

KNOX COLLEGE.

Annual At Home On December 8th, at the College.

ALUMNI'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

All students interested in the welfare of Knox College should keep the evening of December 6 open. On that evening the annual at home is to be held. The following is a partial list of those who will take part in the program:

Vocalists—Mr. Drummond, tenor, Toronto; Miss Maud Banks, contralto, Toronto.

Violinists—Mr. Thuen of Guelph, Mrs. E. A. Wicher of Chatham.

Elocutionist—Mr. Church. Selections by the Knox College Glee Club. A full orchestra will discourse music for promenades. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. R. J. Wilson, room 15, Knox College, between the hours of 12 and 2 p.m. of each day.

Rev. J. A. Turnbull of West Church, Rev. Prof. McLaren, and Rev. A. Gandler were the latest guests of the House Committee. All gave us some helpful advice more or less interspersed with humorous illustrations. Mr. Turnbull, judging by his remarks, seems to have taken not only the regulation course outlined in the calendar, but also the wider and more impressive (to the initiated) course of Knox residence. As one who had experienced the benefits of this latter training, he strongly advised all students having the ministry in view to spend at least one year in residence.

Commencing on Monday, December 2, and continuing until Friday evening, the annual conference of the Knox College alumni will be held. Interesting papers will be read and discussed on the live theological and sociological problems of the day. All meetings are open. Morning sessions begin at 10 o'clock, and the afternoon meetings at 2:30 o'clock. The following are some of those who will take part: Professors Kirschmann, Murison, Fraser, McCurdy of University College, McLaughlin and McFadyen, Sheraton of Wycliffe, and McFadyen, Caven, McLaren, and Hallantyne of Knox.

Knox lectures will be cancelled this week during the hours the conference is in session.

The Library and Theological Society met as usual Tuesday evening. Mr. Andrew gave notice of the following motion, which he will move at our next regular meeting, December 19: (a) That the name of our society be changed to that of the Theological and Literary Society of Knox College; (b) that theological subjects form the major part of our discussions, each subject to be opened up by two members, one of whom shall prepare an essay and the other a critique on the essay. Mr. Andrew, in supporting this motion, cited his experience in Glasgow as an instance of the beneficial results that would ensue from our making this change in the nature of our society's effort. His strong speech was followed by those of Messrs. Little, Abraham, Burch, McLaren, Justice, and Beckett. The difficulties which might be in the way of the change were referred to in the discussion. Firstly, would the difference in the conditions of college life and of ministerial life in Canada make it advisable to adopt a method found suitable in Scottish and English universities. Secondly, would the students of Knox College be able or willing to devote the necessary time to the study of such subjects. Let every member of the society seriously consider Mr. Andrew's motion and come prepared to give an intelligent vote at our next meeting. It would be better to vote against the change if you do not see your way clear to devote the necessary time and application to the consideration of the theological problems which will be discussed semi-monthly if this motion is passed. Only hearty co-operation will ensure success in such a work as this motion involves.

Knox College athletes are upholding the honor of the college in connection with the autumn cross-country races. T. Graham and E. S. Carey have both gained first places in the Varsity Track Club's Saturday events. Mr. Carey's name also figures in the lists of the Ontario Athletic Association as one of the prize-winners in their Thanksgiving Day races. Keep it up, boys! A large number of the boys spent Thanksgiving elsewhere than in Knox College. Some have come back cheerful, some sad, and some have not arrived at all. A. J.—At the "Lit." discussion: "I do not desire to get into a theological rut, or to be developed only on my theological side. I desire to be developed on all my sides." An explanation of the growth of the mind is that it may naturally be adapted for division for family purposes. This answer would hardly satisfy the small and often large boy who thinks the family is in the way when a melon is the topic of consideration. Of course, Knox College has no small boys. A question as to the right use of words: It is improper to say persons are raised, but right to assert that they are reared. Query—Which is the more correct? Is J. L. raising his moustache or rearing it? S. Sov-n says neither is right and strongly advises Jimmie to follow his example. The Knox College Quartet are making a name for themselves, and for the glee club. This week they took part in concerts at Port Credit and at Sutton. Mr. A. L. Burch was announced as humorist at the latter place. What effect his jokes may have had on the people it is hard to say, but it took our friend nearly a whole day to recover from their after results. All the members of the quartet came back with a bad attack of (Quinn)-sey, and as a consequence do not speak to each other as they pass by.

At a meeting of the College Missionary Society on Tuesday, Nov. 26th, Rev. Dr. Courtye gave an interesting and profitable talk on Wesleyan Mission Work in Manchester, England. He described the work done by the Rev. Mr. Collier during the last ten years and the manner in which it has grown from a very small organization to the present large and efficient one.

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IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL.

Goldwin Smith Discusses Its Relation to Morality.

Prof. Goldwin Smith, writing to the New York Sun, says: The battle with Tammany did not suspend the discussion in your columns of the immortality of the soul and its relation to morality. Your correspondents are in the right. Nothing can be more intensely practical than this question. Since the subversion of religious belief, morality has been dragging its anchor, and its state of transitional perplexity is the result of the practical disturbance of the world.

VICTORIA COLLEGE

Our annual conversat. is to be held on Friday, December 6, in the College building, and arrangements are being made to ensure it being in every respect up to the high standard set by similar functions in previous years.

The Mandolin and Guitar Club is being reorganized this fall, and there is every promise of a large membership for this society, which can serve so well the twofold purpose of benefiting its members and of bringing Vic. more prominently before the public. At the last regular meeting of the Literary Society an interesting discussion on the question of continuing the Bob evidenced the wonderful unanimity that prevails among the students of Victoria that this distinctive feature of our college shall and must not be allowed to drop into oblivion. Without a dissenting voice the meeting expressed its hearty support of this unique, fascinating, and instructive manner of introducing our freshmen and freshettes into college life.

We have won three intercollege alley games, played during last week, as follows:

A series—Vic.—Dentals, 34-24.

B series—Vic.—Dentals, 28-21.

B series—Vic.—Toronto Meds., 39-10.

The Union Literary Society held its open meeting for this term on Saturday evening, Nov. 23. Hon. C. C. James, M.A., the Honorary President of the Society, occupied the chair during the literary session, opening the meeting by a neat chairman's address. The College Glee Club gave two numbers in their usual good form. Mr. Taylor's recital of "Bingen on the Rhine" as executed by an old hero of the field, who supported several artificial appendages as a result of participating in the great victory, was very heartily applauded. Mr. Bishop sang a solo to the evident delight of all. Mr. Eckhardt's Dutch recitation from real life was a feature of the program. During this session the class photo of '01 was unveiled by Prof. McLaughlin, and the Tennis trophies won in the recent tournament were presented to the various winners by the chairman.

Then followed the business session, when the real battle of the evening began. After Government business had been disposed of, the Opposition proposed to subject His Majesty's loyal Government to severe criticism. After turning on the searchlights of investigation into various misdeeds of the said Government, they tried to overthrow them on a motion of want of confidence. This was, however, defeated, but the miscreants could not escape. Dissension in the Cabinet, together with a noticeable party split is responsible for the fact that the recent Government from the Government benches of the maladministration of the De Miller-Beer Government were Auger and Hamilton, whose speeches deserve special mention. The discussions throughout were witty and intensely interesting.

The new campus is rapidly being put into shape, at least in so far as the Union is at liberty to touch it. Unfortunately, two wonderful historic trees stand in the way, and some of the "powers that be" are of the opinion that these trees are of more value than many campuses. However, where there's a will there's a way, and the Athletic Union possesses a very strong will. Up to the present point, the expense has been very heavy, the pay sheet running up to nearly \$150 a week, but for all that not a cent of debt has been incurred. Athletic prospects are brighter than they have ever been before. The rink committee has been doing a great deal of hustling, and as a result, the applications for the two new rinks are far more numerous than can be accepted.

The proposal to place shower baths, up-to-date in every respect, in the dressing room, has met with the warmest approval on every hand. Even the aforementioned "powers that be" were somewhat mollified when they learned that it would not be absolutely necessary to remove the foundations of the building. With new shower baths, a good campus, and a little encouragement, the baseball team in the spring, a prospective lacrosse team, and next fall's football aggregation, with Thompson on the full-back line, will all be in a position to show others how to do it. So far we have been beating against the wind; with the breezes in our back, something will have to give way. At least, Bert Hamilton thinks this will prove true, and he is in a very good position to know. On Friday evening, Nov. 29, a very

interesting and well attended lecture was given by Rev. Prof. Cody on English cathedral architecture, and comparing it briefly with that of France. This is the first of a series of lectures on music, painting, and architecture given under the auspices of the Library Committee.

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Mr. E. Sherman is brave enough to say that morality without immortality is a sentimental humbug. As an agnostic or an atheist, he claims the right of making his own moral law. Subjectively, no doubt, he has that right. Objectively, he will find the limit of the right in the club of the nearest policeman. Whatever turn may ultimately be taken by our convictions about a hereafter, society will uphold by law or social influence rules necessary to its own security and convenience here. It may even uphold them more rigorously, perhaps cruelly, if it is convinced that the present life is all. The natural affections, parental, conjugal, and social, will also retain their force. So far, however, as conscience is concerned I cannot help agreeing with Mr. Sherman. Immortality is an idea which my mind fails to grasp, as it fails to grasp the ideas of eternity, infinity, omnipotence, or first cause. But if this life ends all, I do not see how conscience can retain its authority. The authority of conscience, it seems to me, is religious. The sanction of its awards appears to be something beyond and above temporal interest, utility, or the dictates of society and law. In the absence of such a sanction what can there be to prevent a man from following his own inclinations, good or bad, beneficent or murderous, so long as he keeps within the pale of law or manages to escape the police? One man is a lamb by nature, another is a tiger. Why is not the tiger as well as the lamb to follow his nature so far as the law will let him or as he has power? Excellent, for instance, was by nature a devil incarnate, a sort of Satanic enthusiast of evil. What had merely utilitarian utility to say against his gratification of his propensities as long as he had power on his side?

The age of Machiavel was something like ours. It was an age of religious wars attended by failure of the traditional foundation of morality; and Machiavelism, a domination of self-interest without regard for moral restrictions, was the result.

I do not presume to put forward any hypothesis. I merely call attention to certain phenomena of humanity which seem at first sight to militate against the purely materialist view; our power of choice in action, which, without contradicting our whole nature, cannot be denied; our consequent sense of responsibility; our moral aspirations and endeavors; our conceptions of a higher state of being and desire to press onward toward it; all the phenomena, in a word, of what has hitherto been called our spiritual nature. By what process of physical evolution can we suppose these phenomena to have been produced?

I heartily accept evolution, though I may doubt whether it has yet settled down into its final shape. But I am disposed to demur to the assumption that physical development is the end, as well as to the assumption that nothing of which our bodily senses are not cognizant can be true. Perfection may be produced by the fiat of Omnipotence. This clearly is not the constitution of the universe, since the universe is full of imperfection. Physical progress may be made by evolution, which out of the worm has evolved the frame of man. But there is another mode of progress of which we are conscious in ourselves, and of which man's history, so far as it is progressive, is the outcome. This is intelligent effort. In fact, we can hardly understand any moral perfection or excellence of character except as the production of effort. A seraph is insipidly without anatomical wings.

That which constitutes the special value of the ancient masters of ethics, Plato, Aristotle, Marcus Aurelius, and Epictetus, is that, while they looked at human nature with eyes as clear as ours, they were free from theological prepossessions. From the State polytheism they had broken away. In all of them you will find recognition of the character produced by moral effort and transcending mere utility. This is especially striking in Plato, who is so far from utilitarianism that he even looks on martyrdom as the natural need of the righteous. It is less striking in Aristotle, whose ideal is an animated Greek statue, but still it is there. In Plato there is a distinct connection of virtue with a personal though unseen power of good. In Marcus Aurelius and Epictetus the power is not personal, but there is a power.

I have assumed that as agents we have liberty of choice. I eschew the term "free will," leaving to the metaphysical angels the question of the metaphysical hypothesis, seeing that the chain of causation stretches back indefinitely, must imply that all our actions were irrevocably settled in the very beginning of things. Not having seen the beginning of things I cannot say, and therefore I will not argue about free will; but unless my whole moral being is a delusion, I have liberty of choice.

Frank acceptance of all proved truth, such as the general theory of evolution, caution in allowing ourselves to be carried away by the last great discovery, recognition and examination of all phenomena, not physical only, but of every kind, together form the compass to which we must look for guidance over a dark and perilous sea.

TEMPERANCE DAY.

Students' Day at Massey Hall Next Sunday.

ADDRESSES BY REPRESENTATIVES.

The students' day meeting, to be held in Massey Hall next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, under the auspices of the Canadian Temperance League, promises to be one of the largest and most enthusiastic gatherings of its kind. The question of "Total Abstinence" is one that is receiving greater attention from our students every year, and we dare say that these annual gatherings have done, and are doing, a great deal to keep this question before the minds of our college men.

Uttering efforts have been put forth by the League to make Sunday's meeting not only an attractive but a helpful one. The following gentlemen, representing their respective colleges, will address the meeting:

Messrs. A. C. Farrell, Victoria; Dugald Brown, McMaster; H. E. Abraham, B.A., Knox; W. H. Vance, Victoria.

F. W. Hovey, B.A., of Trinity, will have charge of the devotional exercises, and Prof. J. G. Hume, M.A., Ph.D., of Toronto University, will occupy the chair.

The Varsity Glee Club, under the direction of Conductor Cringan, will render several sacred selections. Let every student turn out and help in making this meeting an interesting and helpful one to all.

Meeting at Massey Hall, Sunday, December 8, commencing sharp at 3 o'clock.

Y. M. C. A.

The Rev. A. Gandler, B.D., of St. James' Square Presbyterian church, is expected to address the regular meeting on Thursday of this week at 5 p.m. Very helpful and instructive addresses have been given already this year at these Thursday afternoon meetings. Mr. Gandler will have something for you.

Mr. F. W. Anderson, B.A., '99, who is now traveling secretary of the Canadian Colleges' Mission and College Y. M. C. A. Secretary for Ontario and Quebec, has recently been appointed missionary of the C. C. M., to commence work among the students of India next fall. Mr. Anderson is well known to us, and since one of our own graduates is now to represent us in the far East, our interest in that work will be greatly increased.

The Provincial Committee is looking for students to engage in evangelical work during the coming vacation. During the last two vacations hands have done work in Orillia, Bradford, Port Colborne, and Waterford, and were the means of accomplishing no small good in these places. The experience gained in this work is a blessing in the lives of those participating in it. Any of our members who desire to engage in the work this year kindly see the General Secretary at once.

A HORRIBLE EXAMPLE.

There never was in any part of Great Britain a body of men whose business it was, or whose duty it was, to watch over or to guard the growth of our nation. Hence we are driven to the conclusion that the English language never could spell itself. Hence, again, we have no right to wonder if very few true-born Englishmen know how to spell their own language correctly. A very comic illustration of this fact is given in one of the blue-books. In a dictation test given in one of the civil service examinations, a young gentleman had the word usage to spell, and he contrived to make thirteen errors in this one word. How did he manage this feat? By the ingenious process of leaving out every one of the five letters that make up the word "usage," and by employing eight letters, not one of which is to be found in the right spelling. He spelt the word "yoozitch"; eight plus five equal thirteen.—Professor Meiklejohn in the London Outlook.

IT'S UP TO YOU, BOYS.

There is a tradition that one of the newcomers into the divinity building, upon entering one night the room which had been assigned to him, discovered a notice bearing these words, "Please turn out the light." Without reading any further he rushed with lightning-like speed to the button, turned out the light, and then sat shivering in the darkness until morning. Now to those who are studying ethics we should like to submit this question. Is this misguided youth to be blamed for his rashness in neglecting to read the whole of the notice, or is he to be commended for the zeal and self-sacrifice he displayed in his eagerness to obey the rules?—The Mitre.

JOHN FLANAGAN'S NEW RECORD.

World's Champion Hurler the 56-Pound Weight 28 Feet 10 1/2 Inches. New York, Dec. 1.—John Flanagan, holder of probably more records at weight-throwing than all other men in the same sports, added a new set of figures to the books last night by hurling the "56" a distance of 28 feet 10 1/2 inches, at the combined athletic meeting of the Pastime A.C. and Company G. 8th Regiment, in the latter's army, at Park avenue and Ninety-fourth street. The national and world's champion was at the post of honor in this event, and conceded liberal marks. He was not long in making inroads on the handicaps of the best men, and on his fifth throw got the sphere out the remarkable distance above mentioned. He threw, swinging both arms around his head, from a stand, with a half-circle described by the left foot.

NOTES OF THE MUSICAL CLUB.

The Harmonic Club has been requested to give a concert in Ottawa some time in January. If satisfactory arrangements can be made, a trip east will be taken after Christmas, and will include Peterboro and Lindsay as well. The city concert has begun to be mooted already. It will probably be

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held this year in Association Hall, and every student of the University is expected to be there. The hall seats about twelve hundred people. "Creole Belles" has come from the pen of Sardonius. It will be sung and played by the massed members of the whole Harmonic Club, and should make quite a hit for an opening number. The Glee Club are practising faithfully for their numbers at Massey Hall on Sunday next. Two practices a week—Mondays and Fridays—are the order of the day. Next Sunday will be students' day at Massey Hall, and an interesting afternoon may be spent, owing to the efforts of the Canadian Temperance League. All students will be welcomed.

The Banjo, Mandolin, and Guitar Club will practice this afternoon in the Undergrad Club. They are to play on Thursday at the open meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society. So a full attendance at this practice is requested. The orchestra will practice on Wednesday, as usual. C. L. W.

JOINT MONDAY LECTURES.

The joint Monday lectures to be delivered during the Michaelmas term are as follows: December 2—Education for Commerce, by Professor James Mavor. December 9—Alfred, King of the Saxons, by D. R. Keys, M.A. December 16—Ancient Babylonian Civilization, by R. E. Murison, M.A., B.D. For the Easter term: January 13—Some Recent Advances in Electricity, J. C. McLennan, B.A., Ph.D. January 20—Aristotle's Greatest Work, F. Tracy, B.A., Ph.D. January 27—Canadian Forest Trees and Their Uses, E. C. Jeffrey, B.A., Ph.D. February 3—Declining Hellenism, W. L. Grand, B.A. (Oxon.), M.A. (Queen's). These lectures will all be delivered at 4.10 p.m. in the Chemical Amphitheater. The lectures are free, and everyone is invited. It will well repay anyone to attend them.

DEBATE THIS EVENING—VICTORIA V. TRINITY UNIVERSITY.

This evening, at Trinity, there will be a debate between Victoria College and Trinity University on the resolution that "Trusts, syndicates and combines are beneficial to public interests." Affirmative—W. G. Gates and A. E. Hagen, B.A., of Victoria. Negative—T. F. Summerhayes and J. D. Dunfield of Trinity. Judges—Rev. Father Teefy, Professor A. C. McKay, and Professor James Mavor.

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