

OUR GRADUATES IN MANITOBA

We have received an encouraging letter from one of our graduates in Manitoba. After congratulating the students on having at length started a college paper he goes on to say that our alumni in Manitoba have by no means forgotten their alma mater, and to give an account of what they are doing in the prairie province. Two of them, A. W. Ross, B.A., '74, and A. M. Sutherland, B.A., '77, are members of the local legislature, both having been re-elected last December by handsome majorities—the former for Springfield, the latter for Killonan and St. Paul. S. C. Biggs, B.A., '72 (silver medalist, natural sciences) was a member of the same assembly a year ago, and afterwards in the cabinet, but retired from public life last October. Rev. George Bryce, B.A., '67, LL.B., '78, (silver medalist, natural sciences), is a professor in Manitoba college; Rev. Canon O'Meara, M.A., '70, (gold medalist, metaphysics) is classical master of St. John's college. The following are members of the bar:—A. W. Ross, M.A., M.P.P.; C. Killam, B.A., '72, (silver medalist, mathematics, modern languages and prince's prizeman); J. A. M. Atkins, M.A., '75; Heber Archibald, B.A., '71, (silver medalist, natural sciences); students at law—A. M. Sutherland, B.A., M.P.P., and W. R. Black, B.A., '77, (silver medalist, classics), both of whom expect to be through in August next. J. Wilford Good, M.B., '77, has a first-class practice in Winnipeg. These are all the graduates in that city; there are others, some of them clergymen, who are residents of the province.

A GRAND FAILURE.

Now that the annual meeting of the Literary Society is approaching, it would perhaps be well to take a look back and see what has been the effect of the removal of the Society's quarters from the college building to the present location. In my opinion the change has been for the worse. I venture to say that there has been a falling off in the attendance at the weekly meetings, and there certainly has been a falling off in the number of readers in the reading-room. Moreover, the expenses of the Society have almost doubled, and, notwithstanding an increase of fifty per cent. in the membership fee, as well as an increase in the number of members, a deficit is likely to be one of the features of this year's report. Besides there are a number of defects in the building. First, the assembly room is too small, seating comfortably not more than one hundred; the ceiling is very low; there is no ventilation; deficiencies which are almost past remedying, or which, if remedied, would be at great expense. Next, the reading-room is altogether too small, a point brought out more by the want of room for papers than from an overcrowding of readers. The third and great objection is the distance at which the building is from the college. Formerly, students were able to slip into the reading-room between lectures, while waiting for lectures, or after lectures, and lose no time; now it is only frequented by those who happen to pass it in going to or from college. The men who live to the west of the college are very seldom seen

in it; the men who go out at the Bloor street gate or at the St. Albans street gate, find it out of their way; and the residence men only patronize it when on their way down or up town. When the reading-room was in the college, the reading-room lay right in the track, so to speak, of every man, and as a consequence readers were many. Further, there is a much felt need of a building right in or alongside the college, where students can hold their various meetings; where the athletic associations may discuss their interests, and where they can store the properties of their games. The Society building answers none of these purposes.

Then there is the question of a gymnasium. To fit up one in the old white house would be more than a mistake, it would be a fraud. For the reason that students find it inconvenient to go to the reading-room, for the same reason they would not avail themselves of the gymnasium. The gymnasium must be in or alongside the college.

I do not propose to hold anyone responsible, or to blame anyone for the change; as a matter of fact we were kicked out of the college by circumstances and not by the Council. They wanted our former quarters for what were considered more legitimate objects (though this is a question which might be discussed), and situated as they were financially, they had no other alternative. Besides, they doubtless thought that by giving the Society the said old white house they were really furthering our interests, but the result has been otherwise. What then do I propose? Simply this: that a building be erected in rear of the college for the organizations of the students; that it contain a good sized assembly-room, reading-room, gymnasium, committee-rooms, and other conveniences like those found at other well-regulated institutions. The building need not be of architectural pretensions whatsoever; it can be placed in rear of the college and never be seen by the visitor admiring the beauty of the college structure, (though I do remember the *Mail* newspaper devoting a column editorial to our unesthetic chimney); and the cost need not be great. But it is just here where the rub comes in. The Council has no spare money I have been told. I believe if the Council were informed of our needs, if they could not find the money themselves, they could induce the government to take upon itself such an outlay. Or perhaps some public man would like to hand his name down to posterity, having built us such a hall; or perhaps the graduates would give something if a building fund were inaugurated. Surely there is some way out of the difficulty. But let no more money be wasted on the old white house, and let the Society respectfully petition the Council to take some action in the matter. M.

THE RUGBY CLUB.

Your issue of last week again brought up the subject of the proposed match with Harvard. Many of the propositions made by 'Rugby' are admirable, but again, some of them would not be advisable.

The plan of putting the tickets at 50 cents would doubtless cover all expenses, if between 400 and 500 were disposed of, but the question then arises,

where are you to get 400 or 500 people who will give 50 cents to see a football match? It is certainly probable that double the number could be got to go, if the entrance fee was reduced to 25 cents; the attendance of students would be small, as they are not notorious for spending much money when they can help it, which would be considered a great disadvantage by our team as they would require some one to cheer them on and this can best be done by their own friends.

'Rugby's' views on the training of the team should certainly be followed whether this match is to be played or not. This could best be done by following the good example of Ann Arbor, who put the training totally into the hands of the captain who is supposed to be thoroughly efficient in every respect as regards the game. His advice as to choosing the team before hand should also be taken duly into consideration.

The last point is—Where are we to play? I am sorry I have to differ with 'Rugby' on this question.

There may be many advantages gained by playing on the College ground, seeing it is the best in Toronto, but how are you to compel students living in and out of residence and even visitors who have free access to visit the buildings and grounds every day to pay for what they have by their own right? Having considered the matter carefully, I have come to the conclusion that it would require at least six policemen to keep the people out, and as many more to keep order on the field. Having disposed of the College ground, I beg to propose either the Lacrosse or Cricket ground, at either of which the tickets could be taken up with great facility.

The Lacrosse ground is certainly the most advantageously located, but still the hill is a slight drawback; and again, the Cricket ground, although better, has the two disadvantages of being pretty far away, and also of having a bar, on account of which many would not go.

I should certainly advise the former, however, if the latter be chosen, it would be a decided advantage to close the bar, both for the players and the spectators. 'G.'

Principal Hunter, of the Ontario Institution for the Blind, in his annual report thus deals with a common fallacy: "In the instruction of the blind, the problem to be solved is, how far we can replace the lost sense of sight by the special cultivation of the hand, the ear and the memory. It is popularly supposed that a child, when blinded, becomes thereby endowed with a more sensitive touch, with a finer ear, and a stronger memory. Unhappily this opinion is quite erroneous, and it often causes most unreasonable expectations to be formed of the blind. The attainments of blind persons are the result of close application on the part of the student, and of great skill and inexhaustible patience in the teacher. We too often find the constitutional weakness that has quenched the sight, to have also impaired the hearing or the vocal organs, or even the mental powers. The sense of touch in neglected blind children is strikingly deficient."

FRESHMAN taking a walk comes upon small snob, who is struggling to get a wheelbarrow over a hard place and helps him out. Small S.: "Say, Mister, you're a freshman, ain't you?" F. mentally swears off on wheelbarrows.