

COMMUNICATION.

THE 'VARSITY QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE BEE.

DEAR SIR:—I am very sorry that my letter to you concerning the high honor paid to one of Elma's sons should raise such a furore in the heart of one of its former residents.

It was not my object in writing this letter to belittle the value of other universities; but, by comparison, to show the great superiority of the University of Toronto over all others, and thus enhance the honor paid to Edward Harvey.

I did not give these figures as correct to a decimal, but merely as an approximation.

Before defending myself against the charge of making incorrect statements I wish to draw the attention of the public to the extract from my last letter which occasioned such a storm of denial:—

"This is a greater distinction than might be regarded by the majority of readers, who may not be aware of the enormous dimensions attained by this the greatest Canadian seat of learning, when we take into consideration the number of students in actual attendance on lectures we are forced to admit the far-reaching effects of such a college. It has more students than the other three leading colleges of Canada put together. There being over 500 arts, 300 medicals, and 250 School of Practical Science men—making over 1,000 students in all—whereas McGill (non-denominational) has about 400 students, Queen's (Presbyterian) Kingston 500, Victoria (Methodist) Cobourg 150. This will show the preference of Toronto University over all others."

Notwithstanding the savage onslaught on these statements in your last issue, I do not take back one figure nor give way one inch. I can substantiate every remark with proof and explanation.

When I said that the University of Toronto had over 1,000 students I did not include theological students, so that it was not necessary in making a comparison to count in McGill's 400 theologians either.

Now that I have Toronto University's cause to champion, I will be at liberty to make comparisons and give reasons for the statements in my last letter. Conscious of the insufficiency of my powers for such a task, I would not throw down the gauntlet, were I not backed up by such a host of arguments.

Before commencing I will give my authority for the figures given in my last:—Queen's, 500—The Toronto Daily Mail of an early date in October—Kingston correspondent.

Victoria, 150—Two sophomores and one junior of that institution. The latter, I may say, placed the number at 125, but I added 25 in case the freshman class had increased lately.

McGill, 400—One of our delegates to the inter-collegiate debate.

Before going farther into the subject I wish to ask Mr. Lochhead a few questions.

Does he mean to inform the residents of Elma that McGill has 850 undergraduate students not counting those of affiliated colleges?

I still maintain that the undergraduates in actual attendance on lectures at the University of Toronto exceeds in the aggregate the three colleges above mentioned.

Are there more than 100 Arts students in McGill University against Toronto's 74 in 1888?

I don't think anyone will have the presumption to assert that Toronto has not more Arts students than the other three put together. Where McGill gets its numbers is in the Medical, Practical Science and Theological departments, but its Arts course is very poor when compared with other universities.

Now since Mr. Lochhead has taken the liberty to include students of affiliated colleges I think I can claim the same indulgence and if I do what do we find? The University of Toronto is made up of the following faculties affiliated and otherwise:—Faculty of Arts in the year 1888—784 students; faculty of Medicine in the year 1888—206 students; department of Engineering in 1888—1 student; department of Agriculture in 1888—6 students; department of Dentistry in 1888—25 students.

Total 1,066 students. Now this was in 1888 and if we allow for natural increase up to 1890 this will in all probability amount to 1,300 because some of these faculties had barely started in the year 1888.

In the Department of Engineering there were 68 students in the year 1889 and this year there are over 50 freshmen, on account of the increased accommodation, which, in total, will make about 100. The Registrar of the University of Toronto told me to day there were over 300 in medicine this year. I do not know about agriculture.

The Dental college has now, I hear, 75 students, of which George Fowler, formerly of Trowbridge, is one, and to whom I refer for the correct figures in this department. This computation will leave out the increase in Arts, Law, and Agriculture, which increase is something unprecedented in the history of the college according to the report of the Mail in October. But we will refrain from making our own calculations for fear of being accused of overrating.

In the following comparison we will use Mr. Lochhead's own figures for McGill. For proof of all my statements I will refer to the report of the Minister of Education for the year 1888, pages 300 to 312, appendix M, a copy of which I will send to you, Mr. Editor, if you cannot take my word, so that you may see and be convinced of the correctness thereof. Now, let us look at the University of Toronto, including all affiliated colleges, which should, by rights, have been entered in my previous communication, and would have been, had I had the faintest conception that the article would have been looked upon by any as a boast and not as a compliment to Mr.

Harvey. University College—1,300 students; Knox College (Presbyterian)—100 students; Wycliffe (English church)—50 students; St. Michael's (Roman Catholic)—100 students; College of Music—100 students; Ladies' Medical College—50 students. Total 1,700 students. An explanation is necessary with reference to Knox College. A person, before he can become a graduated Presbyterian minister from Knox College, is expected to spend 7 years at study, and the majority do; 4 of these to be spent in taking an Arts course and the remaining 3 in Theology. Some are allowed to substitute a preparatory course of 2 or 3 years in place of the 4 years Arts course. In the 100 above mentioned I do not include those Knox College students registered as Arts at University College, but merely those taking theology proper and the preparatory students. I am told there are 29 in first year theology, 21 in second and 21 in third, making 71 in all and I am allowing 29 for those taking the preparatory course. The same may be said of Wycliffe. As for the pupils of the College of Music I am not certain. All I know I use to see them come up every second day for lectures on "sound" from Prof. Loudon and I am told they number upwards of 100. These figures may be placed too high, but I will allow Mr. Lochhead to deduct 50 per cent. for possible inaccuracies and will still win my point. I may say here that I have written to the Registrars of all the above mentioned colleges and departments and expect answers in a few days when I will be able to furnish a correct report. Compare the above with: Queen's, 500; Victoria, 150; McGill, 850 (?); total 1,500. What do we find? My statement incorrect? In fact I was astonished at the figures myself when I saw them in the report of the Minister of Education.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.)

Workers for Christ.

The following paper was read before the Presbyterian Sabbath School teachers' meeting, held Nov. 27th, by John Allan: The ground covered by this subject is so vast I shall necessarily only touch upon a very few of the leading points. It is a subject upon which everyone can speak and upon which opinions, theories and methods may be discussed with profit. This short paper is simply an introduction to further discussion. There are certain qualifications to be possessed by those who would work for Christ. The principle one is, that we must be Christ's ourselves. The enemies of God often fulfil, unconsciously, His purposes, benevolent or otherwise, but they are not to be considered as workers for Christ or participants in the blessings accruing therefrom. When Elisha saw the Shunamite coming he sent Geshu, his servant, with this message, "Is it well with thee? It is well with thy husband, it is well with the child." She answered, "It is well." When we can say as she said with regard to ourselves, "it is well," we shall have possessed one of those leading qualifications as workers for Christ.

From the right motive. For it is the motive behind the action that constitutes its value. And what is this motive? Simply love. We love Him because He first loved us. But love which expresses itself in words only is to be doubted. A great work has been done for us, namely, the salvation of our souls; and in affectionate gratitude we work for our Deliverer. This is the only motive that should actuate us. Another qualification is willingness to work in any capacity however small. A worker is practically useless if he only works at whatever pleases him, regardless of his Master's wishes in this respect. There is not a farmer who would have anything to do with a man who would not do what he was asked to do, be the work pleasing or displeasing to him.

In apparently insignificant things men have shown their greatness; all things are not small that so appear. The helm of a ship is a very small affair but the ship is not without it. Let us not hanker after greatness too much. But what is the work? one may ask. Simply following our Master's footsteps. He went about doing good to all men; if people needed food he fed them; if they needed comforting he comforted them; if they needed healing he healed them; if they needed instruction he preached to them. All his life here was spent in endeavoring to raise man to a higher level; to manifest to them his Father's love, and our work lies in the same direction. We are co-workers with Him and should be proud of this honor instead of being ashamed as we often are. In speaking particularly of the department of Sunday school work it is well not to lose sight of the fact that the teaching of the lesson forms but a small part of your work. It is often the case the work of a teacher on the Sabbath is destroyed or turned to evil in the minds of his scholars by his conduct during the week. Let this old saying, "Practice what you preach," be ever before you. Remember, it is with immortal spirits you are dealing, that a single word you may speak may turn the current of their lives and make them angels for good or demons for evil. It is no trivial matter then to be a Sabbath school teacher; God alone knows the value of it. The discouragement attending the path of workers for Christ are manifold, but all is not defeat that is apparently so. If you speak and act the words of Christ to your scholars you have the warrant of God's Word for expecting fruit from your labor. But the fruit may be long delayed, or others may reap the fruit. Herein is that saying, "True one soweth and another reapeth," in His own good time God will give the increase; be sure, however, that your methods are right. Use no methods you have not the sanction of God's Word. As discouragements abound so do encouragements much more abound. Many teachers have lived to see the scholars whom they taught made blessings to this world and to themselves. The blessings are

reflective, as we water others our own souls are abundantly watered by the presence and approving smile of our Master who is always our portion. And what is our reward, co-workers with Christ? Joint heirs with Him in glory, the more we work for Him the higher will be our degree of glory in His kingdom. They that turn men to righteousness shall shine as the stars in the firmament for ever. Glorious then is your reward, but greater than all heaven's glories shall be the "well done" of the Master, when we have laid down our armor and put on the wedding garment of His righteousness. May He help us all to be faithful workers and to His name shall be all the praise and glory.

North Perth Election Protest.

The trial of the petition against the return of Dr. A. E. Ahrens as member of the Legislature for North Perth was entered upon Monday, Dec. 8, before Hon. Justices MacLennan and Falconbridge. Counsel for the petitioner were W. R. Meredith, Q. C., E. Sydney Smith, Q. C., and Mr. Morphy; counsel for the respondent, John Idington, Q. C., Mr. Mabee and J. E. Harding. Monday was devoted to evidence in regard to agency and betting, the latter having been shown to be largely due to bluffing on the part of three or four pronounced Conservatives. Reformers answering the bluff by putting up their own money. Betting with doubtful voters was conspicuous by its absence.

The larger part of Tuesday's proceedings was devoted to the charges of treating by agents of the respondent. Shortly after 3 o'clock, after a conference of counsel, Mr. Idington announced to the court as follows:—"In view of the evidence in regard to Mr. Donaldson's treating at Atwood within a short time after a committee meeting, and in view of his treating at Monkton while Dr. Ahrens was in the vicinity, though without the latter's knowing of his intending to treat the crowd, we have decided to admit that there may have been sufficient to vitiate the election. It is a very doubtful point in law, in view of all the cases, which are by no means uniformly of the same character. To my mind they are somewhat conflicting as to what the effect would be of these acts. Rather than go into a contest further, which might result in an appeal to the Court of Appeal, the effect of which would be to tie up the constituency for some considerable time, we have decided to admit that these acts would vitiate the election. My learned friend, Mr. Meredith, counsel for the petitioner, after hearing all the evidence here, is satisfied that there was no general corruption, that the election was conducted fairly, that there was nothing beyond what your Lordships have heard. Your Lordships have heard the whole case practically. There only remain a number of charges of minor importance."

Mr. Meredith said:—"I may add to what my learned friend has said that under the circumstances the petitioner will not ask for costs. With regard to the statement as to general corruption I desire to state that although we expect to show isolated cases of corruption we do not profess to be able to show and I do not say there is any evidence to establish that there was general corruption in the riding, and I must say that after hearing Mr. McPherson's statement in the box as to the amount expended and how it was to be expended he is free from any imputation of having expended more money than was shown by the accounts produced here. Any suspicion of his having expended any considerable amount in the promotion of the election of the respondent is without foundation and is not justified by the evidence."

Upon these statements their Lordships made the following note:—"At this stage counsel asked for time for consultation, and after doing so Mr. Idington announced that he thinks there is enough proved to raise a serious question whether the election is not voided by corrupt acts by agents, and consents with the approval of the court, to void it. Mr. Meredith assents to this, and does not ask for costs. He thinks there was no considerable expenditure of money and nothing to affect the respondent personally. The election is therefore voided without costs.—Globe.

Perth County Notes.

Miss Maggie B. Harrison, of St. Marys, has been offered the position of teacher in the Kerwood Public School, at a salary of \$300 per annum.

R. H. Cowie, who has been principal of the Carlingford school for the past six years, has been engaged for the ensuing year at an advanced salary, and Miss Jennie Stieritt has also been re-engaged for 1891 at an increased remuneration.

Duffon & Son's woolen mill at Mitchell received a severe scorching on Sunday morning, Nov. 30. The upper story was completely destroyed. The fire is said to be the work of an incendiary. Loss about \$3,000, covered by insurance.

The proposal of Thos. Ballantyne, M. P. for South Perth, to ask the Provincial Government to establish a few dairy schools in Western Ontario appears to be looked upon with satisfaction by the persons most interested in this industry.

The Maxwell works, St. Marys, will resume operations the 2nd of January, which will be hailed with delight by all the citizens. The creditors of the firm have granted an extension of 12, 18 and 24 months, subject to interest. The firm is alleged to have a surplus of \$200,000.

The by-law for a new \$9,000 St. Marys town hall, to replace the one recently destroyed by fire, was voted upon and carried by a large majority. It will be a massive stone structure, with ample accommodation for farmers and their wives who come into town with small produce.

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