

formality and frigid dignity on the one side, and excessive awe on the other. Neither professors nor students wear gowns, even at lectures, and indeed there are very few lectures which do not take on the nature of "seminars" or "recitations." A spirit of earnest, enthusiastic work pervades every department, and to this spirit are sacrificed all conventionalities. Nor must it be supposed for a moment that such free relations tend to degenerate into a lack of real respect. On the contrary, I believe that Chicago students show greater respect for the members of the faculty than do even those of Toronto. The genial spirit of good fellowship which has penetrated the whole student body, and the uniform kindness and willingness to oblige, which they show towards new students, is worthy of being emulated in Canadian colleges.

I am well aware that some of the features of undergraduate life here, as I have indicated them, are not of a very inviting nature. But so it is, and in the Graduate School, I am glad to say, most of these objectionable features have disappeared. The truth is that the latter entirely overshadows the colleges, and gives to the whole University a decidedly post-graduate tone. At present there are several schools in the city which take up work preparatory to that of the University, in which the whole work of the Junior College is now being done, and whose graduates accordingly enter the Senior College directly. It is even rumored that this sort of preparatory school is being encouraged more and more by the University authorities, looking toward the eventual cutting off of Junior College work in the University. To a graduate student, however, Chicago offers many attractions. Almost every department can count men of continental reputation on its staff. The general library of the University is one of the best in the United States, and the departmental libraries are all that could be desired. Every facility for work is provided, and every encouragement and assistance are gladly given. But perhaps this is another story, for my subject was to have been undergraduate life.

Of course such a subject is almost inexhaustible. It would be interesting to tell of the quiet, sober manner in which Convocation is held in the University Congregational Church! How difficult it is to make a Chicago man understand our Convocation or Hallowe'en customs, or—more hopeless still—our Literary Society elections. It would be interesting, too, to sketch the part played in college life by the various fraternities, or to compare the phraseology of the Toronto man with that of a Chicagoan who is never a "plug" who "plugs," but a "bone" who "bones"; who does not "slope lectures" but "cuts recitations," and accordingly gets "cuts." A description of the magnificent buildings, their equally magnificent equipment, and their practically suburban situation on Midway Plaisance between the two largest parks of the city, would make too long a story for a paper, beyond the assigned limits of which I fear I have already trespassed. But before concluding I would just say that, since coming here, I have been better able to appreciate the real excellence of Toronto's undergraduate course,—using the word in its broadest meaning,—for surely every graduate, when, in a retrospective frame of mind, he counts over the gains derived from his college course, must consider those derived from books and lectures as forming only a part, though a very real part, of the whole. In post-graduate work Chicago must have a glorious future. An annual expenditure of a million and a quarter of dollars and a staff of two hundred members are some of the means she is employing at present, and she confesses to finding them insufficient. In view of facts like these, I believe that many graduates, while hoping all things good, cannot but feel grave apprehension regarding the ultimate success and consequent justification of the scheme of post-graduate work which has just been initiated at our own Alma Mater.

MALCOLM W. WALLACE.

The College Girl

The college girls of our University get very little recognition from the social world of this city—indeed one might say none at all. Now that the Countess of Aberdeen, from her position the leader of all Canadian Society, has invited them to take charge of one set of the dances at her Historical Ball, it seems to me it would be a great pity if the college girls do not think of it seriously, and make strenuous efforts to accept, and to put before the social world of Toronto a good view of the power of the college girl to play a successful part in society. There is an idea prevalent, and possibly nowhere more so than in this city, that college girls are peculiarly different from other girls and especially from society girls—that they are so engrossed in their books that they know little or nothing of society customs, and if turned loose in a ball room they would inevitably disgrace their friends and themselves by their awkwardness and the general blue-stocking air enveloping them. That this is utterly false, we who are college girls know, but we may keep on saying so till we are old and grey and it will do no good, unless we do something to prove that our higher education only enables us to play our part in society, whatever that part may be, more gracefully. Moreover, it is all very well to talk about despising society life as vain, empty and frivolous, but society women have a power in the community, and so long as that power turns its face away from the college girl—well, she can't do anything to make society life any higher and nobler, and she is shut out from a sphere where, by her breadth of mind, and true culture, and above all, genuine womanliness, she might not only be a great power for good, but also a more graceful ornament. There is no reason why the College girls should not dance a set representing literary characters at this ball, and do it with great success if they only firmly resolve upon so doing.

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Notwithstanding the fact that many of the faithful followers of the Woman's Literary Society had not returned from their Thanksgiving holiday trip, there was a very good attendance at the meeting last Saturday evening. Among the guests one noticed Mrs. Loudon, Miss Salter, Mrs. Brebner, Miss Cleary of Windsor, the Misses Mackenzie, and Miss Annie Webb.

The president of the society had charge of the meeting.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read and adopted, the president reported that Miss MacDougall had been obliged to resign her position as one of the representatives in the coming inter-college debate. Miss Helen Hughes, '00, was elected to take her place.

An invitation from her Excellency Lady Aberdeen, to take part in the Historical Ball to be held at Government House, on December 28th, was laid before the society.

Her Excellency desires that the students of our University should form one or two sets of lancers on that occasion, those taking part being dressed to represent the characters in the works of some well-known novelist,—George Eliot, for instance. This communication was well received by the society, and a motion was passed giving the executive committee the right to appoint our representatives.

The musical program was unusually fine. Miss Annie Webb, sister of Miss Mabel Webb, '98, gave the opening