

COLLEGE TOPICS



Devoted to the interests of the Students in the Universities and Colleges of Toronto.

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SCIENCE MEN'S ANNUAL BANQUET

TOASTS BY UNDERGRADS

Students of the School Spend an Enjoyable Evening at Webb's

A Large Number of Illustrious Guests also Around the Board

The sorry students at the School of Practical Science this week are the few who did not attend the tenth annual dinner of that institution, held at Webb's on Friday evening last. The event was a thing of beauty, and its memory will remain a joy forever with the 130 genial Collegians who sat down with their friends to partake of a menu of rare gastronomic excellence, and who afterwards enjoyed the feast of reason and the flow of soul engendered by the fellow-feeling that inspired everybody present.

The guests of the students returned the hospitality of their hosts by cheerfully taking part in the post-prandial oratory of the evening, and by their words of learned wisdom they amazed the gazing Freshmen ranged around the festive board, and mightily pleased the whole assembly. The chair was filled by W. E. H. Carter, and the vice-chair by Thos. Shanks, and that was the long and short of it.

When the "spheres of influence" had been properly widened by the choicest things of Webb's cuisine, and Lady Nicotine had been duly honored, the secretary, A. N. Smith, read regrets from invited absentees. Some of these were: President Loudon (senate meeting); Jadel Robinson (not out of the woods); Queen's University Representative C. J. Merritt (missed his car); N. S. Carpenter and M. B. Weekes, recent graduates (very busy); and Thirt Burnside (injured in a good cause, but mind, heart, and soul with us). The reading of the last letter and every subsequent reference to the School's manly student and Varsity's popular captain evoked much enthusiasm, and the boys unanimously voted Thirt a place in the calendar of living saints and accorded him a halo of surpassing brilliancy. Although the notable absentees above mentioned were missed, there was no dearth of notabilities in the assembly. There were present Willie Boyd and Roy Stovel, famous in oratory, music, Rugby and every other fine art which their versatility has been pleased to trifle with, and they beamed forth in their pleasant way on their assembled juniors. It was reported during the course of the evening that Willie had lost fourteen pounds by playing Rugby—and thereby hangs a tale—but Willie's appearance gave no indication of it. George Revell's Vandikes swayed feverishly with the encircling wreathes of tobacco smoke as the great mind above them thought masterful thoughts of these midnight revels, and the revellers' deeds of derring-do for fame and the Mulock Cup. And John Elliott was there and looked out his warmest approbation as well as one optic could do it, for the other had been closed by a surgical operation, undergone out of devotion to his School, in which operation John had shown himself as much a master of surgery as the doctor. George Hall was noticed to be fraternizing with the Dental Rep. for George's teeth were few and far between, like the proverbial Brahma's, and he had been forced to content himself with the softer portions of the feast, but he, also, had the happy consciousness of knowing that the sacrifice had been made for the sake of Alma Mater.

Arthur G. Piper was there too—what, indeed, would an S. P. S. dinner be without Pip?—and everybody said very forcibly that he was all right and he went away very happy. And there were others, but we forbear, the roll of notable students at the S. P. S. would fill many books.

When the smoke of battle had cleared away, the chairman proposed "The Queen" and the toast was patriotically honored. Frank Perry proposed "Canada," and Mr. Archibald Blue, Director of the Bureau of Mines, responded and proved very clearly that Canada's prospects for future greatness were not at all Blue. F. W. Thorold proposed "The Legislative Assembly" and Hon. Geo. W. Ross responded in an eloquent speech, in which he gave a retrospective sketch of the school. He spoke flatteringly of its present status and hopefully of its future. "The Profession" was proposed by Thomas Shanks and elicited replies from Messrs. W. T. Jennings, C. E., A. Mortimer, S. N. Townsend and A. W. Campbell. Mr. Jennings received a particularly cordial reception, for, be it known, he is the donor of the Jennings' Hockey Cup, and the students love him in proportion. Mr. C. H. C. Wright (he of the tower), sketched in a few bold touches, the beauty of "The University of Toronto,"

and in response, Prof. Mavor made a speech, giving evidence of a warm interest in Practical as well as Political Science. Then Capt. W. H. Boyd gracefully relieved his territory by several strong puns into "The Faculty." Prof. Galbraith, on behalf of that "chosen few" rose to respond and the boys instinctively clutched their fountains and felt for their note-books, but the nightmare passed, and they breathed more freely when he delivered a neat speech instead of the customary hour's lecture. In closing he recited the "The last Chant," by Kipling, and showed that a delightful appreciation of the beauties of literature and of the elocution art had not been depreciated by a love for the higher mathematics. Dr. Ellis, high priest of the mystic secrets of the pestle and mortar, and arch manipulator of the artistic formulae of the hydrocarbons, also came to the rescue of the Faculty with a characteristic speech full of good things nicely said.

Roy Stovel toasted "Sister Institutions," and replies were given by Rev. J. O. Miller, principal of Ridley College; A. Moore, McGill representative; S. Dickson, University of Toronto representative, and Mr. Clarke, Dental representative.

Mr. J. A. Duff proposed "Athletics," and nicely converted several tries. He drew nectar diagrams of the various forces at work in the athletic world of the present day, and clearly demonstrated that the love of amateur sport was the only resultant that could produce equilibrium. Thomas Russell, Athletic Association representative, spoke in reply, and amused the audience by telling of an athletic contest of long ago, in which a lad named David scored a touch down on a fellow from Gath. A. H. Smith sang the praises of "The Graduates and the Graduating Class," the former of which were championed by Andy McCallum, and the latter by John Patterson. W. A. Hare gave advice to "The Freshmen" and C. H. Boehmer accepted it gracefully upon their behalf. R. Roaf blushing proposed to "The Ladies," and E. V. Neelands championed the cause of the lassies in a speech for which the fair sex now owes him a debt of gratitude.

During the evening the following assisted with vocal and instrumental music: T. Carter, W. F. Prizer, B. Campbell, H. R. Stovel, W. H. Boyd, C. H. Boehmer, and W. Beardmore. The incidental music was contributed by D'Alessandro's orchestra. The Committee, who have been skipping lectures and neglecting their draughting for the past two weeks in order to make the affair a success, were as follows: Chairman, W. E. H. Carter; Vice-chairman, Thomas Shanks; Secretary, A. Smith; Treasurer, F. W. Thorold; Year Repts., W. H. Boyd, W. F. Grant, E. G. Yeates, W. W. Van Every, F. F. Clarke, J. R. Roaf, C. H. Boehmer, J. F. Wilkins. They are immensely pleased with the great success of the event, and feel especially grateful to their fellow-students for their hearty cooperation.

GRACE HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Last Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, a mass meeting of the College girls was held to hear the report of the committee appointed to draft a Constitution for the Grace Hall Memorial Library. Miss N. Cleary, '99, was elected Secretary, pro tem. Miss D. Wright, '99, Convener of the Committee, read the following Constitution as recommended for adoption.

1. At a meeting of the Women's Literary Society of University College, it was resolved that a Library be formed, having Grace Hall's books as a nucleus, to be extended by donations of books from graduates as they leave College, for the use of undergraduates who may need such help.

2. The Library shall be known as "The Grace Hall Memorial Library."

3. The officers shall be elected at a mass meeting in the Spring.

4. The officers shall consist of President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

5. The President shall be convener of the Committee and, with the vice-President, shall form an advisory board.

6. The Secretary Treasurer shall receive applications for the loan of books and donations for the extension of the library.

7. The Committee shall consider applications and have full power of decision.

8. Two members of the committee shall form a quorum.

This constitution was adopted. It was moved by Miss Andison, seconded by Miss Wegg, that the officers for the society be elected at a mass meeting of the Women Undergraduates, held after the meeting of the Lit, on Saturday, 10th Dec. Accordingly on that evening the following officers were elected for the remainder of this year and also to act during 1899. President, Miss E. M. Fleming, '00; vice-President, Miss M. Watt, '01; Sec.-Treas., Miss M. I. Fleming.

Every Undergraduate of University College should be present at the Dinner Friday evening.

ST. MICHAEL'S DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Will Produce Damon and Pythias in College Hall Thursday Evening

KIRKPATRICK AS DAMON

An Elaborate Production of Banim's Famous Play to be Given by the Society

The celebrated and justly popular drama "Damon and Pythias," will, as already announced in these columns, be presented at St. Michael's College on Thursday evening, the 15th inst. The story of the play is so well known that it would be superfluous to describe it here. It was written by John Banim, the author of the celebrated "O'Hara Tales," and was first produced in 1821, at the Covent Garden Theatre.

That it will receive justice from the students of St. Michael's, no one will doubt who has had the pleasure of attending their plays in the past. Macbeth and Richelieu are yet fresh in the minds of Toronto's theatre-goers, and the success therein achieved is the fore-runner of a still greater triumph on the 15th.

Those taking part in the play have, the writer is assured, been practising steadily for upwards of two months, and it was his good fortune to attend a full-dress rehearsal last Monday evening. The stage-fittings were all that could be desired, and the costumes such as are seldom, if ever, seen in an amateur performance.

Mr. F. H. Kirkpatrick of the Conservatory, and also Prof. of Elocution at the College, was most impressive as Damon, and fully upheld his high reputation as an actor. He will be remembered as having taken the part of Dionysius, when Damon and Pythias was presented at the "Grand" last fall by Mr. Shaw's company. He is especially strong in the second Act, in the Senate scene, where he delivers Damon's address to the Senators. This famous scene, which is said to be superbly handled by Mr. Kirkpatrick, runs as follows:

"Traitor! to whom? To thee!—Oh! Syracuse Is this thy registered doom? To have no meaning For the proud names of liberty and virtue, But as some regal braggart sets it down In his vocabulary? And the sense, The broad, bright sense that Nature hath assigned them In her inflexible volume, interdicted Forever from thy knowledge, or if seen, And known, and put to use, denounced as treasonable, And treated thus? No, Dionysius, no! I am no traitor! But in mine allegiance To my lost country, I proclaim thee one!"

Mr. Stephen H. O'Boyle as Pythias, needs no introduction. For the past five years he has been constantly to the fore in College Dramatics. As the King in Macbeth and as Baradas in Richelieu, he has established for himself a reputation, second to none off the professional stage. Judging from his appearance in the rehearsal, his admirers have a treat in store. It seems not too much to say that a more perfect impersonation of the faithful and brave-hearted Pythias has never been seen in Toronto.

As Dionysius, Mr. Lynch is sure of a signal success. He made his first appearance last year as Huguette, in Richelieu, and it was then that his great dramatic ability was made manifest. As the Tyrant of Syracuse, he will have ample opportunity to prove that the expectations then formed of him were not unfounded. The scene in the Senate when he assumes the regal power, is really grand and most realistic. Did space permit we would expatiate at still greater length on Mr. Lynch's merits for he is certainly a coming star.

Mr. F. McCarthy, who takes the part of Damocles, also scored a success as King Louis, in Richelieu. He enters well into the spirit of his part and displays marked ability, the effect of last year's training being clearly apparent. Procles, the sturdy guard, is well impersonated by Mr. A. Savage, a new student of the College. Like Mr. McCarthy, he has fine natural talents, and his maiden effort in the Dramatic Society is sure to be successful. He is the possessor of a remarkably deep voice, and has already achieved an enviable reputation as a vocalist. The part of Philistius is taken by Mr. J. F. Mulligan, a native of Eastern Ontario, and his representation of the character is all that the most fastidious could desire. His debut in dramatics was made several years ago. In consequence he goes through his part with all the staidness of a veteran, and has been dubbed by his friends the "Irving" of St. Michael's. Mr. Lynott's Lucullus is a capital piece of acting. His make up is superb, and the part, one of the most difficult in the cast, admirably sustained throughout. During his two years' residence at the College, he

has taken prominent parts in all the plays that were given, and while acquitting himself extremely well in each, made his greatest hit when he impersonated Francois in Richelieu. St. Michael's is certainly to be congratulated in having one so well fitted by nature and education to assume such a difficult role as that of Lucullus.

Mr. Eddie Bradley has also a very difficult part in that of Calanthe. Yet if voice, figure and carriage count for anything, he will make a success. In addition, he has an innate talent for imitating the ways of the "softer sex," and if his name does not convict him of belonging to the species "viri," his acting certainly will not. Mr. Kelly, as Hermion, and Master F. Doherty, as Arria, are quite up to the general excellence of the cast.

Judging from the rehearsal, and the well tried ability of all taking part in the drama, the play should be a success. Taking into account the past record of the College, and the uniform excellence of all its histrionic endeavors, one feels safe in predicting for all who attend, a pleasant evening, a good play and first-class acting.

The students have gone to considerable expense to procure stage settings and costumes in conformity with the high nature of the production, and have a claim on the liberality of all who take an interest in the cultivation of the elocutionary and the dramatic arts.

THE FIRST YEAR RECEPTION

And the heart is haunted by dim memories, shadows left by past magnificence.

From every side are heard conflicting rumors concerning the death of the old-time College spirit. However, it argues well for its speedy resurrection when one considers the energy and life which each and every member of '02 has brought to bear upon the class undertaking. To the men undoubtedly belongs the victory obtained on the Rugby Field. But the girls may surely claim the assured success of their social venture last Saturday afternoon—the committee consisting of Misses Piers, Bilton, Dickson, Eason, Fraser, McMahon, Marshall, May, King and Wallace, ably assisted by Messrs. Hamilton and Hardy. It was unanimously voted the best reception ever held in the Varsity halls—the program being very entertaining, the music excellent, and the refreshments perfect in every detail. As there were comparatively few of "the fair sex" in the first year, the committee resolved to invite all the College girls—Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, and occasionals—and everyone who could possibly do so, gladly accepted. Some went "to see what the Freshies would do," and then decided to remain to see what they wouldn't do. For the efforts made to entertain the guests were certainly unique and untiring. The monotony of the usual promenade—"two and two, Newgate fashion," was relieved by the musical program, of which the credit is justly due to Mr. Edmund Hardy, Mus. Bac., who has been very appropriately chosen as the musical director of his year. It was doubtless very trying to Mr. Hamilton, the energetic president of the class, to be obliged to continually demand better attention. But what would you? It is always so. Yet it did not by any means argue lack of attention. On the contrary, each number was thoroughly enjoyed and heartily applauded. Miss Mae Dickenson—always a great favorite—was urgently recalled at the conclusion of her catchy number, "The Interfering Parrot,"—the moral of the song, which Miss Dickenson rendered as an encore, being considered all too short. Miss Fulton contributed a very pleasing violin solo, while Miss Helena Collins delighted everyone with a mirth-provoking monologue concerning "Mr. Traver's First Hunt," which showed quite clearly and forcibly what a man would give up "for the sake of the woman he loves." The two vocal solos by Messrs. Blight and Gorrie completed the musical treat, and promenading was again resumed, the refreshment room receiving more than its due share of attention. The first year have made an exceptionally good beginning, and as they practically have the near future of our Alma Mater in their hands, it is sincerely hoped that they will be equally successful during their academic years. Besides the two hundred or more undergraduates present were noticed Mrs. Loudon, Miss Salter, the Misses Fulton, Miss Preston, Miss Robertson, Miss Anna Williams, formerly of '99, and also Messrs. Cleland, Montgomery and McQuestion, of '98.

HARBORD AT-HOME

The most enjoyable function of the year at Harbord Collegiate is the annual At-Home, given by the Literary Society. It is to be held this year on next Monday evening (December 19th) at 8 o'clock. The committee are working busily to make the At-Home the most successful one they have yet had. A good program has been promised to be in every way a great success. Tickets (50c) may be obtained at Gourlay, Winter & Leeming's, or from any member of the committee.

VARSITY DINNER FRIDAY EVENING

A Large Attendance of Grads and Undergrads Assured

ELOQUENCE WILL REIGN

The Occasion to be the Most Interesting Event of the College Year.

The prospects of the University dinner afford every assurance of a more than successful event. The committee, which has worked faithfully and energetically has found the student body responsive, and the sale of tickets has in consequence been phenomenal in comparison with the state of affairs in recent years, when the enterprise fell through from lack of support. Of course everybody knows when and where this one and only function is to be held. Albert Williams will have charge of the culinary arrangements, and will doubtless sustain his reputation for giving good dinners. The gymnasium will put on its holiday garments in honor of this festive event, and will be resplendent with evidences of patriotism and love for Alma Mater. In connection with this latter sentiment it would not be amiss to call attention to the fact that the hope is strongly expressed by both Faculty and the undergraduates that all graduates who are in the city will consider that the Dinner is as much an Old Boys' reunion as anything else, and that their presence will be most heartily welcomed. This is an exceedingly opportune occasion for the practical exercise of what is called College spirit, and it is felt that this year's dinner should tend toward the development of a united and living sentiment in regard to our beloved College. The price of graduate tickets is the same as that of the Faculty tickets, \$1.50. It has been already stated in these columns that it is no part of the plan of the committee to swell the invitation list with names of innumerable celebrities. The dinner must be, primarily, a student function, and it has been found that, in order to make it a success in the highest sense of the word, it must come within the financial reach of the average student, even to the sacrifice of the elevating society of the great men of our country. The Faculty will have its own guests, the students will have theirs. Among the prominent men to be present are Hon. G. W. Ross, Prof. Goldwin Smith, and Mayor Shaw. In addition there will be representatives from McGill, Queen's, Trinity University and the Medical Faculty of our University.

McMASTER HALL

The Tennysonian Society

The proceedings of the Tennysonian Society last Friday were very interesting. A goodly number of the Freshies and Soph. gathered to support those who debated and to profit by what they heard. A number of juniors were noticed, sprinkled here and there in the audience, to serve as a leaven to the whole body. President A. McNeill with a broad smile on his face and a Gaelic twang in his voice presided. The first number was musical, the Quartette composed of Messrs. Bryant, Riggs, Brownlee and Welch sang "The Jolliest Boys Are We" and were encored. Mr. W. P. McDonald followed with an original poem entitled "Domestic Laundry" which commemorated in immortal verse the virtues of the irrepressible solicitor of the above laundry. The tenor solo by Mr. H. Bryant was much appreciated. The most important item of the evening was the Debate: "Resolved, that as much benefit is derived from College life and society as from the regular routine work"; a question of live importance. The worthy adherents of the affirmative side of the question were: A. McKerricher, '02, and A. E. Stewart, '01, while Messrs. A. C. Watson, '01, and W. H. Walker, '01, were arrayed on the negative. To give a detailed account of the infinitely abstruse maze of the arguments produced on both sides would be quite impossible, but it will be sufficient to say that they were all valid. The affirmative maintained by psychological and ethical syllogisms, that the social side of College life, as experienced in coming in contact with fellow students in the societies and on the football field, was of equal importance to the ceaseless grind at the regular curriculum work. The negative on the other hand contended that more good was derived from perusing the records of the thoughts of the great men of the past as obtained in the routine work, than from the social side, referring to Socrates, Homer and Euclid. At the conclusion of the debate, Messrs. Colman and Torrie delighted those present with a duet. Mr. J. J. McNeill, B.A., acted as critic and summed up the arguments in a masterly manner, and considered that the preponderance of evidence had been produced by the negative.