

Trinity University Review

A Journal of Literature, University Thought, and Events.

Vol. X.

TRINITY UNIVERSITY, TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1897.

No. 2.

Trinity University Review.

Published in twelve monthly issues by Convocation and the Undergraduates in Arts and Medicine of Trinity University.

Subscription: One Dollar per annum, payable in advance. Single numbers, fifteen cents. Copies may be obtained from Messrs. Rowsell & Hutchison, 76 King St. East, and Messrs. Vannevar & Co., 440 Yonge St.

Rates for advertising can be obtained on application to the Manager. All subscriptions, remittances and business communications to be addressed to

J. H. MACGILL, Business Manager,
Trinity University, Toronto.

Literary contributions or items of personal interest are solicited from the students, alumni, and friends of the University. The names of the writers must be appended to their communications, but not necessarily for publication.

BOARD OF EDITORS:

C. H. BRADBURN, *Editor-in-Chief.*

J. H. MACGILL, M.A.

D. F. CAMPBELL.

H. T. S. BOYLE.

H. C. GRIFFITH.

Convocation:

A. H. YOUNG, M.A.

REV. H. H. BEDFORD-JONES, M.A.

Editorial Topics.

With the celebration of the Diamond Anniversary of the ascension to the throne of Her Most Gracious Majesty Our Queen there naturally arises the question of its commemoration in years to come. Numerous suggestions of a fitting sort have already been made. Of the more common of these, hospitals, schools, and institutions are no doubt excellent. They are also however becoming very commonplace, and may rightly in their system be charged with transferring many thing in the public mind from the sphere of duty to that of charity. More than that such institutions can never, with but few exceptions, become more than *local* in their sphere and so can never afford a bond of union between our people as a whole, and this unique and glorious event of sixty years of rule.

In days long past such a matter being directly attributed to Divine Providence had perchance met recognition in the appointment of a Holy Day. But as the *holy day* gradually became a *holiday* its import and its interest waned, and as commerce increased and the industries advanced holidays themselves began to suffer from lack of observance. At present, however, the tide appears to be turning, and holidays may once more be popular. New holidays have in fact been constitutionally appointed. Arbour Day (or May Day as it should be called, were we but true to our fatherland rather than imitators of our *quasi* cousins) has been speedily followed by Labour Day, and, but a few months since, the proposition to introduce Boxing Day met with much favourable comment. The cause of holidays seems distinctly to be advancing. Could not this be utilized most happily to meet the present question? Few of us remember when the 24th of May was not a holiday. So long has it been observed that it takes marked precedence over all secular ones, and is only excelled by the Catholic ones of Christmas and Easter. Its position in our year, in our Canadian seasons, in our minds is such that all would involuntarily shrink from not observing it, and how could we perpetuate it better than by statutory enactment that the 24th of May remain a holiday forever to our people, and as *Victoria Day* become a fitting memorial of the longest reign of any sovereign of our nation, and, far above that, both now and when the sad inevitable does come near, of our Gracious Lady herself with whom a generous Providence has so highly blessed us. *Viva Victoria!*

GUESTS.

As month by month comes around so to the men in residence do those little slips called "Steward's Bills." They remind and generally in most faithful figures how far we are let in for fines and suppers and extras (and here's the rub) *and guests*. The last item is a nauseous one. Though not very large it is proportionately all the more annoying, and is generally considered in Hall to be a relic of days long past which ought, like them and their academic dress on the streets, their free beer (alas!), their college chapels compulsory to the extent of 100 per cent., and much like else, to be consigned to oblivion. All men dine out at times, some Divinity men for example, to the extent of half a dozen meals or more a week, but should they bring down a guest, on ancient custom they are taxed for his entertainment. The "Old Grad." too, in coming back, is treated like a stranger, and sits in Hall as in a common caravanserai on a *consideration*. This does blunt loyalty, and economically, even, bears doubtful fruit. In many colleges in Canada guests are gladly welcomed, and the colleges loose nothing, nay they gain, they make more and better friends through their hospitality, the like of whom might now be valued *re* our sustentation fund. To be sure, Hall could not be open board, yet might not some system be devised whereby the Grad. coming up to town could again renew his ties to Alma Mater, and the student, too, introduce an occasional friend to test the glories of the soup and brittle chip potato. Such a practice might be abused, but the sons of Trinity to-day would hardly do so and the abuse must, indeed, be great to equal in enormity the system under which men now do suffer and do swell their bills.

A recommendation to the Executive Committee of Corporation, and to the Finance Committee of the same body, was adopted at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of Convocation, to the effect that they be strongly urged to obtain the services of an efficient Lecturer in English.

It was pointed out that this is the most urgent need of the College from an educational standpoint, that the appointment of a Lecturer in this department would better the reputation of the College in the Modern Language course. It is felt that at present we are losing men who intend taking the Special Certificate, owing to the impossibility of granting honour degrees in the English course.

Our reputation for Classics is second to none. The Standards in Science and Modern Languages are being made exceptionally high, and mathematics are coming to the fore. English alone holds a secondary place, and owing to this fact we lose many undergraduates who find it imperative that the training in these two branches of the same department should be made equivalent. The question of funds is the only one which can possibly prevent the recommendation being adopted, and the great benefits the College would derive in reputation, and the financial returns which would immediately result, make it well worth while to obtain the services of a competent and cultured man, even at a considerable sacrifice, or even by assuming a debt. Canadian students of literature need careful, conscientious and authoritative teaching in their study, and such direction can be obtained only from a man of the best culture and learning. A man to fulfill the required conditions will not give his services for a meager salary, and we can afford on no account to retain the services of one inferior. The harm which can be done our