

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DURING the summer, the Herbarium, which had fallen into a somewhat dilapidated condition, was renovated and catalogued by Prof. McCowan, of Belleville.

COLLEGE journalism is a subject on which there seems to be a pretty evenly-balanced difference of opinion, not only as to the practice generally, but to particular attempts. The head-shaking class of sages pronounce THE WHITE AND BLUE venture 'injudicious,' one of those delightfully indefinite words so dear to these people, and sufficiently misty to afford them a safe retreat in case of objections. On the other hand congratulations have been received from men whose blood circulates.

THE union of the games and Convocation has been effected, and both are to take place on Friday next. It is to be hoped that this will prove beneficial to both, for Convocation certainly needs something outside of itself to reward the good people of Toronto for coming to the college. Even if it could be heard, it is doubtful if the invariably soft-soaping of prizemen would prove very interesting. Of course the classical quotations that always abound at Convocation are the occasion of some merriment to undergraduates, who find in them, however incomprehensible, an opportunity for making a noise. The sports will likely find the poor boob of increased numbers to limit their share of the advantage. It seems only fair that the College Council should relieve the games' committee at least of the expenses of the band.

ABOUT two years ago a debate took place in the Society on Spelling Reform. The advocate of the present system of orthography urged as usual the failure of particular methods of phonetic spelling, and told a story of a man who said he wouldn't be afraid of a *nif* as long as his arm, as that way of writing the word took the edge off the tool. It would be insulting to the Society to say that they regarded these remarks as forcible arguments; it is more charitable to suppose that the speaker's forlorn condition affected the audience; but the decision was in his favor. Nevertheless, the *Saturday Review*, some months since, printed two versions of a poem, one in the ordinary style, the other in Pitman's phonetic long-hand, and appealed to the reader in support of the doctrine that the mode of writing bearing least connection with the sound had the greater poetic effect. It affords a good deal of satisfaction to men who analyse their feelings, to see a magazine so conservative as *Scribner* pointing how purely the added charm of the old printing is due to association. An old lady, known to the writer, thought it perilous to the soul to read a Bible without the long *s* of a hundred years ago.

IT APPEARS that His Excellency the Governor-General found some bones. With the bones were discovered some barbarous ornaments and other evidences of savage character; so they were all put in a box and sent to Toronto for Dr. Wilson to identify. He declares them to have belonged to an Indian who lived at some remote period before the discovery of America. This distin-

guished anthropologist, whom we are fortunate enough to number among our professors, has been for some time engaged in cataloguing the ethnological department of the museum, which includes typical heads of all the principal races, with casts of others, and specimens of primitive tools, ornaments, etc. Many of the most valuable of these Dr. Wilson has obtained by exchanging for them American archaeological specimens collected by himself, with the British Museum and the Jardin des Plantes at Paris. Dr. Wilson is very anxious to obtain the co-operation of undergraduates in making this collection, and certainly they might take the trouble to pick up and forward to him arrow-heads and remains of agricultural implements that many of them see thrown away every year as worthless. Students from the rural constituencies might confer a benefit on mankind with very little pains and no expense, while the name of donors is always attached to articles presented to the museum.

SHOOTING REGULATIONS.

There exists the greatest difference in the regulations with regard to rifle practice in this country and the United States. Here volunteers are required to fire annually fifteen rounds of ammunition, but it makes no difference where the lead goes to; it is just as effective in drawing pay as if it hit the ball every time. Now, at Creedmoor, members of the National Guard are obliged to qualify, *i. e.*, obtain a certain score every year. Not only so, but they must reach a standard at 100, 150, 200 and 300 yards before proceeding to the 400 and 500 yard ranges. More than this, a regular position is assumed at each range: standing at 100, 150 and 200 yards; kneeling at 300 yards; lying down at 400 and 500 yards.

PHRENOLOGY.

Grip doesn't set up to be a scientific journal; but the alleged sciences of Phrenology and Physiology never received so complete or so convincing a refutation as from *Grip*, of Sept. 20th. Here are represented the Hon. Edward Blake, and Secretary Everts. The figures are drawn just as they ought to be, in that bold manner of Mr. Bengough's which just gives what is necessary to the likeness, the very essence of it, in a way that no known caricaturist can approach, not even Sambourne. Here, then, are two men who have made their marks in exactly the same pursuits—Law and Politics. If two men ought to look alike: these are they. But look at them, not a feature the same; the crania exhibiting even a more startling dissimilarity. Why, the phrenologists have not so much left them as their favorite refuge, temperament. Usually, when you point out a man whose bumps indicate a particular character, and whose character is not anything in particular, or anything like the one inferred from the cranial development, they say, 'Oh, he hasn't got the proper temperament to give the character force; he is like an engine without steam.' In the present example there can be no appeal to lack of force. Surely, Mr. *Grip* is to be thanked for exposing frauds that are not always political.

THE Society Reading Room is now open (to those who have paid their subscriptions), and tolerably well supplied with matter. Local weeklies, of course, are not very numerous yet, and there is a corresponding paucity of readers. No better evidence can be found of the excellent domestic qualities of the Canadian youth than the heroic way he will throw aside Aeschylus to read the advertisements in the paper from his native hamlet

LOVE AND WAR.

Emerson says that the Greek mythology is true for all times because it is the product of the imagination, and not of the fancy. One of the truest things in it is the representation of Cupid carrying arms. 'Heaven is under the shadow of the sword,' says Mahomet; and surely the sword quivers with the beating of the heart. We know there is no greater stimulus to competition than feminine approval, 'no subtler master under the heaven than is the maiden passion for a maid;' and we have seen, too, the way a British female worships a red coat; but it is left, as most things are, for the United States to turn these emotions to account in business. A good many years ago Thackeray wrote a poem on the number of enlistments made in the American war of the Rebellion through disappointments in love. Now we see the ingenious device put in practice to make men drill, of inviting ladies to the armoury to witness the manoeuvres, and then ending with a dance.

PROF. WRIGHT has secured a stock of about two hundred frogs for use during the winter. Some of them are enormous, one fellow measuring thirteen inches in length.

THE annual match of the Queen's Own Rifles a week ago, afforded the University Company an opportunity of shewing the world the inestimable benefits of education, in having the young idea thoroughly taught how to shoot. One member made a score of twenty-five at two hundred yards; another won fifth prize; and the Company came within two points of getting second prize for shooting in skirmishing order. In fact the Company's prospects are altogether bright. With active non-commissioned officers, a fine-looking and enthusiastic body of recruits, nothing seems wanting but time for drill to make this one of the best companies in the battalion.

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