

# COLLEGE TOPICS



Devoted to the interests of the Students in the Universities and Colleges of Toronto.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 6, 1898.

No. 8.

## VARSITY MEETS TRINITY IN DEBATE

The First Intercollegiate Debate a Great Success

### VARSITY ORATORS WIN

A Large Attendance of Students from both Colleges Present—Eloquent Speeches Made

The audience which gathered in the Convocation Hall of Trinity University last Friday evening, to listen to the opening debate of the Intercollegiate Debating Union of Toronto, gave every indication of a widespread interest in this new, vigorous and timely organization. The debate being between Trinity and University College, the larger half of the gathering was composed of the undergraduates of these famous institutions of learning. In the gallery at the back of the hall were seated the begowned students of Trinity, while Varsity's myrmidons occupied the back seats of the basement to the door. The latter, who turned out in large numbers, assembled at the Students' Union and marched in a body through the streets to the rendezvous singing College ditties and making night hideous with Varsity's slogan. There were a considerable number of ladies present, besides many members of the Faculties of both Colleges, among whom were Dean Rigby, Prof. Hume, Mr. Adam Carruthers and Dr. Wickert.

About 8.15 o'clock the chairman, the Rev. Provost Welch, opened the meeting by stating briefly the purposes and hopes of this Debating Union. He then called upon Mr. F. H. Kirkpatrick, of the Conservatory of Music, for a reading, who gave as his selection that most stirring scene in the days of Nicholas Nickleby—the revolution in Dotheboys' Hall. Mr. Kirkpatrick's clever reading was immediately followed by the debate, the proposition of which was: Resolved, that war is a necessary means to the advancement of civilization. For the affirmative the speakers were Messrs. D. T. Owen and R. O. McEwen, of Trinity College; for the negative, Messrs. W. H. Alexander and F. W. Anderson, of University College.

Mr. Owen, in opening the debate, stated that in his opinion the discussion of the proposition must be based upon the actual rather than the ideal—upon the traits of human nature as exemplified by the facts of history, and not upon a consideration of the ideal. He then proceeded to demonstrate the necessity of bellicose operations by prophesying as the inevitable result of the adoption of the Czar's peace proposition the utter annihilation of the Aryan races, the exponents of civilization, by the yellow and black tribes of the earth. War was, moreover, necessary to each nation as a means of preserving its civilization from the attacks of external foes. Mr. Owen then passed from the consideration of the national standpoint to the point of view of the individual. He thought that the practice of war was of great value in developing the noble and the manly qualities of endurance and courage. He contended that nations are at their greatest in periods of war, that in these periods arts and sciences arise, and that art never yet grew but from a nation of soldiers. It was, he thought, a mistake to believe that peace and civilization go hand in hand. On the contrary, the accompaniments of peace were, he said, sensuality, corruption and death. Rome, at war, spread the principles of the highest civilization, at peace she was a putrefying so e. War is a law of nature and progress. Spain had discovered the truth of this when she was given to understand that she must rule her colonies on nineteenth century principles or lose them. Mr. Owen's speech, which was a very eloquent one, came to a close with a very brilliant peroration in which he claimed that old England had in the past thirty years done more for the spread of civilization as well as more fighting, than any other nation in the world.

Mr. Alexander, for the negative, thought that the debate hinged upon the word "necessary." If he could disprove that war as an instrument of civilization was a necessity, the arguments of his opponents would fall through. Before proceeding to his argument proper he made a reference to the New Hebrides as proof positive that war is not a necessary factor in civilization. In true homiletical style, Mr. Alexander divided his argument into two divisions in which he contrasted the philosophy of civilization with that of warfare. He held that the comparison of these two would stamp the one as progress, the other as retrogression. Civilization has advanced along mental lines. The prevailing characteristic of savagery to the predominance of muscle over mind. The Court of Appeal for the savage is not reason but the fist. Might is right. Mr. Alexander claimed that the aim of civilization was to secure periods in which humanity might make progress in thought and in science.

War knocks such a possibility on the head. Modern, enlightened thought subscribes to the belief that might is not right, that life should be secure and that the rights of property owners should be respected. War asserts the right to wreck the passions deprecates the value of human life, and inculcates selfishness. The trend of social progress is toward the realization of the federation of man and the brotherhood of the world. Considered from an industrial point of view, war diminishes dividends, causes the rise of insurance rates and increases taxation. The appalling loss of human life is one of the prime evils of such methods of settling disputes, and deprives the State and civilization of invaluable material for its advancement.

Mr. McEwen, the second speaker for the affirmative, insisted that, notwithstanding the assertion of the last speaker that the key of the debate lay in the word necessary, this question must be argued on the basis of fact. The nature of man as he is, rather than as he might be, was, he contended, the proper method of approaching this momentous problem. The character of man, as of nations, must be diagnosed from his past history. Universal history has gone to show that war and progress go hand-in-hand, while stagnation is the hand-maid of peace. Man must have opposition to bring out his best qualities. War, therefore, always has been, ever is, and ever will be a necessity. He ridicules the idea that the New Hebrides could be cited as a case in point. The chances of their desiring to measure their strength with European nations were nil, while it could hardly be said that the calibre of their achievements was such as to entitle them to a high consideration among the peoples of the world. The main purpose of the speaker's endeavors was, he professed, to prove that war brings results which cannot be otherwise achieved. From disunion nations have passed through the fiery path of war to union, from stagnation to activity.

(Continued on page 4.)

### COME TO DINNER

The old, old story of the University of Toronto Medical Dinner is to be proved true again on Thursday night. It has always been the best banquet of the winter, and this year has the advantage of being held at home. In order not to admit the least possible chance of failure, the Harry Webb Co. has been engaged to provide the luxuries, while the Committee are enthusiastically employed getting everything arranged so that the boys and Professors can not help but provide the necessary feeling of jolly good-fellowship.

The Faculty's kind and earnest interest in the arrangements for the dinner has been more marked than ever. The Committee feels as grateful to them for the trouble in attending the second meeting as for their financial assistance.

The Gymnasium is to be tastefully decorated as the dining hall, while the front room to the right on the same floor will be reserved for the Faculty and the guests. The remainder will be occupied by the caterer. The large Students' Union hall will serve as a waiting and reception room, and the cloak-checkers will have charge of the bowling alley.

Dinner will be served at 7.30, during which Glionna's orchestra will play accompaniments to the knives and forks.

Between some of the speeches Mr. Bert Harvey will interfere with the solemnity of the occasion, by the introduction of some of his tickle-you-half-to-death songs.

The following is a partial list of the invited guests: The Governor General of Canada, the Lieut. Governor, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. J. Israel Tarte, Sir Charles Tupper, Hon. Mr. Fielding, Maj.-General Hutton, Dr. William Osler, of Baltimore, Dr. Roddick, of Montreal, Dr. Roswell Park, of Buffalo, Surgeon Colonel Nielson, Hon. G. W. Ross, Mr. W. Gage, the president of the Board of Trade, Mr. Willison and the heads of the various colleges.

An interesting feature of this season is the presentation of a handsome prize by the Medical Society for the best College yell for the U. of T. Faculty of Medicine. The brawny originator has been attending the various Dental offices and railway stations last week.

### DENTAL COLLEGE AT-HOME

The annual At Home of the Dental College will be held on the 9th of December, in the spacious hall of the institution, and will this year surpass all previous functions held under the hospitable roof of the college. The committee are working hard to make it a grand success and have procured good talent for a concert which will be held in the amphitheatre of the College prior to the dance, including the following: Miss Ethel Tyner, A.T.C.M., elocutionist; Miss Kerr, soprano; Miss McMicken, pianist; Miss M. DeGeer, soprano; Mr. Brownell, baritone; and Miss Chattoe, contralto.

Coke, the fashionable west end barber, is still at the old stand, 464 Spadina Ave. if

## TRINITY MEDS' 21ST BIRTHDAY

The Occasion Celebrated in Royal Style at the Rossin House

### PROMINENT MEN PRESENT

Thursday Evening Marks an Epoch in the History of the School

Twenty-one years old! Last Thursday evening the men of Trinity Medical College met *en masse* at the Rossin House to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of their alma mater. Birthdays from time immemorial have been occasions of joy and gladness to all participating, and every student does look back, now and again, to the happy evenings spent, when his lady friends passed out into society in all the gaiety and glee of the social dance; but all of the-e functions, merry though they were, must take a second place after the grand banquet the other night, which marked the *debut* of the old school.

Twenty-one years ago Trinity College received its charter and launched out into the world to fight its own way through life as an incorporate body. Look at it now as it passes into its majority, sturdy and strong, still engineered by the hand of the Dean, Dr. Geikie, who has so long been steering the old ship so well.

"Long to reign over us:  
God save the Dean."

Everyone knew that the committee, headed by President Geo. W. McGibbon, had been working with might and main for weeks, determined to make the banquet a grand success and every man went down town that night expecting something very big, and not one was disappointed.

At half-past eight the large halls of the Rossin were studied with black-coated students chatting about things past, present and to come. The committee was there looking spic and span, guiding one here and one there; the delegates from other colleges were there, delighted at the prospect, and not a bit nervous—why should they have been among such a sympathetic lot?—and the boys were there two hundred strong to show their loyalty to their college, and to enjoy a good dinner. Early in the evening the faculty began to arrive and ripples of applause greeted the appearance of each of the popular professors; and then the guests who grace a dinner with their lordly presence, and who were on Thursday night all boys again, were royally greeted.

At about nine o'clock the large dining hall was thrown open. No room in the city can compare with this one for its purpose, and to the eyes of the boys it presented a gorgeous scene. Draped with the national flag, intertwined with Trinity's own *rouge et noir*, nothing could have been prettier. Then the arrangement of the tables was simply perfect: here the committee showed excellent judgment, for things were so ingeniously fixed that all men as they sat at dinner were almost equally near the president and speakers.

After taking in the general decorations and arrangement all eyes were turned towards the tables, which were very tastefully decorated with roses and caryophanths. Instinctively the boys picked up their menu cards and carefully examined them; they were very satisfactory, when judged by the pleased smiles and appreciative comments made on all sides.

When all were in their places, grace was said by Prof Baillanthe, and all set heartily to work. As dish followed dish and plates were exchanged, the pleased expression on all faces grew really rapturous, and the dinner proceeded pleasantly, digestion being aided by the sweet strains of the orchestra. Too much praise cannot be given to the waiters, who did their work admirably.

For an hour and a half the dishes clanged, then everybody being in a most amiable mood set himself to listen to the feast of reason which was to follow. The speeches were excellent. Pres. McGibbon led the van with a terse, pointed address, proposing the health of the Queen. The toast list included those to Canada and the Empire; Trinity Medical College and Grads; Undergraduates; Hospitals and Medical Council; Affiliated Universities; Learned Professions; Sister Institutions; the Press and the Ladies. Speeches were made by Dr. Bourinot, the Clerk of the House, who wore his monacle most gracefully, and delighted the students with his humor.

Chancellor Allen of Trinity University spoke at some length of other days, of Bishop Strachan, and the success of our University: Mr. Houston spoke for Senate of Toronto University, and was quite witty for a Senator. Dr. Briggs made the speech of the evening, overflowing with humor, describing our theological friends as those who earn their bread by the sweat of their jaws. Mr. Lount followed, vindicating the rights of law and causing much fun for the boys.

Several among our professoriate spoke. The Dean was very jolly warning all freshmen against the great dangers incident upon falling in love, and calling forth cheer after cheer as he showed up well-known failings of many of the present fourth year: so much so was this the case, that these very ones led in the spirited singing of "Just One Girl."

Dr. Sheard proposed the toast to "Canada and the Empire," in his usual oratorical way, quite nailing home the good impression he had made on all the boys in the afternoon. He's a winner. Dr. Fotheringham spoke well in proposing the toast to the learned professions, apparently playfully stroking Mr. Lount's fur the wrong way.

Dr. Anderson asked all to drink to the success of the Hospital and Medical Council, which all did, knowing it would bring some good stories from Dr. O'Reilly. He did not disappoint us—never does—and was seconded by Dr. Dwyer.

Drs. Ashton, '98, and Bethune, '98, spoke well also. The press representatives sloped before their time, but those of other colleges stayed and showed that they were made of royal stuff. We venture to say that never in the history of our banquets had we such a group of eloquent, gentlemanly representatives from friendly colleges, as we had last Thursday night. Without an exception their speeches were excellent, quite eclipsing those of many of their seniors—we are proud of them.

About 2.30 a.m. the banquet closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne"—every student feeling that the evening had been one of solid enjoyment, and a dinner over which was a credit to Old Trinity from every point of view.

The dinner of '98-'99 is over, and many who sat down to it will never again do so as students, but all will carry the memory of that glorious night with them for years to come, looking upon it as the brightest night in this College year.

### '02 CLASS RECEPTION

The reception to be given by the Freshman Class at Varsity next Saturday afternoon promises to eclipse all previous functions of this kind held in recent years. A very interesting musical program has been arranged and several new features will be introduced to add to the pleasure of the occasion. As the Class is a large one the Committee has found it necessary to limit the number of invitations extended to students of other classes, in order to prevent any overcrowding. A number of representatives from seniors' years will be present, however, to lend dignity to the affair. The following program will be given:

- Violin Solo. (a) Le Cygne..... Saint Saëns  
(b) Mazurka, Op. 19, No. 1, Wienawski  
Miss Louise Fulton.
- Vocal Solo.—The Song of the Reaper—Edmund Hardy  
Mr. W. Arthur Blight.
- Reading.—Mr. Traver's First Hunt.....  
Richard Harding Davis  
Miss Helen Collins, A.T.C.M.
- Vocal Solo.—"Ah, Moon of my Delight".....Lehmann  
(Russian Garden).  
Mr. Alexander M. Gorrie.
- Vocal Solo.—The Interfering Parrot.....Geisha  
(With guitar accompaniment).  
Miss Mae Dickenson.  
Glionna Marsicano.

### MEDS VERSUS ST. MICHAELS

In the second round of the Muloch Series the Senior Meds' team met and defeated the famed St. Michael's College fifteen on Friday last by the decisive score of 10-0. The St. Michael's men had played a number of matches this year, and by many were picked as winners of the series; but though they played a plucky and withal a gentlemanly game, they were outclassed in weight, strength and knowledge of the game by their opponents, who showed a very decided improvement when compared with the game they played against the Juniors. They had the best of the game all through, scoring a try, which was unconverted; and a safety touch in each half. Dean was out again with the Meds, and, though out of condition, showed much of the dash that has made him famous at outside wing; Blanchard, Tanner, Montizambert, Jones and Turnbull, and Staley, Snyder and McCarthy for St. Michael's deserve mention for the game they put up.

The teams were as follows: Third and Fourth Year Meds—Archibald, Blanchard, Kelly, Turnbull, MacDougall, Currie, Coutts, Keith, Montizambert, Tanner, Jones, Campbell, Cook, Dean, Mackenzie (Capt.). St. Michael's—Snyder, Pickett, Collins, Sheridan, Duffey, Hayes, L. Staley, A. Staley, McCarthy, Lapp, Rowan, McAllister, McKenna, Gibbons, Walsh.

Officials: Referee—W. H. Alexander; Umpire—Walter Foreman.

### PUNTS

Aleck's decision—To challenge Ottawa City for the Canadian championship is certainly justifiable after Friday's game.

Collins' work was one of the great features of the game.

Dean, at outside wing, marked his man to a standstill. He was up against McCarthy, the sprinter.

W. H. Alexander, '99 Arts, showed another evidence of his versatility as a referee, a position he filled excellently.

## MOCK PARLIAMENT AT STUDENTS' UNION

An Unusually Interesting Program Arranged for Friday Evening

### MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Some of the Important Political Issues to be Introduced

Next Friday's meeting of the Lit will for interest surpass any of the sessions that have been held this year. The members who have suffered an exile of three or four weeks from their weekly pow-wow will have a superabundance of animal spirits which will find an adequate vent only in the riotous proceedings of a mock Parliament. The leaders of the respective parties, Alex. MacDougall for the Government, H. Fisher for the Opposition, have, as becomes true politicians, all kinds of artful schemes up their sleeves. The Prime Minister, the Hon. Alexander MacDougall, has chosen a Cabinet the members of which surpass anything yet heard of in the way of cuteness. Eric Norman Armour, Hereditary Count of Saxe-Cobourg and Gotha, as Minister of Finance, will out rival Russell Sage in the fostering care with which he will husband the mythical ducats. If the members will come supplied with their grandfathers' ear-trumpets, they will have the unique opportunity of hearing the funds accumulate.

Sir William Ha-Ha Alexander, as Minister of Public Works, has already won golden opinions for himself. No one who has heard the tale of his executive achievements will doubt, for one moment, his qualifications for the office. Thomas Astrachan Russell's appointment to the portfolio of Agriculture, is one which will meet with unusual approval. "Bucolic" is easily decipherable upon the sublime expanse of his noble brow. King Solomon will not be in it with the Hon. the Minister of Justice, John Jefferson Monds. What shall we say of Murray Cohen, the Minister of Trade and Commerce? Words are in his case a superfluity. The Minister of Railways and Canals, Sir Thomas Shanks, C.E., and the Hon. John Elliott, the Minister of the Interior, are the invaluable contributions of the S.P.S., which fact certifies to the excellence of their administrative ability. Under their regime elevators will be put in all the college buildings, trolley cars will run every five minutes between the different schools, and the "plunge" in the Gym will be extended into a canal through the ravine, to the delectation of the University Eight.

The Hon. Edward P. Flintoft, as Minister of Marine and Fisheries, will make it the aim of his political life to secure legislation for the stocking of the aforesaid canal with "monsters of the deep" (c.f. the Revised version), to whom may be cast the Jonah of the Athletic Sports in case of the unearthing of that obnoxious entity. Notwithstanding the victorious arguments urged by our representatives at the Varsity-Trinity debate last Friday night, it has been deemed advisable to have a War Minister to keep in order the unruly horde of freshmen. The Hon. John J. Gibson, whose deeds of derring-do upon the Rugby field have culminated in a fierce and warlike disposition worthy of Mavors, is the gentleman appointed to this position. It is his intention to promote the organization of a legion consisting of cavalry with horses manufactured at the S.P.S., infantry collected from the various clothing establishments in town, and a troop of the second-hand dromedaries of the Sirdar. With this formidable host he intends that the police force shall be effectively held at bay next Hallowe'en. Hon. Edward Kylie, as Postmaster General, will take under his serious consideration the possibility of securing to undergraduates the privilege of mailing five-ounce *billets doux* at the regular rate. Hon. Allan Featherstone Aylesworth will be thoroughly competent to cope with the arduous duties of the Secretary of State. He has recently invented and patented a lighting system of disposing of official documents, a hint of which method he obtained during his peregrinations through the editorial rooms of certain famous monthlies. The Speech from the throne will be moved by R. J. Hamilton, and J. W. Cunningham will second it. In it are contained the various planks of the policy of the Government.

On Monday afternoon of next week a joint meeting of the Modern Language Club and the Classical Association will be held in the Main Building. Miss G. O. Burgess, '99, will give an entertaining paper on "Quo Vadis," which will doubtless be warmly appreciated by those interested in that famous novel. The paper on the life and works of Jerome K. Jerome, which Mr. J. B. Hunter, '99, has selected as his subject, is one which should certainly find great favor with the admirers of this popular author.