

# THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. V.

TORONTO, Feb. 7, 1885.

No. 15.

## THE 'VARSITY.

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The 'VARSITY is published in the University of Toronto every Saturday during the Academic Year, October to May, inclusive.

The Annual Subscription, including postage, is \$2.00, payable before the end of January, and may be forwarded to THE TREASURER, F. W. HILL, University College, to whom applications respecting advertisements should likewise be made.

Subscribers are requested to immediately notify the Treasurer, in writing, of any irregularity in delivery.

Copies of the 'VARSITY may be obtained every Saturday of J. S. ROBERTSON & BROS., corner of Adelaide and Toronto Streets.

All communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR, University College, Toronto, and must be in on Wednesday of each week.

Rejected communications will be returned if accompanied with a stamp for that purpose. The name of the WRITER must always accompany a communication.

## Editorial Notes.

A correspondent of the London *Lancet* complains that a candidate for the M.D. examination in the University of London, who passes in medicine but is plucked in logic, is required to take medicine over again as well as logic, while if he fails in medicine and passes in logic he has to take over again his medicine only. Such an arrangement looks like a freak of university caprice such as we are familiar with nearer home.

The existing University of London, like the University of Toronto, is merely an examining and degree-conferring body. A movement is being made towards the organization of a teaching university at London, which shall include many independent institutions. The same idea, with regard to Toronto University, is embodied in the confederation scheme now being discussed. It is said that there is much opposition to the scheme for the remodelling of London University, and that the proposed scheme can be carried only after much debate. With us, the objection would not be so much to the change involved, as that when a change is being made, greater facilities are not provided for instruction in many subjects which already form regular courses of study in most American colleges, and for lack of instruction in which, many Canadian students seek an *Alma Mater* across the border.

"Come to Toronto," says an enthusiastic foot-ballist to whom my heart warms, "that the Toronto people may see more of the magnificent play of your Association team." The above is a sentence in a speech of Principal Grant, of Queen's, on the University Federation scheme, lately delivered in Kingston. Lest the reverend Principal may be inclined to give too much weight to this pathetic appeal, we would take the precaution of informing him that there are at present in Toronto several Association foot-ball clubs, three of which are quite the equals of the Kingston club and a fourth without the shadow of a doubt its superior. Under these circumstances the exhibitions of the "magnificent" might possibly not be received with the outbursts of enthusiastic admiration anticipated, a fact which would materially detract from the value of the inducement held out by the above-mentioned foot-ballist.

The *Oxford College Journal* (Georgia) remarks in a late number that many college papers in the United States and "the Canadas" are edited or controlled by members of the Faculties. Whatever grounds there may be for holding such an opinion as regards American college papers, there are certainly none so far as those of "the Canadas" are concerned. THE 'VARSITY is totally independent of all connection with Faculty or Senate. We have reason to believe the *Acta*, *Queen's College Journal*, *McGill College Gazette* are equally so. It is only a short time ago that the authorities of King's College (Windsor, N.S.) suspended the editors of the *Record* for too free expression of their opinions, which is probably the only justification, we are glad to say, the *Oxford Journal* can have for its remark. It would be well, however, before the editors of that paper hallo too much over its being entirely managed by undergraduates, that they produce something more worth halloing about than their late numbers.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of certain gentlemen connected with the Literary Society to act as literary censors to THE 'VARSITY, and to endeavour to bring the society into a position of antagonism to the college paper. That these attempts have signally failed each time is sufficient proof that the course of THE 'VARSITY during the year has been such as to secure the hearty good-will and support of the undergraduate body of our university. It also shows that our efforts to maintain the dignity of the Literary Society has met with approval of its members. We never have said, nor do we pretend to think, that our literary judgment is unassailable. But since our fellow-students have shown that they thought us to be possessed of at least a moderate amount of literary ability and business capacity, by placing us in charge of THE 'VARSITY this year, we consequently think that we are competent to express our opinions upon literary contributions submitted to us in our capacity as editors, and that it is our duty to conduct this paper as well as such literary ability and business capacity enables us to do, influenced neither by public censure nor personal considerations.

We have been favoured with a copy of the constitution and bye-laws of the Trans-Atlantic Club of Edinburgh. From it we learn that at a meeting of trans-atlantic students, held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 29th November last, it was unanimously decided to form a club. By the institution of such a club its promoters hope to secure a means of social intercourse and to cultivate a feeling of fellowship among trans-atlantic students in Edinburgh, who otherwise, among the general mass of students, would probably conclude their course of study and still remain strangers to each other. The club is intended to be a social one altogether, where its members can meet for mutual improvement; but a literary and business meeting is held monthly. The regular club night is Saturday. Opportunities for reading home papers and journals will be provided, and we could suggest no better way of serving those Canadian students now in Edinburgh than that their friends should subscribe for and send some of our leading journals to the reading room of the club. Those of our students who purpose going to Edinburgh to finish their medical education will be sure of a hearty greeting, and the club proposes to specially look after new comers and to supply them with all necessary information to aid them in their work.