

patriotism and the true, gentlemanly courtesy that characterized their predecessors.

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We see from the bill-board that some steps have been taken by the Athletic Committee to determine the year-standing of sundry football players. The move was necessary if there was to be any justice in the inter-year matches. Whether the decisions arrived at by the committee are the wisest possible remains to be seen. It seems certainly rather ludicrous to see men of sixth or seventh year standing in the university playing as sophomores or juniors. And it hardly seems any fairer that men who have put in seven or eight years on the football campus and who are now post graduates or ex-graduates should play with the final year. The simplest way out of the difficulty would be to let every man play according to the year of his attendance at the University whether in Arts, Medicine or Divinity. It is rather absurd to say the least that men like Ross or Hunter should play as men of fourth year standing. There is now a large number of men in attendance at the University beyond fourth year standing. Why not let these form a team of their own instead of giving their strength unjustly to one of the contending years.

#### COMMUNICATION.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—What can be done to keep our class rooms supplied with fresh air during lectures? Opened windows during the progress of lectures result in deadly draughts. Opened doors means disturbance to the class. The present system means that the pure air that is *sometimes* admitted at the beginning of the lecture is soon vitiated. Ventilators there are, to be sure, but they are either out of kilter, or quite inadequate. As it is, they are of little use for producing fresh air—whatever purpose they may serve by way of ornament. Last year your paper drew attention to the necessity for a "fresh air fund" for the college, but so far its timely suggestion has gone unheeded. We leave it to the champions of the theory of A Pre-arranged Harmony to give even one little reason for students being compelled, while taking lectures, to draw into their "inwards" a mixture which is a little too thin to swallow, a little too thick to breathe, and yet not solid enough to chew; but most meekly and respectfully ask "the powers that be" to give us fresh air.

Sincerely yours, M.A.

Queen's College, Oct. 30th, 1897.

Dr. Robert Bell, of the Dominion Geological Survey, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. Dr. Bell is an ex-Professor of Queen's, and an LL.D. of 1883.

## Contributions and Addresses.

### INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY REV. J. CARRUTHERS.

**P**ERHAPS it is unnecessary for me to say, for we are all well aware of the fact, that there is no class so soundly rated concerning the performance of their public duties as ministers of the Gospel, yet so it is. Sometimes we are told that our tones belong to the order of the blind mendicants, while at other times we are informed that if we were addressing a large public meeting, instead of a church congregation, we would not be tolerated five minutes. To most men that touches to the quick. No man that is worth anything wants to be taken for anything else than what he is. To be tolerated simply because of his filling a certain office galls most of us.

"Ministers, as a rule," one says, "are well-educated, well informed, men, yet to hear them read and speak you would not for a moment think they had ever heard that 'the whole empire is from time to time under the influence of public speakers.' They seem never to have grasped the idea of the power of speech, nobody seems to have told them, and as a consequence of their total ignorance in this matter they read and speak as if they had never attended a common school."

Many suggestions have been offered to remedy the difficulty; I confine myself to one and consequently have selected as my subject, "The Uses of Imagination in the Performance of Our Pulpit Work."

Men who have undertaken the ministry in a serious manner do not speak in the pulpit for the mere sake of speaking, but to move, to convert, and to save souls. Preaching is a function which has been needful in some form in every age. There is no change likely to seriously affect the ordinance of preaching because it is based on a fundamental fact in human nature, the influence of one human soul upon another. It need not therefore be feared that the preacher will soon find his occupation gone, even in these days of the powerful press. The press never can be the rival of the true pulpit. As the personality of the man can never be printed, as the magical influence of voice and action can never be put upon the printed page, as the flashing of the eye, the energy, the life of the speaker can never be transferred to paper, therefore must speech always be superior to the press.

The object of preaching is still "Godly edifying which is in faith," it is to "reprove, rebuke and exhort." The preacher has indeed to teach, but in our day there are so many other agencies for this purpose, we can reserve ourselves for that other field where we have no rivals, viz., the simple