

and Jessica, and the leading parts find most fitting exponents among the members of the Club, assisted by Mr. Courtney, of New College, as Bassanio. Shylock is taken by the active president, Mr. Bouchier, of Christ Church. Mr. Mackinnon, Trinity, is Gratiano, and Mr. Gordon, of Merton, the persecuted and surely double-sided merchant. A special feature of the production is that the incidental music, which will be performed by an undergraduate orchestra, has been composed by an undergraduate musician, Mr. Monckton, of Oriol. Mr. Jowett, who sanctioned it, and Canon Scott Holland and Mr. Bouchier who were instrumental in obtaining that sanction, are to be congratulated on having turned the hitherto clandestine and not always well-directed efforts of the Philothesians into worthier channels.—*London Daily News*.

The standard for admission at Princeton has been raised by the addition of a chapter in Hart's Rhetoric, four books of the Anabasis instead of three, the second book of Euclid, and Quadratics of Two Unknown Quantities, to the requirements for admission to the academic course. After the present year the tuition in the academic course will be \$100 instead of \$75 as heretofore. The course in psychology has been changed by the addition of physiological psychology, under Drs. Osborn and Scott, the former confining himself to the anatomy of the nervous system, and the latter to the functions of the brain and spinal cord. The historical course is to be greatly strengthened by Prof. Sloane. In the sophomore year one exercise a week will be taken up with the outlines of universal history, Freeman's "General Sketch of History" being used as a text-book, and lectures, narratives and discussions being introduced as occasion requires. In the junior year there will be two exercises a week, occupied with lectures and recitations on the "Transitional Epochs of History," with special reference to the science of politics, and the progress of civilization. For the seniors there will be one exercise a week, consisting of lectures and recitations on (1) "The Rise and Growth of European Colonies in North America, and the Causes of the War of Independence," (2) "Comparative Politics from the Standpoint of American Institutions." It has been proposed at Princeton to make a course in the gymnasium compulsory.—*Ec*.

Is the November number of *Acta Victoriana* there is a good article on the Pulpit. We quote one or two passages: "There was a time when the preacher came to the poor as a reformer, and held out to them a long hope. Their restless longing was on his side. Now he is mainly regarded as a part of the system of Church pomp. . . . Then there is the rapidly growing intellectual class, which we are told is coming to regard the preacher and his unverifiable assertions with quiet indifference and scorn. And can there be much doubt that for this antagonism the pulpit is mainly responsible? The preacher, as we have found him, readily entertains the notion that the whole scheme of things is laid out "to order" at the instance of his small understanding in the Word of God. He seems as if he came down on the vast range of subjects which he is tempted to handle as from a superior height. The place of theology in the sphere of men's knowledge tempts its doctors to believe that it confers the right of speaking with a certain voice of infallibility on all kinds of topics; and there has always been a sort of omniscient tone in the pulpit method of handling intellectual questions which stirs fierce rebellion in cultivated minds and hearts. . . . The pulpit has had a grand opportunity and has wasted it. In all ages there have been preachers who have borne on the torch in the van of progress, and like their Master, have paid by suffering for their power to lead mankind. Such lofty spirits have not been wanting to our own. But the pulpit on the whole has cast in its lot with the narrower view and the poorer realm."

As in every respect excellent and successful performance of the *Electra* of Sophocles was given on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, and the afternoon of Saturday, by the students of Girton College, Cambridge. The acting and general appointments left little to be desired, the acting of the title role especially being quite a superior and finished performance. Admirably was the deep woe, the long weary despair of *Electra*

rendered by the actress, and equally excellent was her change to happiness when Orestes makes known to her that he is yet alive and stands before her. This scene was deeply touching, as was also that in which the grief-worn daughter of Agamemnon turns to the Paidagogos and thanks him for his tender care of the child she had committed to his charge. It was a happy inspiration on the part of the actress to sink down on her knees before the grey-bearded old man, the proud princess thus humbling herself before her faithful servant. Of the many picturesque groups in which the play abounded, this was perhaps the most beautiful. But indeed it is not so easy to say when *Electra* was best, so excellent was she throughout, and she even succeeded where amateurs usually fail, namely, in the parts where she had merely to be a silent performer. She filled the stage even when sunk in mute despair on the steps of her father's palace. She could never be overlooked, yet never thrust herself unduly forward. Haughty, supercilious, and overbearing to the life was Klutainnestra, while Aegisthos could not, had he tried, have made himself look more like the villain that he was. Indeed, it is almost invidious to specialize, so excellent were the performers. A word of praise must, however, be accorded to the Chorus, whose singing and rhythmical talk were most effective. There being no music written to the *Electra*, the students very ably adapted that written by Mendelssohn for the *Antigone*.—*London Daily News*, Nov. 26.

At a recent meeting of the Senate of Toronto University, a communication was received from Mr. Justice Taylor of Manitoba, resigning his position on the senate. His successor will be chosen by the senate at next meeting. A letter from the board of Woodstock College was read, certifying that Rev. Mr. Wolverson had been chosen to represent that institution on the senate. Mr. Wolverson was present at the meeting, and took his seat. Letters were read from Dr. Nevitt, asking that the Toronto Women's Medical College be affiliated to the University; from Mr. R. E. Kingsford, asking the senate to appoint a committee on University finances, to meet with the executive committee on convocation; and from the clerk of convocation, transmitting a copy of the report of the committee of that body on the Starr medal question. This report was referred to the board of medical studies; a large committee was appointed to confer with the committee of convocation, and the application of the Medical College was held over for future consideration. In connection with a question from Mr. Seath, principal of the St. Catharines Collegiate Institute, the senate resolved that a junior matriculant taking French and German should be allowed to compete for honors in Latin, and should be credited also in proficiency competition with marks obtained in pass Greek, though under such circumstances it is an optional subject. The report of the Upper Canada College committee, dealing with the position of certain masters, was adopted. After considerable discussion, Prof. Loudon's resolution looking to the abolition of medals in the fourth year in arts was carried, and his proposal to substitute a system of three classes in honors was affirmed. It is proposed to make the minimum for the first class 75 per cent., for the second class 66, and for third class 50 per cent. of the maximum number of marks. This and former resolutions connected with it will be considered by the board of arts studies before any statute is introduced to give effect to them. On motion of Mr. Houston, seconded by Mr. Falconbridge, the following resolution was carried after a brief discussion:—"That it is expedient to create a department of political science in the curriculum of the University; to include in it the subjects of constitutional history, constitutional law, civil polity, political economy, and jurisprudence; and to separate civil polity in the third and fourth years from the department of mental and moral philosophy." After conferring the degree of B.A. on Mr. Clrine, the senate adjourned to the call of the chair.—*Toronto World*.

WHILE Cambridge is discussing new Triposes, Oxford is giving as much of its mind as it can spare from theatricals to such congenial subjects as theological differences and the abolition of *viva voce*. It is difficult to imagine what Oxford would do if the theological party were suddenly to cease to