

## CORRESPONDENCE.

AN EXPURGATED EDITION.

*To the Editor of VARSITY:*

SIR,—In "Saturday Night" of February 22nd there appeared an article entitled "An Expurgated Edition" which has aroused considerable indignation at VARSITY, inasmuch as it gave an exaggerated account of the Year Book trouble, and, incidentally, contained several gratuitous insults for the professors and students of the University.

The article is in the form of a dialogue, the writer, "Asterisk," posing as a Varsity grad., and answering the questions put him by one of the profanum vulgus, who is nameless. "Asterisk," after explaining the trouble to his illiterate companion, proceeds to dilate upon the falling off in dignity at Varsity, which has occurred within the last few years—presumably since "Asterisk" deserted us, carrying away his parchment. The nameless one inquires the reason of the change, whereupon "Asterisk" replies as follows:

"There are several causes. First, co-education, which is a failure. Secondly, the absence of a residence. Thirdly, the reign of small-minded officials who govern by rule and regulation. The last's the most important. If Toronto University's degenerating into a big day school full of fractious youngsters, the professors are chiefly to blame. They treat the students like children instead of like gentlemen, and what wonder if their valuation goes!"

Now, to anyone who is conversant with the history of Varsity's student body during the past decade, it will not be at all difficult to give "Asterisk" his proper name and address. Indeed, we have heard from him often before, in a similar strain, and, when one understands this, he will be less apt to believe that a graduate of unbiased opinions, has begun to despair of the ability of his Alma Mater to fulfil her mission. If the general public were equally well informed we should have no fear of such articles producing any feeling of antagonism to our university.

As regards the charge that "student life at Toronto University has lost nearly all its old time dignity," it is hard for students of the present day to see any diminution of dignity in the change from a "brute force committee" to a respectable election, with equal rights for weak and strong; or from the old-time "hazing" to the present "hustle," in which the Freshmen are afforded all the advantages of British fair play.

Let us take up, seriatim, the reasons "Asterisk" assigns for the degeneration from "dignity" to "kiddishness." The first one, which puts part of the blame on co-education, is surely that of one who has not given the matter any serious consideration. Even theoretically the presence of women students would seem to tend towards "dignity" rather than "kiddishness," and, in practice, it certainly does. If, however, there is any defect in student life at Varsity, it is due, in our opinion, solely to the pressing need of dormitories, and, with the second reason, every undergraduate is in hearty sympathy. Give us dormitories, and College life at Toronto University will soon be on a model basis. The third, and as "Asterisk" says, the most important reason, seems less applicable to Toronto than to most of the great universities. After talking with numerous undergraduates from other universities in America the writer has come to the conclusion that the students of Varsity are remarkably free from rules and regulations—certainly as free as the successful management of so large a university would warrant. Moreover, we have yet to hear of a case in which the professors have treated any of the students "like children instead of like gentlemen."

In conclusion we would cheerfully admit to "Asterisk" that his second remark—concerning the absence of a residence, touches upon a defect in our system, but this, we hope, will soon be remedied, and at any rate, it is not the fault of either professors or students, "Asterisk" himself, might better employ his pen in presenting to the public our pressing and increasing need of a residence, than in deriding and insulting the professors and students of his Alma Mater. Well is it for old Varsity that she has only one alumnus of the "Asterisk" type!

J. G. LORRIMAN, '03.

*To the Editor of 'Varsity:*

SIR,—I noticed in the Correspondence column of your last issue, a conglomeration of English "jaw-breakers" (with a fair sprinkling of Latin), over the signature "Man-Student." With much difficulty I at last sufficiently deciphered it to guess that "Man-Student" was attempting to roast the women-students for the chattering which sometimes occurs in the Library.

Now, Sir, without doubt, a great injustice is being done the women through these repeated attacks in "Varsity," and, as a frequenter of the library, and one who knows the facts of the case, I wish to protest against it. On one day only, has there been any excessive noise on the Right of the Partition, and, as that was when the dear things were "swapping" valentines, everybody except Man-Student forgave them. As a matter of fact, the men make far more noise than the women, and it would be better to secure perfect quiet on our own side of the partition before we demand it on the other side.

Of Man Student's identity I know nothing, but have formed a rather uncomplimentary opinion of him. Perhaps, though, the cause of his choleric effusion is traceable to a mere bilious attack—in which case a doctor's prescription would be productive of better results than a letter in "Varsity."

ANOTHER MAN-STUDENT.

## ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON RAPHAEL.

Professor Fraser's lecture on "Raphael," which was to have been given yesterday, will take place instead at eight o'clock next Monday evening in the Chemical Building. Professor Fraser has been at work on the preparation of this lecture for some time, and a large number of excellent slides will enable him to illustrate his remarks very fully. The lecture will be delivered under the auspices of the Modern Language Club.

## NEWS OF OTHER COLLEGES.

The subscriptions to the G. M. Grant Hall Fund at Queen's now amount to \$1,356.

The *McGill Outlook* is in financial difficulties, and the Business Board is making an appeal to the students in order that they may continue its publication.

The current number of the *Johns Hopkins News Letter* is given up to a description of the recent Quarter Centennial Celebration and the installation of President Ira Remsen.

The Committee on Student Conduct at Cornell recently found three students guilty of fraud in examinations, and suspended them until next September.

At Clinton, N.Y., where Hamilton College is located, the Circuit Court has decided that the property of college fraternities is not taxable, those organizations being considered "constructively charitable institutions."