

though moving with considerable irregularity was generally within view. This, we submit, is not a condition of things favorable to concentration and continuity of thought. The remedy lies in providing a larger number of rooms for examination purposes, and the small additional expense should not prevent the change being made.

The most striking feature of the examination, however, was the number of failure in the first and second years. The standard for these years has been raised and this is certainly a step (some would say a leap) in the right direction. That the Senate have the right object in view must be conceded, but that that object will be better obtained by a steady and moderate hardening of the examinations than by sudden leaps from one standard to another much higher is too obvious for argument. It is to be hoped the Senate will see their way to allow the most deserving to proceed with their next year's work.

In connection with this matter we recollect seeing in one of the daily papers that a motion was made in the University Senate by Sir Daniel Wilson to have an investigation as to the cause of the unprecedented number of failures in the second year. Such a report prepared by those best able to perform the work was no doubt anxiously awaited by many who hoped to find the fault in the papers set rather than in themselves; but, although it is highly improbable that the worthy gentleman who asked for such information should have been put off with the reply, "You mustn't come here wanting to know things you know," as was Mr. Daniel Doyce when on a similar quest in a famous office which long ago ceased to exist, and of which no trace can be found in this or any other honestly governed country, still the conclusion must have been reached, reluctantly we are certain, that the matter had been "referred back," and for all time as hopelessly lost as was the application of the aforesaid Daniel. In his disappointment, we feel sure, the despairing Sophomore hoped that in the editorial columns of THE VARSITY he would find if not relief at least expression for his woe, and if he deems that in this page we have dealt too leniently with the much-offending examiners, he must ascribe it to our remembrance that they are men of "like passions with ourselves" and liable to err.

In another column we publish a letter from Lieut. Barker on the condition of K Company, Q. O. R. The company was formed during the excitement caused by the Trent affair in 1861, which may be said to have given birth to the present volunteer system of Canada. The company has seen service in 1866 and 1885. At Limeridge—1866—the loss of the company was three killed, four wounded, three taken prisoners. Some members of the company were in action at the capture of Batoche, and one hundred of them were in Otter's flying column that fought Poundmaker at Cut Knife Creek. The company has been a nursery for officers in all parts of Canada, and there is scarcely a battalion in Ontario which has not among its officers former privates of the University Rifles.

Don't plaster, says a correspondent, don't plaster. If you must plaster, plaster them in the eye.

A Second Year man who has to clamber up to that "little attic room," facetiously calls himself "Un philosophe sous les toits."

DREAM FACES.

Slumb'rous airs and sleep-tunes hover
O'er my weary head,
Day's desires and doubts are over,
And o'er all the past is shed
The glamour that our dreams recover
From memories of pleasures fled.

Ere the spells of sleep dissever
Links of yielding pain,
Soothe the soul of strong endeavour
With fair hopes that wax and wane—
Thronging forms float on forever
Through the portals of my brain.

And amid the myriads streaming
In the spirit's light,
Shines one dear face through my dreaming
Vaguely through the gloom of night—
And those eyes ethereal beaming
Thrill my slumber with delight.

E.

LATIN ORATION.

Rursum, O Cancellarie et senatores et litteris studiosi in curiam universitatis convocati sumus ut eis qui nobis se recentissime adjunxerunt de adventu gratulemur, præmiorum donationem aspiciamus, eloquentiam sapientiamque cancellarii honoratissimi, præsidis veneratissimi, aliorum clarissimorum, admiremur.

More, etiam, et nescio qua levitate fortunæ decretum est ut me ad socios meos loquentem breve patiamini. Vereor autem ut quid dicere possim quod vel tironi novissimo nedum gradum adeptis prodesse possit.

Is enim qui in cella carbonum plena factionem novam comparantibus lætissimus interfuit, et, quum partes suæ poculis pensioneque annua academiæ cives corrumpere vique et armis et hominum viginti delectu, quibus hic Macuvius præerat, septa obstruerent nec sudori nec vestimentis parcerent si modo incepta nefaria perficerentur, nec manu nec voce obsistebat sed ipsis in ædibus Sanctissimi Andreæ magis sonitu tubarum fauciumque lætabatur quam tenui voce professoris curiosi—qua fronte, rogo, talis tironibus admonere potest ut se sedatos legibusque obedientes semper præbeant?

Is, deinde, qui quum subsellia prima a medicinæ studiosis injuste arrogarentur in pugnam cum illis vehementer ruebat et quum a professore irato eductus alia janua in proelium redisset, a medico quodam ejectus est minus irato sed multo fortiori; qui pugna anno proximo redintegrata, uno brachiolo tenero in janua frangenda adjuvabat dum altero liber ille vibrabatur quo prælia deorum ab Homero narratur et *γλαυκοπις* Durantius silens immobilisque adstabat meditans ut dicitur quo modo Argivi abire cogentur Iliumque sacrum servari posset; qui paucos post dies, magna sperans, ad aliam pugnam festinavit quæ illam pro Addisonio famâ superasset sed "dis—et vigilibus—aliter visum"—quo modo, rogo, talis studiosos duabus in facultatibus hortari potest ut amice fraterneque inter se vivant?

Is, postremo, qui pridie Kalendas Novembris theatrum turbantibus se adjunxit, et, quum pilula in caput calvum a studioso aliquo dejecta esset immoderate cachinnabatur; qui socium quandam heroa habebat quod pernam e taberna in intinerem correptam in coquos collegii Moultonensis per fenestram injecti; qui, intervallo salvus, vigiles urbis voce rauca deridebat dum agmen sociorum longum per vias sinuabatur—qua fronte, rogo, talibus rebus immixtus. socii veteribus suadeat ut semper modesti sint atque vere cundi?

Unum tamen ex eis qui anno "octoginta et septem" universitatem intraverunt vobis hodie convocatis de communibus rebus loqui, multis de causis mihi convenire videtur.