are sometimes inclined to be amused when they remember the old-fashioned rolling-stock, and the occasional slowness of the early roads; but that same stock well served its day and generation, and, as to time and speed, our modern railroads have considerable improvement to make yet.

### A Canadian Association for the Advancement of Science.

It has been suggested that Canada should have an association for the advancement of science similar in character and purpose, although necessarily not similar (at first) in dimension and weight, to those of Great Britain and the United States. The chief purpose of such associations is to bring the results of science into touch with the practical interests of everyday life and business. They are not merely—although they are to some extent—associations for

the purpose of affording opportunity for the exchange of knowledge between working scientists in the various highways and byways of science. They are also intended to bring so-called practical men into healthy contact with so-called theoretical men, for mutual benefit. As a great Canadian scientist (Sir William Logan) once tersely said, "Science leads to economies, and economies lead to science." On the membership roll of the American association there are two thousand persons; but, according to last year's president, Professor Mendenhall, not more than seven hundred are actively engaged in scientific pursuits. Both the British and the American associations are, in fact, great popular educators in the best and highest sense of the term; and in each, non-professional membership is fully encouraged. The active members include also the most prominent scientists of both countries.

In Canada we have now, surely, the material for a national science association. In our universities we have working scientists who are esteemed abroad, at any rate; and the development of our agricultural and mining industries is sufficient to justify a more general attention to the principles of science on the part of those who are not specialists in any line, but to whom a general knowledge of scientific progress would be of practical service.

Richmond, Que.

J. C. SUTHERLAND.

### Enigma.

I am built of eight letters; the student who looks  
From me to the sky, from the sky to his books,  
Will find that four syllables fashion my name,  
All in length and in number of letters the same.  
In two equal parts, of two syllables each,  
My nomen in full he will instantly reach.  
Part first is the name of a woman renowned  
In Biblical lore, and with reverence crowned;  
A woman who added one miracle more  
To the list that the mothers in Israel count o'er.  
Part second is that which the boys of old Rome  
All longed to possess, and, abroad or at home,  
When they found it, would strut with an air of such pride,  
The censors were moved their assurance to chide.  
Complete, I am known as a beautiful town  
In a land on which kings have some reason to frown.  
When Sirius rages and dogs run about  
With their tails at half mast and their tongues lolling out,  
I sit with Hygeia inhaling the air  
That invites to my fountains the proud millionaire,  
And damsels of fashion, whose luminous eyes—  
And diamonds—Lord Needy beholds, and he sighs!  
Now solve me my riddle, ye virgins of wit;  
For a task so momentous most men are unfit.

G. MARTIN.