

One young gentleman with an eyeglass leaned over the gallery and in a colloquial tone inquired: "My friend, is that the refrain that hastened the decease of the old cow?" In the intervals of the horrible hootings, I could only now and then catch a word like "breeze" or "trees." It was too painful to laugh at. One felt so for the poor fellow, and more still for his mother and sisters, who were probably there.

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EXTRAVAGANT billing will attract larger audiences to see a play than its performance deserves, or Keene would have played his "Shylock" to empty benches last Wednesday afternoon. With a voice ill suited or incapable of being adapted to the character, and a bad make up and deportment, you have always Keene but not Shylock before you. At the end of the first act he bolts around a wing and "comes on" shaking his stick at the retiring Antonio like an old woman a broomstick at her retreating son; and when he enjoins Jessica to lock up his house, he would seem to have her do it rather to save him the trouble, than for fear that he might be a loser by his absence. Ye Gods! what a scene when he leaves the Court room. The old Jew tumbles about as though he were about three parts sprung or learning to tumble. The third act was not so bad though there was a good deal of ranting.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE NEWS.

HARVARD.—The second year of the so-called Harvard "Annex," for women, has successfully closed. The managers intend to continue their experiment at least two years longer, perhaps four years. Secretary Gilman says that they "have conducted themselves in a manner so exemplary, and in all respects satisfactory."—Ex.

The Junior class at Williams' gave a negro minstrel entertainment last Wednesday night.

Fifteen Lasell girls propose starting on June 17th, on a European tour, to cost \$575 per capita.

VICTORIA COLLEGE. The meetings of the Literary Society, which have hitherto been closed to the public, are in future to be open once a month.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. It has now been decided, we may almost say, finally, to postpone the production of the Greek play for a couple of weeks later than was originally intended, the dates now proposed being Tuesday and Wednesday in Easter week, April 11th and 12th. It is impossible to hold it later in that week owing to the fact that the Hall is required for the Medical Examinations. The preparations are "booming," the number of rehearsals having been increased to three a week; and everything now points to success, the members of the Glee Club even having "enthused" to almost the proper pitch. The choruses are being rapidly mastered by the Glee-men, which fact ought to be sufficient to convince these despondents that they can do something—when they try; and it is to be hoped that with the longer time for preparation which they now have, the 'songsters' may set to work with a will, lest it should be said of them, "They were worsted by a woman."

The University College Natural Science Association met in the School of Practical Science on Tuesday evening. A motion was passed that an annual report of the proceedings of the Society be printed, together with the more important essays read before the Society. Dr. Ferguson read an essay on the anatomy of the brain, describing the membranes, gyri, sulci, lobes, ventricles, and the situation of important ganglia and commissural fibres. He also described the physiology of important ganglion centres as determined by experiment on lower animals, and pointed out the general characters of the medulla oblongata; spinal chord; optic thalami, &c. Mr. D. S. Skinner read an essay on the acclimatisation of the human species, giving the evidences, conditions, and effects of such based on the history of races and experimental data. Considerable discussion arose out of it, in which several of the members took part. Mr. Geo. Acheson, B.A., then gave a lecture on the mechanical parts of the microscope, describing the Ross, Jackson, Beck, Continental and other models. This lecture is the first of a series to be delivered on microscopy.

Dr. Wilson is president of the department of English Literature, of the Royal Society, now being established by the Governor-General in Canada.

TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE. The regular meeting of the T. S. M. Medical Society was held on Friday, Feb. 24th, at 7.30 p.m., the first Vice-President, Mr. J. T. Duncan, in the chair. After nomination of candidates for membership Dr. J. H. Richardson read a long and interesting paper entitled "Science falsely so called." The paper consisted of a critical and scientific review of the arguments of Darwin, Tyndall, &c., in favor of the evolution of man, in which the author showed that the theory of evolution was not yet proved. An interesting discussion fol-

lowed, in which Messrs. Stewart and Patterson argued in favor of the Darwinian theory as a boon to Science, and the best we could adopt to account for existing facts in the present state of our knowledge. Drs. Workman and Richardson replied, opposing the theory on the ground that it was not yet proved, and because an acceptance of it seemed to shake the belief in revealed religion as evidenced by the atheistical tendencies of its leading supporters. Drs. Daniel Clark and Joseph Workman, Toronto, and Dr. Wm. Osler, Montreal, were elected Honorary members. A committee, consisting of Drs. Richardson, A. H. Wright, and McPhedran, was appointed to examine the essays handed in for the Smith prizes. The nomination of officers for the ensuing year took place, and judging from the popularity of the men nominated to oppose each other, a lively time may be expected at the Annual meeting on the 10th inst.

The duty on anatomical specimens is in the future to be removed.

VARSITY MEN. Mr. N. Quance, B.A., '81, has been appointed Classical Master of the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute.

Mr. C. C. McCaul, B.A., having severed his connection with Bethune & Co., has gone to the office of Fuller & Nesbitt in the "Ambitious City."

'ESPRIT DE CORPS.'

Probably no enlightened person will assert that the main object of University life is to get what is commonly known as book learning; nor, we hope, does any student set out with the intention of becoming a book-worm. And yet it is a lamentable fact, that presumably enlightened students devote themselves to their text-books, as though the sole object of existence was to master the mysteries of Conic Sections, or to write faultless Latin prose. Conic Sections and Latin prose are excellent things in their proper place, but it is a sad thing for any University when its students think more of Mathematics and Classics than of their fellow-students, with whom they should mix freely. Students are as much a distinct class as lawyers or doctors,—they have a special interest, their special customs, and their special rights,—they form a class of beings, not perfect perhaps, but a class that should devote itself to the Alma Mater, and to the interests of each member of the class.

In some Universities this spirit, this *esprit de corps*, exists. In our own University it exists only in a very slight extent. It is not hard to discover the causes of this unsocial spirit, which must strike every careful observer. In the first place, very few students have any knowledge of what University life really is. A student comes to his lecture, and returns home, having gained some additional knowledge of his subject perhaps, but very little additional knowledge of his fellow-students, those in the Residence have the best, perhaps the only, idea of genuine College life. But if the spirit of reform that has displayed itself so much this year, would bring about a change by which a Residence four or five times as large as the present one, would be built, we should then find *esprit de corps*, for the students would eat together, live together, and would form those bonds of intimacy that exist long after College days.

And in the second place, there is a fatal tendency at our University—one that will exist as long as scholarships and medals—to neglect physical exercise in any form whatever. England's greatness has been attributed to many different causes. Might it not be justly attributed to the healthful physical exercise at schools and colleges, of which every student partakes more or less? Friendships are never formed more quickly than on the play-ground, and health is never so firmly established as by athletic sports.

It may seem mere sentiment to deplore the absence of *esprit de corps*. But, when we have left the University—when we have grown old and careworn in life's battle, which will be the most pleasant recollection for us—the recollection of the hours spent in studying for medals and scholarships—gained too often at the expense of health—or the thought of the true-hearted friends whom we had—friends such as we shall never see again? For friends we gain in the world are more or less worldly than the friends we make when students together are generous, warm hearted, and true.

J. B.

OSCAR WILDE AND HIS CRITICS.

A remarkable movement has been going on in England during the past few years, having for its object the awakening and cultivation of a national appreciation for the beauties of nature and of art, and aiming ultimately at the social and moral improvement of mankind. This movement is clearly the beginning of a reaction against the grossness of that wealth-worship which is so prominent a characteristic of the English nation of our day.

Owing principally to the wonderful improvements which have been made during the last forty years in industrial and agricultural processes, and to the removal of legal restrictions on trade, wealth has been