

sincere praise and congratulation when the occasion and the act called for it.

Next let us turn and see whether we have maintained our position in the broader field of criticism. Among the subjects which have been discussed editorially this year have been the Reform of the Senate, the Curriculum, the Scholarship Question, the Study of English, Women at Universities, a Political Science Course, the Literary Society, a Students' Club, and the Relation of True Education to our Intellectual Life. All these are live issues, and the very mention of them is sufficient indication that we have endeavoured to fulfil the duty and maintain the responsibilities of our position. We have endeavoured to give to the discussion of every subject which has demanded attention, the result of our best judgment, and have invited the expression of opinions—favorable and otherwise—from our readers and subscribers. This has been our duty, and we have endeavoured to bring to its discharge no other feeling than that which should actuate every friend of the Provincial University—an earnest desire to see the best results obtained in the best way. In so doing, we have had no ulterior motives, no party to serve, no interest to represent, except that of the highest good of the University. We have spoken plainly and straightforwardly, have invited, encouraged, and given the utmost latitude to the expression of opinions widely differing from our own. We have endeavoured to get at the truth of every question, undistracted by any side issues, and uninfluenced by any desire for notoriety. As we have said before, we do not intend to be politic, when policy would dictate a weak and subservient course. This has been, and will continue to be, our policy.

As we announced at the outset, the VARSITY is not the organ of any party or set. It is a *medium of expression on any subject for any university man who may choose to write for it*. If a university journal does not stand for freedom of thought and expression we should like to know what it does stand for! Moreover, when we call the VARSITY "a journal of university thought," we mean by university thought all that our university men are thinking of, and not simply the few old and established opinions which they may happen to hold in common.

An attempt has been made by those who ought to know better to raise the anti-religious cry against us. Such critics confound religion with sectarianism as many no wiser than they have done before them. Like the University of Toronto, the VARSITY is non-denominational. We ignore denominational distinctions entirely and we endeavour to get at truth, not only as it is in the denominations, but also as it is beyond and outside of them. The denominations may have settled among themselves for all time what is truth and what is not, but being less confident than they our columns shall be open to the re-investigation and discussion of these topics no less than others. The truth can take care of itself, and the old days of sectarian intolerance cannot be revived.

There is no need now to re-open the discussion about such topics as the "New Protestantism." Our critics have but shown their ignorance of the commonest ethics of journalism, when they charge us with the opinions of our contributors and correspondents. This charge has been so repeatedly made by our critics that we can do no more than simply state that in the ordinary code of journalistic ethics, the sentiments and opinions of a paper are only judged from its editorial columns. The editor of a paper does not, by his assumption of editorial functions, thereby give up for ever his individuality. He has still as good a right to the expression of his individual opinion as any outside contributor or correspondent. And his opinion, when expressed as an individual, is not to be attributed to him as an editor. It is merely blind folly to deny this, as some have been pleased to do.

In the department of Literature we have not been unmindful of our duty, but have endeavoured to secure for our readers the best results of the culture and ability of our graduates and undergraduates. Contributions from some of the foremost writers in the Do-

minion have from time to time appeared in our columns, and the testimony of literary critics, both in Canada and the United States, has been one of almost uniform praise for the enterprise which has characterized this department of our paper. This must be as gratifying to our readers as it is to ourselves, and we acknowledge our debt to the critics for their indulgence and sympathy.

We have endeavoured, all through, to foster a healthy and vigorous national sentiment, believing that this lies at the root of our success as a nation. If we have no confidence in ourselves we can never succeed; and until Canadians recognize their own capabilities and resources, and those of their country, they will never develop into a nation.

To our contributors it is our pleasing duty to return our most grateful thanks. To their zeal, readiness, and ability we are indebted for the large measure of success which has attended the publication of THE VARSITY this year. We have made many new literary friends, and we trust to add to their number as years go on. We are not less indebted to those of our friends whose cordial sympathy and approval—expressed both in public and private—have encouraged us to continue our efforts to promote literary activity and university reform.

FREDERIC B. HODGINS.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

THE BROWNING OF THE SOPHOMORES.

"When the mourning stars sang together."

Well, I'll be— beg your pardon, sir! but see,
Here by this morning's *World*, you know—good ged!
Starred, plucked, and starred! 'Twas Tristram's singing sped
"A star was my desire,"—eh? 'Seems to me
He ne'er wore cap and gown. However, we...
Ay, stars, and garters, too! When the poet said
Per inane micantes, and so forth—pshaw! my head
Is badly dezled,—muddled terribly!
When it first hit me, it spun me round and round;
But, Lord bless you! now, sir, I don't care.
I was metagabolized, I couldn't act,—
Why, starry fireworks seemed to fill the air,
As when my sinciput smote hard the ground,
I' the roller skating rink last summer. Fact!

W. J. H

The lists this year are certainly instructive and edifying to those who from *terra firma* have surveyed with interest our perils and dangers at sea. To vary the metaphor somewhat, the examinations have been not unlike the Homeric battles,—*plectuntur Achivi*. As gallantly as Blount lifted Marmion's fallen standard on Flodden Field, has Professor Chapman raised the standard of Mineralogy and Geology, and the ranks of the enemy are mowed down. By those whom he has not *jaculatus rubente dextra*, Professor Hutton's valor has also been greatly admired.

Before passing to the notices of the graduating class, we may remark that though the names in the honor classes in Fourth Year are arranged in alphabetical order in the newspaper lists, it seems that a medal is to be offered in each department; and that the charge of inconsistency is made away with by the fact that in each department it has happened that only one person has fulfilled the requirements.

THE CLASS OF '86.

BALDWIN, WILLIAM W., was a sailor, and in his early days was no doubt, a somewhat literary man and contributed frequently to the *Atlantic*. But having at last thrown up his situation, he obtained his sea legs in his second year and has since made a straight run home.

ROCHE, FRANCIS JAMES DE LA, Marquis of Tipperary County, Ireland, has laid aside his ancestral pride and lineage, and has soiled his hands, not with trade, but with the chemicals of the S.P.S. He graduates with honors in Department III. of Natural Sciences,