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THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ARMS.

The history of the origin of the coats-of-arms, mottoes and crests now made use of for the University of Toronto and of University College seems to be entirely lost. Those old documents and publications of King's College which I have seen bear no arms nor motto, and as they were published under the supervision of Dr. McCaul, who was apt to be careful in all small matters of this sort, it is probable that none existed. Dr. John G. Hodgins, who has long been interested in the University and who has been at work upon the compilation of its documentary history, told me that he never remembers seeing a coat-of-arms used in connection with King's College.

As the history in the calendar tells us the title of the University was changed in 1849 to the University of Toronto, and in 1853 another Act divided its functions between two corporations, University College and the University of Toronto. In 1856 the present buildings were begun and in 1858 the coping stone was laid by Sir Edmund Head. In the stone-work over the main door there is a shield on which is impaled the two coats-of-arms of University College and the University of Toronto, consequently these must have been recognized as belonging to these two corporations previous to 1858. This then is the earliest official occurrence of these arms that I have been able to find. This shield has below it the motto of the University "*Velut arbor ævo.*" To the right (spectator's left) of this shield, in the heraldic place of honor, is the monogram U.T. (University of Toronto), surmounted by the University crest, the "tree," while on the left is the monogram U.C., above which is the College crest, the lighted lamp. On the south wall of the east tower is another shield bearing the University College arms, and these two must be contemporary with the building itself. Until comparatively recently the College was the University and the University was a very intangible thing, consequently the College arms were almost exclusively used and alone appear on the invitations of clubs and societies and on Dr. McCaul's own private note paper.

The shields supported by heraldic beasts which are now such a noticeable part of the decoration of the west hall were placed in position under the personal direction of Sir Daniel Wilson during the restoration after the disastrous fire in '85. In the place of honour on the right of the main doorway to this hall is the shield of the University, on the left that of the College. On the right of the doorway at the further end of the hall is the combined shield. The shield on the left has, no doubt, caused many questions. It is the shield of Sir Edmund Head and is a graceful recognition of his great services to the University, to which reference is made in all the wealth of Latin inscription in the tablet at the head of the "rotunda" stairs.

The arms of the University of Toronto may be seen on page 12 of the calendar, and might be described in heraldic terms or blazoned thus: "Azure" on a chief argent, a crown royal; in fess, two open books; in base, a beaver passant, all proper; crest, a tree in leaf; motto "*Velut arbor ævo.*" That is, being translated, the ground colour of the shield is blue, "azure," heraldry makes no distinctions as to shades; the upper third of the shield is white or silver, "argent" and bears the emblem of loyalty;

in the middle third are the open books of Learning and below the beaver, emblem of Labor and of Canada. The college arms teach the same lesson and might be blazoned "gules, a chevron argent bearing a crown royal, between two open books, and a beaver passant, all proper." Crest, a lighted lamp. Motto "*Parum claris lucem dare.*" There is a third shield which appears on the cover of the calendar as above mentioned in the west hall, and on the cover of THE VARSITY. This consists of the two coats-of-arms impaled (placed side by side) on the one shield. The most important of the two coats being placed upon the right of the shield, while the crest and motto of this coat are adopted for the combined coat according to established heraldic custom.

These totally distinct coats-of-arms with their appendages belong to two quite distinct and separate corporations, and consequently should not be used carelessly. That is to say a university college society or organization should use the college coat-of-arms and colours and not those of the University; and similarly a University society should use the University shield alone. In some cases where the close connection between the college and University might lead to some doubt, the combined coat might be used to typify this union. A system has grown up in heraldry by which each of the recognized heraldic colours can be represented by lines for the purpose of engraving on stone or representation in black and white. In this system "azure" is represented by horizontal lines, gules by vertical, and argent is left plain. This system is of comparatively late origin and hence its use is not obligatory. When, however, the University arms are to be printed in colour, and especially if they are represented as engraved in this system, it looks very careless at best not to print them in their own proper colour, blue, and again on the other hand one would hardly expect the "Literary" Society to commit the error of printing the college arms upon its invitations in blue, since there is no more reason why the college arms should be printed in blue than that they should be printed in green or gold or purple or orange. A little more care in details of this kind would certainly not come amiss from the representative literary society of the University.

Arts students at University College, of course, all wear the blue and white of the University and thus show their loyalty to it, in marked contrast to the members of the other colleges, who invariably put the college before the University in this matter. But a study of the arms points out that college colors are red and white and should hence be the colors of such a college team as that in the association series. As compared with the medical student, who is a student registered in a faculty of the University of Toronto and receives all his training from it, and not his degree only, but who nevertheless wears the colors of a defunct school of medicine in preference to his own proper colors, the loyalty of the Arts student to the University stands forth in marked contrast. There is indeed good reason for accounting them as the backbone and strength of University teams and societies.

I should like to thank Mr. Brebner and Dr. J. S. Hodgins for the kind way in which they have helped me in my quest for information on this subject.

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