

College, of which Upper Canada College ultimately became an appendage. In this relation it remained till 1887, when it was by Act of the Ontario Legislature removed entirely from the control of the Senate of the University of Toronto, and placed under the management of a board of trustees. In 1894 the "Upper Canada Old Boys' Association" was granted representation on this board, and to the "Old Boys" Principal Parkin's appeal is chiefly directed. The main source of the College revenue is the fee payable for board and tuition, but the institution has a fair guarantee of permanence in the fact that it has a small endowment absolutely secured to it by the Province. To provide temporarily for current deficits is one object that Mr. Parkin has in view, and in doing this he has met with gratifying success; what remains to be done in this direction should be done promptly, if time is to be found for the still more important and arduous task of increasing the capital of the endowment to the desired extent. During the sixty-five years of its active operation this historic school has turned out many pupils, some of whom are eminent and influential, while some are sufficiently wealthy to be able to afford handsome contributions. Something has been gained for the College in the closing of the door to all hope of assistance from the Provincial Legislature. Rightly or wrongly, that body has declined absolutely to do any more for the institution, and its *alumni* now understand that if it is allowed to go down on them must rest the responsibility. Principal Parkin has, by securing an increased attendance of pupils and by his courageous appeal to the liberality of friends of the College, freed himself from all blame which might attach to a perfunctory discharge of the duties attached to his difficult position.

The Sessional Indemnity.

The newspaper organs of the respective political parties are busily engaged in blaming their opponents for prolonging the present session beyond thirty days, and thus rendering necessary the payment of the full sessional indemnity, instead of the minimum ten dollars a day. Such wrangling is not creditable to the good sense of the press. This is the first session of a new Parliament. It has passed the supply bill for the financial year 1896-97. It has done little else, it is true, but there is no reason to regret the thinness of one sessional volume of statutes, when the wilderness of legislation is so immense and so tangled. It is entirely unreasonable to expect members of Parliament to decline pay for attendance during a regular session however brief. To the argument that the supplies might have been voted last session but for obstructive tactics, the reply is obvious, that as the last Parliament had passed five annual supply bills it had no constitutional right to pass a sixth. To the suggestion that the present session might have been adjourned to resume in January or February, the reply is equally obvious, that as a supply bill will have to be passed then for the year 1897-98, and as Parliament has no constitutional right to vote supplies for two years within a single session, the present session must be wound up with a prorogation. The only sensible course for its members to follow was the one they adopted—to take sufficient time for a full discussion of the estimates, and to accept the usual indemnity for a fair session's work.

Women in Johns Hopkins.

Johns Hopkins University is one of the great American seats of learning that have kept their doors persistently closed to female students, while those of Cornell and Michigan were thrown open to them many years ago. Quite recently it has been announced that women may take the medical course in

Johns Hopkins, but there has been no sign of relaxation in the faculty of arts. The explanation offered is that half a million dollars have been raised for the endowment of the medical faculty on condition that women shall be allowed to enrol themselves as students; the implication appears to be that when something of the same sort is done for the arts faculty its courses will be thrown open in the same way. In any case it will no longer be possible to cite Johns Hopkins as an example of a university for men only.

British Colonial Trade.

There has been for some years past more or less talk about foreign manufactures, especially those of Germany and the United States, displacing British manufactures in the British Colonial markets. Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, issued a few months ago a circular to colonial governors, asking for reports on the extent to which this has taken place. Some valuable information about the state of affairs in Hong-Kong has in this way been elicited and made public. It goes to show that the amount of displacement is considerable, and that it is due to the following causes: (1) lower cost of production of rival foreign goods; (2) disinclination of British manufacturers to study the tastes of consumers; (3) the steadily falling value of silver since 1873; (4) lower freights outward from foreign as compared with British ports; and (5) cheaper railway transit to foreign ports of shipment. For the continued operation of the second, fourth, and fifth of these causes there is no reason or excuse. They are removable, and their removal will probably follow very speedily on their exposure. The first may be due in part to the fact that wages are higher in Great Britain than in any other country in the world, cost of living being taken into account. So far as this is the case it is to be hoped that the displacement may be checked without any lowering of the wages of labour. The third cause will probably continue to operate for some time, but its effects hereafter will be less injurious as other nations adopt the single gold standard of currency. Recently there was published in the London Times a letter written by Prof. Ostwald, the distinguished German chemist, which throws some light on the success of a certain class of German manufactures in this international competition. Speaking of his own specialty, he says that each large manufacturing establishment has the majority of its scientific staff employed, not in the management of the manufacture, but in making inventions; that one establishment will often have more than a hundred university graduates on its staff; that the research laboratory in such a work differs from a university laboratory only by its being more splendidly and sumptuously fitted up; and that men are often employed for years without having any practical success to show as the result. Revelations like this are likely to give a stimulus to the promotion of technical education in Britain, and perhaps also in Canada and the United States. This will do no harm, if it does not throw the culture idea too much into the background, as it is very apt to do.

Dutch and English.

The New York Nation advocates the introduction of the Dutch language and literature into American universities as a subject of academic study. It points out with perfect truth that, while the Dutch language, which is very closely related to English, is neglected, ample provision has been made for imparting instruction not merely in German but in more than one of the Scandinavian dialects. The Dutch has a special claim for consideration in New York, which was once a Dutch colony under the name of New Amsterdam, and in