

is not surprising, therefore, that a great university such as Cornell—great in its professoriate, great in its curricula of studies, great in its library, great in the very ardor and zeal of its young life-blood—should attract to its lecture halls many of the brightest and most brilliant of our Canadian young men. Indeed, it is safe to say that more Canadian students are registered at Cornell this year than at all the other American universities together. Nearly every Province in the Dominion is represented in some one of its courses, the total number of Canadians here being in the neighborhood of sixty, of whom fifteen are post-graduates hailing from the following well-known Canadian colleges: Manitoba, Trinity, Victoria, Ottawa, Acadia and Dalhousie. That the graduate students from Canada are worthy of the "mettle of their pasture" is evidenced in the fact that three of their number hold fellowships: J. A. Leighton, Trinity University, Fellow in Philosophy; T. W. Taylor, Manitoba University, Fellow in Philosophy; and W. H. McGee, Dalhousie University, Fellow in Chemistry, while M. S. Read, of Acadia College, holds a scholarship in Philosophy. The other Canadian post-graduates are: J. Findlay, gold medalist in Mathematics, Queen's University; W. P. Elkin, Manitoba University; John F. Marstens, Acadia University; Miss Agnes Baxter, Dalhousie, one of the most gifted young women at Cornell; W. R. Turnbull, F. R. Higgins, Acadia; Miss E. Muir, Dalhousie; Miss Highet, Victoria; C. J. Barr, G. A. Cogswell, Dalhousie; and Thomas O'Hagan, Ottawa University.

Nor do Canadian young men and women while here forget the land of the Maple Leaf. A Canadian Club, organized and fostered largely through the activity and enthusiasm of its president, Mr. Leighton, cherishes and feeds the fire of Canadian patriotism under an alien sky. The club convenes every two weeks, and Canada, its history, its literature, and its life is ever the theme of discussion and entertainment.

At present there are seventeen hundred students attending lectures at the University, of whom more than 200 are post-graduates. These are distributed through the various departments, one of the most largely attended being the School of Philosophy which has gained a world-wide reputation through the eminence of its dean, Dr. Schurman, to whose wisdom, tact and progressiveness as President the present excellent condition of the University is in no small measure due.

A mistake is sometimes made by those who know Cornell only through hearsay, in regarding its excellence or superiority as lying chiefly or only in the technical line. I am in a position to speak with some warrant of its English and historical departments, and in my opinion both are very strong. Prof. Corson, who is at the head of the English literature department, is not only a ripe scholar but the most sympathetic interpreter of literature it has ever been my good fortune to meet. Prof. Corson hates sham scholarship of every kind, and in particular, the sham scholarship which is the outcome of superficial literary study. He brings his students at once to recognize and value the vital, and absolute, in literature. That the work done in the English department is appreciated and appraised highly is seen in the fact that some twelve post-graduates have chosen English literature as the major subject of their work for the degree of Doctor of Phil-

osophy. Under the regime of Dr. Schurman as President, the English department at Cornell will surely grow in importance and attract wide attention, for the gifted and popular President of Cornell is keenly alive to the necessity of not only encouraging but promoting in every way possible the interest of every department of instruction in the University.

The University spirit prevalent at Cornell is a most commendable one, and the American student, as seen here, is manifestly an upright and honorable young man.

THOMAS O'HAGAN.

Cornell University, Nov. 27.

## THE PROFESSOR FROM OVER THE SEA.

The learned Professor from over the water  
Comes here for a moderate fee,  
What does money and even society matter,  
When a Grecian crosses the sea.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! what does he not know,  
The Professor from over the sea!

He readeth his lectures with unction and ease,  
As he restlessly paceth the floor;  
The brains of his hearers prickle and freeze  
With his glances haughty and froze.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! why doth it not snow,  
Professor from over the sea!

But the minister meek of an outlying town  
Is convinced of his world-wide fame,  
And looketh with awe on his hood and his gown,  
And regardeth the fur on the same.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! is it not so,  
Professor from over the sea!

The Professor he trains his monocle with care,  
And stands in a suitable pose,  
Our wives and our daughters are blessed with  
his stare,  
And thank the good gods when he goes.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! 'tis a pity 'tis so,  
Professor from over the sea!

Yet he deigneth to enter the fume and the fuss,  
No negative character he;  
He maketh himself organic to us,  
And runs as a school trustee.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! what joy it is so,  
Professor from over the sea!

And he knows that the rhymes that I hereby  
indite  
To himself and his family too,  
Are nothing but nonsense and doggerel. Quite  
Away from the right point of view.  
Oh, ho! ho! ho! what doth he not know,  
The Professor from over the sea!

COLIN A. SCOTT.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### MANITOBAN HISTORY.

To the Editor of The Week:

Sir,—Mr. Hopkins disputes "the historical accuracy" of my criticisms in three respects:—

1. I was wrong, he says, in saying that "the rebellion was all over long before the transfer of the territories to Canada."

Two sentences further on he himself says: "That the transfer was not technically made at this time, hardly affects the general statement that the rebellion occurred after the union with Canada." If in chronology "technically" *after*, means really *before*, then, of course, I am wrong; but if *after* means *after*, clearly I am right and the fact is not of mere technical significance. If *after* means *before*, then there was an "avowed and open rebellion," such as Mr. Hopkins speaks of. But if *after* means *after*, then the "rebellion" becomes a proper and successful defence.

2. I said that there never was "any Govern-

nor McDougall of, or in, the Territory whose proclamations were disregarded." To prove me wrong, Mr. Dent is quoted as saying that Mr. McDougall's appointment "was generally regarded as a fitting reward," etc. But this is not fair to Mr. Dent. His next sentence is: "It was to take effect *after* the formal transfer of the Territory to Canada." Mr. Hopkins' "desire to adhere strictly to historic truth" never can be realized until he recognizes the distinction between *before* and *after*. The appointment "was to take effect *after*" the period at which Mr. Hopkins brings it into full operation. As a matter of fact it never took effect at all, and Mr. Dent does not say that it did.

3. I said that there was no "defence for several days against extreme odds" of Dr. Schultz's house—that not a shot was fired, and not a man wounded. Mr. Hopkins, in reply, quotes authorities which speak of the house being "besieged." The word is ambiguous, and does not justify the inference that there was a "defence . . . against extreme odds" which implies a heroic fight. There was no fight—not even the swing of a shillelah.

JOHN S. EWART.

Winnipeg, 1st Dec., 1893.

## IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

To the Editor of The Week:

Sir,—*"Imperial Federation"* seems to have made a fresh start. My sympathies are wholly with its advocates. I deem it the British question of the day, although drenched with much cheap and shallow ridicule. But, I confess, I can't understand how federation of mere dependencies with a dominant power could be effected. Is not equality of political status a prerequisite for federal union? Another requisite is perfect freedom to enter, or the reverse. Could a dependency be thought possessor of that freedom? My opinion is, that independence must precede federation. But independence, under present conditions, is both undesirable and unattainable. No colony can secede. I say this deliberately, notwithstanding the almost universal belief to the contrary. Yet, a change will come. My own aspiration is this: that, some day Britain will simultaneously set free all the great dependencies, with a quiet understanding that the first great act of each after emancipation shall be to unite with her in one world-wide impregnable empire. I should not like to see this done at present: the chances are each colony would become a republic. Better wait till the democratic wave is full-grown and burst: not many decades hence. After that cataclysm, under a clear sky the human mind will turn fondly back to monarchy of a purified order: the colonies will be kingdoms acknowledging the one old centre suzerainty: bound into one such power as the world has not yet seen. I believe that will be the epoch for federation. Meantime, keep in port: a tempest is fast brewing.

A full discussion on Canada's future will shortly be given to the public.

Yours, JOHN MAY.

## BALLOT PAPER REFORM.

To the Editor of The Week:

Sir,—It may be argued that a reform, if such it be, is always in season; but whether it is so or not, I think I may claim, in view of the large number of ballot papers shortly to be used, that the change herein suggested is not altogether inopportune.

To the ardent partisan on either side my suggestion will not appeal; but to the "free and independent" elector, who usually figures so prominently in election addresses, I would like to point out a way of escape from a dilemma in which, unfortunately, he must often find himself.

At present, if an elector is absolutely indifferent as regards the candidates for office, or actually hostile to both or all of them; he has two alternatives—either to stay away, or vote for the least objectionable.

The former loophole seems, at best, somewhat cowardly, and would be closed were voting made compulsory.

To vote for a man whom you do not wish