

ment experienced. On the other hand, one may experience a very unpleasant feeling if the day is going against him. Gen. Clements is fighting on one side and Col. Broadwood on the other side of us, so we may have another brush. Gen. Delarey is holding the fort about here with DeWet to the south of us and Botha or Viljoen are supposed to have forces between us and Petersburg.

Our only communication with Pretoria is by means of convoys. To-day a party of our men leave with an empty convoy for Reitfontein, which lies on Pretoria side of the famous Commando Nek. They return with a full convoy and we expect mails and stores by it. We expect them back by 'Xmas day. Unless they are able to go into Pretoria our Christmas dinner will consist of small potatoes. On their return the Victorian mounted rifles expect orders for home, and I will then be transferred to some other corps. My wish is to go to Petersburg and see the northern country.

I am not giving you much war news but you get sufficient of that from other sources. I want you to know the country and people. There should be splendid opportunities for teachers here. The country is full of doctors and advocates. In their schools the children are taught to sing psalms and the Volkslied. Consequently there were many private schools. I think the only college is at Cape Town.

Well, "Here's to good old Queen's." A Merry 'Xmas and a Happy New Year to you and all connected with Queen's and all her faculties.

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Civil Surgeon,
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Medical Notes.

THE LATE DR. PURDY.

ONE of Queen's most illustrious graduates passed away on January 20th last in the person of Charles W. Purdy, M.D., of Chicago. Dr. Purdy took his degree from our college in 1869, and opened practice in Hastings county. In 1871 he removed to Chicago where he has

remained ever since. Early in his career he made diseases of the kidney his special study. In this he was very successful, and brought honour not only to himself, but also to his alma mater by the works he has given to the profession on this subject and which to-day are considered standard. Queen's recognized his worth by conferring on him the honorary degree of LL.D. in 1898.

The fact of our athletic debt amounting at the present time to between eight hundred and one thousand dollars, necessitates some steps being taken to wipe this out and provide more liberally for the future. That the amount raised hereafter will have to be greater than it has hitherto been, is certain. Not only must we take into account the increasing size of our Alma Mater, and, hence, the more numerous and extensive the calls upon the funds, but we must also think of making provision for properly maintaining the gymnasium which will certainly be built in the near future.

No argument need here be advanced in support of our giving financial aid to the athletics of our college. That department is an essential part of our training, and must keep pace with the growing times. The Alma Mater Society recognized this when they passed a resolution asking the Senate to collect an extra dollar registration fee from each student, this dollar to be applied to athletic purposes, making two dollars thus collected. The Senate gave it further recognition when they agreed to do as requested, this dollar to be collected next fall.

This is the condition of affairs existing in Arts and Divinity and, we believe, to a great extent in Science. The medicals, on the other hand, pay no registration fee as such; hence this cannot apply to them. Further, we may state that the sessional fee of \$90 is fixed to be comparative to other colleges, and the secretary states that the faculty cannot see fit to place the fee at \$91 instead of \$90. Thus we are confronted with the question—what is to be done?

Three courses appear open. The first is not to pay the dollar, and let others pay for our