

Our College Arms

Back in 1821,
 In city Montreal
 The college seed was planted
 In a little log-hut hall
 Where sage professors taught three R's
 And that was nearly all.
 But when Victoria arrived
 To claim her royal crown,
 She fixed her tortoise-shell lorgnettes
 And, with a regal frown,
 Looked o'er th' Atlantic angrily
 And her foot came loudly down.
 "Buck up, M'Gill", she thundered forth,
 "You need a charter royal.
 Send me your college arms or crest
 I'll authorize your toil.
 I did not know that you aspired
 To burn the midnight oil."
 Then, Pete the First, one morning bright
 Proclaimed a festive holiday,
 The students, profs and governors
 Trooped "full of mirth and laughter gay"
 Down to the convocation hall
 To hear what Peter had to say,
 He told them of the angry queen,
 Asked for suggestions from the men,
 Encourage them to waste no time:
 And hardly had he finished, when
 Up jumped a Senior and proposed
 That each class choose right then

Some object to put on the crest,
 And the worthy Senior chose
 "Grandescunt aucta labore".
 Now this in English prose
 Means, freely, this—"When they grow up
 They *must* work—goodness knows".
 The birds look good to the Juniors
 Three doves in the act of cooing
 Three:—Love, Courting and Marriage,
 Three emblems of bliss and wooing
 The Juniors were wise in their choice all-
 right,
 They knew what they were doing.
 The Sophies chose two "kingly crowns"
 Upon the fields of gory red;
 These symbols meaning *always first*
 In everything worth while they said,
 But they forgot some awful guys
 Wear coronets upon the head.
 Lastly the freshies; they chose a book
 With "In domino confido".
 This for two reasons; on theatre night
 "We trust (to much) in our dominos;
 While during exams, fearing the Profs,
 "None trusts in the Lord like I do."
 This my readers is the tale
 Of the source of your college shield,
 Doubt not that it has a meaning,
 And when on the football field
 Or the rink, or in class remember
 The birds and the book on the shield.

